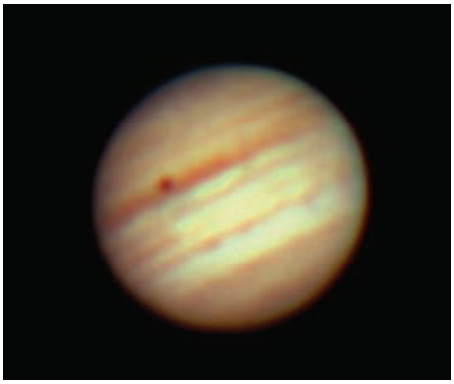


Jupiter is at opposition on July 9 and is well placed for viewing east of the Sagittarius Teapot all evening long during July. Photo by Tracey Haley.

The Skyscraper

Vol. 35 No. 7 July 2008

SKYSCRAPERS, INC · Amateur Astronomical Society Of Rhode Island · 47 Peeptoad Road North Scituate, RI 02857 · www.theSkyscrapers.org

In This Issue

July Cookout & Meeting with Father Doug McGonagle

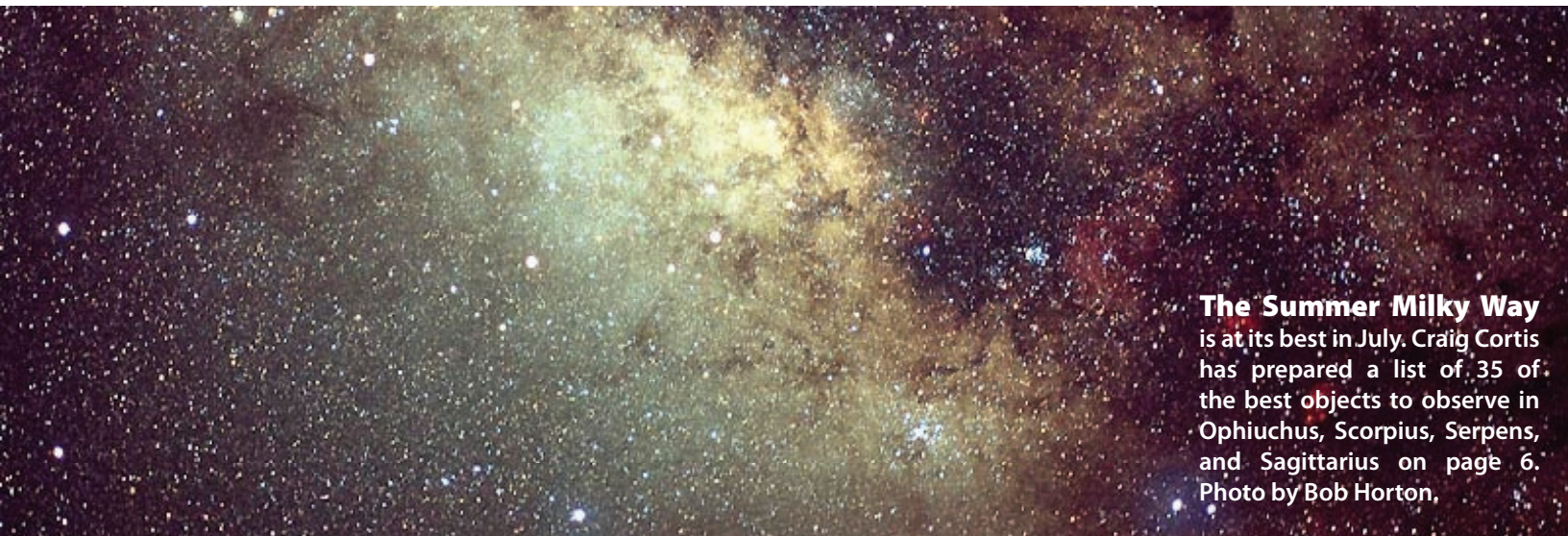
Saturday, July 12 at Seagrave Memorial Observatory

Skyscrapers annual Cookout is planned for Saturday July 12th. Solar observing starts at 3:00pm. All members and friends are invited to attend. However, we will need a RSVP from you and your family so that we have a realistic head count for the event. Hamburgers, hotdogs, all of the salads and fruit you can eat will be available. Bring the kids, this is a family event. If you would like to bring your special "summer cook out treat" let me know so that we can plan accordingly. Other than that the only thing that you might need is your special summer lawn chair. The cook out will be followed by our featured speaker for the evening Father Doug McGonagle "Science and Religion"

Father Doug McGonagle, director of the Newman Catholic Center at the University of Massachusetts. PHD received from the University of Massachusetts in 1995, specialized in the radio observation of nitrogen bearing molecules and worked on the Large Millimeter-Wave telescope project. In 2000, Father McGonagle received a master of divinity from Pope John XXIII seminary and is an ordained Roman Catholic priest.

