GUIDESTAR
October 2020

Fostering the Science and Art of Astronomy
Through Programs that Serve our Membership
and the Community

Image credit: AAPOD2 for September 6th 2020
President's Letter
Joe Khalaf

Fall is officially upon us here in Space City. As I write this article, the autumnal equinox just passed less than a week ago, and Houston is about to receive its first significant cold front, bringing our lows into the 50s. Needless to say, this is a welcome respite from the summer heat here, but the changing of the seasons has always been a little bittersweet for me.

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October Novice Presentation
Via Zoom

Old Astronomy: Royal Greenwich Observatory and Stonehenge.
HAS Main Speaker Presentation
Via Zoom
Cataclysmic Variables -- Stars that go Boom
by: Walt Cooney
October 2, 2020, 7:00PM

Register for Presentation
Unique Telescopes for Kids
by Amelia Goldberg

This is an update on my project to get children actively involved in astronomy by giving them their own personal telescope, one designed by the child. I feel that if they have their own telescope, one they have helped to paint and decorate, they are more likely to use it.
Field of View

Life in the Venusian Atmosphere & Astrophotography Corner

By Don Selle – Guidestar Editor


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Messier Objects for September

Observe M22 M52 and M33

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October Asterism

by Steve Goldberg

Fish Hook in Taurus

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Visual Challenge Object Oct 2020

NGC 6946

by Stephen Jones

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Potential Life in Venus’ Atmosphere

On Monday, September 14, planetary scientists and astrobiologists announced a stunning discovery, which if confirmed could lead to the conclusion that life exists in the atmosphere of Venus. The researchers announced that they had discovered the signature of a chemical called phosphine in Venus’ upper atmosphere, and the only known way that phosphine is created is via biological processes. If proven to be true, this discovery would be the first accepted evidence of extraterrestrial life, and this would be hugely important!
Shallow Sky Object - Oct 2020

Theta Ser/Alya—Double Star

by Bill Pellerin

Observe this Terrific Double Star

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Astrophotography Corner - Oct 2020

Live View Focusing

How to get the sharpest possible lunar or planetary image

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