



February, 2004

At the February 6 meeting...

Don Pettit
International Space Station
Astronaut
Astrophotography from the ISS
Part II

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: Steve Sartor H:281-370-3544 Treasurer: Bill Flanagan H:713-699-8819
 Vice Pres: Bill Leach H: 281-893-4057 Past President: Kirk Kendrick .. H: 281-633-8819
 Secretary: Brian Cudnik H: 832- 912-1244

★★★★★★★★★ **Additional Board Members** ★★★★★★★★★★

Liaison responsibility

Steve Goldberg 713-721-5077
 Don Pearce 713-432-0734
 JayLevy 281-557-4920 Field Trip and Observing, Program
 Christopher Mendell 281-488-8906
 Tessie Nolan

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

Audit (open)	Program John Blubaugh
Education Richard Nugent 713-524-1993	Publicity Joe Khalaf 713-660-8219
Field Tr./Obsg. Kenneth Miller	Telescope Clayton Jeter 281-573-1337
Novice George Stradley 281-376-5787	Welcoming Susan Kennedy
Observatory Michael Dye 281-498-1703 Hannah Lange 832-715-7833

★★★★★★★★★ **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 Delevorayas 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 Leach	281-893-4057
Comets	Don Pearce	713-432-0734
Lunar & Planetary	John Blubaugh	713-921-4275
Occultations & Grazes ...	Wayne Hutchison	713-827-0828
Advanced	Bill Leach	281-893-4057

President's Corner

February 2004

by Steve Sartor

I'd first like to say how honored I am at being chosen to serve as the president of the Houston Astronomical Society for the year 2004. I look forward to working with those individuals whose hard work and dedication make this society work.

During the last two years, your HAS Board of Directors has been looking at a number of topics needing attention. The light window policy at our Columbus site has been the topic on more than one occasion. A number of new members have felt overly intimidated about visiting the site for the first time. There is also a problem in that many newer cars will not operate with all lighting disabled and are unable to leave the site under total blackout conditions. Where as we don't want to intimidate and discourage the newer members of the HAS to use the Columbus site, we don't want to make the light rules at the site so lax that the serious, dark adapted observer is constantly interrupted and unable to enjoy their night with the stars. This topic is presently being addressed.

Another hot topic is funding to run this organization. Membership is down; we have competition from three other astronomy clubs in the area, Astronomical League dues have taken a substantial leap this year, and the *GuideStar* keeps getting more and more expensive to print and mail each year. Your board of directors are (is) looking at each of these items. More on this later in the year.

Two other areas that need some attention are the library (yes, we have one) and logo sales. Bill Leach and I will be organizing a cleaning party some Saturday here in the near future so that we can take an inventory and re-organize what we have. After doing a cursory inventory a few months ago I found Dave Krege's book on how to build a "Big Dob". It is now back on the shelf and ready for the next person to read.

Our logo sales inventory is still much higher than we can afford. I'd like to invite each member to take a look at Judy Dye's table at the next

Continued on page 13...

Houston Astronomical Society

*Meeting Notice
For Friday, February 6, 2003*

Don Pettit

International Space Station Astronaut

***Astrophotography from the
International Space Station***

***We've seen some examples of the photographs
Don was able to take from the ISS and heard the
story from the 'ground crew'. Now is your chance
to hear the story from the astronaut who was
aboard the International Space Station.***

Don't miss this presentation.

Schedule of meeting activities:

All meetings are at the University of Houston Science and Research building. See the inside back cover for a map to the location.

Novice meeting: 7:00 p.m.

Site orientation meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Classroom 121

General meeting: 8:00 p.m.
Room 117

**See the inside back cover for a map
and more information.**

February/March Calendar:



Photo by Scott Mitchell

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
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February 2004

6	2:47 a.m.	Full Moon
	7:00 p.m.	Novice Presentation - U of H.
	8:00 p.m.	General membership meeting U of H. Presentation by Don Pettit (Astrophotography from the ISS, Part II)
13	7:40 a.m.	Last Quarter Moon
14		Members Observatory Night - Columbus
20	3:18 a.m.	New Moon
21		Prime Night-Columbus
27	9:24 p.m.	First Quarter Moon

March 2004

3	11:05 p.m.	Jupiter at opposition
5	7:00 p.m.	Novice Presentation - U of H.
	8:00 p.m.	General membership meeting U of H. Presentation by Bart Fried (<i>Uncle John</i> (1840-1920): Rediscovering Americas Lost Icon). See description in this issue of <i>GuideStar</i> .
6	5:14 p.m.	Full Moon
13	3:01 p.m.	Last Quarter Moon
		Members Observatory Night - Columbus
20	12:49 a.m.	Spring Equinox-sun moves north of celestial equator
	4:41 p.m.	New Moon
		Prime Night-Columbus
28	5:48 p.m.	First Quarter Moon

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

Observations... of the editor

by *Bill Pellerin, GuideStar Editor*

My article has moved from page 4 because we have a president's message from our new president Steve Sartor. Welcome to Steve and all the new officers and committee members of the H.A.S. 2004 should be an exciting year!!

