

# THE OBSERVER



M13 - Pat Thompson EVAC Facebook Group

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- EVAC Riparian Star Party - June 14<sup>th</sup>*
- EVAC Monthly Meeting - June 21<sup>st</sup>*

*Check out all of the upcoming club events in the Calendar on Page 11.*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### From the Desk of the President

*by Steve Bradshaw*

Wow. It's hard to believe that it's already June. While I can't speak for you, this year has been passing very quickly for me. Wasn't it just last week that I was approached about taking on the role of club President? Given that this month marks the year's halfway point, it might be a good time to take a fond look back at some of the things that we have done or experienced together as a club. Then we will take a quick look forward to the second half of the year too.

The first big event of the year was the springtime Messier Marathon held in March. Normally, the Saguaro Astronomy Club (SAC) organizes

this event and many in our club have attended it in the past. This year, SAC approached us to ask if we would like to conduct a combo SAC/EVAC event. We decided that this sounded like fun, so the Spring Star Party/Messier Marathon event was born. The event was very well attended with approximately 100 "setups" scattered across the Hovatter Rd viewing site. Thankfully the weather cooperated and we had mostly clear skies, manageable wind speeds, and reasonably mild temperatures. I know that Don Wrigley and Mike Cawley were among the top finishers in the Messier Marathon. Congratulations to both!

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# From the Desk of the President

by Steve Bradshaw

*Continued from page 1*

April got even better because we had the much anticipated total solar eclipse. While it was a partial eclipse here in Phoenix, many club members found ways to travel to areas in the path of totality. Given your location, clouds might have been a factor but most who traveled were delighted by the view of a total solar eclipse. This eclipse was made even more special given the fact that the continental US won't see another one for 20 years. GRCO was open to the public as it is for most major astronomical events. Many members who did not travel for the eclipse were there to serve the public and just hang out together. Our club provided the public with eclipse information, eclipse glasses, and views through appropriately filtered telescopes.

After two such wonderful events in March and April, who would have thought that May would throw down a challenge for being the best month for watching an astronomical event? Yet, that is exactly what happened. Who would have thought that we here in Arizona would witness the Aurora Borealis? But that is exactly what occurred courtesy of the Sun throwing a particularly strong solar storm in our direction. The storm arrived on a Friday night and, voila', an amazing Auroral event ensued. As you saw during last month's club meeting, many members of the club were able to photograph the aurora and share it with the rest of us.

After such an unexpected event in May, who knows what might happen in the second half of 2024?

The unexpected can always happen but there are some events coming our way in the second half of this year that we can anticipate. Looking ahead, we still have the year's most-watched meteor shower coming to us in August. The Perseid's are often wonderful to watch with up to 150 meteors per hour. Who knows what might pleasantly surprise us this year?

Then the following month, on the evening of September 17<sup>th</sup>, we have a partial lunar eclipse to see. It will be visible to most of the southern US. The club will open the observatory to the public for the lunar eclipse. Come out and

enjoy the event with others. Bring a telescope if you like because the public always appreciates telescopic views.

Keep your fingers crossed for October too. The comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS) will be at its closest point to Earth in October. This recently discovered comet has astronomers predicting that it has the potential to become as bright as comet NEOWISE was back in 2020. I have never seen a naked eye comet and would love to do so. Given that I never thought there would be an aurora event in Arizona, I have my hopes up for this comet. As an aside, seeing a naked eye comet this year would cap off an amazing year for me. In one year, I would have seen my first annular solar eclipse, my first total solar eclipse, and my first naked eye comet. That would be a great year for anyone!

And remember, as the weather cools off a bit in November, we will also have yet another club-wide Star Party at the Hovatter Rd. viewing site. It is a fun, two-night event with dark skies, a raffle, a group dinner, and most important of all, good friends to spend time with and "talk shop". I look forward to seeing you there.

Here's hoping for a great second half of the year.

Before I go, a thank you is in order. In last month's Newsletter I mentioned the need for a new Board of Directors member along with the need for a new club Newsletter editor. You all came through and quickly too. At our May meeting, Morgan Moran was elected as our new Board member. I look forward to working with Morgan. At the time of writing, we also now have a strong candidate for the Newsletter editor position as well. Hopefully, I will be able to introduce our new Newsletter editor in next month's Newsletter. As the old English saying goes, "Many hands make light work." The more folks we have pitching in to help, the easier are the tasks for the individuals involved. For all of us serving in various club roles, we thank you for your support.

