



# THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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## Meeting Announcement

This month's meeting will be a member participation (show and tell) event. Bring an item you made or bought that you would like to show off. If there is a youtube segment that is worthy (and short) we are game. A funny astronomy story....whatever.

Do me a favor and notify me of what you plan on doing and a time frame for it so I can plan the meeting accordingly.

Thanx, the Prez

## THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings Earthlings,

Is Edwin Hubble in trouble? According to an article in "naturenews", a weekly online journal from Nature magazine, he might be. At least the stature of his legacy is in peril.

It seems that back in the mid 1920's a Belgian mathematician/astronomer - Georges Lemaitre - was involved in research at the Harvard College Observatory. Afterwards he was in Europe promoting a "certain theory" which he eventually published in a little known French scientific journal. The year was 1927 and the title of the paper was "A homogeneous universe of constant mass and increasing radius accounting for the radial velocity of extra-galactic nebulae" It was a brilliant work and described mathematically and observationally an expanding universe as indicated by red shift variations of nebulae (galaxies).

Now then, according to an interview with Hubble's assistant, Milton Humason, Fast Eddie had been in Europe at that time and had returned to the states

"rather excited" about the latest buzz over there concerning the interpretation of red shift data. Humason was assigned the task of making observations and he and Fast Eddie compiled the data points to see how well they correlated to the new model. Well it all checked out and in 1929 Fast Eddie published his "ground breaking" theory, which mimicked Lemaitre's earlier work, and the face of cosmology was forever changed. According to the article Hubble did not credit Humason or Lemaitre in his paper.

Now that is pretty low but check this out. In 1931 Lemaitre's paper is translated into English and published in America. But this English version had been surgically censored from the original French version. Key equations and data were removed making the work less impactful and far removed informationally from Hubble's work. As to the culprit, no one knows and Fast Eddie remains the big dog from that period.

This was online "naturenews" June 27 2011. Read the article, follow the links in the footnotes, and read the comments section. There is a really good historical perspective of that period.

the Prez

## OAS Minutes – October 2011

The monthly meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on October 13, 2011 in the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University.

President Vanderhule called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

We have an Antelope Island Star Party on 10/22. We also have a Star Party at Adele C. Young Intermediate on 11/4.

The presentation this month was John Elwell. John was the WISE Program Manager from Space Dynamics Laboratory. WISE (Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer) was a highly successful mission. It produced data that will be analyzed for years. Because of its wide field view helped it but out great detail during its mission.

For more info:

<http://wise.ssl.berkeley.edu/index.html>

<http://irsa.ipac.caltech.edu/Missions/wise.html>

The meeting adjourned. Many members headed to Village Inn in South Ogden to eat and visit.

David Dunn

## **Star Party Schedule**

Our Public Star Parties are as follows.

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

Nov 4            Adele C. Young Intermediate

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

Feb 17-19      St. George

## **2012 Star Parties**

We will be working on our Star Party schedule for next year soon. If you have star parties that you want to have included, let us know. I know that we are planning a couple trips each to Curlew and Monte. We are also planning a trip to St. George in February and a Solar Eclipse trip to the Cedar City or Ely areas in May.

## **Telescope for Sale**

LeRoy Johnson is trying to sell my Mead 6" Schmidt-Newtonian LXD55 GoTo telescope, comes with several eyepieces. He is asking \$500 for it. Interested parties can reach LeRoy at 435-279-5274.