Saguaro Skies

Saguaro Astronomy Club, Phoenix, AZ
Volume 50, Issue 11
November 2026

The President's Corner

Dark is coming on fast now! Great for longer nights of viewing, although my body still can't do an all-nighter. I hope none of you suffered any washout with these recent rains. One thing I found out, dew is now an issue again.

I made it out to the Salome-Treasure Mine Rd site Tuesday the 3rd. I figured there would be dew once it got cold enough, maybe 10-ish, but as soon as the sun went down, the dew started. I noted it first on my planisphere, where I thought maybe I'd set my cold drink down, but then I checked my table, and it was damp, from then on, things got damper and damper. But I was prepared, I had a large dew shield for my 9.25 inch SCT, but even it didn't keep the dew off the front glass. By 7 p.m., I knew I was skunked and quit for the evening. This is Arizona, no one needs a dew heater ring in the desert, mountains maybe, but not down here! If this super *El Nino* brings us more damp weather, I may need to invest in one.

On other notes, the proposed dates for our 2027 meetings are out for comment. Yes, we know, some conflict with EVAC's dates. Also, we are not having meetings in July or August again. UNLESS, that is, there are new board members!

The November meeting is upon us and new board members for 2027 are needed. What say you?

Then there is the need for a committee to plan the *2027 Spring Star Party and Messier Marathon*. But that will be up to the 2027 board to do. What say you?

But to round out this year, the annual holiday party is pending. How many of you will be grinches, and not attend? Let's discuss it's plans on the 20th.

See you there. Clear skies (and no dew!)

Tom Curry



Photo: Susan Trask

Quick Calendar

At the clubhouse, 3030 Mission Ln, Phoenix, AZ:

SAC General Meeting, November 20th, 7:00 pm
Note: 2027 SAC Officer Elections

SAC on Facebook:
SAC has a Facebook moderator!
Mike Willmoth

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Header image © 2000-2013 Stellarium Developers

* Scorpius setting in the southwest.

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Editor Notes

Hi Folks,

Such-A-Deal has three old ads, check them out.
Bits & Pieces has the October 23rd SAC general meeting minutes. By SAC Secretary Michael Poppre.
SAC Imaging has images of the southern skies by Terry Shay.
SAC Observing has daily astronomy data from *The Astronomical Calendar.*
SAC Sky has info on the stars and planet locations this month for you all.
Enjoy,

Rick Rotramel





< Left: SAC Webmaster, Terry Shay



Right: SAC ATM Leader, Paul Lind >

Photos (3): Susan Trask

SAC-Forum Email Discussion Group

Join this email discussion group for all SAC business and newsletter release notifications.

Go to Groups.io, search for the group SAC-Forum (or "SAC Forum"). Click on the button down the page to join the group. Your application will be accepted in a day or so by the moderators. Alternatively, send an email to:

SAC-forum+subscribe@groups.io

After your membership is set, go to the Subscription tab on the left. Set your preference as to how you should receive messages.

Schedule of Events 2026

SAC General Meetings

Jan 9	Feb. 6	March 6	April 10
May 29	June 26	~~July 24~~ (Cancelled)	~~August 21~~ (Cancelled)
Sept. 25	Oct. 23 Nominations	Nov. 20 Elections	XmasParty Sat,Dec.12

Meetings held at the Heritage Heights Clubhouse
3030 E Mission Ln, Phoenix, AZ
(SE of State Route 51 and 32nd Street)
Meeting time: 7:00 PM
View video recordings of the ***past*** Zoom meetings here:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEKTfI0gwebABZXwKbhe9oA

SAC 2027 Officer Elections

November 20th SAC General Meeting:
Help <u>support</u> your club!