See you at the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.  
Steve Bradshaw

# EVAC Meeting Minutes for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 07:00 P.M. AZ Time

by James Yoder

## Meeting Minutes

YouTube: EVAC monthly meetings can be viewed on YouTube. Go to the [YouTube](#) website to play any of the meeting recordings or select this [link](#) for the current meeting recording.

## Welcome

EVAC President Steve Bradshaw welcomed club members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. We had three new visitors.

## Announcements

Steve Bradshaw reviewed the following club business items:

- EVAC periodically offers basic astronomy classes such as [Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes](#) and [Planetary Imaging Primer](#). These classes consist of ZOOM sessions and hands-on labs and are periodically available based on interest. The next scheduled class is **Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes**. This class is composed of five Zoom meetings and five labs. The cost is \$15 for EVAC members. The class will start Tuesday, May 7th. Contact James Yoder ([jty.astro@ArtCentrics.com](mailto:jty.astro@ArtCentrics.com)) if you would like to take this class or be added to the waitlist for either class.
- To join the distribution list for EVAC announcements, go [here](#).
- Joining or renewing membership can be accomplished online [here](#).
- [EVAC Calendar](#) shows what events and meetings are slated for EVAC members.
- Past newsletters can be accessed [here](#).
- Used equipment for sale can be viewed [here](#).
- Equipment that can be rented by members can be viewed [here](#).

## Board of Directors Voting

Morgan Moran was voted in as a new board of director by those present at the meeting.

## Aurora Discussion and Photos

Last Weekend we had a rare display of the aurora for those who were in a dark sky area. Steve presented some photos taken by some of the folks in this area or associated with the club.

## Solar Walk at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve

Steve gave a quick presentation about the solar walk that

EVAC installed at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve. The walk is a series of markers throughout area that shows the relative distances between objects in the solar system.

## Member Presentations

**Speaker: James Yoder.**

**Topic: Trip to Chile.**

James talked about the trip he took last March to the Atacama Desert in Chile. James shared some of the astrophotos he took and talked about some the experiences he had on the trip.

**Speaker: Bob Buchheim.**

**Topic: – V695 Cygni.**

Bob described his observations of the star system V695 Cygni an eclipsing binary star system. Bob took spectral measurements to study the primary sun's chromosphere and shared his results with us.

**Speaker: Woody Sims.**

**Topic: T Corona Borealis.**

Woody's talk was about the recurrent nova binary star system T Corona Borealis. He described how the atmosphere of the red giant in the system is losing its atmosphere to the smaller white dwarf resulting in a nova that occurs about every 80 years. He also said there are signs this system may go nova sometime in the next year or so.

**Speaker: Tom Polakis.**

**Topics: Solar Eclipse, Near Earth Asteroid, Northern Lights.**

Tom started his presentation by talking about his public outreach experience at the Tempe library during the partial solar eclipse last October.

Next, Tom explained why the Northern Lights tend to be red in Arizona. When solar activity is particularly intense, the auroral oval (the region around the poles where auroras are most likely to occur) expands to lower latitudes making it possible for people in Arizona to see these auroras. The red color indicates that the auroral activity is occurring at a higher altitude above 150 miles (240 kilometers), where oxygen molecules emit red light. Tom also shared a video of the sunspot group responsible for the Auroras.

Finally, Tom described how to determine the orbital period of the near-earth asteroid 439437 (2013 NK 4).

# EVAC Meeting Minutes for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 07:00 P.M. AZ Time

by James Yoder

*Continued from page 3*

**Speaker: David Dunham.**

**Topic: Observations of the Total Eclipse and the Trojan Asteroid Occultation**

David discussed his experience observing the April 8<sup>th</sup> eclipse in Maine. He shared some videos of the Baily's Beads for the eclipse. Next, he discussed his observations

of a small Trojan asteroid (65109) that helped to verify the predicted shape model of the asteroid. David also described his plans to observe the occultation of asteroid (31775) predicted to occur over the Gilbert area on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Finally, David shared a video he took of the April 8<sup>th</sup> eclipse.

