



# THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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<http://ogdenastronomy.com/>

## Meeting Announcement

The April meeting agenda is still being finalized and will be announced on OAS\_News.

### THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings Earthlings,

We have a real planet-palooza in the skies lately. To the west in the constellation Pisces starting at sunset is a good place to start. Venus and Jupiter dominate the scene but Uranus is a few degrees northwest of Venus and a minor planet or NEO, T0209 is a few degrees northwest of Uranus and Mercury is a few degrees northwest of that object. Four in a row in the western sky.

At prime time in the evening Mars is high in the sky in the constellation Leo. It is currently close to opposition, so get after it. And in the east Saturn is in the constellation Virgo 'bout 3 degrees southwest of the bright star Spica. Saturn and Spica make an impressive duo and clear the horizon around 9 pm MST. All this information I garnered from my iphone with the "Sky View" app while sitting here in the basement. With all these planets floating out there it is a good time to set up and have a few neighbors over for some viewing and burgers.

And let's not forget our local star. It is feeling a little frisky as of late as we approach a solar maximum. There has been plenty to watch on the Sun and CMEs' from the Sun have provided plenty of auroras with some of them encroaching our northern border into the upper states.

So why are you still sitting there? Get out on the surface of the planet and start being an astronomer!

The Prez

## OAS Minutes – March 2012

Minutes for Ogden Astronomical Society March 8, 2012 meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Ron Vanderhule at 7:30 PM.

Announcements:

3/16 – Layton Library – 6 to 8pm. 2 demonstrations, info table and telescopes outside. Ron and Dave for the presentations. Mike and Dustin for the info table. Lee and others with telescopes. Could be 500 people.

3/23-3/25 – Messier Marathon Curlew

3/29 – Adams Elementary

4/13 – Heritage Elementary in Ogden

5/11 – Star Party at the Boy Scout Jamboree at WSU. Also want an info table with demonstrations on Saturday.

6/5 – Venus Transit. Antelope Island, Northridge High School.

6/14 – Our monthly meeting will be a BBQ party at Doug Say's home.

Dustin Klein gave a presentation on Facebook. Ron gave a presentation from YouTube.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM with several members going to Village Inn.

## May 20 Annular Eclipse Star Party

We will be having a Star Party and Eclipse watch from May 17 to May 21 at Parawan Gap. The Annular Solar Eclipse will be on Sunday evening beginning at 18:22 and ending at 20:37.

We have chosen the west side of Parawan Gap to be our primary location down south. It has a good horizon to the west and is in the total eclipse zone. It is not right under the center line so it will be off to the side a little although it will still be total. Some of us will camp on BLM land at the Gap. Others will stay in motels in Cedar City or Parawan. I have reservations at the Travelodge Cedar City. We are planning to be there for a star party on Friday and Saturday nights and may have a star party Sunday night if there is interest.

Here is the details of the eclipse for Parawan Gap, the eclipse will start at 18:22. It will begin the total (second contact) at 19:31. Max eclipse will be at 19:33. Third contact at 19:35 and Fourth contact at 20:37. Sunset is at 20:40. The Altitude will be 12 deg at second contact and 11 deg at third contact. There will be 4m21.2s of annularity.

### Webmaster Desired

We would like to find a webmaster that could take over updating and improving our website. The website could be a great tool for us to attract people to the club and to keep club members up to date about activities, etc. Our website is hosted on GoDaddy on a Linux server. I am maintaining it using Dreamweaver CS4. I am sure that we could move to a Windows server if needed. We would really like to have the ability to have pictures posted without the ability to leave comments. We would like to have a “members only” area.

### Star Party Schedule

Our Proposed (Need approval from Antelope Island and WSU) Public Star Parties are as follows.

