

Cache Valley Clear Skies

The Journal of the Cache Valley Astronomical Society

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www.cachestargazers.org

Meeting Announcement

Our monthly meeting will be held on **Wednesday**, January 15, 2014 at 7:30pm at the Physics Conference Room (room 244) in the Science Engineering Research (SER) building directly east of the library. This meeting will be a “show and tell”. Bring any item or book that is important to you to share with us.

Message from the President

Happy New Year everyone! We, as the Executive Committee are excited to see the new year. We now have a constitution that will give us direction. We also have some great plans for the club for this year. Our first meeting is Jan 15th, followed by participation in Science Unwrapped Jan 24 which will boost community awareness of our club. In February we have a retired astronomer who is a friend of Lyle Johnson's, who will speak to us. In March our meeting will focus on the Messier Marathon. The marathon will be held the following week. In April we will discuss astrophotography and make plans for our first star party either in April or May. If you are interested in astrophotography, I plan on inviting interested club members to my observatory in the spring, to join me in an evening of astrophotography. We hope the cold has NOT dampened your nights under the stars. Comet Lovejoy can be seen before sunrise in Hercules. Jupiter is up in the evening. Can we find the Great Red Spot or the moons as they orbit the planet? One of my favorite constellations Ursa Major is beginning to climb higher in the northeast, more on

that next month. My thanks to the ex com, Dale, Ned, and Dell for the hard work they have put into the organization. This will be a great year. We look forward to getting together with everyone at our meetings and star parties. So, plan on bringing some interesting items to our January 15th meeting to share with us. It can be books, equipment, photos or a description of some recent observations you have made. One of the great joys of a club is what we can share with one another about our fantastic hobby. We all can learn from each other. Finally I am going to close with a recent picture I took back in November of Comet Lovejoy. At that time it was near Ursa Major just before sun rise. I used a Canon T3i attached to my Explore Scientific 6 inch refractor. I used Photoshop Elements to enhance it just a bit. The exposure is 70 seconds at ISO 1600.



CVAS Minutes – Nov 2013

The November meeting of the Cache Valley Astronomical Society was held on November 13, 2013 at 7:30pm in Room 244 of the SER Building.

President Tom Westre conducted the meeting. Tom mentioned that Dave Hansen is our liaison to USU and his efforts to allow us access to the SER building are greatly appreciated. The members discussed the draft club constitution. It was decided that annual club membership dues will be \$20. An entire family can be part of the club for \$20 but only one person from the family would be able to vote. After several minor revisions the club voted on and approved the constitution.

The club discussed what to have for future meetings. No meeting was planned for December, due to the holidays. The following topics were agreed upon: January – Show and Tell, February – Retired astronomer, March – Messier Marathon discussion, April – astrophotography, May – Star Party.

The members then watched an episode about the Constellations from “The Universe: Season 2”, courtesy of Tom Westre.

Donations

Linda Wursten	\$5
David Boudrero	\$5
Tom Westre	DVDs The Universe: Season 2

Upcoming Events

Jan 24 Science Unwrapped

Lucianne Walkowicz will be the speaker. She is an astrophysicist at Princeton and will be joining the Dept. of Astronomy at the Adler Planetarium next year. She will be speaking about the KEPLER exoplanet mission. Shane Larson will be back in town for this event. The club is planning on helping with an “after event”.

There will be further discussion about this at the January meeting.

Star Party Schedule

Public Star Parties are as follows.

Mar 01/02 or

Mar 28/29/30

Messier Marathon