



October, 2002

At the **October 11** meeting...

Special meeting date and location; details pg 5

Bradley Schaefer

University of Texas

***The Origin of the Greek
Constellations***

Houston Astronomical Society

GuideStar

HAS Web Page: <http://www.AstronomyHouston.org>

See the *GuideStar's* Monthly Calendar of Events to confirm dates and times of all events for the month, and check the Web Page for any last minute changes.

★★★★★ **The Houston Astronomical Society** ★★★★★

The Houston Astronomical Society is a non-profit corporation organized under section 501 (C) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society was formed for education and scientific purposes. All contributions and gifts are deductible for federal income tax purposes. General membership meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

★★★★★★★★★ **Officers & Past President** ★★★★★★★★★

President: Kirk Kendrick H: 281-391-3834 Treasurer: Debbie Moran H: 713-666-9428
Vice Pres: Bill Leach H: 281-893-4057 Past President: Don Pearce H: 713-432-0734
Secretary: Brian Cudnik H: 832- 912-1244

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Bill Flanagan 713-699-8819 Telescope Loaner Program
Howard Leverenz 713-957-8667
Jay Levy 281-557-4920 Field Trip and Observing, Program
Christopher Mendell 281-488-8906
Steve Sartor 281-370-3544

Liaison responsibility

★★★★★★★★★ **Committee Chairpersons** ★★★★★★★★★

Audit Matt Delevoryas 713-666-9428 Program Scott Mitchell 713-461-3020
Education Richard Nugent 713-524-1993 Don Pearce 713-432-0734
Field Tr./Obsg. Steve Grubbs 713-455-5701 Publicity Warren Wundt 713-697-2960
Novice George Stradley 281-376-5787 Telescope Darin Palmer 713-223-3123
Observatory Michael Dye 281-498-1703 Welcoming Marg Nunez 713-529-2549
..... Hannah Lange

★★★★★★★★★ **Ad-Hoc Committee Chairpersons** ★★★★★★★★★

Historian Leland Dolan 713-688-0981 Publ. Star Party Marg Nunez 713-529-2549
Librarian Peggy Gilchrist 281-443-8773 Rice U. Coord. Matt Delevoryas 713-666-9428
Logo Mds Sales Judy Dye 281-498-1703 Schedule Obs'v'ty Steve Goldberg 713-721-5077
Long Range Plan Bill Leach 281-893-4057 Texas Star Pty Steve Goldberg 713-721-5077
Parliamentarian Kirk Kendrick 281-391-3834

★★★★★★ **Special Interest Groups & Help Committees** ★★★★★★★

These are now listed on the inside of *GuideStar* (not every month). See the Table of Contents

★★★★★★★★★ **Advisors** ★★★★★★★★★

Dr. Reginald DuFour, Rice Univ. Dr. Lawrence Pinsky, U. of H.

★★★★★★★★★ **Dues and Membership Information** ★★★★★★★★★

Annual Dues: Regular ... \$33.00 Student \$5.00
Associate \$5.00 Honorary None
Sustaining . \$50.00

All members have the right to participate in Society functions and to use the Observatory Site. Regular and Student Members receive a subscription to *The Reflector*. Regular, Student, and Honorary Members receive *The GuideStar*. Associate Members, immediate family members of a Regular Member, have all membership rights, but do not receive publications. Sustaining members have the same rights as regular members with the additional dues treated as a donation to the Society. *Sky & Telescope* mag \$29.95/year, *Astronomy* mag \$29/year -- see club treasurer.

Membership Application: Send funds to address shown on outside cover of *Guidestar*. Attention - Treasurer, along with the following information: Name, Address, Phone Number, Special Interests in Astronomy, Do you own a Telescope? (If so, what kind?), and where you first heard of H.A.S.

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Check the web site:

<http://www.astronomyhouston.org>

Welcome to New Members!

The Houston Astronomical Society encourages you to join our group of active amateur astronomers and take advantage of the benefits of membership. As a member you'll have access to the club observing site near Columbus, Texas. (You're required to participate in a site orientation meeting before you get the gate lock combination.) The site has concrete pads for setting up your telescope, restroom and bunkhouse facilities, and areas set aside for camping. You'll get monthly issues of the *GuideStar* newsletter, you'll get to vote and to serve the organization as an officer, and you will be supporting the local amateur astronomy community.