July 2008

5 Saturday	9:00 pm	**Public Observing Night** Seagrave Memorial Observatory, weather permitting
12 Saturday	5:30 pm	**July Cookout & Meeting with Father Doug McGonagle** Seagrave Memorial Observatory
19 Saturday	9:00 pm	**Public Observing Night** Seagrave Memorial Observatory, weather permitting
26 Saturday	11:00am - 3:00pm	**Astronomy on the Scituate Common**
	8:30pm	**Public Observing Night** Seagrave Memorial Observatory, weather permitting



The Summer Milky Way is at its best in July. Craig Cortis has prepared a list of 35 of the best objects to observe in Ophiuchus, Scorpius, Serpens, and Sagittarius on page 6. Photo by Bob Horton.

President's Message

Glenn Jackson

Summertime, what a great time for a cook out to spend time with old friends. Skyscrapers annual Cook Out is planned for Saturday July 12th, starting at 5:30 PM. All members and friends are invited to attend. However, we will need a RSVP from you and your family so that we have a realistic head count for the event. Hamburgers, hotdogs, all of the salads and fruit you can eat will be available. Bring the kids, this is a family event. If you would like to bring your special "summer cook out treat" let me know so that we can plan accordingly. Other than that the only thing that you might need is your special summer lawn chair. The cook out will be followed by our featured speaker for the evening Father Doug McGonagle "Science and Religion". This is one speaker that you do not want to miss. His presentation is outstanding.

Skyscraper "Public Out Reach" is winding down for the summer. We have completed 8 star parties, all of which had to be re-scheduled many times due to the weather. We introduced the night sky to well over 300 children and parents. This success is due in a large part to Bob Forgiel, our star party coordinator, and the many volunteer scope operators who traveled the state from Portsmouth to Washington Memorial State Park. I am impressed by the interest, the knowledge and gratitude that many of the children brought to the star parties. Our out reach program has been a success. There is only one remaining star party, and that is Camp Surefire, a camp for children with diabetes. The event is scheduled for July 17th, mark your calendar, details to follow. Thanks again to all of those members who operated the scopes, brought and set up their own scopes, binoculars, laser pointers and those that provided moral support. Your efforts are appreciated by all members of Skyscrapers.

Special Election: There will be voting for a special election to elect a new trustee to fill the vacancy of Jerry Jeffrey at the July 12th meeting. The two candidates are Joe Sarandrea and Steve Siok, both long standing members of Skyscrapers. There will be ballots available via e-mail, in the newsletter, and at the meeting. All members are eligible to vote, you need only put your name on the ballot or place the ballot in an envelope with your name on the envelope so that the nominating committee can verify that only members are voting. Results will be announced at the end of the meeting on July 12th. Don't forget to VOTE!

Hope to see you at the cook out.

Astronomy on the Scituate Common: Saturday, July 26

All activities are free of charge.

Scituate Common

11am-3pm	Solar Observing Walk a scale model of the solar system Telescope workshop NASA and other astronomical handouts Skyscrapers membership info

Seagrave Observatory

8:30pm	Historical Walking Tour of Seagrave Observatory
9pm-11pm	Public viewing at Seagrave Observatory

The Skyscraper is published monthly by Skyscrapers, Inc. Meetings are usually held on the first Friday of the month. Public observing is usually held every Saturday night at Seagrave Memorial Observatory, weather permitting.

Directions
Directions to Seagrave Memorial Observatory are located on the back page of this newsletter.

Submissions
Submissions to *The Skyscraper* are always welcome. Please submit items for the newsletter by July 15 to Jim Hendrickson, 1 Sunflower Circle, North Providence, RI 02911 or email to jim@distantgalaxy.com.

Email subscriptions
To receive *The Skyscraper* by email, send email with your name and address to jim@distantgalaxy.com. Note that you will no longer receive the newsletter by postal mail.

Summer Double Stars: Draco

Glenn Chaple

A hazy summer evening may prevent you from observing nebulae and galaxies, but it could afford ideal seeing conditions for high power targets like double stars. Draco is a sprawling north circumpolar constellation teeming with double and multiple stars. Using a modest 3-inch f/10 Newtonian reflector, I have observed and sketched over sixty stellar partnerships, including the half dozen presented here. All are found in and around the four-star group that outlines the Dragon's head. (Data from the Washington Double Star Catalog - WDS)

16,17 Draconis (Struvel 30) : magnitudes 5.4 and 5.5, separation 89.8", Position Angle 196° (2003)

This pretty binocular pair has a surprise for anyone who observes it telescopically. It's actually a triple star! Carefully examine 17 Draconis with high power (120x, or more), and you'll see that it's a close double (Struve 2078; mags 5.4 and 6.4, sep 3.0", P.A. 107° (2003).