Apr 27	Sun Party TBA
Apr 28	Antelope Island
May 12	Antelope Island
Jun 5	Venus Transit (TBA)
Jun 23	Antelope Island
Aug 11	Antelope Island
Sep 8	Antelope Island
Oct 20	Antelope Island

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

Mar 29	Adams Elementary
Apr 13	Heritage Elementary (Ogden)
May 11	BSA Jamborall

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

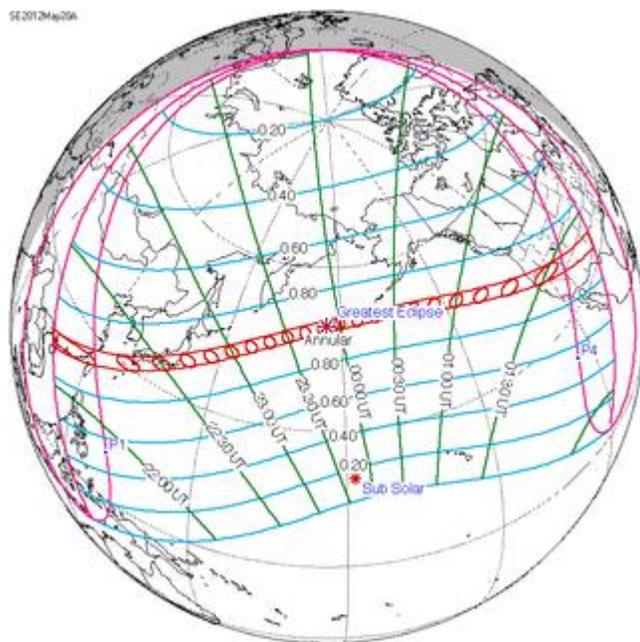
Apr 20-22	Curlew
May 18-21	Parawan Gap + Eclipse
Jun 15-17	Curlew
Jul 19-22	Monte Cristo
Aug 16-19	Monte Cristo
Sep 14-16	Curlew
Oct 12-14	Curlew
Nov 9-11	Curlew

### Solar eclipse of May 20, 2012

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Jump to: [navigation](#), [search](#)

#### Solar eclipse of May 20, 2012



Map

Type of eclipse	
<b>Nature</b>	Annular
<b><u>Gamma</u></b>	0.4828
<b><u>Magnitude</u></b>	0.9439
Maximum eclipse	
<b>Duration</b>	5m 46s
<b>Coordinates</b>	49.1N 176.3E
<b>Max. width of band</b>	237 km

<b>Times (<a href="#">UTC</a>)</b>	
<b>(P1) Partial begin</b>	20:56:07
<b>(U1) Total begin</b>	22:06:17
<b>Greatest eclipse</b>	23:53:54
<b>(U4) Total end</b>	1:39:11
<b>(P4) Partial end</b>	2:49:21
<b>References</b>	
<b><a href="#">Saros</a></b>	<a href="#">128</a> (58 of 73)
<b>Catalog # (SE5000)</b>	9535

An annular [solar eclipse](#) will take place on May 20, 2012 (May 21, 2012 for local time in [Eastern Hemisphere](#)), with a magnitude of 0.9439. A [solar eclipse](#) occurs when the [Moon](#) passes between [Earth](#) and the [Sun](#), thereby totally or partially obscuring the image of the Sun for a viewer on Earth. An annular solar eclipse occurs when the Moon's [apparent diameter](#) is smaller than the Sun, causing the sun to look like an [annulus](#) (ring), blocking most of the

Sun's light. An annular eclipse appears as a partial eclipse over a region thousands of kilometres wide.

The annular phase will be visible from the Chinese coast, the south of [Japan](#), and the western part of the [United States](#) and [Canada](#). [Guangzhou](#), [Tokyo](#) and [Albuquerque](#) will be on the central path. Its maximum will occur in the [North Pacific](#), south of the [Aleutian islands](#) for 5 min and 46.3 s, and finish in the western United States.

It will be the first central eclipse of the 21st century in the continental USA, and also the first annular eclipse there since the [solar eclipse of May 10, 1994](#) which was also the previous eclipse of this series [Solar Saros 128](#).

For more info on other eclipses see the following link.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar\\_eclipse\\_of\\_May\\_20,\\_2012](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_eclipse_of_May_20,_2012)

Tom Dougherty.