

THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



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Meeting Announcement

Our monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday**, May 8, 2014 at 7:30pm at the Ott Planetarium. Janet Muir will address us about the effort being to get the IDA designation for North Fork Park.

I would like to thank Lee for covering for me last month I was attending the funeral of my grandmother and could not make the meeting.

Clear Skies
Craig

Message from the President

Hi All,
I have been swamped at work and have not had much time to dedicate to the club lately; I apologize for this and will try to do better. For this month's meeting we will have a short talk by Janet Muir. She is a new member of the club and the person heading up the dark sky push in the Ogden Valley and the IDA designation for North Fork Park. She will speak on what she is doing with these initiatives and then if we have time I was thinking we could watch one of the planetariums shows because this will be the last month in their until September.

OAS Minutes – March 2014

The annual meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on April 10, 2014 at 7:30pm at the Ott Planetarium. Vice President Lee Priest conducted the meeting.

Announcements

- Antelope Island 5/3
- Curlew 4/25-26
- North Fork Park – 5/23.
- Parawan Gap – 5/30-31
- Last formal meeting until Sept is on May 8.
- June 12 – Annual BBQ at Doug Say's home.

We then watched the video from Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson's, Inexplicable Universe series called

“Inexplicable Cosmology”. Very interesting ideas about Multiverses. The idea is that everything else comes in at least pairs so the universe probably does as well. He also talked about the end of our universe First the universe expands until we can’t see any other galaxies because they are beyond our horizon and then we run out of hydrogen and can’t make any more stars so all the lights go out. I am very glad that I am not living in those times.

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

Star Party Schedule

Public Star Parties are as follows.

| | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| May 3 | Antelope Island |
| Jun 21 | Antelope Island (Sun) |
| Aug 2 | Antelope Island |
| Sep 27 | Antelope Island |
| Oct 18 | Antelope Island |

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| May 9 | Adele C. Young Intermediate |
| May 23 | North Fork Park |

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| May 30-Jun 1 | Parawan Gap? |
| Jun 27-29 | Monte Cristo |
| Jul 25-28 | Great Basin |
| Aug 22-24 | Monte Cristo |
| Sep 18-20 | Great Basin Astronomy Festival |
| Oct 24-26 | Curlew |

Free Downloadable PDF Observing Guides

During the winter I came across a website with some really helpful information for us amateur astronomers. But, with it being winter I forgot about it until I saw it referenced in the March-April 2014 issue of the magazine Astronomy Technology Today. Here is a link to the part of the website that I wanted to bring to your attention:

<http://www.faintfuzzies.com/DownloadableObservingGuides2.html>

This website has over a dozen free downloadable PDF observing guides. There are guides for smaller telescopes (small galaxy groups, galaxy trios, globular clusters, planetary nebulae), guides for large telescopes (interacting galaxies, the local group, ring galaxies, etc.), deep sky forum object of the week guides and a Texas Star Party Advanced Observing Guide. These observing guides are very well done. They include an index of the objects, a finder view which usually includes a “telrad” finder perspective, a negative image of the object (i.e. black stars on a white background) and a detailed view of the object area.

These guides are not little pamphlets, most of them are one hundred to two hundred pages long! The planetary nebulae guide for smaller scopes is 322 pages long and discusses over 350 objects.

And did I mention that these guides are all free!

Figure 1 is the introductory page for the globular cluster observing guide.

I hope you get a chance to check out, download and use some of these guides.

Clear skies,
Dale Hooper

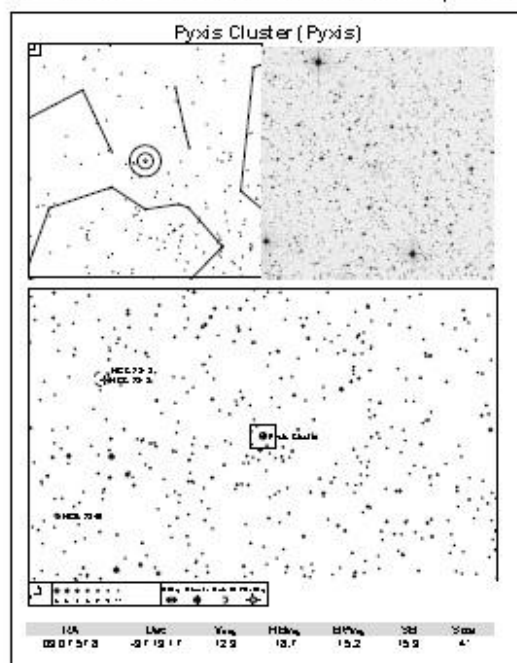
Lunar Eclipse

Lunar Eclipse by Dale Hooper.



How to Use the Atlas

The Atlas takes on two forms; one with and other without DSS image.



With DSS image:

The left panel contains the naked eye field with the Telrad™ superimposed on the center of the globular or, if multiple globular clusters, the center of the finder field. The top right panel contains the inverted DSS image. The image is 15' square.

The bottom panel is a finder field of about 4.8° across and 3.0° high. The finder field is wide enough for the finder scope and detailed enough for those who choose to use a low power eyepiece as a "finder", like I do. The limiting magnitude of the field stars is set between 10 and 12. Pay attention to the magnitude scale on the bottom left. The field of the DSS image is superimposed on the finder chart.

Without DSS image:

The top panel contains the naked eye field with the Telrad™ superimposed on the center of the globular or, if multiple globular clusters, the center of the finder field. The bottom panel is a finder field of about 4.8° across and 3.0° high. The limiting magnitude of the field stars is set between 10 and 12. Pay attention to the magnitude scale on the bottom left. One degree circles are centered around each cluster for sense of scale.

A table provided at the end of the page contains the following data;

- **RA** and **Dec** – coordinates in 2000 coordinates
- **V_{mag}** – Visual magnitude
- **HB_{mag}** – V magnitude of the horizontal branch of the globular cluster. This is the magnitude where large number of stars become visible, indicates being resolved.
- **B_T_{mag}** – V magnitude of the brightest star
- **SB** – Surface brightness in V magnitude per square arc-minute
- **Size** – in arc-minutes

Source data is from Archinal and Hynes

Any comments or if you want to share any observations. Please send them to Alvin@FaintFuzzies.com

