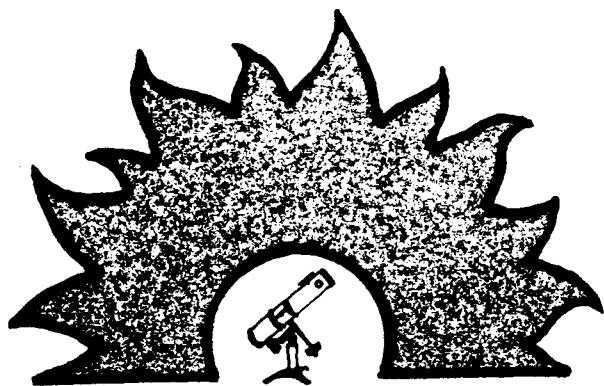




March, 1990

PASTIMES

PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY -- FOUNDED 1948

**The Meeting is March 16th, at Brophy Prep.
(see map on the last page)**

Our meetings are at Brophy Prep. Brophy is located about a quarter mile south of Camelback Road, at the Highland Ave intersection. The meeting will be at **7:00 PM** in the Physics lab on the second floor.

The next Meeting will be **April 20th**.

This month our speaker will be **Major James McGaha from Tucson**. McGaha is a friend of Tim Hunter, last months speaker, and was Tims partner in the creation and use of the Grasslands Observatory. James has been an amateur astronomer for thirty years. He is the chairman of the Tucson Skeptics, a UFO related organization and a member of CSICOP (Committee for Scientific Investigations of Claims of the Paranormal).

McGahas presentation is **UFO-ology, the Making of a Myth**. His topic covers forty years of the history of UFOs, including many famous sightings. A slide presentation will also aid in making this a very interesting evening.

Public Astronomy Session \$1.00

There will be a ^{March} astronomy session for the general public at **Reach 11 Park**, Saturday night, ~~October 17~~, between 7:00PM and 10:00PM. Come see the stars through telescopes provided by Phoenix Area Astronomy Clubs. See the Moon, Planets, Star Clusters, etc. The park entrance is on **Tatum Blvd**, North of Union Hills Road. (1/4 mile North of the **CAP** canal, on the East side of the road.) Those of you willing to setup your own scope, please show up between 6:00 and 6:30.

It Happened at the Last Meeting...

by Kai Staats

The February meeting a unique break-a-way with a presentation by Tim Hunter of Tucson. Tim Shared a series concerning the present situation of light pollution. Tim displayed many types of wasteful outdoor lamps, and many types of effective and efficient lamps. An astounding 15% of the nation's energy is shot directly into space! If you are about to replace a light outside your house, perhaps it would be wise to shop around and find one that suits your need but is more efficient.

Mr. Hunter continued with a second, separate presentation concerning the design and construction of an observatory. He based his presentation on his own observatory, the "Grasslands Observatory". Tim shared many of his struggles with a sliding roof, lightning strikes, fire hazards, and cooperation with his neighbor.

Kitt Peak Tour...

by Kai Staats

The Phoenix Astronomical Society, the East Valley Astronomy Club, and the Saguaro Astronomy Club are making plans for a joint tour of Kitt Peak. This tour does not have an associated date as of yet, but a quick poll was taken at the February meeting concerning the event as an idea: 8 - 10 people have

expressed interest. If you were not at the meeting and would like to be included, please give me a call (253-3077) and ask for Kai.

Arrangements for the tour might include: parking somewhere near Tucson and taking a bus to the peak or taking a chartered bus from Phoenix for the entire journey. This trip will possibly include a short tour of the spin cast mirror lab at the University of Arizona. The possibilities are still up in the air.

For Sale / Want Ads

This space is available for the inclusion of Ads that are intended for buying or selling of Astronomical equipment. Send your Ads to Paul Dickson. The deadline is the meeting night.

For Sale: Celestron Super8, tracking, camera attachment, weights, filters. 3.5 years old (in storage for 2.5 years)\$2600. Call Norm Cooper before 10pm at (505) 828-1324. He will deliver to Phoenix.

