Saguaro Skies

Saguaro Astronomy Club, Phoenix, AZ
Volume 50, Issue 1
January 2026

The President's Corner

Happy New Year! Or at least I hope it will be. So, were you on the receiving end of any gratuitous gifts in the past month? I was but still didn't get all I wanted. And I am not being greedy. I was hoping for a gift of a volunteer wanting to be the club vice president. Is there anyone out there wanting to make my 2026 happier?

Our January meeting will be an assortment of member presentations. If you have one, let me know and I will include you in the mix.

2026 will be an interesting (?) year for the club. The continuing construction of solar arrays south of the I-10 at Hovatter Road can only be made worse for light pollution, should the project slated for the north side of I-10 be approved and started.

Our June *North Rim Grand Canyon Star Party* will have us on the *South Rim* in 2026. Steve Rottas will again coordinate the park star party participation for SAC.

The *Spring Star Party and Messier Marathon*, should we call it that, is tentatively scheduled for March and we will need to have plenty of member input into how it will occur. Be prepared to discuss it this January meeting.

One of the other issues raised in the last few meetings is to have more club members only get togethers for observing. When and where? Or do we have a way for members to let other members know when we are going out. Speaking for myself, I enjoy having others out observing with me, but have a habit of not doing much preplanning before I head out one evening, often solo. Let's discuss that also.

So what else is on your mind for 2026 activities? Any topics you would like to have our speakers talk on? Your input is important, please let us know, and, as always, let Rick Rotramel know what you have been up to for his newsletter.

I'm anxious for clear skies in January to get out observing. I surprised myself being out on 28 occasions observing in 2025, not including observing the few times from home. If clouds and the moon cooperate, maybe I can top that in 2026. How many times did you get out? Why not more? I also want to give a special thanks to all of the members who made our 2025 a very successful year. Best of everything to all of you in 2026.

Clear skies.

Tom Curry

Photo: Susan Trask

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

Quick Calendar

At the clubhouse, 3030 Mission Ln, Phoenix, AZ:
SAC meets **Friday, January 9th, @ 7:00 pm.**
Guest speakers: Fellow SAC members.
Topic: Short presentations.

Inside this issue:

* Scorpius setting in the southwest.

Editor Notes

Hi Folks,

Such-A-Deal has six old ads, check them out.

Bits & Pisces has a report on the SAC Holiday Party/Potluck.

SAC Observing has for you 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

Schedule of Events 2026

SAC General Meetings

Jan. 9	Feb. 6	March 6	April 10
May 29	June 26	July 24	August 21
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/UCEKTf10gwebABZXwKbhe9oA

< Left: SAC Webmaster, Terry Shay

Right: SAC ATM Leader, Paul Lind >

Photos (3): Susan Trask

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)

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.

For help, email **SAC-forum+help@groups.io**

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

Astronomy Equipment For Sale

I am closing my BrewSky Observatory in Casa Grande, AZ. All the equipment needs to be sold, so I am offering very competitive prices. Go to the link below for a complete list of items being sold. If you need something small, maybe I have that too...

1 Takahashi FSQ106 $1500

brewsky.space/BigSale/ForSale.html

Questions? Contact Robert Brewington at *eridanibrew@gmail.com*

3 Paramount MX $5000

2 SBig STF8300M $1500

7 Celestron Edge 11" HD $1200

5 Optec TCF-S Focuser $300

6 QSI686-wsq $1400

4 Light Panel $50

8 ExploraDome 8' Automated Dome $1500

Continued next page…

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale (continued)

Xx

Telescopes for sale:

Celestron Edge 11" HD with Homeyer Cradle *Price: $1200 (Orig. Cost: $3700)*

Andy Homeyer used to make beautiful telescope cradles out of 1/2" aluminum to hold SCTs on their mounts, replacing the typical dovetail rails. These eliminated pretty much all flexure in the mounting.
Image 2 shows the C11 in the Homeyer cradle with an extra Losmandy dovetail visible. The Edge is strapped securely into the cradle, then the cradle is bolted directly to the Paramount Versa plate. My TPoint flexure (especially in the piggy backed refractor) was completely eliminated.
It also shows the FSQ106 piggy backed on top via a second Losmandy rail. The Optec focuser and STF8300M are on the back of the C11.
Image 3 shows someone else's C14 cradle without the OTA (mine looks slightly different). The cradle originally cost $800, but I am including it with the C11 since I can't use it for anything else.