## The Backyard Astronomer

by Bill Dellenges

### What's Up in June?

It's June, where are the summer constellations? They're not ready for their close-up Mr. DeMille. It won't be till mid-August that the cream of the classical summer constellations cross the stage. Meanwhile, enjoy your spring skies. The key players are Boötes (the Herdsman, eastward), Virgo (the Maiden, south) and Leo (the Lion, westward). Playing smaller parts, we can find (or not find depending on your eyesight and sense of adventure) Corona Borealis, Canes Venatici, Coma Berenices, Corvus and Hydra. If you look northward, you'll find the only conspicuous constellation out these evenings, Ursa Major (the Great Bear), or at least its seven brightest stars forming the Big Dipper asterism. It looms almost overhead and upside down. The bent handle of the Dipper is used in beginner's books as an aid in learning other constellations in the area. One variation is "Follow the Arc of the Handle to Arcturus, Speed on to Spica, then follow the Curve to Corvus." I suppose one could extend that to "make a Leap to Leo" thereby including all the prime players in the spring sky.

This time of year, the Milky Way is pretty much missing as we're looking in the direction of the Galactic North Pole in Coma Berenices. So, we have a large unobscured view into deep space where galaxies are plentiful. An especially rich area for galaxies is the cup of the Wineglass asterism

making up western Virgo (northwest of Spica). Here, you find the Realm of the Galaxies, the Virgo Cluster, 3000 galaxies 55 million light years away. You can point your telescope anywhere in the Wineglass and spy a galaxy, more likely several. Because of their distance, they will look rather small to the eye. They may just look like little puff balls but they're still Island Universes just like our Milky Way. And someone in them may be looking right back at you! One exception in Virgo is M104, the Sombrero Galaxy, only 30 million light years away, so it exhibits interesting structure, notably its prominent equatorial dark lane. Other galaxies in the June sky worth a look are M51, just off the end star in the Big Dipper in Canes Venatici (along with M63 and M94), the edge-on galaxy NGC 4565 in Coma Berenices, and M65/66/NGC 3623 in Leo (Use low power to get all three in the same field). Two noted but challenging double stars are Izar in Bootes (mag. 2.5, 4.8, sep. 2.9" – use 150x) and Porrima in Virgo (3.4, 3.5, 2.8" – use 200x). Globular star clusters not to be missed are M3 (Canes Venatici), M5 (Serpens Caput) and M13 (Hercules), arguably the finest globular in the northern skies with the possible exception of M22 in Scorpius. Open star clusters anyone? Try M44, the Beehive Cluster (Cancer) low in the western sky and Mel 111 overhead in Coma Berenices. Only two? Remember, this time of the year at night, we are looking out of the top of our Galaxy, not into its plane where star clusters thrive.

**New Moon on June 6th at 05:37**

**First Quarter Moon on June 13th at 22:18**

**Full Moon on June 21st at 18:07**

**Third Quarter Moon on June 28th at 14:53**

# What's Up - Some Astronomical Events of Note for June 2024

by James Yoder

Here we make note of some interesting astronomical occurrences for the month that are visible from the Phoenix Metro area. Events we are on the lookout for include:

- [Transits](#) – When a celestial body passes directly between a larger body and the observer. For example when one of the inner planets such as Venus passes in front of the Sun ([image](#)).
- [Eclipses](#) – Specifically we are focused on [Lunar Eclipses](#) (where the Earth passes between the Sun and the Moon) and [Solar Eclipses](#) (where the Moon passes between the Sun and the Earth).
- [Comets](#) – For the comets we are focused on bright comets ([image1](#), [image2](#)) or ones that may have a near miss with other astronomical objects such as globular clusters, planets, nebula, etc ([image](#)).
- Planet Activity – [Oppositions](#), [Conjunctions](#) ([image1](#)) and [Occultations](#) ([image2](#)) of note that may be an opportunity for observation or photography. For Jupiter, we also note when multiple moon shadow transits are visible.
- Visually Interesting astronomical alignments such as Moon & planets arrangement in the morning or evening sky([image1](#)).

