

The Objective View

Newsletter of the Northern Colorado Astronomical Society

October 2007

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Cheyenne Astronomical Society Oct 19 7 pm

<http://home.bresnan.net/~curranm/>

Chamberlin Observatory Open House, dusk to 10 pm

Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, Jan 12, Feb 16 303 871 5172

<http://www.du.edu/~rstencil/Chamberlin/>

Longmont Astronomical Society Oct 18 7 pm

FRCC, 2121 Miller Rd <http://longmontastro.org/>

National Park Service and Dark Skies

From Rodney Howe:

Thought this might interest folks. The National Park Service has a job opening for monitoring Dark Skys!

<http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=62851737&AVSDM=2007%2D09%2D24+14%3A44%3A19&Logo=0&lid=17429&paygrademin=11&paygrademax=13&FedEmp=Y&sort=rv&vw=d&brd=3876&ss=0&FedPub=Y&SUBMIT1.x=114&SUBMIT1.y=16>

Rodney

And the Winner of Wired's NASA Slogan Contest Is...

From Andrea Schweitzer

My favorite wasn't one of the winners --
NASA: 87.5 times faster than NASCAR
but you can pick your favorite from the list below. Andrea

And the Winner of the NASA Slogan Contest Is...

By Loretta Hidalgo Whitesides

<http://blog.wired.com/wiredscience/2007/10/and-the-winner-.html>

Exploring Other Worlds, Understanding Our Own
2nd NASA: Explorers Wanted
3rd NASA: Bringing the Universe to Your Doorstep

And the one that made me laugh the hardest:
NASA: We Find Your Lack of Faith Disturbing

After sifting through over 4,000 entries by hand, I am pleased to share with you the Top 25 NASA tagline submissions and the Top 5 humorous submissions (after the jump). I hope you will enjoy them as much as I did and I hope that we will find ways to put all this crowd sourcing effort to good use!

Over the past month, this crowd sourcing article was viewed by over 50,000 people. I just want to thank everyone who read

Next Meeting: October 4 7:30 pm

Skygazing in Australia

Greg Halac, NCAS Vice President

Club Business at 7:15 pm

Discovery Science Center

703 E Prospect Ave, Fort Collins

<http://www.ncastro.org/Sites/DiscoveryCtr.htm>

NCAS Programs

Nov 1 TBA

Dec 6 TBA

Discovery Science Ctr Starwatch, 703 E Prospect, Ft Collins

Oct 19 7 pm

Nov 16 6 pm

Jan 12 5:15 pm

Dark Sky Observing Opportunities, Cactus Flats

Oct 5, 12

<http://www.ncastro.org/Sites/CactusFlats.htm>

Other Events

Little Thompson Observatory Star Night:

Dr Steve Jordan Dark Matter and Dark Energy

Oct 19 7:30 pm <http://www.starkids.org>

CSU Madison Macdonald Observatory Public Nights

On East Drive, north of Pitkin Street

Tuesdays 8 pm if clear, when class is in session

it, passed it on, blogged about it and especially those that submitted.

See full list of finalists after the jump.

What I came to see as I was reading them was that NASA needs a tagline that invites people in, that is about the user not the provider. It is like HP's "Invent", or Play Station's "Live in Your World, Play in Ours." They are not descriptive like "Building the best games on the planet" or "Printers that last" They are an invitation, a focus on what the user can do -the ultimate is "Be all that you can be."

In the new world of Web 2.0, participatory exploration and crowd sourcing maybe that is something for us all to keep in mind. That is why two of the three finalists were about YOU.

If you submitted the winning entry or any of the top 4 finalists, please email loretta@spacegen.org for more details.

Top 25 NASA Tag Line Submissions (alphabetical with top three winners noted)

A Universe of Possibilities
Bringing the Future Down to Earth
Bringing the Universe to Your Doorstep*
Creating the Future
Creating the Future Since 1958
Experience the Universe
Explore
Explorers Wanted*
Exploring Other Worlds, Understanding Our Own*
Exploring Our Universe
Exploring the Future
Exploring the Possibilities
For the Benefit of all Mankind
Fueling Imagination
Go Beyond
Humanity, You Are 'Go' for Launch
Infinite Possibility
Innovation Through Exploration
Inspire. Innovate. Explore
Launching the Future
Now Boarding
Searching the Stars. Finding Ourselves.
The Evolution Continues
The Universe is Waiting
We Have Ignition

Top 5 Funny Submissions

Ad Astra, Per Asparagus
NASA: Houston, better make that a double
NASA: We find your lack of faith disturbing*
Well, at least the war on science is going well
NASA: 87.5 times faster than NASCAR

See more slogans and commentary at:

<http://blog.wired.com/wiredscience/2007/10/and-the-winner-.html>

and scroll down

Sept 15 to 17 at Mills Canyon Campground by Roy NM

Saturday's Clear Sky Clock looked good for Star Hill Inn, which bodes well for Mills Canyon by Roy NM. I can't improve on this blog which captures the spirit of the place nicely:

