



Monthly Notices of the Everglades Astronomical Society



Naples, FL
May 2020

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President's Message

Hard to believe that it has been over a month since we have been finding other ways to practice astronomy. Whether you've been organizing your homes, catching up on your reading, or spending quality time with your families, I'm hoping that you've been healthy and sane.

Sending out the EAS Communication e-mail blasts has been a lot of fun for me. The reports and photos always amaze me. The level of talent in our group is second to none. As long as I keep getting your reports, I'll keep sending them to everyone.

In my last President's letter, I suggested that with the extra time you may have, you may have a topic that you'd like to put together as a presentation for next year's program. As of yet, no one has responded to my challenge.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Clear skies, Denise

Dates for Observing

Usually the best times to observe are moonless nights. Below is a list of upcoming Saturday nights that you may wish to enjoy the night sky from home until things get back to normal.

Date	Moonrise	Moonset
May 16	3:23 a.m.	3:05 pm.
May 23	7:19 a.m.	9:14 p.m.

Sky Events

- May 7 - Full Moon
- May 14 - Last Quarter
- May 22 - New Moon
- May 29 - First Quarter

Next Meeting – May Meeting CANCELLED

A FEW WORDS FROM TED WOLFE

My scope down in the Atacama Desert is shown in this photo taken down there in late April. It's hard to explain how clear the skies are at the site but this helps.



The beautiful night sky and Ted Wolfe's telescope in the Atacama Desert in Chile.

I was recruited by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) to participate in a project this past month (worked out well) because all the large observatories in Chile are down due to the virus.

FABULOUS PHOTOS BY EAS MEMBERS



Photo by Eric Uthus of NGC 5044, NGC 5054 and other smaller surrounding galaxies.



Photo by Vic Farris of M8 on 4.28.20.



Photo of the Moon by Chuck Pavlick. May 2020.

ANOTHER COMET GRACING OUR SKIES (Comet SWAN) By Jackie Richards

Most of you know that Comet ATLAS (C/2019Y4) fell apart last month. The good news is that there is yet another comet, Comet SWAN (C/2020F8) which was discovered in March in images taken by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory's Solar Wind Anisotropies (SWAN) camera on 3/25/20.

Comet SWAN is currently located in Pisces, heading toward Triangulum and on May 21 it will be at its peak magnitude of 2.8 in Perseus near the star, Algol. Comet SWAN can be seen during the hours before sunrise and will be very low in the eastern sky. Good luck to anyone trying to find it.

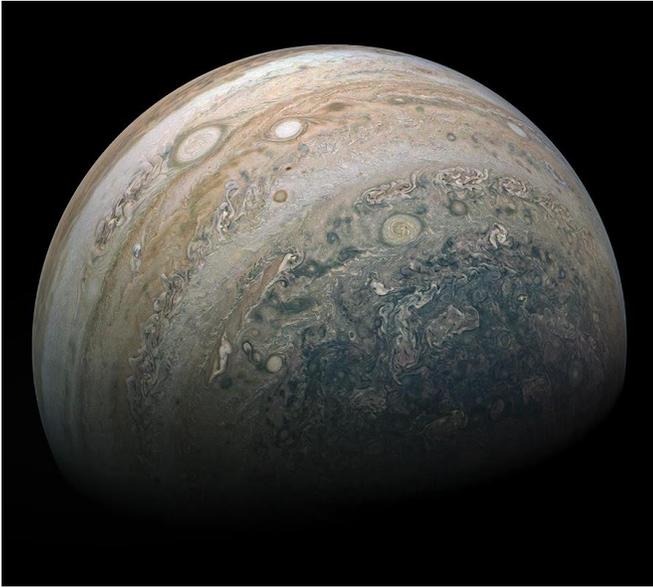
If you're out looking for the comet that early in the morning, you may want to also look for Saturn and Jupiter which begin to rise around 2:00 a.m.

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Become a Citizen Scientist with NASA! By David Prosper

Ever want to mix in some science with your stargazing, but not sure where to start? NASA hosts a galaxy of citizen science programs that you can join! You'll find programs perfect for dedicated astronomers and novices alike, from reporting aurora, creating amazing images from real NASA data, searching for asteroids, and scouring data from NASA missions from the comfort of your home. If you can't get to your favorite stargazing spot, then NASA's suite of citizen science programs may be just the thing for you.

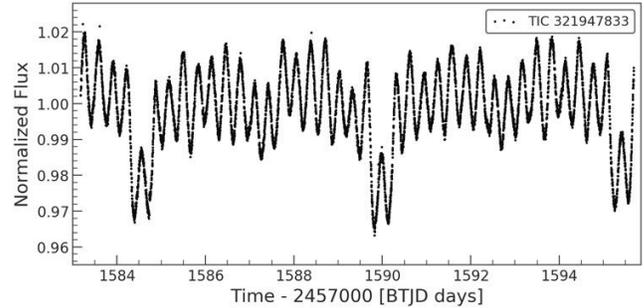


GREAT SOUTHERN JUPITER: Incredible image of Jupiter, submitted to the JunoCam site by Kevin M. Gill. Full Credits : NASA/JPL-Caltech/SwRI/MSSS/Kevin M. Gill

Jupiter shines brightly in the morning sky this spring. If you'd rather catch up on sleep, or if your local weather isn't cooperating, all you need is a space telescope - preferably one in orbit around Jupiter! Download raw images straight from the Juno mission, and even process and submit your favorites, on the **JunoCam** website! You may have seen some incredible images from Juno in the news, but did you know that these images were created by enthusiasts like yourself? Go to their website and download some sample images to start your image processing journey. Who knows where it will take you? Get started at bit.ly/nasajunocam

Interested in hunting for asteroids? Want to collaborate with a team to find them?? The **International Astronomical Search Collaboration** program matches potential asteroid hunters together into teams throughout the year to help each other dig into astronomical data in order to spot dim objects moving in between photos. If your team discovers a potential asteroid that is later confirmed, you may even get a chance to name it! Join or build a team and search for asteroids at iasc.cosmosearch.org

Want to help discover planets around other star systems? NASA's TESS mission is orbiting the Earth right now and scanning the sky for planets around other stars. It's accumulating a giant horde of data, and NASA scientists need your help to sift through it all to find other worlds! You can join **Planet Hunters TESS** at: planethunters.org



Light curve of a binary star system containing a pulsating (variable) star, as spotted on Planet Hunters TESS by user mhuten and featured by project scientist Nora Eisner as a "Light Curve of the Week." Credit: Planet Hunters TESS/NASA/mhuten/Nora Eisner

Intrigued by these opportunities? These are just a few of the many ways to participate in NASA citizen science, including observing your local environment with the GLOBE program, reporting aurora with Aurorasaurus, measuring snowpack levels, training software for Mars missions – even counting penguins! Discover more opportunities at science.nasa.gov/citizenscience and join the NASA citizen science Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/Sciencing/. And of course, visit nasa.gov to find the latest discoveries from all the research teams at NASA!

EAS 2020 DUES

For the bargain price of only \$20.00 per family, all this can be yours this year:

- Meet with your fellow astronomy enthusiasts at least 10 times a year;
- Learn about astronomy and telescopes. Check out our club scope;
- Many opportunities to view planets, nebulae and other celestial objects (even if you don't have your own telescope); and
- Enjoy the many astronomy programs at our regular monthly meetings.

Don't miss out! Fill out this form (please print clearly) and send it with your \$20 check to the Everglades Astronomical Society, P. O. Box 1451, Marco Island, Florida, 34146.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____