SOLD!

Takahashi FSQ106EDX-III *Price: $1500 (Orig. Cost: $3500)*

This is my premium wide field imaging scope. It is a 530mm f5 with FeatherTouch focuser.
The second image shows the current configuration. The Tak is piggy backed onto the Edge 11 using a Losmandy rail and Tak clamshell. I added screws in the clamshell base to allow alignment of the Tak with the Edge 11. Focusing is done with an EasyFocus focuser running a Robofocus motor. A Pyxis Rotator is next, followed by a QSI683 camera with filter wheel and off axis guider.
The third image shows the Robofocus motor connected directly to the FeatherTouch focuser via the knob axle (the knob has been removed). The EasyFocus controller and RoboFocus motor are included.



SOLD!

Takahashi Sky90 *Price: $300 (Orig. Cost: $1800)*

Doublet Apochromat. 50mm aperture. Large back focus adjustment. I should have the FSQ attachment, I have to look through my parts.
I used this for several years, first mounted on a NexStar 11, then on the Edge 11. I was very happy with the results. Eventually moved up to the FSQ106.

SOLD!

William Optics Zenith Star 80mm *Price: $100 (Orig. Cost: $500)*

80mm f6.8. Used as a guide scope before installing the dome. Includes case, nice mounting rings.

SOLD!

SBig Guide Scope *Price: $25 (Orig. Cost: $250)*

This is a small scope/lens similar to an St-i, with a mounting bracket and small USB camera. The product was intended to provide an easy autoguider in a small package.
Unfortunately, the image scales did not work at all for my setup. I expect it should work OK with a main imaging camera with 3 or more arcsecond/pixel.

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale (continued)

Cameras for sale:

SBig STF8300M ***Price $1500 (original cost $3500)***

Includes filters (Astrodon LRGB, Ha, Oiii, Sii) in 8 position filter wheel. Original ST-i guider failed, replaced with QHY5III290 (available separately). Added aluminum threaded rings to guide port to help focus.
Includes Pelican Case, cables.

QSI683-wsg ***Price $1400 (original cost $3000)***

Includes filter wheel with filters, guide port. Has a partial column of bad pixels, easily fixed with dark/bias frames

SBig ST2000XM ***Price $200 (original cost $1200)***

My first quality camera - it is wonderful. I used it for quite awhile. 100,000 e- well depth produces excellent contrast in images. USB connection. Image shows my camera with CFW10 filter wheel attached to a Takahashi Sky90. Only design problem - the guide chip is behind the filters, so I often can't guide with it (especially narrow band). The guide chip no longer works on this unit. Includes CFW10, with original LRGB filters. W/Pelican case & desiccant packs.

QHY5III290 ***Price $50 (original cost $250)***

SOLD!

I have used this as both a monochrome planetary camera and as a guide camera. It works very well. In the second image the camera is installed in the STF8300M guide port. The aluminum rings I made to help focus are visible.

ZWO ASI120M ***Price $50 (original cost $250)***

Monochrome camera used primarily as the guider for the QSI683. Worked very well.

ZWO ASI290MC ***Price $75 (original cost $350)***

Color planetary camera. Used very little (I stopped doing planetary).

Fishcamp Guide camera ***Price $10 (original cost $300)***

This was a very solid, well built guide camera. It uses the same chip as the original Orion guider, but does it much better.

Unfortunately, at Windows 7? 8? the driver didn't work anymore and I couldn't find a replacement driver.

This could be a fun project to write a driver for it. Or, at least it comes in a nice case.

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale (continued)

Mount for sale:

Software Bisque Paramount MX *Price $5000 (original cost $9000,* currently costs $12-18000 *)*

This is the original MX, not the Version II
It has sat for awhile, so it likely needs replacement of the two rubber drive belts. Here in Arizona I need to replace them every couple of years.
I have the original shipping boxes.
Includes TPoint, a truly magnificent tool. TPoint also handles alignment of the mount to great precision.
Includes 2 large counterweights and the shaft extension.