μ (mu) (Struve 2130) : mags 5.7 and 5.7, sep 2.3", P.A. 14° (2004)

Binary (Period = 482 years) Beautiful twin pair that requires 100x or better for a clean split. A showpiece!

Struve 2138 : mags 9.0 and 9.4, sep 22.7", P.A. 133° (2004)

To find this faint, but pretty pair, point your telescope about one degree east of mu Draconis.

Struve 2180 : mags 8.0 and 8.1, sep 3.0", P.A. 260° (2000)

Like Struve 2138, this is a rarely-observed double that deserves attention. Located about 1.5 degrees south of beta Draconis, Struve 2180 resolves best when viewed with a magnification of 100x or more.

ν (nu) (Struvel 35) : mags 4.9 and 4.9, sep 63.4", P. A. 311° (2003)

Faintest of the four stars in the Head of Draco, nu is a noble sight in a low power telescope. 30-60x gives the most dramatic view of these identical white stars.

Struve 2278 : mags 7.8 and 8.1, sep 35.9", P.A. 28° (2004)

A faint triple, as the secondary has a close partner (mag 8.5, sep 6.0", P.A. 146° (2004).

July 2008 Celestial Events

	1	12:00am	Mars 0.7° N of Regulus
	1	11:00am	Mercury 8° S of the Moon
	1	2:00pm	Mercury at greatest western elongation (22°)
●	2	10:19pm	New Moon
	4	4:00am	Earth at Apogee (farthest from the sun)
	6	2:00pm	Mars 3° N of the Moon
	6	6:00pm	Saturn 3° N of the Moon
	9	4:00am	Jupiter at opposition
◐	10	12:35am	First Quarter Moon
	10	evening	Mars 0.7° S of Saturn
	14	8:00am	Moon 0.3° S of Antares
	17	8:00am	Jupiter 3° N of the Moon
○	18	3:59am	Full Moon
	20	9:00am	Neptune 0.9° S of the Moon
	22	6:00pm	Uranus 4° S of the Moon
◑	25	12:42pm	Last Quarter Moon
	29	4:00pm	Mercury at superior conjunction
	31	1:00am	1 Ceres 0.9° N of the Moon

Space Buoys

By Dr. Tony Phillips

NASA's Space Place

Congratulations! You're an oceanographer and you've just received a big grant to investigate the Pacific Ocean. Your task: Map the mighty Pacific's wind and waves, monitor its deep currents, and keep track of continent-sized temperature oscillations that shape weather around the world. Funds are available and you may start immediately.

Oh, there's just one problem: You've got to do this work using no more than one ocean buoy.

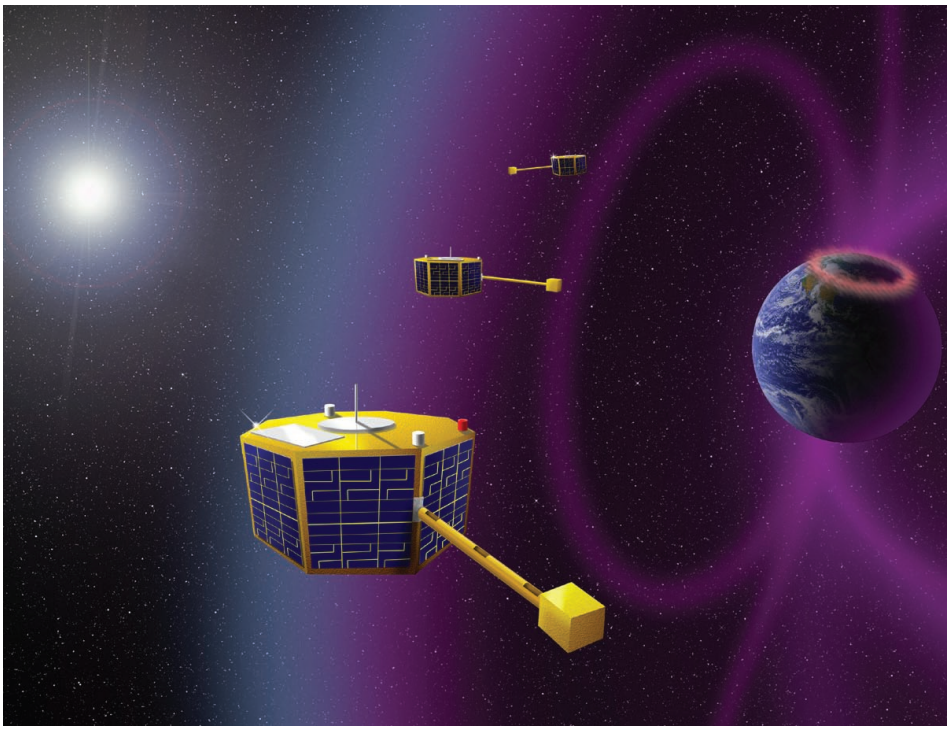
"That would be impossible," says Dr. Guan Le of the Goddard Space Flight Center. "The Pacific's too big to understand by studying just one location."