Yowee... the weather has been lousy recently. Moon-in-the-sky or no moon-in-the sky, I haven't seen anything in the last few weeks. I was outside trying out a new mount/computer configuration but the sky was milky and the moon rose about 8:45 p.m., so, while the mount test was a success, the observing was crummy.

I'm hoping that by the time you get this the skies will have cleared, and we'll all be out with our telescopes. I was up and about about 4:20 this morning (1/18/04), because I volunteered to help with the Houston Marathon. My reward for getting out this early was that I saw a late phase moon rising over downtown Houston. The 'horizon effect' was in full evidence; the moon looked very large and beautiful next to the partly lit buildings. I also saw Jupiter in the sky shining down on the Marathon course. You never know what observing opportunities will come along.

I was very disappointed to hear of the decision to end the career of the Hubble Telescope early. This instrument has been truly revolutionary in the field of astronomy. I understand why we might decide to cancel a servicing mission -- it's expensive. My opinion -- I'd like to see us fund more robotic missions -- they're inexpensive (relatively), safe (if the spacecraft fails, nobody gets hurt), and there's a high return for the investment.

I've got my application in for the Texas Star Party. If you've been you know it's a great event. If you haven't been, you need to go and see what all the excitement is about.

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

..Bill

Minutes of the H.A.S. General Membership Meeting 09 January 2004

Introduction and Recognition

The new President Steve Sartor called the meeting to order at 8:08p.m and welcomed all who were present.

There were two new members and one visitor present.

The novice meeting takes place prior to each general meeting at 7pm, and is lead by George Stradley. The Site Orientation also meets at 7pm and is lead by Bob Rodgers. The new and continuing Board members were also introduced.

The Past President Kirk Kendrick was presented a Gavel Plaque in honor of his service as President to the H.A.S., 2001-2003.

General meetings will occur the first Friday of every month, with the exception of a possible conflict in July due to Independence Day weekend. A motion was made to move the July meeting to July 9; the membership voted in favor of making the change.

Announcements

- Susan Kennedy reminded the membership about the snacks in the back of the room and the suggestion to make donations to offset the costs.
- The first Board of Directors meeting of 2004 will take place Thursday, January 29, at 7:30pm in Building 43 of the University of St. Thomas.
- Clayton Jeter described the telescope loaner program and the 13 scopes that are part of the program.
- Judy Dye announced that the hooded sweatshirts are on sale at \$20 each. She also serves as Banquet Coordinator and the event will be on February 7 at the West Loop Marriott at 6:30pm. Dr. David Alexander

Continued....

Minutes... from previous page

of Rice University will be the keynote speaker. The cost is \$26 per person.

- Steve Goldberg announced the Texas Star Party, May 16–22; the cost will be \$50 per person plus housing.
- Amelia Goldberg awarded the Binocular Messier Certificate #591 to Doug McCormick. He also received the Planetary Club certificate #21. Steve Goldberg was awarded the Double Star Club certificate #237 as well.
- Michael Dye, observatory committee chair, announced that the annual observatory meeting will be January 17, prime night, beginning at 2:30pm. All of the membership is welcome to attend this meeting.
- Don Pearce, comet special interest group chairperson, gave the comet report. His report consisted of news of the successful encounter of Comet Wild 2 by Stardust as well as a report of the status of the following comets:
 - Comet C/2001 Q4 NEAT. This comet is currently at magnitude 9.7, about 0.5 magnitude fainter than predicted, and remains in the southern sky, invisible to northern hemisphere observers. Don hesitated from making his own prediction concerning the maximum magnitude of NEAT.
 - Comet C/2002 T7 LINEAR is currently at magnitude 8.1 and is moving southwestward in Andromeda and will soon move into Pisces. The comet will be well-placed for observing in Late April to Early May, rising locally 1-2 hours before sunrise. This comet is predicted to be brighter than Q4.
 - Comet 2P/Encke, at magnitude 7.4, is lost in the solar glare throughout January.