Special Interest Group Listing

Any member who wants specific information on a SIG listed below may call the listed individual. Also, see the "Ad Hoc Committee Chairpersons" on the inside front cover and the "Special Help Volunteers" listing (not in every issue).

Advanced	Bill Flanagan	713-699-8819
Comets	Don Pearce	713-432-0734
Lunar & Planetary	John Blubaugh	713-921-4275
Occultations & Grazes ...	Wayne Hutchison	713-827-0828
Advanced	Bill Leach	713-863-8459

Observations... of the editor

by *Bill Pellerin, GuideStar Editor*

I'm writing this for the October *GuideStar*, and we can look forward to several things as the new month arrives:

- Longer nights – means more observing time!!
- Cooler nights – means more comfortable observing time!!
- New objects – as the year rolls on, new, fall objects rise in the east.

This is all to the good, as far as I'm concerned. I love summer observing, but I don't like perspiring while I'm trying to observe, and I don't like mosquitoes buzzing my ears. So, like a lot of you, I look forward to the new observing season with anticipation.

October is **Astronomy Month** as well. Note that our meeting date and location has changed this month. The meeting will be at the Museum of Natural Science in Hermann Park, on Friday, October 11. The speaker will be Brad Schaefer of the University of Texas. Brad gave two talks at this year's Texas Star Party, and I was lucky enough to be able to attend both of these. He's a great presenter, and you won't want to miss his presentation!

I managed to sneak in some variable star observations this month. This kind of work is always fun, and always a challenge. Like any observing activity, pre-planning helps. I did some of the pre-planning necessary (determining which stars would be visible on my observing night), but didn't do everything I should have done (determine which variables were likely to be bright enough to be visible in my 8" telescope).

For example, I looked for R Cyg (the first labeled variable in Cygnus the Swan). The dimmest reference star on the AAVSO chart that I used is 12.8, and I could see that star in my 8" telescope. I could not, however, see R Cyg. Now that I have consulted AAVSO bulletin 65, I see that the expected

Continued on page 16...

Houston Astronomical Society

***Special Meeting Notice
For Friday, October 11, 2002***

Brad Schaefer
University of Texas
***The Origin of the
Greek Constellations***

Brad Schaefer, professor of Astrophysics at the University of Texas in Austin is an outstanding presenter (as you know if you attended this year's Texas Star Party). This 4-club meeting promises to be educational and entertaining.

Special Planetarium show following the meeting

Important:

***The meeting will be held at the
Houston Museum of Natural Science, Jones
Auditorium
in Hermann Park (not at the U of H).
Tell Museum staff that you're attending meeting
to avoid entry fee.***

(Directions on Page 10)

***Also the date is changed to the second Friday.
There will be no H.A.S. meeting on October 4.***

***No Novice or Site Orientation meeting will be
held in October.***

October/November Calendar:



Photo by Scott Mitchell

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
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October 2002

5		Prime Night-Columbus
6	1:18 a.m.	New Moon
11	8:00 p.m.	General membership meeting Houston Museum of Natural Science Hermann Park
12	3:00 p.m. 7:33 p.m.	Astronomy Day—George Observatory First Quarter Moon
15	7:30 p.m.	Advanced SIG Mtg. Rice Univ., contact Bill Flanagan, 713-699-8819
20	9:20 p.m.	Full Moon
26		Members Observatory Night- Columbus
27	3:00 a.m.	Daylight Saving Time ends and Standard Time begins. Set clocks back 1 hour.
28	6:28 p.m.	Last Quarter Moon

November 2002

1	7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Novice Presentation - U of H. General membership meeting U of H.
2		Prime Night-Columbus
4	2:34 p.m.	New Moon
11	2:52 p.m.	First Quarter Moon
12	7:30 p.m.	Advanced SIG Mtg. Rice Univ., contact Bill Flanagan, 713-699-8819
17-18		Peak of Leonid meteor shower
19	7:34 p.m.	Full Moon
27	9:46 a.m.	Last Quarter Moon
30		Members Observatory Night- Columbus

*Send calendar events to JBlubaugh@aol.com
or call 713-921-4275.*

***Minutes of the
Houston Astronomical Society
General Membership Meeting
06 September 2002***

President Kirk Kendrick called the meeting to order at 8:11pm (Delayed to allow extra time for people to arrive due to the inclement weather) and designated Matt Delevoryas as acting treasurer for the meeting.

The introduction of new people resulted in one visitor and two new members.

