



THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



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<http://ogdenastronomy.com/>

Meeting Announcement

Our Annual meeting will be held on **Thursday**, October 10, 2013 at 7:30pm at the Ott Planetarium. Our guest speaker will be Wayne Sumner.

Message from the President

Hi All,

I have been in Atlantic City New Jersey this last week. I stayed out of the city about 10 miles in a location that was relatively dark. I can tell you I am most thankful to live here in the west, with our dry climate. The seeing there was terrible. There was about three days that there was no fog and the best I could see was maybe magnitude 3. Star hopping in that environment must be impossible.

This month, Wayne Sumner will be giving us a talk on the death of stars. Wayne has given this talk to SLAS and has good reviews with it. I thank Wayne in advance for volunteering to give a talk and I would love to schedule anyone that would like to come and present something to us.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Clear Skies
Craig

OAS Minutes – Sept 2013

The annual meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on September 13, 2013 at 7:30pm at the Ott Planetarium. President Craig Browne conducted the meeting. No new officers were nominated so a motion was called and voted on to accept the executive committee as nominated and published in the Star Diagonal. They are President Craig Browne, VP Lee Priest, Secretary David Dunn, and Treasurer Doug Say. It was also mentioned that the ALCOR is currently an appointed position and that we may want to address this in the coming months by modifying the constitution to have this as an elected position. Dustin Klein is currently filling this position.

It was announced that Lee's mother passed away and the club sent a planter to the family.

Doug Say gave a financial report.

Craig then asked for ideas from the members on what they would like to see the club do.

- Basic Astronomy Course – 1 lecture a month for 6-8 months
- Record the Basic Astronomy Course and put it on YouTube.

- Telescope Buying class. We would need to do this soon. Maybe do it at WSU or one of the libraries.
- Comet Observing
- Radio Telescope. Maybe a field trip to the Fly's Eye Cosmic Ray Detector.
- UofU Observatory
- Great Basin NP for their Astronomy Festival in September and maybe even arrange one for May or June.
- Do a public event with Kent's Market in Roy again.
- Do something with the Clark Planetarium

We then adjourned with many of us going to Village Inn for additional socializing.

Dues are Due

If you haven't paid your dues, please remember to get them to Doug Say. They are \$20 (\$25 with AL). Doug's Address is 2060 W. 1025 N. Farr West, UT 84404.

Year in Space Calendar

We will order the Desk Calendars again. If we get at least 10 they are \$10.95 each, less than 10 and they are \$11.95 each. Last year we only ordered 10 so we just made the discount. They ship October 28th so we should get the order in about a week before then. here is a link to a description of them <http://www.yearinspace.com/desk-calendar> Anyone interested can contact me at levae@aol.com or 801-391-5729.

2014 Observer's Handbook

Once again this year SLAS is going to order a bunch of Observer's Handbooks and Observer's Calendars for its members. But also like before, we're happy to extend the offer to OASers. We can get the handbooks and calendars, which their website says retail for \$38.20 and \$28.20 for \$16.95 and \$10.95 respectively, including shipping to Salt Lake. Let

Dave Dunn know, before 10/15, if you are interested and I will get with SLAS.

Great Basin Astronomy Festival

My wife and I spent a week in the Great Basin NP before the festival enjoying Lehman Cave, hikes and the hospitality of the park and its staff. If you haven't paid a visit to this park, I highly recommend it, if not just for the Cave and its history (and don't forget the Ice Cream sandwich in the café). Ranging in elevation from 5,000 - 13,000 feet, you will find deserts, ancient bristlecone pines, rock formations, fossils, high mountain lakes and even a lone glacier, a hiker's play land.

I met up with Kelly Carroll on Wednesday and he was an instant friend. I enjoyed lots of talks ranging in topics with him and also with his team of Dark Rangers. All of them showed a great enthusiasm for their work.

Once the festival started Kelly and his team had shows and actives for young and old, from kid's activities to a video presentation from guest speaker Wally Pacholka (<http://www.astropics.com/>).

The skies were clear and dark most of the week until the weekend. We only had one day of public viewing and lots of the people that showed had great interest in what we were showing. There was one couple that showed up late while myself and another volunteer was resetting our telescopes for the next night so we quickly finished our adjustments so we could show them all we could in the little time we had left before white light hour. They were gratefully for the private showing before their long drive to Elko NV where they had lodging. They planned to return the next day for more but that never happen due to rain.

All was a good experience other than the rain with just a couple of disappointments. One, I was hoping for a vendor base but due to it being a government sponsored event there where none. Two, when I saw there was going to be a Astrophotographer giving a talk I was a little disappointed to find out what Wally's specialty was, don't get me wrong the man is great in what he does, but I was hoping for CCD astronomy deep sky photographer.

This is a public focused event not so much for astronomers (and without the volunteer base which Kelly is grateful for, it would not work). It is a great way to show the public the night sky and the effects of light pollution on the sky. Kelly and his team focus on showing the other side of the night and getting people out to enjoy the view before it is gone.

Keep this event in your thoughts when planning your next year's camp outs. Even if not for volunteering and the public outreach, then just for the beauty of the Park!

Lonnie Allen Astrophotographer wan bee LOL

Editor's note: The executive committee is considering trying to arrange a star party for Great Basin. We think it would be fun to go there in May or June and do a star party for the people camping there. We are planning to contact Kelly after we meet in December to plan out our activities for the year.

Snowbasin Star Party

Our full moon star party at Snowbasin was a huge success. I think it was the best attended star party we have had up there. There were several hundred people there and eight astronomers. We did have lines but they seemed to move quickly. As usual for this event, a lot of people were excited to see the Moon. I also spent some time on M13, M57 and Alberio. I tried the Cat's Eye and M31 but they were very difficult to see. Several of the people were excited to hear that we would be at Antelope Island on 10/12. Hopefully the weather will cooperate. We all enjoyed our ½ price dinners. Here is a picture of the group taken by Lonnie.



Star Party Schedule

Public Star Parties are as follows.

Oct 12 Antelope Island

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

Oct 4-6 Curlew

Nov 1-3 Curlew