Yet, for Le and her space scientist colleagues, this was exactly what they have been expected to accomplish in their own studies of Earth's magnetosphere. The magnetosphere is an "ocean" of magnetism and plasma surrounding our planet. Its shores are defined by the outer bounds of Earth's magnetic field and it contains a bewildering mix of matter-energy waves, electrical currents and plasma oscillations spread across a volume billions of times greater than the Pacific Ocean itself.

"For many years we've struggled to understand the magnetosphere using mostly single spacecraft," says Le. "To really make progress, we need many spacecraft spread through the magnetosphere, working together to understand the whole."

Enter Space Technology 5.

In March 2006 NASA launched a trio of experimental satellites to see what three "buoys" could accomplish. Because they weighed only 55 lbs. apiece and measured not much larger than a birthday cake, the three ST5 "micro-satellites" fit onboard a single Pegasus rocket. Above Earth's atmosphere, the three were flung like Frisbees from the rocket's body into the magnetosphere by a revolutionary micro-satellite launcher.



The Space Technology 5 micro-satellites proved the feasibility of using a constellation of small spacecraft with miniature magnetometers to study Earth's magnetosphere.

Space Technology 5 is a mission of NASA's New Millennium Program, which tests innovative technologies for use on future space missions. The 90-day flight of ST5 validated several devices crucial to space buoys: miniature magnetometers, high-efficiency solar arrays, and some strange-looking but effective micro-antennas designed from principles of Darwinian evolution. Also, ST5 showed that three satellites could maneuver together as a "constellation," spreading out to measure complex fields and currents.

"ST5 was able to measure the motion and thickness of current sheets in the magnetosphere," says Le, the mission's project scientist at Goddard. "This could not have been done with a single spacecraft, no matter how capable."

The ST5 mission is finished but the technology it tested will key future studies of the magnetosphere. Thanks to ST5, hopes Le, lonely buoys will soon be a thing of the past.

Learn more about ST5's miniaturized technologies at nmp.nasa.gov/st5. Kids (and grownups) can get a better understanding of the artificial evolutionary process used to design ST5's antennas at spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/st5/emoticon.

This article was provided by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Star Patterns in the Night Sky

Dave Huestis

Last month I talked about how a casual stargazer can identify the International Space Station, the Space Shuttle and Iridium Flares traversing the night time sky. While the appearance of these man-made objects change from night to night, the star patterns we observe have remained practically unchanged for thousands of years.

With that in mind, it shouldn't be a difficult task to learn how to identify the constellations that can be seen from here in southern New England.

While many people with even a basic knowledge of the night sky can at least identify Ursa Major (the Big Dipper), Taurus (the Bull), and possibly Orion (the Hunter), other star patterns may elude all but the keen observer.

The easy way to learn the constellations is to accompany a person who is already knowledgeable in this field of study. Let that individual be your guide to the beautiful star patterns our ancestors created in the heavens.

However, if an experienced guide is not readily available to you, there is a simple and inexpensive tool which can help you with constellation identification...it's called a planisphere.

A planisphere (star wheel) consists of a round rotating disc depicting the constellations and a calendar of dates. A fixed outer scale contains a time scale (8:00 pm, 9:00 pm, etc).

All one has to do is set the rotating disc to the corresponding month and time. There are four flanges on the planisphere corresponding to north, east, south and west. If you hold the south flange and face south, the stars in the sky will now match those shown in the star wheel's viewing area. You also have to imagine that the planisphere curves up around you like a planetarium dome. To view and identify constellations in other directions simply hold any of the other three flanges and face that direction.

After you've identified a few star patterns, a great family game would be to create your own constellations. All you have to do is have a good imagination and connect the dots (stars). This pastime can provide quite a few laughs.

Some of the local book stores have carried different versions of planispheres from time to time. There are some small ones and large ones. Today, most are made of plastic. Prices vary. Scientifics (www.scientificsonline.com) carries a thin cardboard, 8 «-inch square "Star and Planet Locator" star wheel for $2.95. It's a good deal.

But the best deal can be found at Uncle Al's Sky Wheels on the internet (http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu/StarClock/skywheel.html) From this website you can download free of charge the templates to assemble your own planisphere. Instructions for assembly and use are included. I suggest you print on the heaviest stock paper your printer can accommodate.

Start using your planisphere on any clear night and you'll soon be able to identify all the constellations visible from the northern hemisphere over the course of a year. And one other suggestion. After you've become familiar with these star patterns, learn some of their mythology. The stories will add a different dimension to your knowledge of the heavens.