Dome for sale:

ExploraDome *Price $1500 (original cost $8000)*

This is the 8 foot dome with aluminum roof panels for a 10 foot square building. I used a pre-existing building.
Has an 8 foot pier (2 four foot sections) with Paramount adaptor plate to hold the mount high.
Originally automation hardware/software by Foster Systems to open the shutter and rotate the dome.
Replaced the tracking and shutter controllers with Arduino based systems. Image 4 shows the Arduino tracking controller (smaller black box) on top of a 12V power supply. Image 5 shows the Arduino Shutter controller.
Modified the tracking system to improve reliability and accuracy. Figure 3 shows an added fence on the rotation motor. Originally the dome position was determined by counting the holes in the track. This gives 1 cm precision on the dome position instead of the original 4 cm.
Wrote a VB.NET ASCOM driver to drive the 2 Arduino controllers.
Includes dome and 10' wide building panels around top of roof.
The Dome was painted with a special Arizona paint to reflect the sun, cooling the building. Originally the building was at 135 F.
Images 3 and 5 show Home Depot radiant barrier material fastened to the dome interior to further reduce Arizona heat. This stuff is amazing! The building is now down to 90 F, so the 2 air conditioners can get it down to 82 F.
Figure 6 shows someone else's dome, showing how the top shutter slides back over the dome and the lower shutter hinges open.
Buyer needs to remove dome, ship it to destination.

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale (continued)

Miscellaneous:

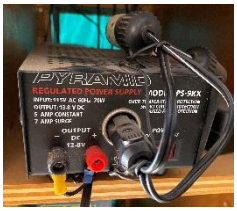
Optec Focuser *Price $300 (original cost $1200)*

2" Crayford style; very solid.
Includes adaptor to connect to Edge 11".
Connects via RS232 cable.
Edgeport USB to RS232 converter box available (See below).

EdgePort USB-RS232 Converter *Price $50 (original cost $250)*

Some equipment (especially older things) still use RS-232 connections. This box takes a single USB port and provides 4 COM ports.

Pyramid 12V 5 Amp Power Supply *Price $25 (original cost $100)*



Typical 12V power supply.

Has connector to run 2 cigarette plugs, or wire directly as seen in the image.

Samlex 12V 30 Amp Switching Power Supply *Price $150 (original cost $300)*

In the first image this is the larger black box under the dome rotation controller.
This is a higher 30 Amp power supply. I run the output through a RigRunner (visible on the right of the first image) to supply power to the dome rotation motor, the dome shutter motors, and a couple of other minor things. My dome motors require 10 Amps.
The RigRunner is included.

Optec Pyxis 2" Rotator *Price $250 (original cost $1200)*

This is the original Pyxis rotator from Optec.

Modjack RS232 input.

Edgeport USB to RS232 converter box available (See above).

Astronomy Equipment Big Sale (continued)

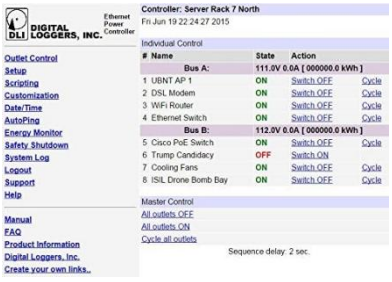
Home Built LED Light Panel *Price $50 (original cost $100)*

This is my fifth attempt at building a Light Panel to automate taking calibration bias and per-filter flat images. This one actually works pretty well. It is built around a 2 foot by 2 foot industrial LED lighting panel intended for ceilings of office buildings (like fluorescent light fixtures). The intensity of the light can be controlled by a resistor (a dimmer switch). The small pink box contains an Arduino and digital resistors (included). The Arduino connects to the computer via USB**.** The panel is mounted on a table fixture allowing adjustment in 3 axes to get it perpendicular to the OTA. This is important - the OTA needs to be perpendicular to the light panel, or you get off center frames. In a small dome you can't just hang the panel on the wall and be positioned appropriately relative to the telescope. The LED panel is very bright even at low settings. Two translucent 1/4" acryllic panels slide into the frame to dim it further. One or both panels can be removed as needed. I wrote a (VB.NET) software utility to determine the correct resistor setting and exposure for each filter (LRGB and narrowband) with about a 3 second camera exposure. Once these settings are determined they are re-used for each calibration run. Since I run ACP, these settings are easy to put into the ACP calibration script. The closed dome is dark enough that frames can be shot during the day, even on Arizona-bright days. I wrote a script to run calibrations during the day rather than waste darkness hours. Depending on the night's target, I typically run 25 bias and 25 of each filter needed for the night. I might need both 1x1 and 2x2 binning, so potentially I need 1600 frames although typically a few hundred. This takes 30-60 minutes. A PixInsight script assembles the individual frames into master frames for use that evening.