The Evening's Featured Speaker

Junior Member Trevor Cox introduced Brian Cudnik, who gave a talk entitled “Comet Hale Bopp: One of the Best and Brightest Comets in our Lifetime”

Door Prizes and Adjournment

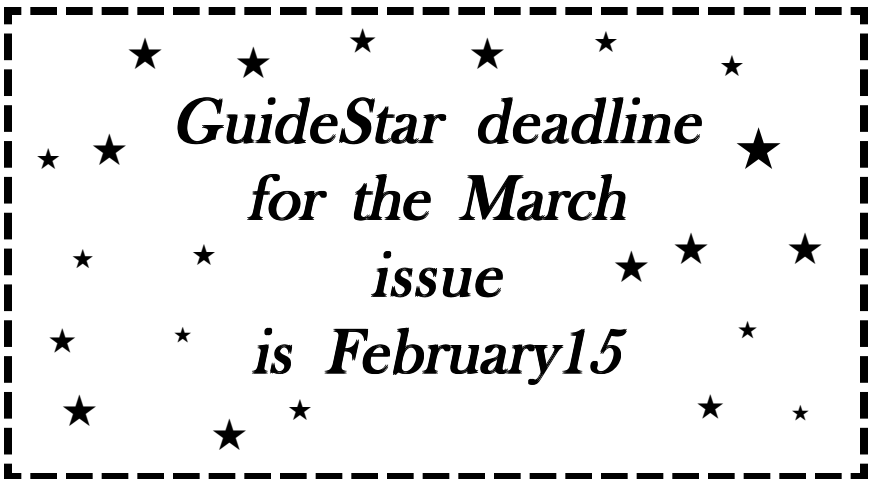
Door prizes were awarded, then the meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

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 2004 Banquet

at
West Loop Marriott
1750 West Loop South @ San Felipe
Topaz Ballroom
February 7, 2004

Dr. David Alexander -- featured speaker
Topic: Space Weather

Agenda

6:30-7:30 **Registration & Cash Bar**
7:45 **Meal**
8:30 **Featured Speaker**

CLUB AFFILIATION: []HAS []FBAC []NHAC []JSCAS []ASSET

Dinner choices

London Broil
Chardonnay Basil Chicken
Vegetarian Plate

Registration sheets will be at the next meeting.

Price of meals will be \$26.00 each. Make checks to:

Houston Astronomical Society
Attn: Judy A. Dye - CHAIRMAN
12352 Newbrook
Houston TX 77072-3910
281-498-1703
judyadye@aol.com

Committee Chairman: Judy Dye,
Committee Members: Michael Dye, Hannah Lange, Mary Lockwood

Houston Astronomical Society Annual Banquet

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of people in your party _____

HomePhone: _____ Workphone: _____

Club affiliation: HAS FBAC NHAC JSCAS ASSET

Names of persons in your party:	Choice of entrée:
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Dinner choices (mark the number of each meal)

London Broil _____
Chardonnay Basil Chicken _____
Vegetarian Plate _____

Total number of meals: _____
Total Due: (# of meals x \$26.00) _____

Make checks payable to Houston Astronomical Society.

Mail this form to:
Houston Astronomical Society
Attn: Judy Dye, Banquet Chairman
12352 Newbrook
Houston TX 77072-3910
281-498-1703
judyadye@aol.com

Dress Code: Business Casual to Semi-Formal

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!

President's Corner... from Page 4

meeting, dig down deep into your dusty pockets and buy something. With some of the special "close-out" sales we are having, it's worth taking another look at what she has. As soon as the inventory gets down to a more comfortable level, I'd like to target certain merchandise items for all members as a group. A fresh t-shirt design is something that readily comes to mind. Other items are certainly worth talking about.

So, enough said, I think I'll go start planning for an occultation this Thursday by the binary asteroid Tama. One of these days I'll actually see one.

Remember: "The early bird catches the worm, but it's the second mouse that gets the cheese."

Steve Sartor

Observatory Corner



By Michael B. Dye Observatory Chairman



The Observatory Committee held its annual meeting at the Observatory Site on January 17th this year. Most of the members attended the meeting, even though the weather in Houston was terrible. No other Society members were at the meeting. The skies at the Observatory Site were actually clearing by 2:30 and were fairly clear at 4:30 when we broke up to go each dinner at Shobel's in Columbus. We discussed the requirements to keep the Observatory Site and Building operational for another year. This year we have to explore either getting a new/used riding lawn mower or making

serious repairs to the current one we have had for the last twelve years. The steering mechanism for the old mower has failed in a big way. We also need about \$2,500.00 in donations this year just to fund the normal expenses at the Observatory Site. Our expenses at the Observatory Site are slowly catching up with us while the amount of money available from the Society General Fund has held rather constant at about \$5,000.00 per year.