<http://karlrmoffatt.blogspot.com/2007/08/road-trip-nm-mills-canyon.html>

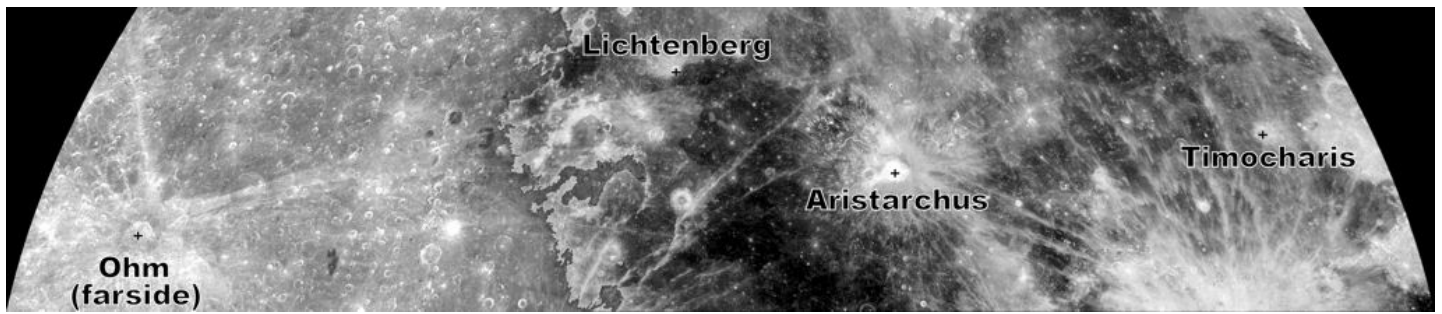
I found the new rim campground in a state of construction. Sites have a road graded but are not yet open for campers. Roads are generally washboard-less gravel with a couple isolated low dips to scrape. It is an RV friendly design. The 3 south sites in the loop are quite large, open and would accomodate a small star party easily. A large Dob would fit in 5 of the 6 new sites. The other is more wind resistant, a plus this weekend with 15+ mph for hours on the 16th. They plan picnic tables, pit toilets, no water. Dispersed camping on the Wood Cutting Road remains a possibility but puts you at the mercy of the wind on the plains.

Sep 15: Signs about construction delays no doubt cut the visiting, I saw 1 camper pulling out, and nary another visitor from Sat afternoon to Mon AM. I picked a spot which was well shielded on the West. Unfortunately, a South wind in the 5 to 10 mph range came up, but did not persist. From latitude 36N, Scorpius and Sagittarius were well up at sunset, and globulars in Corona Australis showed well. An orange sunset hinted at some airborne smoke. Transparency was better above 10 degrees. SQM reading: tipped a bit NW to miss the Milky Way, the Sky Quality Meter hit 22.22 once, more typical was 21.8 which is similar to Foxpark. I did not see any light domes this time, and there were no artificial lamps but mine (no campers, nothing). The night was great for SJ OMeara's Astronomy Mag article on the stunning unaided eye view of the Milky Way. Gegenschein was faintly but steadily visible as a circular widening in the dimly visible zodiacal band. It appeared to envelop the Cirlet of Pisces.

Aside from familiar showpieces, targets were more southerly with nice views of NGC 246 (!), 247, 253 (billows of nebulosity!), NGC 55 with stellar knots, 134, 300. Some thin/high cloud was in late, slightly impairing views of M33, NGC 1514 in Taurus. An object to return to was NGC 1360, a 9th mag 9x5 arcmin planetary in Fornax. 1365 also looked promising but I suspect some cloud. With hopes of less cloud and wind next evening, I quit about 3 AM.

Sep 16: I did a brief walk to the canyon edge and watched a few birds. The place could be a migrant magnet, quite a number of robins, pair of kestrels, Western Kingbirds, Lark Sparrows, R Br Nuthatch, W Tanager, a rusty bird possibly an Orchard Oriole, another unid oriole. A Great Horned Owl was snoozing in a hollow in the canyon wall. Did not make it to check the Golden Eagle nest in the valley.

Sunday afternoon the south wind picked up and went into a kind of oscillation, 0 to 10 or 15 mph gusts at my site.



Transparency was better but the Moon prevented a record SQM level, at best it was 21.7. I was able to salvage my best look at Jupiter for the season, GRS nicely placed at 200x. I was getting laminar flow down the scope, amazing. The wind allowed a brief revisit of Sagittarius globulars M54, 55, 69, 70, Cr Aus globulars 6541 and 6723. Nice structured planetary neb in NGC 6445 in Sagittarius. The scope needed to stay close to a N-S meridian, which allowed a look at some Cepheus objects. The Bubble Nebula NGC 7635 by M52 was maddening, about 1/3 of the rim was distinct with an 0-III filter with averted vision, but vanished completely in direct vision. Must revisit that one with an occulting bar.