LEDLightTable *Price $10 (original cost $150)*

I originally bought this for one of my earlier attempts for a light panel for exposing calibration images (like the Light Panel above). It didn't work - it is too bright and not controllable from the computer. In addition, it runs the screen by scanning down the LEDs by row, so an exposure shows the panel partially lit depending on where you caught the scanning process.
It is intended to be used as a children's toy, and to do tracing work.
Includes power cable.

DLI Internet Power Controller *Price $150 (original cost $500)*



OK, you need one of these. This lets you power up/down equipment from *ANYWHERE* on the Internet.
There are 16 switchable standard outlets in the back of the unit, 8 banks of 2 outlets (second image). Each bank is switchable; for example, perhaps you have a camera and its focuser plugged into one bank. A single command will turn on both devices.
The unit has an ethernet port in front which attaches to your local network (first image). It also has switches to manually control each bank of outlets.

From a browser you access the device by its IP address (i.e., 192.168.2.100). You get the screen in the third image (there are several screens to configure the device). Now you can access all of the devices through the network. For example, I can be in Los Angeles and power everything up for the night. When I am running from the house it is easier to turn things on and off rather than running out to the observatory.

There are more “miscellaneous” items for sale, you can find them on my website.

Copy and paste this link into your web browser:

For Sale (brewsky.space)

eridanibrew@gmail.com Robert Brewington

Such-A- Deal

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mailto:rrotramel601@gmail.com

Telescope Equipment For Sale

** Ads on this page were submitted through the SAC Website*

Meade 8" LS8-8ACF

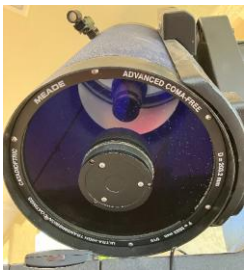
- ACF (Advance Coma Free) optics with UHTC coatings (Ultra High Transmission Coatings)
- LightSwitch Technology: Once the scope is turned on, it permits the scope to automatically level itself and find north (Meade calls this Level/North Technology), then with the use of its internal ECLIPSE CCD camera and on board GPS, alight itself to the night sky without any user intervention. The steps are simple, flip the switch. Once the scope is turned on, you're greeted by the "Astronomer Inside". The "Astronomer Inside" gives you a brief introduction to the LS 8, and informs you of each and every step of the way during the alignment process.
- Eyepieces: Meade 8.8mm and 24mm UWA Series 5000, 82° apparent field of view
- Tele Vue Qwik Point Finderscope
- Tripod
- 602 736-9221
- I'm near 7th St. and Thunderbird. Buyers pick up.
- ***$ Best Offer $***

Email Contact – Click Link Below:

mailto:lorraine.drobny@cox.net

Lorraine Drobny

602 736-9221



Orion 80mm ED Refractor with case

- Orion 80mm, f/7. 5, F.L. 600mm Telescope
- With hard case
- **$ Best Offer $**

Lorraine Drobny, 602 736-9221 lorraine.drobny@cox.net

Celestron Focus Motor, Meade Imager, Eyepieces & Misc. Attachments

- Focus Motor for SCT and EdgeHD Telescopes Sold!
- Several Eyepieces and Misc. attachments Sold!
- Meade Flip Mirror System, Model 644 Sold!
- Meade Deep Sky Imager, Mono CCD Camera
- **$ Best Offer $**
- Lorraine Drobny , 602 736-9221

lorraine.drobny@cox.net

Such-A- Deal

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mailto:rrotramel601@gmail.com

Telescope For Sale:

Vintage Unitron 60mm f15 Telescope

- OTA with four eyepieces, rotating eyepiece mount, barlow, finderscope and wooden carrying case.
- WITH tripod.
- "I think it is the 114 model from the late 1950's or early 1960's with the original box..."
- Paul Jorgenson, KE7HR
- Email Contact: ke7hr@cox.net
- **Asking $250.00**