We went over the list of items we had to work on from last year and I was able to conclude that a few of them had actually been successfully concluded. The following is a list of the items that we were going to work and how those items fared.

Sandblast and Paint the Observatory	Didn't happen.
Repair the Bunkhouse Roof	Didn't happen.
Install the Culvert warning lights	Accomplished
Fix the Site fence (keep the cows out)	Semi accomplished
Install Sweeps on the bathroom door	Didn't happen
Fix Observatory Red Lights	Didn't happen
Reinstall Observatory ground	Didn't happen

The 'fix the Site fence' got a 'semi accomplished' because as we were looking over the Entrance Road for another project, we noticed that the bottom line of wire of the West fence was no longer effectively connected to the fence posts. This will require another Fence Repair Party. The requirement that this activity take place immediately may not be necessary. It appears that four legged mobile vegetation-processing devices no longer occupy the land to the West of the Observatory Site. Said devices, which if they got into the Observatory Site

Continued....

Observatory Corner... from previous page

perimeter would leave piles of processed vegetation scattered around at inconvenient locations. These inconvenient locations would be especially inconvenient in the middle of the night when members and guests stepped in the piles.

The three biggie activities for this year are going to be Sandblast and Paint the Observatory, Repair the Bunkhouse Roof and fix the West fence line. Kirk Kendrick is currently researching and implementing upgrading the wireless system at the Observatory Site. We will be exchanging our currently borrowed wireless Internet transceiver for a more powerful transceiver which we will get from Cisco. We will be moving the transceiver from where the plastic box under the Satellite Dish to a more protected location under the wooden roof (where the new transceiver will have some protection from the weather). This location will give us more altitude for better communications around the Observatory Site.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with any of these activities, please call me.

The last decision made by the Committee Meeting was to set the date for the Annual Picnic. This year it will be on September the 18th. The moon will set at 22:06 (according to Matt Delevoryas), but the good news is that the New Moon was on the 14th. This means that this is only a four-day moon, which should not be too much of a problem. The reasoning behind choosing the 18th was that (a) August is too hot, (b) October has Astronomy Day, (c) the 4th of September (Members Observatory Night) was Labor Day Weekend and (d) the 11th was prime Night and nobody liked that date.

The Society continues to benefit from members who shop at Randalls and now Kroger's. For this we (the Society) thanks you. Please link your Randalls card to the Houston Astronomical Society so that the society can benefit from the 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. If you shop at Kroger, we now have a card available (at the General Meeting) that you present at the cash register when you check out. We can thank Joe Khalaf for his efforts in getting the cards.

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.

Program for the March Meeting

Uncle John (1840-1920): Rediscovering America's Lost Icon

The dictionary defines Icon as “ ... a person regarded with particular admiration or as a representative symbol.” During the late 19th and early 20th century, America had heroes of many types - military, political and mercantile. But in the land of opportunity, the self-made man that achieved greatness was highly regarded; not just as someone to admire, but as someone to emulate. The story of one such man, John Alfred Brashear, is now largely forgotten. A poor small town boy, he parlayed his determination, hard work and love for astronomy into a career that brought him international fame. This is his story.

The presenter will be Bart Fried.

The following information provided by Tom Williams

Bart has been active as a leader in the Philadelphia area for a number of years, served as President of the prestigious Rittenhouse Astronomical Society, and was the founder and first president of the Antique Telescope Society. The ATS is a truly international effort that may not be well known in Houston but has gained a sound reputation in the history of astronomy as well as among the history of instruments organizations. Bart is personally recognized as a leader in this area of specialized history, both in antique telescopes and especially on Brashear.

HAS Logo Sales

If you are interested in any of the club merchandise items (t-shirts, sweatshirts, books, and other merchandise) please attend the next meeting or contact Judy Dye at 281-498-1703. To reduce Logo Sales inventory many items are being sold at reduced prices.

The list of available items appears regularly in the *GuideStar*.

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.