Equipment Requirements are noted as follows:

- NE – **N**aked **E**ye event, no equipment needed to appreciate this.
- BI – A decent pair of **B**inoculars are recommended.
- CT – **C**amera on a **T**ripod can be used to capture this event.
- TS – **T**elescope is required to view this event.

Date	Event	Time	Equipment	Images	Ref	Comments
06/06	New Moon	All Night	N/A			
06/22	Full Moon	All Night	N/A			
06/27	Moon - Saturn Occultation	09:00 am - 09:58 am	TS	<a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	This will be a tough one since it is during the day.  The Moon will pass in front of Saturn at about 9:00 AM (25° above horizon) and will emerge from behind the moon at about 9:58 AM (15° above horizon).

These events and others throughout the year can be viewed on my webpage [here](#), Happy hunting!

## EVAC Outreach Events

by Jake LeAncala

### June Outreach Events:

- June 13<sup>th</sup> - San Tan Library Star Party
- June 14<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Star Party.

Details can be found on the EVAC website. Just go to [www.evaconline.org/events-meetings](http://www.evaconline.org/events-meetings). Click on the calendar entry for location and times. Contact [Jake LeAncala](#), (EVAC's Events Coordinator), if you can volunteer

at an event. It helpful to know who is coming so we can tell you where the observing field is located and how to gain access.

# Deep Sky Imaging Target Highlights for June 2024

by James Yoder

The average low [temperature](#) for May in the Phoenix metro area is 78° F. June 6<sup>th</sup> is a new moon with Astronomical dusk at 9:17 pm and Astronomical dawn at 3:36 am, giving us 6:19 hours of imaging time. In this month's list there are over 111 object/configuration combinations provided of just about every class of deep sky object including 24 Globulars, 18 Planetary Nebulas, 24 Nebulas, 18 Dark Nebula, 10 Open Clusters and 10 Galaxies/Galaxy Clusters.

Bright Moon Targets – These are small targets that have a high surface brightness, these would be globular clusters and Planetary Nebula, that with appropriate filters can likely be imaged even in a near full moon situation.

The [Prospective Imaging Objects Guide](#) (PDF download) covers objects that reach their highest point in the sky and cross the meridian (aka Transit) sometime between Astronomical Dusk to Dawn. We will be highlighting objects that transit roughly between 10pm and 2am. This ensures maximum imaging time over the month.

Happy Hunting!

## Some Highlighted Targets (Most of these objects were imaged in Chandler)

Configuration	Page	Object(s)	Type	ImageLink
<b>Hyperstar</b>	8	Ophiuchous Complex (IC-4604)	Bright and Dark Nebula	<a href="#">120 min</a>
<b>Focal Reducer</b>	14	Snake Nebula (B-72)	Dark Nebula	<a href="#">125 min</a>
<b>Primary Focus</b>	3	Spindle Galaxy (M-102)	Galaxy	<a href="#">220 min</a>
<b>Primary Focus</b>	5	Hercules Galaxy Cluster (Abell-2151)	Galaxies	<a href="#">332 Min</a>
<b>Primary Focus (Moon)</b>	4	M-5	Globular Cluster	<a href="#">Unknown</a>
<b>Primary Focus (Moon)</b>	9	Turtle Nebula	Planetary Nebula	<a href="#">64 Min</a>

Resources:

- [ArtCentrics.com](#) – [June Potential Targets Guide](#) (PDF download)
- [Telescopius](#) – Lookup objects, plan imaging session.
- [Field of View Calculator](#) – Test Different Telescope, camera & eyepiece combinations.
- [Astrometry.net](#) – Solve images captured by your system. Get image RA/DEC, pixel scale, image size, orientation of the image you have taken.

## Find Out What's Happening – Join EVAC-Announce List

If you would like to receive email announcements about EVAC meetings and activities, please join the EVAC–Announce mailing list. Click on the link below to subscribe. Enter your full email address in the box titled User Options and press OK. You will receive a confirmation email. Your privacy is respected by EVAC and we will never sell your email address, or use it for non-club relevant solicitations. This mailing list is designed for communication from EVAC, and does not enable users to respond to the message. If you wish to contact club officers, please use the list in the Contact-Us area on the Home page of our EVAC website. To subscribe to the EVAC–Announce mail group click: <http://www.freelists.org/list/evac-announce>. To unsubscribe use the same link, enter your email address and select Unsubscribe from the “Choose An Action” list. Another list to consider is AZ-Observing@groups.io, simply click on this link <https://groups.io/g/AZ-Observing> and follow the instructions. EVAC also has a Facebook Group where members may share ideas, photos, and Astronomy related information. Click on the link to join: [East Valley Astronomy Facebook Group](#).

The Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory (GRCO) also has a Facebook Group. To visit, please click on [Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory - GRCO](#). The Observatory is open on Friday and Saturday from sunset until 9:30pm. We need volunteers. Training is provided. Help us engage the community in the wonders of the night sky. Email [grco@evaonline.org](mailto:grco@evaonline.org) for information.

## Used Equipment For Sale at Great Prices

The East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) has just posted used astronomy equipment for sale:

- Sales are "As is"
- Pickup only.

Contact the EVAC Property Director (James Yoder) at [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org) for more details and to answer any questions. Detailed information on products being offered can be found on the EVAC Sales webpage [HERE](#). This page includes a brief description of the items, photos and references (i.e. users manuals, ect.) Equipment being offered for sale this month includes:

- **Meade 4.5" Newtonian telescope** in fair condition (Sale Price = \$45)

## EVAC Equipment Rental Program

The East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) Is introducing a rental program for EVAC Members. Details on terms and equipment can be found on the [EVAC Rental page](#). Each item below rents for \$25/week for up to 4 weeks. Currently the following items are available for rent:

- **Celestron C-8 with Nexstar GoTo Mount** - Everything you need to beginning exploring the night sky.
- **ZWO Seestar S50 All-in-One Smart Telescope** - Everything you need to image the Sun, Moon and some bright deep sky objects. Extremely user friendly.
- **10" Dobsonian Telescope** - Everything you need to beginning exploring the sky.
- **Visual Filters for Deep Sky Objects** - 15 different filters to try before you buy.
- **Imaging Kit for Planetary & Moon Imaging** - Everything you need to capture and process images except the telescope.

Telescopes come with all equipment needed for observation (i.e. eyepieces, finder scope, power supply, etc.)

Contact the EVAC Property Director (James Yoder) at [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org) for more details and to answer any questions.

## Classified Ads

The following Non-EVAC equipment is for sale. If interested, contact James Yoder: [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org).

David Hopper:

- Celestron C90 SpottingScope - Sale Price \$160.

James Yoder:

- Celestron NexStar 127SLT Goto Telescope - \$350.
- Celestron NexStar 130SLT Goto Telescope - \$300.
- Celestron StarSense Explorer DX130AZ - \$250.
- 4.5" Newtonian on Alt/Az Mount - \$50.

Brian Rucker:

- Orion X12i 12" Dobsonian - \$1,300.

Bill Frazer Astronomy Gear Collection:

- Lunt Solar Binoculars - \$45.
- Meade 8" LX90 ACF SCT Telescope, GoTo Mount - Sale Price \$550.
- Miyauchi 100mm 20x Fluorite Binoculars and Mount - Sale Price \$680.
- Cannon 10x42 Image Stabilized Binoculars - \$640.
- Sky-Watcher AZ-GTi GoTo Mount - \$170.
- A large selection of eyepieces including: Baader, TeleVue, Celestron, Explorer Scientific, and others.
- Other Equipment including: Observing Chair, Laser Finder, Star Diagonals, Equipment Case, Filters.



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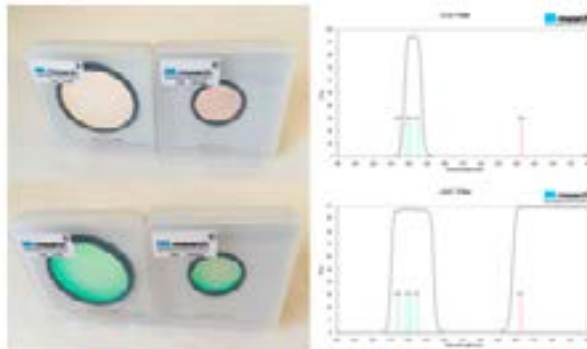
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Monthly Meetings will be held in person and also presented live online using Zoom. See the EVAC Website for updates.