Celestron C-14 on a Losmandy G11GT Mount

- It is in excellent working condition with very good optics. The Gemini ll was recently upgraded to the latest firmware by Losmandy.
- The OTA is on a Losmandy dove tail and it comes with the heavy duty folding tripod.
- It sadly sits in my garage more than under the stars.
- I know the GC Star party is coming up. Since I live in Mesquite, NV, I can bring it to the North Rim if there is someone interested in purchasing it. They can inspect both the mount and optics with no pressure to purchase.

- I am **asking $6000**
- Thank you for reading this,
- Vince Clements
- (209) 224-1894
- teachu2ride@gmail.com

Bits and Pisces

SAC Holiday Party, December 13, 2025

Report & Photo by SAC President Tom Curry

If you weren't there, you missed a fun evening of food, conversation and white elephant exchanges.

The annual SAC holiday party was Saturday evening at 5 p.m. at the club house. Special thanks to Steve and Pam Rottas who did the heavy lifting to make sure it all went well, as well as the other wives who helped organize the food and tables. 14 people attended and after filling up on the variety of potluck foods, including Steve's smoked pulled pork, the white elephant exchange occurred with a few "steals" by participants. Sitting around a conference room-style set up of tables made conversation by the group easy and enjoyable. We even discussed some club business, but that will be repeated at the January 9th meeting, no doubt.

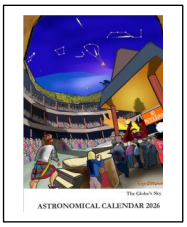
Conversations continued until after 8 p.m. when we cleaned up and left. Outside, discussions between some attendees regarding the potential to see the Geminid meteor shower occurred on the sidewalk.

And, surprisingly, even with some high thin clouds, at least two nice meteors were spotted to the northeast!

So, if you missed the event, I feel sorry for you, but hope you were doing something enjoyable. See you in January at the first of the 2026 meetings, and looking to the end of 2026, maybe we will see you at the next holiday party.

SAC Observing

Astronomical Calendar 2026



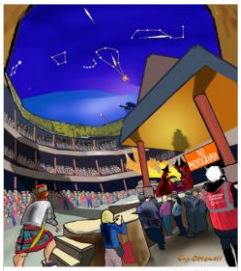
2026 JANUARY

1041.5	Jan	1	Thu		Gregorian calendar Jan 1 = Julian calendar 2025 Dec 19
1042.402	Jan	1	Thu	21:39	Moon at perigee; distance 56.50 Earth-radii
1043.229	Jan	2	Fri	18	Moon 3.8° N of M35 cluster; 169° and 170° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -12.6 and 5.3
1043.919	Jan	3	SAT	10:03	Full Moon
1044.042	Jan	3	SAT	13	Quadrantid meteors; ZHR 80; near Full Moon
1044.242	Jan	3	SAT	18	Earth at perihelion; 0.9833 AU from the Sun
1044.438	Jan	3	SAT	23	Moon 6.2° S of Castor; 172° and 168° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -12.7 and 1.5
1044.5	Jan	4	SUN	0	Moon 3.6° NNE of Jupiter; 171° and 173° from Sun in morning midnight sky; magnitudes -12.6 and -2.7
1044.646	Jan	4	SUN	4	Moon 2.99° S of Pollux; 169° and 168° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -12.6 and 1.2
1044.807	Jan	4	SUN		Latest sunrise, at latitude 40° north
1045.646	Jan	5	Mon	4	Moon 1.52° NE of Beehive Cluster; 156° and 157° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -12.2 and 3.7
1046.961	Jan	6	Tue	11	Mercury at aphelion; 0.4667 AU from the Sun
1047.166	Jan	6	Tue	16	Venus at superior conjunction with the Sun; 1.711 AU from Earth; latitude -1.67°
1047.250	Jan	6	Tue	18	Moon 0.56° ENE of Regulus; 136° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -11.6 and 1.4
1047.381	Jan	6	Tue	21	Mercury at southernmost declination, -24.38°
1047.975	Jan	7	Wed	11:24	Moon at descending node; longitude 160.3°
1048.646	Jan	8	Thu	4	Venus 0.17° N of Mars; 1° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -3.9 and 1.2
1050.007	Jan	9	Fri	12	Mars at conjunction with the Sun; 2.403 AU from Earth; latitude -1.59°
1050.855	Jan	10	SAT	9	Jupiter at opposition in longitude; magnitude -2.7; declination 22.2°
1051.158	Jan	10	SAT	15:48	Last quarter Moon
1051.479	Jan	10	SAT	24	Moon 1.51° SSW of Spica; 86° and 87° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -9.9 and 1.0
1051.538	Jan	11	SUN	1	Mars and Jupiter at heliocentric opposition; longitudes 290.2° and 110.2°
1054.369	Jan	13	Tue	21	Moon at apogee; distance 63.57 Earth-radii
1054.5	Jan	14	Wed		Julian calendar 2026 Jan 1
1055.354	Jan	14	Wed	21	Moon 0.59° SE of Antares; 45° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -7.8 and 1.0
1058.792	Jan	18	SUN	7	Mercury 0.96° S of Mars; 3° and 2° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -1.2 and 1.2
1058.875	Jan	18	SUN	9	Mercury, Venus, and Mars within circle of diameter 5.00°; only about 1° from the Sun; magnitudes -1, -4, 1