Two Late Month Meteor Showers

In addition, at month's end there are a couple of minor meteor showers. While both are seen better from the southern hemisphere, at least during the peak nights you'll see a few more meteors than you would on a non-shower night.

The first one, the Delta Aquarids, peaks across several nights, from the 27th to 29th. The Moon will be a waning crescent in the early morning sky and will not hinder observing as many meteors as possible. Expect less than 10 bright, yellow and medium speed (25.5 miles per second) meteors at best per hour.

The second meteor shower, the Capricornids, come a day later on the night of July 28/29. The Capricornids are characterized by their often yellow coloration and their frequent brightness. They are relatively slow meteors, hitting our atmosphere at around 15 miles per second. An observer should expect no more than eight meteors per hour, though the Capricornids are noted for producing brilliant fireballs.

For both showers, direct your gaze towards the southern sky.

Don't forget to visit Seagrave Memorial Observatory on any clear Saturday night for a tour of the heavens. Visit our website for additional information: http://www.theskyscrapers.org

Summer Deep Sky Objects

Craig Cortis

The following list is an observing "menu" I generated some years ago. I culled information from various good sources and star charts, plus from my own observing notes and experience in order to make up this listing. It is one of the finest such listings you'll ever find.

Type	Object Type
OC	Open Cluster
GC	Globular Cluster
PN	Planetary Nebula
DS	Double Star
MS	Multiple Star

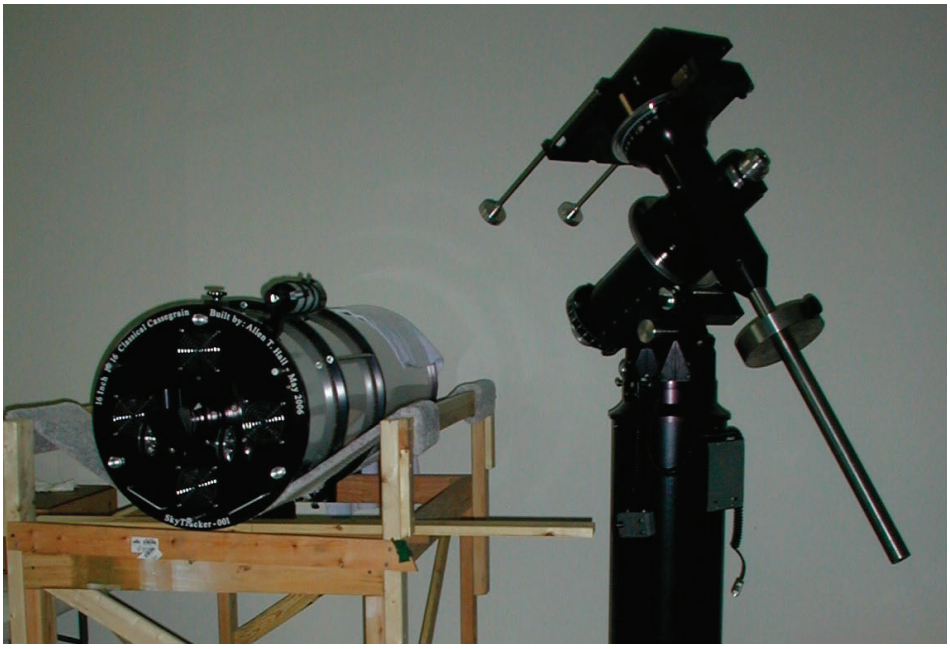
x-pwr	Best viewed with	Magnification
B	Binoculars	≤ 10x
B/V	High power binoculars or very low power telescope	12-22x
L	Low power telescope	25-35x
M	Medium power telescope	45-60x
H	High power telescope	≥ 100x

* For best viewing due to low southern declination, the following conditions should be in effect: minimal skyglow south; dark, clear, haze-free sky; unobstructed view low to the south; and viewing time to coincide with the positioning of the object near the meridian so as to be seen at its highest altitude above the southern horizon.