Subject	Name	Phone
Asteroids	Barbara Wilson	281-933-1289
Astrometry	Richard Nugent	713-910-5945
Astrophotography	Steve Goldberg	713-721-5077
Beginning in Astronomy	Peggy Gilchrist	281-443-8773
	Amelia Goldberg	713-721-5077
Comets	Kenneth Drake	281-367-1592
	Don Pearce	713-432-0734
Computers	Matt Delevoryas	713-795-0808
	Leland Dolan	713-688-0981
	Ricardo Palmeira	713-669-1409
Cosmology	Ricardo Palmeira	713-669-1409
Deep Sky	Larry Mitchell	281-448-8700
	Barbara Wilson	281-933-1289
Double Stars	John Blubaugh	713-921-4275
Drawing (Sketching)	Scott Mitchell	713-461-3020
Herschel Objects	Larry Mitchell	281-448-8700
History, Astro'y - General	Leland Dolan	713-688-0981
	Ricardo Palmeira	713-669-1409
History, Astro'y - Amateurs	Tom Williams	713-526-2868
Mathematics, Astronomical	Richard Nugent	713-910-5945
Messier Objects	Novice Committee (see inside front cover)	
Photometry	Open	
Radio Telescopes	John Hiatt	713-464-4010
Satellites, Artificial	Open	
Solar Observing	Larry Mitchell	281-448-8700
Spectroscopy	Open	
Thin Crescent Moons	Don Pearce	713-432-0734
Telescopes	Clayton Jeter	281-573-1337
Variable Stars	Barbara Wilson	281-933-1289
	Tom Williams	713-526-2868
Video	Larry Mitchell	281-448-8700

Observatory Duty Roster

by Michael B. Dye, Observatory Chairman

This is the duty list for February, March and April. 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.

**February Supervisor Robert Rogers 281-460-1573
(New Number)**

George Dolson	Site		
Kenneth Drake	Members	Observatory Night	02-14-04
Victor Flores	Members	Observatory Night	02-14-04
Fred Garcia	Members	Observatory Night	02-14-04
David Herlinger	Site		
Bob Menius	Site		

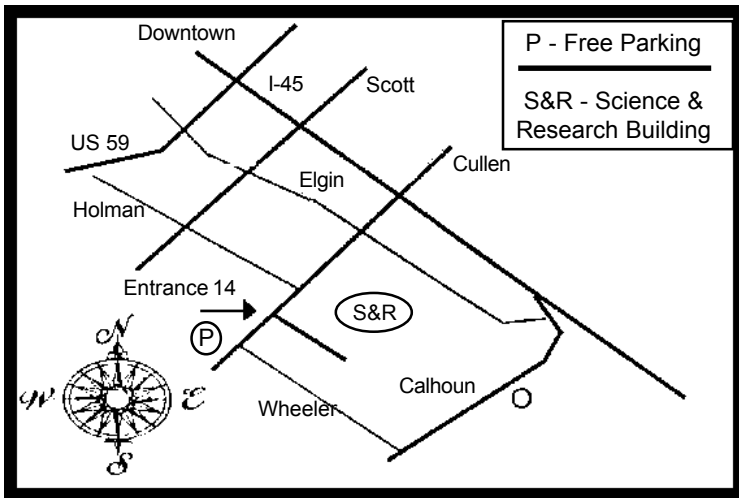
March Supervisor Don Selle 281-391-5470

Wayne Hutchinson	Site		
Clayton Jeter	Members	Observatory Night	03-13-04
Stanley Jones	Members	Observatory Night	03-13-04
Keith Jurgens	Members	Observatory Night	03-13-04
Arnie Kaestner	Site		
David Kahlich	Site		

April Supervisor Matt Delevoryas 713-662-2939

Jerod Kendrick	Site		
Robert Kuna	Members	Observatory Night	04-10-04
Jay Levy	Site		
Mary Lockwood	Members	Observatory Night	04-10-04
Christopher Mendell	Site		
John Missavage	Site		
Larry Mitchell	Members	Observatory Night	04-10-04
Mark Mulrooney	Site		
Ben Negy, Jr.	Site		

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.



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. Parking is NOW across from Entrance 14, by the stadium.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors Meeting is held on dates scheduled by the board at 7:00 p.m. at the University of St. Thomas. 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. *GuideStar* is 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. *GuideStar* is 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 via email BillP10566@aol.com. 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.

Editing & Production: Bill Pellerin, 713-880-8061; FAX: 713-880-8850;
 Email: Billp10566@aol.com

Reproduction and Mailing: Anne Hallman & Hannah Lange

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Houston Astronomical Society

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