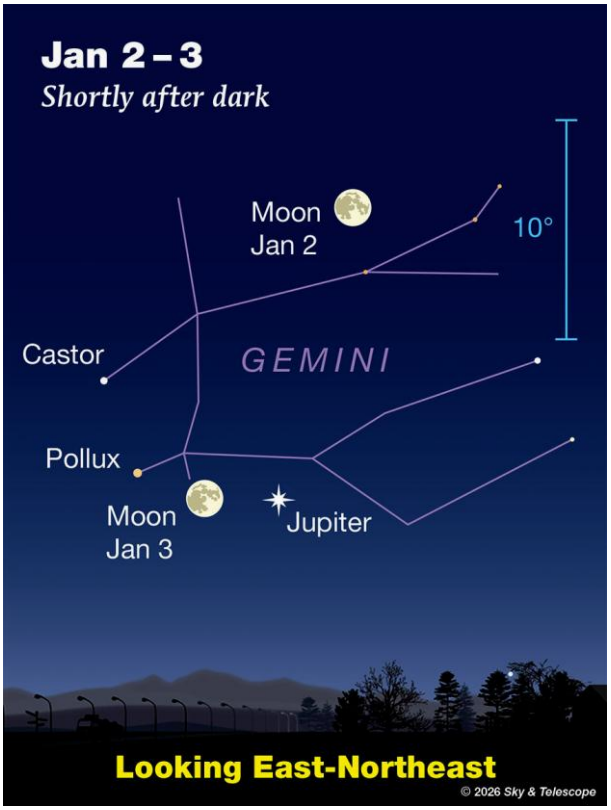
Continued next page…

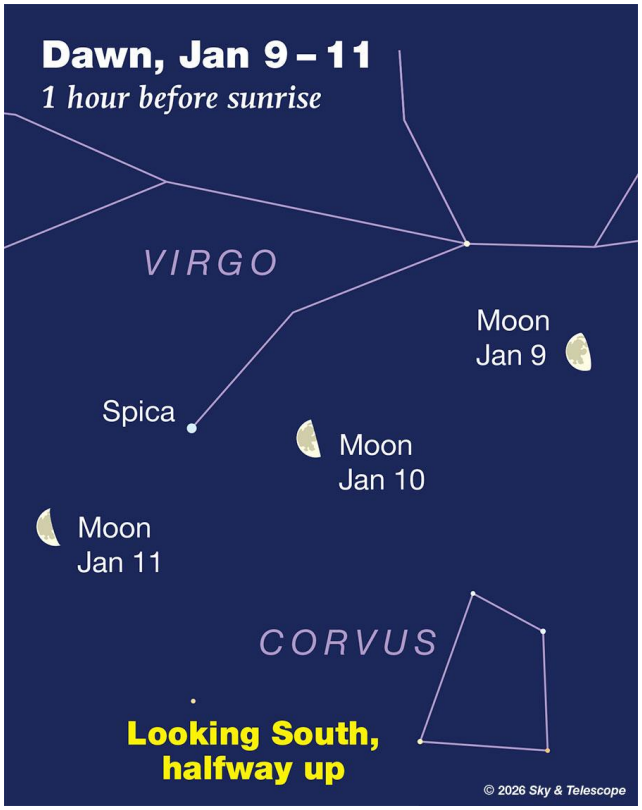
SAC Observing

1059.142	Jan	18	SUN	15	Moon, Mercury, and Mars within circle of diameter 2.54°; only about 3° from the Sun; magnitudes -4, -1, 1
1059.167	Jan	18	SUN	16	Moon 2.54° SE of Mars; 4° and 2° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -4.3 and 1.2
1059.188	Jan	18	SUN	17	Moon 1.55° SE of Mercury; 4° and 3° from Sun in morning sky; magnitudes -4.3 and -1.2
1059.258	Jan	18	SUN	18	Moon, Venus, and Mars within circle of diameter 5.15°; only about 1° from the Sun; magnitudes -4, -4, 1
1059.328	Jan	18	SUN	19:52	New Moon; beginning of lunation 1275
1059.542	Jan	19	Mon	1	Moon, Mercury, and Venus within circle of diameter 4.74°; only about 2° from the Sun; magnitudes -4, -1, -4
1059.625	Jan	19	Mon	3	Moon 2.06° SE of Venus; 5° and 3° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -4.4 and -3.9
1060.388	Jan	19	Mon	21	Sun enters Capricornus, at longitude 299.81° on the ecliptic
1060.573	Jan	20	Tue	2	Sun enters the astrological sign Aquarius, i.e. its longitude is 300°
1062.148	Jan	21	Wed	16	Mercury at superior conjunction with the Sun; 1.417 AU from Earth; latitude -6.70°
1062.503	Jan	22	Thu	0:04	Moon at ascending node; longitude 339.3°
1063.292	Jan	22	Thu	19	Venus at aphelion; 0.7282 AU from the Sun
1063.576	Jan	23	Fri	2	Pluto at conjunction with the Sun; 36.419 AU from Earth; latitude -3.89°
1063.896	Jan	23	Fri	10	Moon 3.8° NNW of Saturn; 54° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -8.5 and 1.1
1063.900	Jan	23	Fri	10	Moon, Saturn, and Neptune within circle of diameter 3.93°; about 55° from the Sun in the evening sky; magnitudes -9, 1, 8