For Sale: Celestron C-90 spotting scope, with two eyepieces and right angle adaptor. Celestron C-8 with stand and equatorial wedge, three eyepieces and a 2X Barlow lens. An Accutrack telescope drive and speed control and a tools box with miscellaneous tools and accessories. All items to be sold as one lot. Anyone interested in viewing and bidding on them may do so by contacting Dan L. Clark at 261-5861. All bids have to be in by March 29, 1990 at 4pm

March (from Astronomical Calendar 1990, by Ottewell)

12 Mon	(18 UT) Venus closest to Mars (7.5 degrees) with magnitudes of -4.5 and 1.2 accordingly.	21 Wed	(14 UT) Moon passes 2 degrees south of Saturn
14 Wed	Albert Einstein's birthday (1879-1955)	22 Thu	Camelopardalid and March Deminid meteors (18 UT) Moon passes .4 degrees north of Mars, occultation visible.
16 Fri	Corona Australid meteors	23 Fri	(7 UT) Moon passes 2 degrees south of Venus
19 Mon	(2 UT) Mercury at superior conjunction with Sun (14:31 UT) Moon at last quarter	28 Wed	(0 UT) Jupiter at 23.5 degrees (greatest declination north) (8 UT) Moon at perigee. Distance 56.5 Earth radii
20 Tue	(11 UT) Moon passes 3 degrees south of Uranus (20 UT) Moon passes 4 degrees south of Neptune(21:19 UT) Spring (Vernal) equinox. Sun cross celestial equator into northern hemisphere	30 Fri	(6 UT) Venus at greatest elongation west, 46.5 degrees from Sun

Your 1989/1990 PAS officers:

President	Kai Staats	253-3077
Vice President	Mark Johns	866-8311
Secretary/Treasurer	Keith Parizek	996-1013
Newsletter Editor	Paul Dickson	841-7044
Director	Hermann Andreason	997-8759
Director	Dan Heim	482-8133
Director	Dick Wasson	279-0384

Items to be included should be sent to Paul Dickson, 7714 N 36th Ave, Phoenix, Az. 85051

Central Arizona Astronomers

East Valley Astronomy Club
Phoenix Astronomical Society
Saguaro Astronomy Club

March 1990

Calendar of events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Calendar graphics reprinted with permission from <i>Sky Calendar</i>; subscription to the complete monthly <i>Sky Calendar</i> are available at \$6.00 per year from Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48842. This calendar of events is compiled by Pieter Burggraaf for the Central Arizona Astronomers. Publication expenses are paid by the clubs listed above.				1 Venus Saturn Mars TEAPOT SE SSE	2	3 First quarter moon 7:05 pm
4 Moon Sunday 4 Jupiter Monday 5	5	6	7 EVAC Meeting 7:30pm at Scottsdale Community College (open to public)	8	9 SAC Meeting 7:30pm at Grand Canyon University (open to public)	10 Saturday 10 approaching Full Sunday 11 ENE
11 Full moon 3:58 am	12	13 Spica Moon in ESE	14	15	16 PAS Meeting 7:00pm at Brophy Prep (open to public)	17 SAC-Phoenix Parks Public Star Party at Reach 11 Park (open to public)
18	19 Last quarter moon 7:30 pm	20 Venus Mars Equinox March 20 4:19 pm EST spring begins SE SSE	21 Saturn Wed 21 Tues 20 TEAPOT From far West before dawn on Mar 20, a Spr appears at Moon's dark limb	22	23 EVAC Star Party at Utery Park (members and guests)	24 EVAC Deep Sky Group at Southern Site (members and guests)
25	26 New Moon 12:48 pm	27 1/2 hr after sunset: Young Moon easy; use binocs to try for Mercury Young Moon W Mercury WNW W Mercury WNW	28 Moon 1/2 hr after sunset: Mercury higher easier each night	29	30	31 Comet Austin is coming into view. Try to see it tonight six degrees above Mercury, as the planet sets. More details next month.

Naked-Eye Planets

Venus - brilliant in morning sky.

Saturn - in Sagittarius all month, east of teapot, rising with twilight.

Mercury - in sun's glare most of month, moving to evening sky by month's end.

Jupiter - brilliant, high at dusk, in southwest sky.

Mars - in morning twilight with Saturn and Venus.

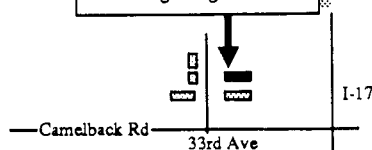
SAC-Phoenix Parks Public Star Party

Public viewing session 7-10 pm at Reach 11 Park. Enter park off of Tatum Blvd, one-half mile north of Union Hill Dr. \$1.00 per person paid to Phoenix Parks and Recreation.

Scope setup for SAC members beginning at 6 pm. Identify yourself as a member of SAC.

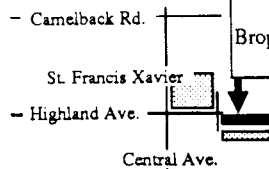
SAC Meetings

Grand Canyon University
Fleming Bldg Rm 103



PAS Meetings

Brophy Prep Physics Lab
(2nd. Floor)



EVAC Meetings

Scottsdale Community College
Science Behavioral Bldg Rm 161