The President gave a brief introduction to the Society and mentioned that the month of September marks the 47th anniversary of the Society. Ex-presidents of the club who were present were recognized. It was also announced that the C14 telescope is almost finished, with only some hardware and reassembly needed. Also mentioned was the fact that the site has water, with the well having been repaired.

The Announcements were given next:

- Bill Leach announced Astronomy Day, Saturday, October 12* at George observatory. Volunteers are needed to give 15 minute outdoor presentations, and scopes will be needed for the deck. George Stradley will be in charge of the H.A.S. table.
- The All Clubs Meeting in October will be held at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, on October 11th at 8pm. Brad Schaefer will be the speaker. No H.A.S. meeting will be held on October 4.
- The President points out that no one has taken the lead of the *GuideStar* assembly process and states that if no one steps forward to do so, that we will continue to mail post cards in advance of each monthly meeting. The online version will be available, regardless of the outcome.

Continued....

Minutes... from previous page

- Don Pearce gave the comet report and stated that not much was new.
 - The comet C/2002 O6 was named SWAN after the instrument of the same name aboard the SOHO spacecraft, with which this comet was discovered. This comet is not very visible, being nearly lost in the solar glare in Leo Minor and headed south, deeper into the glare. The date of perihelion is September 9 and the current magnitude is 7.
 - Comet C2002 O4 (Hoenig) is in Ursa Major, moving South. The comet, currently magnitude 8, passes perihelion on October 1, but is already moving away from Earth.
 - Periodic Comet Wirtanen, magnitude 10.5, is now lost in the solar glare in the constellation of Cancer. Since its perihelion was on August 26th, it is now headed away from both the Earth and Sun.
 - Periodic Comet Brewington was recovered on August 26 at magnitude 16.2 but is not expected to get real bright.
 - Comet Schwassmann-Wachmann 1 is currently at magnitude 15, but was in outburst at magnitude 12 a few weeks ago.

Judy Dye displays the Astronomy Day T-shirts, which she has on sale for \$15 to \$16 each. Randall's July 9 statement for the H.A.S. indicates that \$10,351.83 was spent by members, resulting in \$103.52 being donated to the Society.

Michael Dye announces a picnic to be held on September 28, member's observatory night. The membership is encouraged to send him an e-mail if they are interested in coming. A charge of \$5 per individual or \$10 per family will be charged. There will be a work week during the week immediately preceding the picnic and 6 volunteers total are needed to paint the observatory building (2 have volunteered so far).

Hannah Lange announces two star parties to be held in October, volunteers are needed. The first will take place on October 18 at Clifton Middle School,

Continued....

Minutes... from previous page

and the second will happen at the Sweeny, Texas Boy Scout Camp on October 26.

Robert Ray, of the Fort Bend Astronomy Club, gives a short presentation about an astronomy-friendly housing community in New Mexico. This development is named “Star’s End Estates and aspects of its location were shown in a slide presentation.

Scott Mitchell, the main speaker for the evening, gave his talk after being introduced by Don Pearce. The talk was entitled “Southern Skies Star Party on Lake Titicaca in Bolivia”.

Doorprizes were awarded following the talk.

A question was raised from the membership as to whether membership dues will be reduced due to the lack of a hard copy distribution of *GuideStar*. The answer given discussed two options, the first would be to print out only as much *GuideStars* as will be needed by the group. The second option would be to make *GuideStar* online only. Whether membership dues will be affected will be discussed during the upcoming Board meeting.

Concerning parking for the September 26 Board Meeting for those interested, President Kirk Kendrick summarizes the parking scenario. The meeting itself will be in Duncan Hall, 1064, but parking will not be free, nor near the meeting location. There is a visitor lot on the Northeast side of campus, Gate 12 where people can park. Free parking is in the stadium area, but shuttle buses can be used to get from there to the meeting (however, they may not be running when the meeting adjourns—the board will be able to work this problem out when the time comes).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45p.m.

* Please note that the August 2002 minutes contain an error: the Astronomy Day event was listed as August 12, 2002, and should be October 12, 2002.

Directions to the

Houston Museum of Natural Science *from the www.hmns.org web site*

Located in Hermann Park across from Miller Outdoor Theater, the Houston Museum of Natural Science with close proximity to Highway 59 and the 610 Loop, the Museum is easy to access. Depending on your point of origination, the following direction should make getting here much easier.