Summer Deep Sky Objects

Con	Object	Type	RA	Dec.	Mag	Size	x-pwr	Description
Lib	Alpha 1+2	DS	14 50.9	-16 02	5,3	231″	B	Zubenelgenubi, yellowish & pale blue, true physical companion at 231″!
Ser	M5	GC	15 18.6	02 05	5.8	17′	B/V-M	Splendid globular in Serpens Caput. This will become one of your favorites.
Ser	Delta a+b	DS	15 34.8	10 32	4,5	4.4″	H	In Serpens Caput. This constellation is actually separated in 2 parts, "head" and "tail".
Sco	Xi ab+c	MS	16 04.4	-11 22	4.2,7.2	7.6″	M,H	ab pair too tight. Pair Struve 1999, sep 280″ south in same field, is involved, making this a "double-double."
Sco	Struve 1999	DS	16 04.4	-11 27	7.5,8	11.5″		Physical companions of Xi Sco!
Sco	Zeta 1+2	*DS	16 54.3	-42 22	4.5,3.5	6.8′	B	Very wide: over 400". Optical pair only. Color-contrasting: orange & blue.
Sco	NGC 6231	*OC	16 54.0	-41 48	2.6	15′	B-L	Scorpius Jewel Box, just above Zeta Sco, this bright cluster would be one of the most spectacular open clusters if only it were higher in the sky. See Burnhams Celestial Handbook, pp 1647, 1722, etc.
Sco	* rich starfield		16 55.0	-40 to -41.5			B-L	Neat region of scattered open clusters & stellar associations above NGC 6231, numbered as NGC 6227, Collinder 316, Trumpler 24, & H 12 (west to east).
Oph	M62	GC	17 01.2	-30 07	6.6	14′	M-H	Rich area. West is RR Sco, a noted bright variable star. Burnham's p 1693.
Oph	M19	GC	17 02.6	-26 16	7.2	13.5′	M-H	Markedly oblate (non-spherical).
Oph	36 a+b	DS	17 15.3	-26 36	5,5	5″	H	Orange pair; east of M19 by 2°.
Oph	39 a+b	DS	17 18.0	-24 17	5.5,7	10″	M	Color-contrast. Other name Omicron.
Sco	M6	OC	17 40.1	-32 13	4.2	15′	B-L	Butterfly Cluster. Excellent!
Oph	IC 4665	OC	17 46.3	05 43	4.2	41′	B-B/V	Easy find just NE of Beta. Large, sparse, often overlooked. Try it.
Sco	M7	OC	17 53.9	-34 49	3.3	80′	B-L	Staggering open cluster that rivals the Pleiades! Huge & scattered, delightful. Never seen it? You'll be gaping in awe. See Burnham's pp 1709-1713. This object is naked-eye on dark, clear nights.
Sgr	M23	OC	17 56.8	-19 01	5.5	27′	B/V-M	A classic open cluster, one of the best.
Oph	70 a+b	DS	18 05.5	02 30	4.5,6	4.1″	H	Well-known, attractive, color-contrasting pair in "Bull of Poniatowski" asterism.
Sgr	h5003 a+b	DS	17 59.1	-30 15	5.2,7	5.5″	H	West of Gamma Sgr, "Teapot's Spout".
Sgr	NGC 6520	OC	18 03.4	-27 54	7.6	6′	B/V-M	Superimposed against Great Sagittarius Star Cloud. Dark nebula B86 on W side.
Oph	NGC 6572	PN	18 12.1	06 51	8.1	16x12″	M-H	Little Ghost Nebula., fine color - a primo planetary!
Sgr	Mu a+d+e	MS	18 13.8	-21 04	4,10,9.5		B/V-L	Stars b+c faint, looks like a planetary system - bluish stars d+e are seen opposite each other, each about 50″ out from the primary. Star b mag 11, 17″. Mu is the brightest star in the center of a large, striking zig-zag asterism below M24, the Small Sagittarius Star Cloud. A great multiple star.
Oph	NGC 6633	OC	18 27.7	06 34	4.6	27′	B-M	Bright & nice surprise if you aren't familiar with this area - fine open cluster. Can be seen together with very large, sparse open cluster IC 4756 in wide, low power field.
Ser	IC 4756	OC	18 39.0	05 27	4.8	52′	B-B/V	Large, scattered. Part of Serpens-Ophiuchus Double Cluster with NGC 6633. Located in Serpens Cauda at border with Ophiuchus.
Sgr	triangle asterism		18 28.2	-26 38	6		B-B/V	Nice, attractive little triangle about 1° S of Lambda Sgr. Tight double at w tip is pair of 7th mag stars 1.3″, needs at least 200x to split. Other 2 stars easy to split.
Sgr	M25 & U Sgr	OC	18 31.6	-19 15	4.6	32′	B-L	Lovely open cluster set amid an arching asterism. Bright star near center is U Sgr, a Cepheid variable, mag 6.3 - 7.1, 6.75 days. U is also a wide double, mag 9.5 companion, sep 67″. See Burnham's pp 1604-1609.
Sgr	colored asterism		18 33.9	-24 02			B/V	Pretty group of 5 stars highlighted by orange, mag 5.5 24 Sgr, contrasting with mag 7 bluish star at W tip. Might see 6 or 7 stars. Located just W of the great globular cluster M22. You can't miss it - what a find!
CrA	Kappa 1+2	*DS	18 33.4	-38 44	6,6.5	22″	B/V-L	Roughly 4° SE of Eta Sgr.
Sgr	NGC 6723	*GC	18 59.6	-36 38	7.3	11′	B/V-M	Just north of the border with CrA.
Sgr	Collinder 394	OC	18 52.5	-20 20	5.8	52′	B/V-L	2 scattered open clusters in rich area, both unremarkable yet worthwhile. Cr394 is "linked" (not physically) to nearby, smaller open cluster NGC 6716 by a "bridge" of stars.
Sgr	NGC 6716	OC	18 54.6	-19 53	6.8	10′		Just NE of Cr394 & about 1° NW of mag 5 Xi1 Sgr off west tip of the "Teaspoon".
Sgr	NGC 6774	OC	19 16.7	-16 16	?	35′	B-L	Large, scattered, attractive, several bright stars. Possibly not a true open cluster.
Sgr	S 715 a+b	DS	19 17.7	-15 58	7,7.5	8.5″	M-H	Easy double at NE edge of open cluster NGC 6774.
Sgr	V1942 red star		19 19.2	-15 54	7v	-	B/V-M	Neat carbon star showing pretty contrast to double star S 715. Star hop east from S 715 1/2 way to Upsilon.
Sgr	M55	*GC	19 40.0	-30 58	7	19′	B-L	Large & loose-structured, bright globular. Appears fairly prominent in blank area. See Burnham's pp 1612-1613. Star hop: extend line joining sigma and tau which form the handle of the Teapot.
Sgr	NGC 6818	PN	19 44.0	-14 09	9.5	20″	M-H	Either this or NGC 6445 is "Little Gem." Good color. Very dim galaxy NGC 6822 lies only 0.7° SSE. 1.5 degrees N of 5.5 mag star which lies 1 degree NE of 54 Sgr.