SAC Officers

President: Tom Curry >



Vice President: (Open Position) >

Secretary: Michael Poppre >



Treasurer: Jack Jones >



Properties: Ken Milward >



Photos: Susan Trask (2), Sandy Milward (2)

Such-A- Deal

Ads placed here are free to SAC members and friends. SAC is not responsible for the quality of the items. If you wish to place an ad here to sell your telescope or an astronomy related items, contact the editor at: rrotramel601@gmail.com

For Sale - Meade LX200 GPS, 8" Telescope/Eyepieces

Good condition. Includes Autostar, UHC coatings and case of eyepieces.
Scope is about 10 years old, used sparingly.
Location: Phoenix area. Not interested in shipping.
Will deliver within local area or arrange for pick up.
Owner is motivated to sell.

Asking $1300.00 as a package.

For questions/inquiries call Stephan at 310-339-4586





For Sale - 1. LX200 8 inch telescope with tripod.

2. LX200 10 inch telescope, f6.3 with tripod

3. Losmandy mount with rings for 10 inch scope

4. Telrad

5. Meade 8X50 alignment (finder scope)

6. Mini-Borg 50, 50mm f5 finder scope

7. Dew shield with power

8. SBIG CFT-8A With filter wheel RGB

9. SBIG ST-i guide camera

10. Wedge for LX-200 10"

11. Extra power cords for LX-200s

Asking $3000 for all items as a package.

contact Frank (480) 882-3485

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale

For Sale (Ctrl+Click for info)

Contact me at eridanibrew@gmail.com for questions or to make an offer. I am pretty firm on these prices; I think they are pretty low.

Bits and Pisces

SAC General Meeting, Meeting Minutes

Report by: SAC Secretary, Michael Poppre

Here are the minutes from the October 23rd SAC general meeting. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by President Tom Curry. We had 16 attendees including one visitor. Tom gave a financial report for the absent Jack Jones. The club has $4,729 dollars in the accounts. We recently had two new members for a total of 38 embers. Items covered:

- Tom talked about several outreach events available. Contact him for details.
- Openings on the Board of Directors this year are President, Vice President, Secretary and Properties Dir. These are open due to being *term limited*. The Treasurer job is currently held by Jack Jones, who is eligible for another one-year term. Elections to be held at the November 20th meeting.
- The SAC Holiday party was discussed briefly. No firm date set, will be settled at the November 20th meeting.
- A discussion was held about how to best use recently donated astro equipment. This included two Meade Cass telescopes. Members were asked to think about this for discussion in November.
- Tom also opened the floor to the subject of the *2027 Spring Star Party and Messier Marathon*. Looks like the date will be April 3rd. There was discussion about holding it at the "new" observing site near Salome, AZ instead of the Hovatter North site. Other items included the usual stuff like port-a-potties, food, raffle, etc.

Continued next page…

Bits and Pisces

SAC General Meeting, Meeting Minutes, *continued*

- Paul Lind gave a recap of the ATM meeting at his house. 8 people attended. They completed an F-test on the 14.5" mirror project. Tested a triplet objective lens. Got a DEC motor working. Chewed the fat and ate cookies. Also did some driveway viewing when the clouds cleared off.

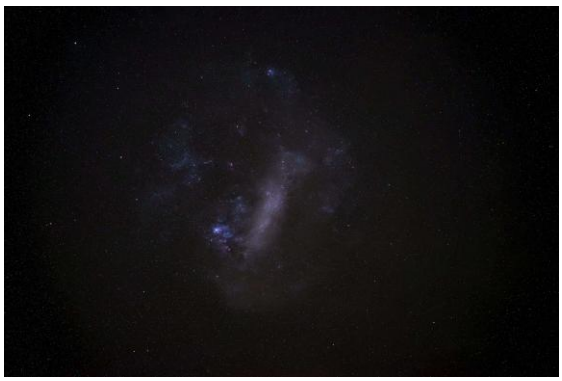
- Tom Curry talked about going to the *All Arizona Star Party* (which had been canceled by EVAC). Some intrepid observers still went out. He also showed some photos he took of the super nova in NGC 7331. Was reported to be mag 9.5 at the time.