From Highway 59

If coming from the north on 59, exit Fannin and continue south on Fannin. Stay in the second lane from left. This route will bring you into Hermann Park. The Museum is the first building on your left as you enter the park. If coming from the southwest on 59, exit Richmond and continue east on Richmond. Turn right at the second light onto Fannin and continue south on Fannin. Stay in the second lane from left. This route will bring you into Hermann Park. The Museum is the first building on your left as you enter the park.

From Highway 288

If coming from the north on 288, exit Southmore/Calumet. At the second light, turn right onto Binz. Continue on Binz and turn left onto Caroline. We're on the right after the second stop sign.

If coming from the south on 288, exit Calumet. At the first light, turn left onto Binz. Continue on Binz and turn left onto Caroline. The Museum is on the right after the second stop sign.

From South Loop 610 or the medical center

If coming from South Loop 610 or the medical center, exit Fannin and head north. After passing through the medical center and alongside Hermann Park, turn right into the park toward the statue of Sam Houston. The Museum will be the first building on the left after the Sam Houston monument.

Parking is available in the Museum's Parking Garage.

Astronomy Day, 2002

by Bill Pellerin, GuideStar Editor

Many readers of this month's *GuideStar* will have become readers by their attendance at the Astronomy Day event at the George Observatory in Brazos Bend Park. Astronomy Day is an event that is put together by members of the four Houston Area amateur astronomy organizations. This publication is a resource of the Houston Astronomical Society, and the other three organizations that are participating are the Fort Bend Astronomy Club, the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society, and the North Houston Astronomy Club. Information on each of the organizations can be found in this *GuideStar*, and we all hope that you'll drop in on our meetings to see if you want to continue your pursuit of an astronomy hobby.

Astronomy can be an expensive interest, but it doesn't have to be, and it can be a time-consuming interest, but it doesn't have to be that either. Many of our members are casual observers, or are 'armchair observers', who prefer to tour the universe through books and other publications.

Those of us who are already amateur astronomers can't imagine why someone would not have an interest in the sky. There's so much to see, so much to know, and so many opportunities to contribute to the science of astronomy.

We can help you get started. The H.A.S. has a monthly novice presentation, a monthly general presentation, an 18 acre observing site (free with membership), loaner telescopes (free with membership), a monthly publication, and a very enthusiastic group of amateurs who are always glad to share. Membership is the best deal in town!

In the meantime, why not step out in your backyard and look up. You never know what you'll see. Perhaps you'll see a satellite fly over (the International Space Station is visible from Houston if you know where and when to look), perhaps there will be a conjunction of the moon and a planet, maybe you can identify some constellations.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting next month.

Observatory Corner



By Michael B. Dye Observatory Chairman



I don't have a lot to report this month. The first item is that the day after the August Meeting, (Saturday) Ed Szczepanski and Bob Rogers repaired the Northeast Exit gate (again). They found the gate more or less removed from the hinge but still locked to the other post. They finished removing gate and repaired bottom L-bracket and remounted the gate on the repaired gate. I again thank both Bob and Ed for going to the Observatory Site so often that they can make these small incidental

repairs as we need different items on the Observatory Site repaired. I also want to thank Ed Szczepanski for continuing to clean the bathrooms. I was there last Saturday and they looked great.

The next item is good news. Some of you may remember the rather bright white strobe light that was located on top of a tower North of the Observatory Site. Bob Rogers now reports that said strobe is now a Red Light. This evidently happened in the last week or so.

For the last several months I have been receiving reports that we have a Gopher Hunting Cat living on or near the Observatory Site. This is good. I don't know where the cat came from (I would sumize from one of the local farms/ranches that are around the Observatory Site) but any thing that kills gophers can't be all bad. Please don't disturb our new site resident. This cat has been observed actually hunting Gophers by at least three members of the Society.

The last item on our list of fun things is the Randalls report. For the Second Quarter of this year, April 1st through June 30th, we spent a total of \$10,351.83 at various Randall's stores. This spending spree resulted in a check (not yet received) of \$103.52, which will be split 50/50 between the Observatory Fund and the club General Treasury. Our account will zero out and started over again on July 1st. So please link your Randalls card to the Houston Astronomical Society so that the society can benefit from

Continued....

Asteroid to Occult 5th Magnitude Star

Plan on taking part in an observing event on November 10. On that date there will be an occultation of a 5th magnitude star (Pi Arietis) by asteroid Lindemania...right over the Houston area. Details can be found at <http://www.eclipssetours.com/events.html>>. Paul Maley is leading an effort to get enough observers scattered over the path to be able to fully map the asteroid. This could be a true all-clubs observing event!