The view was like this:

http://msfastro.net/AstroAlbum2/ngc7635_09292003/index.html

With wind escalating, I sadly packed up the Old 25 before it came to an untoward end. High was 90 F on Sun, I don't think it dropped below mid-50s F, and there were about a dozen mosquitoes total. Expect some dust from the road if it's blowing.

Hope to see you at this site one day! Got to bag those Fornax and Eridanus galaxies.

Cheers,
Dan Laszlo
NCAS

Lunar Ray from the Far Side

From Lee Gregory

Here's one to try for in the full and waning Moon:

Did you know that there is a bright ray from the crater Ohm way back on the far side that reaches almost to the center of the near side? On the near side, it runs from the crater Lichtenberg to the crater Timocharis.

Best Looks

Moon By Mars 10/2,3 by Venus & Saturn 10/7
by Antares + Jupiter 10/15
Rises by Pleiades 10/27 eve
Mercury Low in WSW at sunset start of month
Venus trio with Saturn and Regulus 10/9 to 13
Mars High middle of night. By M35 10/3, 4
Jupiter Low in S evenings
Uranus In S evenings
Neptune In S evenings
Pluto In W early evenings early in month

From: Daniel Laszlo
2001 S Shields St Bldg H
Fr Collins CO 80526

TO:

Date	Mag	Starts			Max <u>Altitude</u>			Ends		
		Time	<u>Alt.</u>	<u>Az.</u>	Time	<u>Alt.</u>	<u>Az.</u>	Time	<u>Alt.</u>	<u>Az.</u>
02 Oct	-0.2	20:14:40	10	SSW	20:15:36	17	SSW	20:15:36	17	SSW
03 Oct	0.0	19:05:19	10	SE	19:05:53	10	SE	19:06:28	10	ESE
03 Oct	0.0	20:37:47	10	WSW	20:38:56	21	WSW	20:38:56	21	WSW
04 Oct	-1.6	19:26:21	10	SSW	19:28:59	33	SE	19:30:37	18	E
04 Oct	1.2	21:01:42	10	W	21:02:03	12	W	21:02:03	12	W
05 Oct	-2.1	19:49:25	10	WSW	19:52:17	66	NNW	19:53:33	29	NE
06 Oct	-0.3	20:13:19	10	W	20:15:46	25	NNW	20:16:18	23	N
07 Oct	-2.1	19:01:00	10	WSW	19:03:52	66	NNW	19:06:43	10	NE
07 Oct	0.7	20:37:47	10	NW	20:38:56	14	NNW	20:38:56	14	NNW
08 Oct	-0.4	19:24:51	10	W	19:27:18	25	NNW	19:29:46	10	NNE
09 Oct	0.4	19:49:17	10	NW	19:50:55	14	NNW	19:52:27	10	NNE
10 Oct	0.7	20:14:17	10	NNW	20:14:41	10	N	20:14:49	10	N
11 Oct	0.3	19:00:42	10	NW	19:02:21	14	NNW	19:04:01	10	NNE
12 Oct	0.6	19:25:39	10	NNW	19:26:04	10	N	19:26:29	10	N
14 Oct	0.7	20:12:15	10	NNW	20:12:26	11	N	20:12:26	11	N
16 Oct	0.2	19:23:31	10	NNW	19:24:48	12	NNE	19:25:30	11	NNE
17 Oct	-0.3	19:46:07	10	NNW	19:47:46	18	N	19:47:46	18	N
18 Oct	-0.0	20:08:54	10	NW	20:10:05	21	NNW	20:10:05	21	NNW
19 Oct	-0.6	18:57:17	10	NNW	18:59:28	19	NNE	19:01:04	13	ENE
19 Oct	1.0	20:31:58	10	WNW	20:32:28	14	WNW	20:32:28	14	WNW
20 Oct	-1.9	19:20:01	10	NW	19:22:47	42	NNE	19:23:33	33	ENE
21 Oct	-1.9	19:43:02	10	WNW	19:45:52	55	SW	19:46:09	52	SSW
22 Oct	-1.8	18:31:04	10	NW	18:33:50	42	NNE	18:36:35	10	ESE
22 Oct	0.4	20:06:48	10	W	20:08:43	16	SW	20:08:56	16	SW
23 Oct	-1.8	18:54:03	10	WNW	18:56:53	56	SW	18:59:42	10	SE
24 Oct	0.6	19:17:45	10	W	19:19:41	17	SW	19:21:38	10	S

26 Oct	0.9	18:28:37	10	W	18:30:36	17	SW	18:32:35	10	S
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August 28 2007 Celestron 102F

Dan Laszlo



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Canon 70-300mm at 210mm

Dan Laszlo