- Finally, Terry Shay presented some photos from their "bucket list" trip to the South Pacific. He had some nice photos of the Large and Small Magellanic clouds, Crux and the Coalsack. Nice presentation.

- Meeting adjourned around 9:00 pm. Next meeting is November 20th.

Our Bucket List Trip to the South Pacific

Photos: Terry Shay The photos are from a trip Rosemary and I took to the South Pacific (southern sky). All pictures were shot with a Pentax K1 DSLR. I put the lens size on the photo name.



The Large Magellanic Cloud, 135mm



The Magellanic Clouds, 24mm



The Small Magellanic Cloud, 135mm



The Southern Milky Way, 15mm



The Southern Sky Dawn, 15mm

*** The Eta Carina Nebula lower left**



The Southern Sky Zenith, 15mm

SAC Observing



2026 NOVEMBER

1345.5	Nov	1	SUN		Clocks back 1 hour (America)
1346.250	Nov	1	SUN	18	Moon 0.45° NE of Beehive Cluster center; 91° and 92° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -10.3 and 3.7
1346.353	Nov	1	SUN	20:29	Last quarter Moon
1347.083	Nov	2	Mon	14	Moon 0.98° SSW of Mars; 81° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -9.8 and 0.9
1347.442	Nov	2	Mon	23	Moon, Mars, and Jupiter within circle of diameter 5.05°; about 78° from the Sun in the morning sky; magnitudes -10, 1, -2
1347.479	Nov	2	Mon	24	Moon 0.63° SE of Jupiter; 76° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -9.6 and -2.0
1347.627	Nov	3	Tue	3:02	Moon at descending node; longitude 146.9°
1347.841	Nov	3	Tue	8	The equation of time is at a maximum of 16.49 minutes
1347.875	Nov	3	Tue	9	Moon 0.77° SSW of Regulus; 71° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -9.4 and 1.4
1349.096	Nov	4	Wed	14	Mercury at inferior conjunction with the Sun; 0.674 AU from Earth; latitude -0.79°
1349.917	Nov	5	Thu	10	Southern Taurid meteors; ZHR 7; 4 days before New Moon
1350.181	Nov	5	Thu	16	Mercury at ascending node through the ecliptic plane
1351.958	Nov	7	SAT	11	Moon 0.96° SSW of Venus; 22° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -6.1 and -4.4
1352.000	Nov	7	SAT	12	Moon, Venus, and Spica within circle of diameter 2.19°; about 21° from the Sun in the morning sky; magnitudes -6, -4, 1
1352.000	Nov	7	SAT	12	Moon 2.19° SSW of Spica; 21° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -6.0 and 1.0
1352.5	Nov	8	SUN		Diwali, Hindu Festival of Lights
1353.042	Nov	8	SUN	13	Moon 5.7° SSW of Mercury; 10° and 9° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -4.9 and 2.7
1353.793	Nov	9	Mon	7:01	New Moon; beginning of lunation 1285
1354.021	Nov	9	Mon	13	Venus 1.16° WSW of Spica; 24° and 23° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -4.5 and 1.0; quasi-conjunction
1354.854	Nov	10	Tue	8	Mercury at perihelion; 0.3075 AU from the Sun
1355.5	Nov	11	Wed		Veterans' or Remembrance Day
1355.708	Nov	11	Wed	5	Moon 0.32° SE of Antares; 22° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -6.0 and 1.0
1356.129	Nov	11	Wed	15	Venus stationary in right ascension; resumes direct motion
1356.875	Nov	12	Thu	9	Northern Taurid meteors; ZHR 5; 3 days after New Moon
1357.882	Nov	13	Fri	9	Mercury stationary in right ascension; resumes direct motion
1358.158	Nov	13	Fri	16	Mercury stationary in longitude; resumes direct motion
1358.244	Nov	13	Fri	18	Moon at apogee; distance 63.60 Earth-radii
1358.516	Nov	14	SAT	0	Venus stationary in longitude; resumes direct motion
1360.604	Nov	16	Mon	3	Mars 1.19° NNE of Jupiter; 88° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes 0.7 and -2.1
1361.991	Nov	17	Tue	11:47	First quarter Moon
1361.993	Nov	17	Tue	11:50	Moon at ascending node; longitude 325.2°