Check the H.A.S. web site for updates, and subscribe to the 'list server'.

These types of occultations ... with naked eye stars ... covering a large area of the Houston ... with a known asteroid whose elements are known (little error in path)... are rare.

Observatory Corner... from previous page

this Randalls program. Our number is #6618. This is very easy to do, just go to the Courtesy Booth and tell the person there what you what to do. We are also in the process of getting a Kroger number that does the same thing for Kroger. In fact Bill Leach is actively working on this very activity and should have some (hopefully) good news to report soon. We are also in the process of getting a Kroger number that does the same thing for Kroger but this activity does not seem to be moving along very fast. I think I need to talk to someone.

Please fill out the appropriate log form when you use the site. Remember we use these forms as attendance records and to report Observatory Site problems such as broken toilets.

Books for New Astronomers

by Bill Pellerin, GuideStar editor

Here are my personal recommendations for books on and about astronomy.

Stars and Planets, by Jay Pasachoff (Peterson Field Guide). Small format (too small for some readers), covers a lot of subject matter, maps of the full sky, observing lists, and lots more. This is the book I'd want if I could only have one book on a desert island.

Coming of Age in the Milky Way, by Timothy Ferris. The best history of astronomy that I've read. Superb writing style. You'll come away with how we as a species came to understand the universe in which we live.

Star Ware, by Philip Harrington. A shopper's guide to astronomical equipment. Book is frequently updated.

Turn Left at Orion, by Guy Consolmagno and Dan Davis. A guide to finding some of the most interesting and beautiful objects in the sky. Easy to use star maps and reference material.

The Backyard Astronomer's Guide, by Terence Dickinson and Alan Dyer. A guidebook covering all aspects of amateur astronomy.

Nightwatch, by Terence Dickinson. A colorful guide to the night sky, amateur equipment, and observing techniques. Highly recommended.

Sky and Telescope, magazine, published monthly by Sky Publishing. Check out www.skyandtelescope.com

Astronomy, magazine, published monthly. Check www.astronomy.com

Astronomy Resources

by ***Bill Pellerin, GuideStar Editor.***

Space Place recorded message -- toll free (866) 575-6178. Dr. Marc Rayman Deep Space 1 Manager for NASA. Check <http://spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov/spacepl.htm> for more information.

www.heavens-above.com -- Web site that will tell you when and where to look to see earth-orbiting satellites cross the sky. Look for Iridium flares, bright flashes of light from Iridium (communications) satellites. Flares only last a few seconds.

www.skyandtelescope.com -- Virtual sky map for your location. Shows the position of stars and planets for any place on earth for any time you choose. Want to know what that bright object is in the western sky? This site will tell you. Also, it'll tell you about upcoming astronomical events.

www.astronomy.com -- Astronomy magazine's web site. Chock full of observing information and astronomy related news.

www.aavso.org -- Web site of the American Association of Variable Star Observers. Sky charts, star brightness graphs and more at this site.

www.astronomyhouston.org -- The web site of the Houston Astronomical Society with links to many other interesting sites, information on club activities, meeting announcements, member activities, and lots more.

George Observatory -- public observing nights are held Saturdays. Park entry fee required.

Burke Baker Planetarium -- at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Hermann Park. Check www.hmns.org for information on upcoming events.

Observations... from page 4

magnitude is very near the minimum, which is 13.9.

If you're a variable star observer, make sure you refer to AAVSO bulletin 65 to see if the stars that you will be looking for will be bright enough. The publication is available at www.aavso.org. Look under LPV (Long Period Variables) Predictions. Here you'll find a yearly calendar from which you can determine the anticipated magnitude of your stars of interest.

Now... a word about *GuideStar*. By the time you read this there will have been a HAS board meeting to discuss the future of *GuideStar*. I don't know what the outcome of this meeting will be, but I want to let you know how the *GuideStar* is produced each month. As your editor, I gather materials from contributing guests and members, usually in the form of Microsoft Word documents. These arrive as email attachments. I then edit, for grammar and content, the documents and then format the documents in a style that fits the publication. I then save these documents to a folder for the month's *GuideStar*. The folder for this month is cleverly called 200210.