Al Hall recently completed his 16" Cassegrain telescope and its accompanying German equatorial mount, which Al and Dick Parker have been working on for several years. Al expects to have first light sometime in the next 2 weeks, then he will be taking it to Breezy Hill to enter it in the 2008 Stellafane amateur telescope making competition.



From the Archives: Inexpensive Security System Unveiled at Seagrave Observatory - unknown date.

June Meeting Notes

Friday, June 6, 2008; Seagrave Memorial Observatory

Glenn Jackson, Acting Secretary

The first of three presenters was **Nicholas Rodrigues** of Printmakers Inc. Nicholas's company is starting a new type of photo printing on metallic paper. He had several astronomical pictures provided by Bob Horton to display. One a 24" x 32" shot of the Milky Way and Bob's famous Eclipse composite. Needless to say both were stunning, perhaps the best astro photo that I have ever seen. We look forward to Nicholas attending AstroAssembly with more details and more astro photography. • The second presenter was **Gerry Dyck** who presented "Cosmological Motifs in Southeast Asian Bronze Drums" Gerry described the various styles of drum and the many symbols on each drum. The theme of the drums was that the center of the drums represented a rain drop, followed by fish and ducks, ending with frogs at the rim. Frogs equal rain and rain equals frogs. Gerry also had several different drum rubbings on display. • The third presenter was **Nathan Pelletier**, a student from Tiverton High School whom Gerry Dyck mentored for his senior project. His project was the Sun which he presented in a power point presentation. Also on display was a solar spectrograph which he constructed. Congratulations on a project well done.

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Jackson at 9:05

The May Secretary's report was accepted as published in the June issue of The Skyscraper.

The May Treasurer's report was accepted as published in the June issue of The Skyscraper.

1st Vice President Steve Hubbard, gave details on the up coming speakers as follows: July 12th Father Doug McGonagle "Science and Religion" • August 8th Heather Knutson "Planet Atmospheres" • September 5th Nitya Kallivayalil "Magellanic Clouds" • November 7th Prof. Rick Gaitskell "Dark Matter"

2nd Vice President Kathy Siok gave details on the keynote speaker for astro assembly as follows:

Dr. Alan Marscher, Boston University, "Jets From Black Holes In Active Galactic Nuclei" AND "Original Galactic Music Selections"

Historian Dave Huestis exhibited the time capsule that was placed in the Crawford Dome in 1948. The time capsule will be on display in the Anti-Room Museum.

Librarian, Tom Barbish stated that the library was open and ready for business as usual.

