



# THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

## OAS Executive Committee

Pres - Ron Vanderhule  
(801) 726-8554  
Vice Pres- Craig Browne  
(801) 388-6556  
Secretary- David Dunn  
(801) 544-7705  
Treasurer- Doug Say  
(801) 731-7324

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## THE PREZ SEZ

This month's meeting will be video and discussion of the theory of dark matter and why it's necessary to incorporate it into the current model of cosmology. Some say dark matter exists, others think not. Be there Dec. 8, I think we can resolve this issue and then go to Village Inn.

## THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings Earthlings,

Hey people. If you are like me you are dropping hints to your spouse as to what astro gear you would like to find in your Christmas stocking this year. Now I can't remember exactly where I saw these items or who was selling them. But a Google search should prove fruitful if you find these items interesting and want to add them to your wish list.

The first item was a filter (Lumicon?) that effectively cancelled out the blue in the atmosphere. Thus enabling viewing of stellar objects in broad daylight!...Way. (Daylight Observing Power for Eyepieces) So now, after a full day of viewing at Monte, one can shut it down at sunset and get to bed at a decent hour. Heck, with no light pollution to worry about we can camp at a Walmart. Actually, who needs to camp? Just meet in someone's drive way at noon and start logging NGCs'. Of course you will be applying sunscreen instead of bug repellent, and you will have to walk around blind folded to protect your "night vision". But this hobby has always been about trade-offs.

The other item, if my memory serves me correctly, was a special pair of glasses (Ronco?) that compensated for red shift somehow (Doppler Old Perception Eradicator). Thus allowing the wearer to

see things in the night sky as they are now, not as they looked millions of years ago. The good aspect of this device is that Dale H. can finally see the dust lanes in Andromeda as it is uncomfortably close in reality. The down side for the wearer is all other deep sky objects have long expanded out of sight. Unless you have a particularly large scope ::)).

Good luck on tracking these items down. Let me know the price and who sells them.

Merry Christmas, the Prez

## OAS Minutes – November 2011

The monthly meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on November 10, 2011 in the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University.

President Vanderhule called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Doug has some Astronomy Calendars available.

Ron is invited to the SLAS transition meeting.

We have the St. George Star Party on Feb. 17-19. We are also planning to look for a location to view the eclipse while we are down there.

The eclipse is on May 20 just before sunset.

The presentation this month was a show and tell.

The meeting adjourned. Many members headed to Village Inn in South Ogden to eat and visit.

David Dunn

## **May 20 Annular Eclipse**

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be an Annular Eclipse of the Sun that will be visible in southern Utah. An Annular Eclipse is one where the Moon will not be big enough to completely cover the disk of the sun. We should get to see Bailey's Beads and the Ring of Fire. We are planning to look for a good location during our February, St. George star party. Here are the details as I know them so far.

From near Old Iron Town (west of cedar city), the eclipse will start at 18:22. It will begin the total (second contact) at 19:31. Max eclipse will be at 19:33. Third contact at 19:35 and Fourth contact at 20:37. Sunset is at 20:40. The Altitude will be 12 deg at second contact and 11 deg at third contact.

Our plan will be to get a low western horizon, near or on the center line, somewhere west of Cedar City. We are also planning to do a weekend of observing from somewhere down there (maybe Parawan Gap).

If you are looking to travel further and maybe see it higher in the sky, the center line runs 30km north of Redding, CA and almost right over Klamath and Requa, CA.

## **Star Party Schedule**

Our Public Star Parties are as follows.

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

Feb 17-19	St. George
Mar 23-25	Curlew
May 18-21	Cedar City + Eclipse

## **2012 Star Parties**

We will be working on our Star Party schedule for next year soon. If you have star parties that you want to have included, let us know. I know that we are planning a couple trips each to Curlew and Monte. We are also planning a trip to St. George in February and a Solar Eclipse trip to the Cedar City or Ely areas in May.

## **Telescope for Sale**

LeRoy Johnson is trying to sell my Mead 6" Schmidt-Newtonian LXD55 GoTo telescope, comes with several eyepieces. He is asking \$500 for it. Interested parties can reach LeRoy at 435-279-5274.