The *GuideStar* is produced using Adobe PageMaker. Submitted documents are 'placed' in the PageMaker publication, and text flow (from page to page) is determined (sometimes an article breaks on an early page and ends on a later page). Pages are in multiples of four, so sometimes content has to be left out or pages have to be added to accommodate the submissions. Once everything is in place, I edit the table of contents to match the page layout.

I can then export to Adobe Acrobat PDF (Portable Document Format) format for the HAS web page. After that's done, I use a 'build booklet' function in PageMaker to set up the pages for printing so that when the publication is assembled all the pages come out in the correct order. The 'booklet' version is then converted to a PDF for printing. The original PDF is emailed to Steve Goldberg, or Webmaster for posting on the HAS website, and the 'booklet' PDF is emailed for printing, binding, and mailing.

Continued...

Observations... from previous page

Unfortunately, for the last two months, and due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, the printing, binding, and mailing process was unable to be done. You got a card instead, directing you to the HAS web site for access to the *GuideStar*.

If you have any suggestions about the future of *GuideStar*, please let me know or let one of the officers or board members know. My email address is on the inside back cover of every issue.

Timothy Ferris has a new book out. It's called *Seeing in the Dark* with the subtitle *How Backyard Stargazers Are Probing Deep Space and Guarding Earth from Interplanetary Peril*. Ferris is one of the best, if not the best, science writer in the business, so reading one of his books is always a treat.

On page 69 a chapter called "Farsighted: A Visit with Barbara Wilson" begins. Barbara, as most of you already know, is a long-time HAS member and works on astronomy education at the George Observatory.

The latest *Sky and Telescope* magazine has a review of the book by Chet Raymo (no shabby writer, himself), and Raymo says that the book is, "a splendid read." I agree.

Until next time... clear skies and new moons!

..Bill

Membership Renewals...

Please check the mailing label on your copy of the *GuideStar*.

It'll tell you when your membership expires. If it expires soon, please send your renewal to the address on the outside cover of *GuideStar*. The dues information is on the inside front cover.

Membership in the Houston Astronomical Society is one of the great bargains in Astronomy. For a regular membership of \$33 you get the opportunity to support an active and growing organization, you get the monthly *GuideStar* newsletter, and you get access to the outstanding H.A.S. observing site near Columbus, Texas. (You must attend an orientation, given monthly, to use the site.) And, after two months of membership you can borrow, at no charge, one of the Society's loaner telescopes. It's the best deal in town, we think. Please renew your membership when it expires.

Thanks!

Other Meetings...

Fort Bend Astronomy Club meets the third Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the First Colony conference Center. Novice meeting begins at 7:00, regular meeting begins at 8:00. Web site: <http://www.fbac.org>

Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society meets in the the Lunar and Planetary Institute on the 2nd Friday of each month. Web site: <http://www.ghgcorp.com/cbr/jscas.html>

North Houston Astronomy Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Friday of each month in the Teaching Theatre of the Student Center at Kingwood College. Call 281-312-1650 or E-mail bill.leach@nhmccd.edu. Web site: www.astronomyclub.org

HAS Web Page

The Houston Astronomical Society Web page has information on the society, its resources, and meeting information.

The address is: <http://www.astronomyhouston.org>

Want your astronomy work and name on the Internet for the whole world to see? Have some neat equipment? Pictures in film, CCD, hand drawings or video format are all welcome on the page. Do you have an idea to improve the page? I'm listening. Send me Email at goldberg@infohiwy.net. (You can click on my name on the HAS home page). Or, you can call Steve Goldberg (WebMaster), at 713-721-5077.



***GuideStar deadline
for the November
issue
is October 15***

Observatory Duty Roster

by Michael B. Dye, Observatory Chairman

This is the duty list for September, October and November. If you are listed in this roster, please be sure to contact your supervisor for any information that you may need and the date and time to be at the site. You may change from site duty to open house or from open house to site duty by pre-arrangement with the Site Supervisor for that month. Changes between months require Observatory Chairman coordination.