1064.063	Jan	23	Fri	14	Moon 3.2° NNW of Neptune; 56° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -8.6 and 7.9
1066.699	Jan	26	Mon	4:47	First quarter Moon
1067.214	Jan	26	Mon	17	Mercury at southernmost latitude from the ecliptic plane, -7.0°
1068.208	Jan	27	Tue	17	Moon 5.3° NNW of Uranus; 110° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -10.9 and 5.7
1068.242	Jan	27	Tue	18	Moon, Uranus, and the Pleiades within circle of diameter 5.40°; about 111° from the Sun in the evening sky; magnitudes -11, 6, 3
1068.417	Jan	27	Tue	22	Moon 1.12° N of Pleiades; 113° and 112° from Sun in evening sky
1070.104	Jan	29	Thu	15	Mercury 0.68° SE of Venus; 6° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -1.2 and -3.9
1070.407	Jan	29	Thu	21:46	Moon at perigee; distance 57.36 Earth-radii
1070.625	Jan	30	Fri	3	Moon 3.9° N of M35 cluster; 142° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -11.9 and 5.3
1071.667	Jan	31	SAT	4	Moon 3.8° NNE of Jupiter; 156° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -12.2 and -2.6
1071.854	Jan	31	SAT	9	Moon 6.2° S of Castor; 159° and 157° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -12.3 and 1.5
1072.063	Jan	31	SAT	14	Moon 2.96° S of Pollux; 162° and 161° from Sun in evening sky; magnitudes -12.4 and 1.2



SAC Sky





https://skyandtelescope.org/observing

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

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2013-2025 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, 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%.

- ☐ $32.00 Individual Membership
- ☐ $36.00 Family Membership

Note: You can now pay with PayPal through the SAC Website. Click Below: PayPal
https://www.saguaroastro.org/join-sacpaypal/

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