Star Party Coordinator, Bob Forgiel was looking for volunteers for a star party at Washington Memorial Park on June 10th for a group of sixth graders and for a star party on June 13th for ALAP of Warwick

Variable Star Workshop coordinator, Gerry Dyck gave a short over view of the workshop to be held on June 7th, assisted by Dave Hurdis and Scott Tracy • Steve Siok and Bob Horton recommended not using the Clark until further notice after inspecting the dome track which is missed aligned • Special Trustee election was postponed until the July meeting. The reason was that President Glenn Jackson only sent ballots to paid members, when if fact by the By-Laws all members paid or not paid should have received a ballot. • By-Laws Article 1 Fiscal Year and Dues: 3. **The Secretary may, with the approval of the executive committee, drop from membership any member who is three months or more in arrears.** • No members have been removed from the membership list by the executive committee therefore all are eligible to vote. • A lively discussion was held over family membership and the number of votes that each family could cast. A vote was taken and family membership was limited to two votes. • The special election will take place at the July 12th meeting with each member submitting a ballot to the nominating committee who will verify that they are a member of Skyscrapers. • July 12th Cook out details were discussed. Cost is $7 each and the start time is 5:30 PM Volunteers to help set up, clean up and prepare the meal were requested. An effort to get a better head count was discussed.

Good of the Organization: The Washington DC field trip was postponed until the fall. • The next e-board meeting will be held at Seagrave on June 26th, all members are invited to attend. • Thanks to Ted Ferneza for repairing the damaged flashing on the Clark Dome. • Thanks to Jim Brenek for cutting the grass twice, making new benches for the club house and for getting rid of the infamous Porta-John! • Kathy Siok was heard commenting "This was a classic meeting, just like Skyscrapers of old!"

Meeting Adjourned at 10:07

Skyscrapers prepare for the Warwick Accelerated Learning Activities Program (ALAP) star party at Seagrave Memorial Observatory on Friday, June 13. Favorable weather and a good turnout provided for a successful event under a waxing gibbous moon. Photos by Tom Barbish.

Treasurer's Report

4/1/2008 through 6/19/2008

Jim Crawford

INFLOWS	
75th Anniversary Bookincome	270.00
cookoutinc	168.00
Other donation	384.80
Dues	
Contributing	125.00
Family	650.00
Junior	10.00
Regular	1610.00
Senior	300.00
TOTAL dues	2695.00
Interest Inc	53.07
Magincome	
Astronomymaginc	306.00
Skytelmagincome	296.55
TOTAL magincome	602.55
magsales	8.80
Starparty	350.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	4532.22
OUTFLOWS	
Astronomy Day	30.12
Charity	25.00
Collation	119.15
Corporationfee	20.00
Membersubscriptions	
Astronomymagexp	306.00
Skytelexp	296.55
TOTAL membersubscriptions	602.55
Miscellaneous, Bus	10.16
Postage and Delivery	186.35
Trusteexp	390.23
Utilities	
Electric	26.17
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	1409.73
OVERALL TOTAL	+ $3122.49
Checking Acct Bal	5716.01
Savings Acct Bal	5690.59
Capital One Acct Bal	10209.04
Total Net Worth	21636.23

Official Special Election Ballot July 12th: Position "Trustee"

Vote For 1 of The Following:

_____ **Joe Sarandrea**

_____ **Steve Siok**

To Vote:

1. You May Mail This Ballot To Skyscrapers.
2. You May Bring This Ballot To The July 12th Meeting

** Your Name Is Required Either On The Ballot, The Envelope, Or You May Hand It Personally To A Member Of The Nominating Committee Who Will Verify That You Are A Member.

Directions to Seagrave Memorial Observatory

From the Providence area:

Take Rt. 6 West to Interstate 295 in Johnston and proceed west on Rt. 6 to Scituate. In Scituate bear right off Rt. 6 onto Rt. 101. Turn right onto Rt. 116 North. Peeptoad Road is the first left off Rt. 116.

From Coventry/West Warwick area:

Take Rt. 116 North. Peeptoad Road is the first left after crossing Rt. 101.

From Southern Rhode Island:

Take Interstate 95 North. Exit onto Interstate 295 North in Warwick (left exit.) Exit to Rt. 6 West in Johnston. Bear right off Rt. 6 onto Rt. 101. Turn right on Rt. 116. Peeptoad Road is the first left off Rt. 116.

From Northern Rhode Island:

Take Rt. 116 South. Follow Rt. 116 thru Greenville. Turn left at Knight's Farm intersection (Rt. 116 turns left) and follow Rt. 116. Watch for Peeptoad Road on the right.

From Connecticut:

- Take Rt. 44 East to Greenville and turn right on Rt. 116 South. Turn left at Knight's Farm intersection (Rt. 116 turn left) and follow Rt. 116. Watch for Peeptoad Road on the right.
- Take Rt. 6 East toward Rhode Island; bear left on Rt. 101 East and continue to intersection with Rt. 116. Turn left; Peeptoad Road is the first left off Rt. 116.

From Massachusetts:

Take Interstate 295 South (off Interstate 95 in Attleboro.) Exit onto Rt. 6 West in Johnston. Bear right off Rt. 6 onto Rt. 101. Turn right on Rt. 116. Peeptoad Road is the first left off Rt. 116.

SKYSCRAPERS INC.

47 Peeptoad Road
North Scituate, RI 02857