October Supervisor Allen Gilchrist 281-443-8773
Clayton Jeter Members Observatory Night 10-26-02
Stanley Jones Site
Keith Jurgens Site
Arnie Kaestner Members Observatory Night 10-26-02
David Kahlich Site
Howard Leverenz Site
Jay Levy Members Observatory Night 10-26-02
Mary Lockwood Site
Christopher Mendell Site

November Supervisor Logan Rimes 713-681-5397
Robert Menius Site
Larry Mitchell Members Observatory Night 11-30-02
Debbie Moran Site
Mark Mulrooney Members Observatory Night 11-30-02
Ben Negy, Jr. Members Observatory Night 11-30-02
Johnny Norris Site

December Supervisor Robert Rogers 281-997-9682
Richard Nugent Site
Ralph Overturf Site
Don Pearce Site
Sim Picheloup Members Observatory Night 12-07-02
Steve Simpson Members Observatory Night 12-07-02
Henry Schneider Members Observatory Night 12-07-02

Please remember that Site work can be done anytime and does not have to be done just before Members Observatory Night. Contact your Site Supervisor for details. Names are selected for Site Duty using the current Alphabetical listing for Observatory Key Holders. If any member knows of a conflict please call me before your name is listed.

Special "Help" Volunteers

Any member who wants specific information on a subject listed below may call the individual listed. If you have a moderate knowledge of a special subject and would be happy to have others ask you about that subject, let the editor know and your subject, name and phone will be listed in *GuideStar* in the future. Note that we have listed a few possible areas where you might volunteer, but, of course, you are not limited to these. You can also have a specialty which is a sub-group of another. Note that the number of names for any subject is not limited to only one person. Also see the "Ad Hoc Committee Chairpersons" on the inside front cover and the "Special Interest Groups Listing article.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Asteroids	Barbara Wilson	281-933-1289
Astrometry	Richard Nugent	713-910-5945
Astrophotography	Steve Goldberg	713-721-5077
Beginning in Astronomy	Peggy Gilchrist	281-558-1190
	Amelia Goldberg	713-721-5077
Comets	Kenneth Drake	281-367-1592
	Don Pearce	713-432-0734
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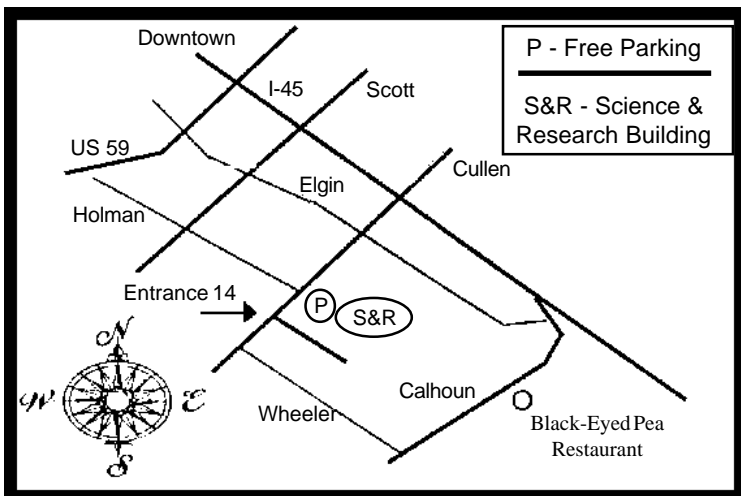


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General Membership Meeting

The Houston Astronomical Society holds its regular monthly General Membership Meeting on the first Friday of each month, unless rescheduled due to a holiday. Meetings are in Room 117 of the Science and Research Building at the University of Houston. A Novice Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.. The short business meeting and featured speaker are scheduled at 8:00 p.m. Also typically included are Committee Reports, Special Interest Group Reports, current activity announcements, hardware reviews, an astrophotography slide show by members and other items of interest.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors Meeting is held on dates scheduled by the board at 7:00 p.m. in Room 106 of the Space Science Building at Rice University. Call StarLine for Board Meeting information. Information provided to GuideStar will be published. The meetings are open to all members of the Society in good standing. Attendance is encouraged.

GuideStar Information

The H.A.S. *GuideStaris* published monthly by the Houston Astronomical Society. All opinions expressed herein are those of the contributor and not necessarily of Houston Astronomical Society. The monthly Meeting Notice is included herein. *GuideStaris* sent via bulk rate mail to Regular, Student, and Honorary Members of H.A.S., selected individuals and recent visitors to the General Membership Meeting. Contributions to *GuideStar* by members are encouraged. Electronic submission is helpful. Submit the article in ASCII text, MS-Word (preferred), or WordPerfect format on an IBM format floppy or via AOL (BILLP10566). Mail copy to the address shown on the outside cover or to the editor at 256 East 5th Street, Houston, TX 77007. Copy must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the issue to be mailed near the end of the same month. Or, bring copy to the General Membership Meeting and give it to the Editor, or phone to make special arrangements.

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