The monthly general meeting is your chance to find out what other club members are up to, learn about upcoming club events and listen to presentations by professional and well-known amateur astronomers.

**Our normal in-person monthly meetings have resumed. Also, the meetings will continue to be available online via Zoom.**

Our meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the Southeast Regional Library in Gilbert. The library is located at 775 N. Greenfield Road; on the southeast corner of Greenfield and Guadalupe Roads. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

***Visitors are always welcome!***



**Southeast Regional Library  
775 N. Greenfield Road  
Gilbert, Az. 85234**



## June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	<b>14</b>	15
16	17	18	19	20	<b>21</b>	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**June 13<sup>th</sup>** - San Tan Library Star Party

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - EVAC Monthly Meeting

**June 14<sup>th</sup>** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Star Party

## July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	<b>12</b>	13
14	15	16	17	18	<b>19</b>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**July 12<sup>th</sup>** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Star Party

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** - EVAC Monthly Meeting

# East Valley Astronomy Club - 2024 Membership Form

## Member Dues (Based on the month you are joining the club)

	Individual	Family	Student (18yr+ with ID)
January - June	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
July - December ( <i>Renew in January</i> )	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$10.00
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Renewal Dues (Current Members Only)

Individual	Family	Student (18yr+ with ID)
\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Astronomical League: \$10.00 Annually:

**Name Badges:**      Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

\$10.00 Each

Name to imprint: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount enclosed:**

Please make check or money order payable to EVAC.  
Payment will be made using PayPal:

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Email:

City  
State  
Zip

URL  
For website

Would you be interested in our outreach program?      Yes       No

How did you discover East Valley Astronomy Club?

## Liability Release Form

In consideration of attending any publicized Star Party hosted by the East Valley Astronomy Club (hereinafter referred to as "EVAC"), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby affirm that I and any related entities, predecessors, successors, affiliates, attorneys, guarantors, insurers, transferees, assigns, parents, spouses, children, subsidiaries, accountants, officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, members, and trustees, past and present, hereby forever release, acquit and discharge to hold EVAC and its related entities, predecessors, successors, affiliates, attorneys, guarantors, insurers, transferees, assigns, parents, spouses, subsidiaries, accountants, officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, members, and trustees, past and present, from any and all causes of action, claims, losses, damages, liabilities, expenses (including attorneys' fees) and demands of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, that in any way relate to, arise out of, or concern EVAC and/or my presence on the premises of any EVAC Star Party and related areas, whether or not those causes of action, claims, damages, liabilities, and demands are part of the specific subject matter of EVAC or any EVAC Star Party. This release is intended to and does cover all injuries and damages, and the consequences thereof, whether known or unknown at the time of the execution of this release, which have occurred or may hereafter occur or which may hereafter be discovered, and which may have been caused or may be claimed to have been caused by the said incident, and specifically includes, but is not limited to, bodily injuries, mental and emotional injury, pain and suffering, medical treatments, and loss of earnings or income.

My signature upon this form also indicates agreement and acceptance on behalf of all minor children (under 18 years of age) under my care in attendance. EVAC only recognizes those who are members or invitees and who also have a signed Liability Release Form on file as participants at an EVAC Star Party.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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[www.evaonline.org](http://www.evaonline.org)

East Valley Astronomy Club  
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*President: Steve Bradshaw*

*Vice President: Woody Sims*

*Secretary: James Yoder*

*Treasurer: Brooks Scofield*

*Board Members at Large: Claude Haynes, Nathan Eskey, Morgan Moran, Tom Mozdzen and Don Wrigley*

*Events Coordinator: Jake LeAlcala*

*Property Director: James Yoder*

*Refreshments: Open*

*Observing Program Coordinator: Wayne Thomas*

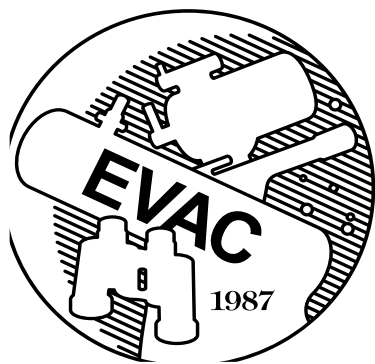
*AL Representative: Brooks Scofield*

*Newsletter Editor: Marty Pieczonka*

*Webmaster: Brandon Feldman*

*SkyWatch Coordinator: Claude Haynes*

*Observatory Manager: Claude Haynes*



# THE OBSERVER

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- EVAC Riparian Star Party - June 14<sup>th</sup>*
- EVAC Monthly Meeting - June 21<sup>st</sup>*