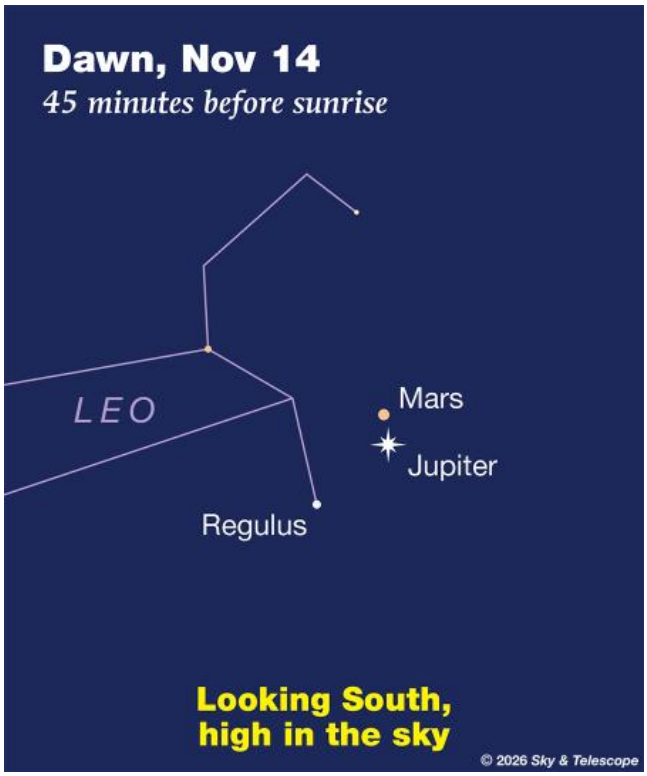
SAC Observing

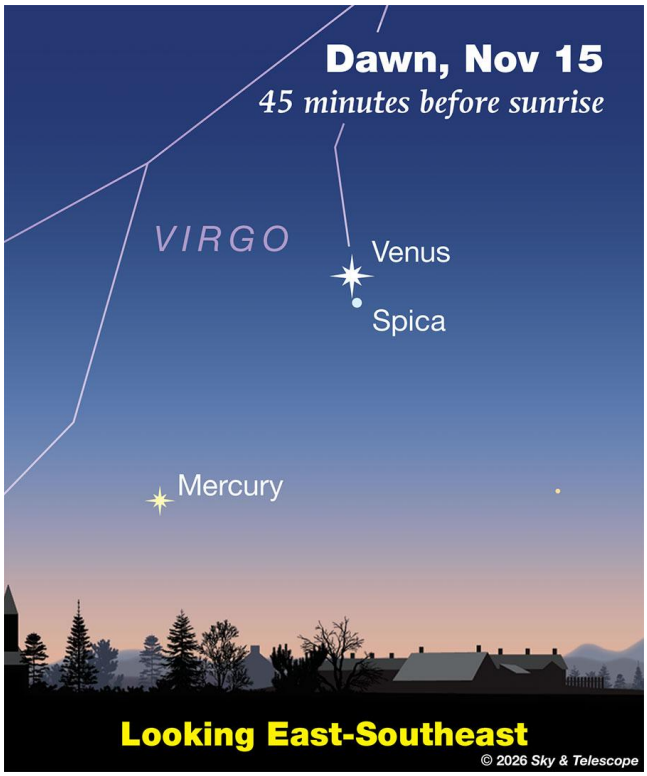


76 Astronomical Calendar 2026

1362.125	Nov	17	Tue	15	Leonid meteors; ZHR 15; near First Quarter Moon
1362.900	Nov	18	Wed	10	Jupiter at west quadrature, 90° from the Sun
1364.239	Nov	19	Thu	18	Mars at west quadrature, 90° from the Sun
1364.875	Nov	20	Fri	9	Moon 4.4° NNW of Neptune; 124° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -11.3 and 7.8
1365.059	Nov	20	Fri	13	Mercury at northernmost latitude from the ecliptic plane, 7.0°
1365.354	Nov	20	Fri	21	Moon 6.1° NNW of Saturn; 130° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -11.4 and 0.6
1365.473	Nov	20	Fri	23	Mercury at westernmost elongation; 19.6° from Sun in morning sky; magnitude -0.5
1366.421	Nov	21	SAT	22	Venus at ascending node through the ecliptic plane
1366.808	Nov	22	SUN	7	Sun enters the astrological sign Sagittarius, i.e. its longitude is 240°
1368.034	Nov	23	Mon	13	Sun enters Scorpius, at longitude 241.24° on the ecliptic
1369.021	Nov	24	Tue	13	Moon 1.03° NNE of Pleiades; 175° and 176° from Sun in evening midnight sky
1369.121	Nov	24	Tue	14:54	Full Moon
1369.142	Nov	24	Tue	15	Moon, Uranus, and the Pleiades within circle of diameter 5.46°; about 175° from the Sun in the evening sky; mag -13, 6, 3
1369.229	Nov	24	Tue	18	Moon 5.1° N of Uranus; 175° and 179° from Sun in morning midnight sky; magnitudes -12.7 and 5.6
1369.5	Nov	25	Wed	0	Mars, Jupiter, and Regulus within circle of diameter 3.72°; about 94° from the Sun in the morning sky; magnitudes 1, -2, 1
1370.386	Nov	25	Wed	21:15	Moon at perigee; distance 56.34 Earth-radii
