



Mt Shasta Star Gazers

Newsletter September 2009

Summary of Monthly Meeting September 2, 2009

About 13 people attended

Refreshments were generously provided by Linda Pierce. Thanks Linda! Francis Mangels brought some fresh peas from his garden. Thanks Francis!

Jim announced that the annual dues for membership would be \$20 per year, \$25 per family. This includes \$5 for membership in the Astronomical League.

League membership includes a subscription to the quarterly club newsletter that will be mailed to each member.

Club membership includes:

- 25% off all Astronomy Books at Language Quest
- Rental of a 5" refracting telescope for \$7.50 per week
- Free assembly of Telescopes purchased from Language Quest (\$20-\$50 savings)
- Rent any pre-assembled Dobsonian telescope for 10% of purchase price per day. If you decide to buy, the entire rental fee applies to your purchase

Support your club by joining today. Membership is from October to October, prorated quarterly. All public meetings are always Free and open to everyone! Bring guests if you like.

Russ Adamson gave an excellent talk entitled: "Activities to help you grow in Astronomy." He had some great suggestions on projects that are both enjoyable and educational. Have you chosen any activities yet? Why not get started on a project now while the weather is still comfortable and the skies reliably clear?

Next month's talk is entitled: *Globular Clusters - Diamonds in the Sky*. Jim will discuss what globular clusters are, what they are made of, and where they are located.


Also: Five great objects to observe in October.

September Star Party

The September Star Party is scheduled for Friday, September 18th at the "Old Nordic Center" approximately one mile below the Castle Lake parking lot. Please arrive while it is still light. Bring a red flashlight for use at the site. You can make one by covering the lens of a regular flashlight with red fabric, red cellophane or red tail-light repair tape. White light is a big NO NO! Bring warm clothes - the evenings are cooling off fast. Always ask before looking through a telescope that doesn't belong to you!

New Paid Club Members

Alan Eddy
Erik Fidman
Jim Havlice
John Roshek



In January 1610, Galileo observed four very bright objects close to Jupiter. We now know them as the "Galilean" moons - Io, Europa, Ganymede & Callisto

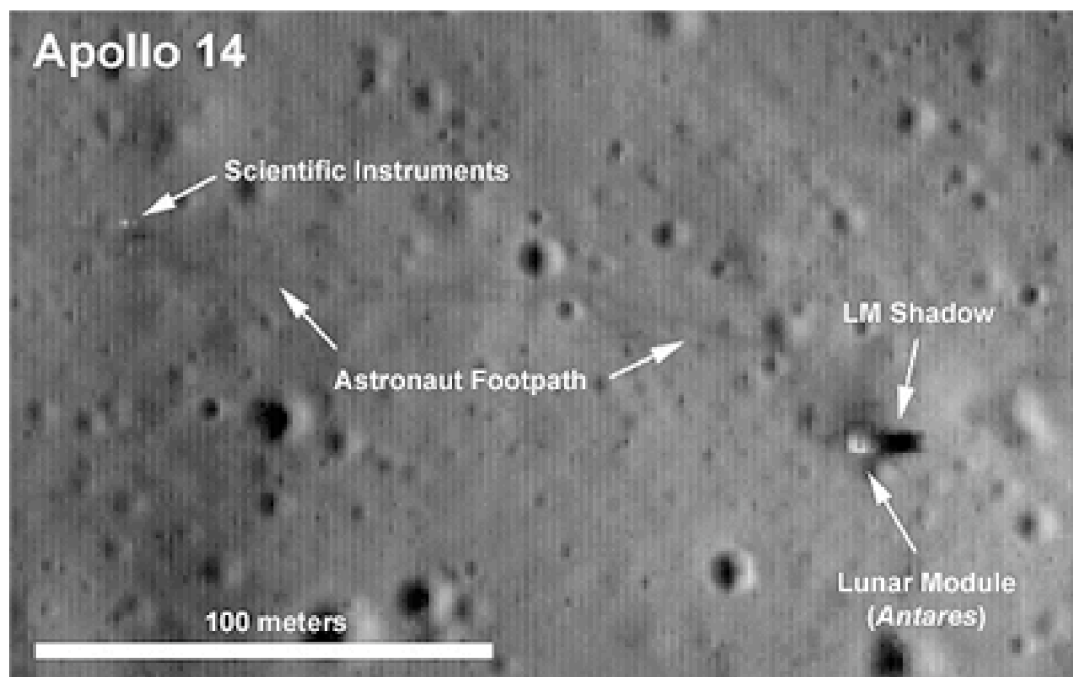
NASA Shows Images of Apollo 14 Moon Landing Site

NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, or LRO, has returned its first imagery of the Apollo moon landing sites. The pictures show the Apollo missions' lunar module descent stages sitting on the moon's surface, as long shadows from a low sun angle make the modules' locations evident.

The Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Camera, or LROC, was able to image five of the six Apollo sites, with the remaining Apollo 12 site expected to be photographed in the coming weeks.

The image of the Apollo 14 landing site had a particularly desirable lighting condition that

allowed visibility of additional details. The Apollo Lunar Surface Experiment Package, a set of scientific instruments placed by the astronauts at the landing site, is discernable, as are the faint trails between the module and instrument package left by the astronauts' footprints. (from the NASA.gov website)



Under the Stars



Russ and his "crew" setting up his 12" Dobsonian

■ The August star party was a grand success with about 20 people attending. The event was both fun and educational with Alan Eddy mapping the constellations with his green laser pointer. There were several telescopes and binoculars available for viewing. We saw all the grand sights of the night sky - globular clusters, double stars, open clusters, and, of course, Jupiter and its 4 Moons. We even saw Uranus!

Mt Shasta Stargazers Newsletter
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