*Check out all of the upcoming club events in the Calendar on Page 11.*

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## From the Desk of the President by Steve Bradshaw

Wow. It's hard to believe that it's already June. While I can't speak for you, this year has been passing very quickly for me. Wasn't it just last week that I was approached about taking on the role of club President? Given that this month marks the year's halfway point, it might be a good time to take a fond look back at some of the things that we have done or experienced together as a club. Then we will take a quick look forward to the second half of the year too.

The first big event of the year was the springtime Messier Marathon held in March. Normally, the Saguaro Astronomy Club (SAC) organizes

this event and many in our club have attended it in the past. This year, SAC approached us to ask if we would like to conduct a combo SAC/EVAC event. We decided that this sounded like fun, so the Spring Star Party/Messier Marathon event was born. The event was very well attended with approximately 100 "setups" scattered across the Hovatter Rd viewing site. Thankfully the weather cooperated and we had mostly clear skies, manageable wind speeds, and reasonably mild temperatures. I know that Don Wrigley and Mike Cawley were among the top finishers in the Messier Marathon. Congratulations to both!

## Used Equipment For Sale at Great Prices

The East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) has just posted used astronomy equipment for sale:

- Sales are "As is"
- Pickup only.

Contact the EVAC Property Director (James Yoder) at [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org) for more details and to answer any questions. Detailed information on products being offered can be found on the EVAC Sales webpage [HERE](#). This page includes a brief description of the items, photos and references (i.e. users manuals, ect.) Equipment being offered for sale this month includes:

- **Meade 4.5" Newtonian telescope** in fair condition (Sale Price = \$45)

## EVAC Equipment Rental Program

The East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) Is introducing a rental program for EVAC Members. Details on terms and equipment can be found on the [EVAC Rental page](#). Each item below rents for \$25/week for up to 4 weeks. Currently the following items are available for rent:

- **Celestron C-8 with Nexstar GoTo Mount** - Everything you need to beginning exploring the night sky.
- **ZWO Seestar S50 All-in-One Smart Telescope** - Everything you need to image the Sun, Moon and some bright deep sky objects. Extremely user friendly.
- **10" Dobsonian Telescope** - Everything you need to beginning exploring the sky.
- **Visual Filters for Deep Sky Objects** - 15 different filters to try before you buy.
- **Imaging Kit for Planetary & Moon Imaging** - Everything you need to capture and process images except the telescope.

Telescopes come with all equipment needed for observation (i.e. eyepieces, finder scope, power supply, etc.) Contact the EVAC Property Director (James Yoder) at [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org) for more details and to answer any questions.

## Classified Ads

The following Non-EVAC equipment is for sale. If interested, contact James Yoder: [properties@evaonline.org](mailto:properties@evaonline.org).

Brian Rucker -Orion X12i 12" Dobsonian - \$1,300.

James Yoder

- Celestron NexStar 130SLT Goto Telescope - \$275.
- Celestron StarSense Explorer DX130AZ - \$200.
- Celestron NexStar SE Tripod and Mount - \$300.
- 4.5" Newtonian on Alt/Az Mount - \$50.

Bill Frazer Astronomy Gear Collection:

- Vixen 115S (4.5") Refractor Telescope and GoTo Mount = \$800.
- Lunt LS60T Ha Solar Telescope and EQ Mount - \$700.
- Lunt Solar Binoculars - \$45.
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- Meade 8" LX90 ACF SCT Telescope, GoTo Mount - \$650.
- Miyauchi 100mm 20x Fluorite Binoculars and Mount - \$800.
- Cannon 10x42 Image Stabilized Binoculars - \$750.
- Sky-Watcher AZ-GTi GoTo Mount - \$200.
- A large selection of eyepieces including: Baader, TeleVue, Celestron, Explorer Scientific, and others.
- Other Equipment including: Observing Chair, Laser Finder, Star Diagonals, Equipment Case, Filters.