1370.436	Nov	25	Wed	22	Uranus at opposition in longitude; mag 5.6; declination 20.7°
1370.5	Nov	26	Thu		Thanksgiving
1370.708	Nov	26	Thu	5	Mars 1.72° NNE of Regulus; 94° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes 0.6 and 1.4
1371.146	Nov	26	Thu	16	Moon 3.1° N of M35 cluster; 151° and 152° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -12.1 and 5.3
1372.282	Nov	27	Fri	19	Venus brightest; magnitude -4.65°
1372.313	Nov	27	Fri	20	Moon 7.3° SSW of Castor; 135° and 134° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -11.7 and 1.5
1372.542	Nov	28	SAT	1	Moon 4.2° S of Pollux; 132° from Sun in morning sky
1373.521	Nov	29	SUN	1	Moon 0.23° E of Beehive Cluster center; 119° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -11.2 and 3.7
1374.086	Nov	29	SUN	14	Venus shows greatest illuminated extent, 340 square seconds
1374.648	Nov	30	Mon	3:33	Moon at descending node; longitude 143.8°
1374.853	Nov	30	Mon	8	Sun enters Ophiuchus, at longitude 248.14° on the ecliptic
1374.875	Nov	30	Mon	9	Moon 1.10° S of Jupiter; 101° from Sun in morning sky
1374.900	Nov	30	Mon	10	Moon, Mars, and Jupiter within circle of diameter 5.17°; about 100° from the Sun in the morning sky; magnitudes -11, 0, -2
1375.042	Nov	30	Mon	13	Moon, Jupiter, and Regulus within circle of diameter 3.44°; about 100° from the Sun in the morning sky; mag -11, -2, 1
1375.125	Nov	30	Mon	15	Moon 1.08° S of Regulus; 98° from Sun in morning sky
1375.200	Nov	30	Mon	17	Moon, Mars, and Regulus within circle of diameter 3.00°; about 97° from the Sun in the morning sky; mag -10, 0, 1
1375.229	Nov	30	Mon	18	Moon 3.0° SSW of Mars; 97° from Sun in morning sky;

SAC Sky


Dawn, Nov 14
45 minutes before sunrise
LEO
Mars
Jupiter
Regulus
Looking South,
high in the sky
© 2026 Sky & Telescope


Dawn, Nov 15
45 minutes before sunrise
VIRGO
Venus
Spica
Mercury
Looking East-Southeast
© 2026 Sky & Telescope


Dawn, Nov 21
1 hour before sunrise
Venus
Spica
VIRGO
Mercury
Looking East-Southeast


Dawn, Nov 23
1 hour before sunrise
LEO
Mars
Jupiter
Regulus
Looking South,
high up
© 2026 Sky & Telescope

2026 SAC Officers and Contacts

Board Members

President	Tom Curry	mailto:president@saguaroastro.org
Vice-President	Open	
Treasurer	Jack Jones	mailto:treasurer@saguaroastro.org
Secretary	Michael Poppre	
Properties	Ken Milward	mailto:properties@saguaroastro.org

Non-board Positions

Novice Leader	Steve Dodder	mailto:fester00@hotmail.com
Newsletter	Rick Rotramel	mailto:rrotramel601@gmail.com
Outreach	Sandy Milward	
Webmaster	Terry Shay	mailto:webmaster@saguaroastro.org

SAC on Facebook:

Moderator, Mike Willmoth mailto:mwillmoth@compuserve.com

2026 Board Meetings:

* Board meetings will be called by the SAC President and will contact the board members for the meeting time and date.

Saguaro Astronomy Club

Saguaro Astronomy Club (SAC), Phoenix, Arizona, was formed in 1977 to promote fellowship and the exchange of scientific information among its members-amateur astronomers. SAC meets monthly for both general meetings and star parties and regularly conducts and supports public programs on astronomy. Membership is open to anyone with these interests.

Saguaro Skies is posted as a pdf file monthly on the SAC website,

https://www.saguaroastro.org/newsletter/

for browsing or downloading for SAC members and friends of SAC. A email announcement of the monthly newsletter release is included with membership.

Direct all membership inquiries to the SAC Treasurer by using the membership form found in this newsletter. For editorial and SUCH-A-DEAL advertising inquiries, contact the Saguaro Skies Editor.

Meeting Location: The Clubhouse, 7:00 PM, 3030 E. Mission Lane, Phoenix, AZ



Contacting This Issue's Authors

If you wish to write to an author in this month's issue, contact them by sending your message to the editor of Saguaro Skies, Rick Rotramel, at: rrotramel601@gmail.com

I will then forward your questions or comments to the author.

Saguaro Skies Staff

Editor: Rick Rotramel;
Photographers: Tom Curry, Sandy Milward, Tom Polakis, Michael Poppre, Rick Rotramel and Susan Trask.

2013-2026 Contributors: Bob Christ, Mike Collins, AJ Crayon, Tom Curry, Paul Dickson, David Dillmore, Steve Dodder, Richard Harshaw, Dean Ketelsen, Kevin Kozel, Joan McGue, Sandy Milward, Andrew Perry, Tom & Jennifer Polakis, Michael Poppre, Jimmy Ray, Rick Rotramel, Steve Rottas, Rosemary & Terry Shay, SAC Imagers & Observers

Saguaro Astronomy Club Membership Services

Membership -- Memberships are for the calendar year and are pro-rated for new members as follows: Jan - Mar: 100%; Apr - Jun: 75%; Jul - Sep: 50%; Oct - Dec 25%.



☐ $40 Individual Membership

☐ $50 Family Membership

Note: You can now pay with PayPal through the SAC Website. Click Below: PayPal

https://www.saguaroastro.org/join-sacpaypal/

Please print all information legibly

Date: ___/___/___ For the year of: 20__

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ *Check here if this is updated information*

Make check payable to: SAC

Please bring your completed form to a meeting or mail it with payment to:

Jack Jones

3222 W. Lucia Dr.

Phoenix, AZ 85083