



Monthly Notices of the Everglades Astronomical Society



Naples, FL
October 2017

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President's Message

My sincere wish is that everyone made it through Irma with little or no damage. When I canceled the September meeting, it was merely precautionary. I had no idea what was ahead. Now that the storm has past, we are still dealing with the ramifications. The Norris Center suffered much damage and is still not open to the public. Because it will not be ready for our October meeting, we have arranged to meet at the Fleischmann Park facility. The address is 1600 Fleischmann Blvd., Naples. This park is just south of the Coastland Mall, on the corner of Goodlette-Frank. We have been told there is plenty of parking.

I will be giving the presentation for the meeting. As this summer has been topsy-turvy for me, my presentation is not my "normal" topic. If anyone has anything to share (other than the eclipse, that will be in January), bring it along. Flexibility will be very much practiced for this meeting.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Clear skies, Denise Sabatini

Dates for the "Fak"

Usually the best times to go out to the Fakahatchee Strand viewing site are moonless nights. Below is a list of upcoming Saturday nights that you will often find fellow club members out there enjoying the skies with you (weather permitting).

Date	Moonrise	Moonset
Oct. 14	1:27 a.m.	2:58 p.m.
Oct. 21	8:01 a.m.	7:29 p.m.

Sky Events

- October 5 - Full Moon
- October 7 - Draconid Meteor Shower

- October 12 - Last Quarter
- October 19 - New Moon
- October 21/22 - Orionid Meteor Shower
- October 24 - Jupiter Transit (Callisto)
- October 27 - First Quarter
- October 28 - Jupiter Transit (Io)

Next Meeting

October 10, 2017: Time 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Fleischmann Park, 1600 Fleischmann Blvd., Naples
(Just south of the Coastland Mall on corner of Goodlette)

HURRICANE IRMA GAVE ME THE MILKY WAY

By Jackie Richards

The night after Hurricane Irma hit Naples, Florida, I couldn't sleep as I thought about what had just happened to all of us, what we had all been through and how lucky we all were to have survived the storm. After I tossed and turned for about two hours, I realized I wasn't getting to sleep any time soon, so I decided to go outside. As I quietly walked by everyone sleeping in the living room (the only room in the house with



Photo of the Milky Way by Jackie Richards in Golden Gate Estates on 9/12/17. Canon Rebel T2i, 55 mm lens, 15 seconds, ISO 3200.

air conditioning thanks to our generator), I walked outside my door and the sky was alive. Due to everyone losing power, every star was visible and the summer Milky Way just popped out. It was amazingly beautiful after looking at all the destruction in our area. I decided I would bring my camera outside to take pictures but remembered that everyone was sleeping in the living room and I didn't want to disturb anyone so I decided to wait till the next night. Two hours later, still not asleep. I went outside again and the moon was up. Although I could no longer see the Milky Way, the moon had all of its natural beauty and it, too, soothed me.

Then the next night, Tuesday, I was all prepared with my camera knowing that we would have another crystal clear, dark night ahead. The Milky Way was again blazing as predicted. And due to the loss of many, many trees and the remaining bare trees, I was able to see the Milky Way almost from horizon to horizon. I took several shots of the Milky Way with a very simple setup (Canon Rebel T2i, 55 mm lens, ISO 6400, 15 seconds). Not the greatest pictures, but the Milky Way was still beautiful nonetheless and I could see it right over my house. I was thrilled.

I wasn't the only one who was out taking pictures of the Milky Way during the power outage. Todd Strackbein took the below photo of the Milky Way over his house also in Golden Gate Estates. Several other club members were able to enjoy the Milky Way during the power outage. If you were in Naples during the power outage, I hope you saw it too.

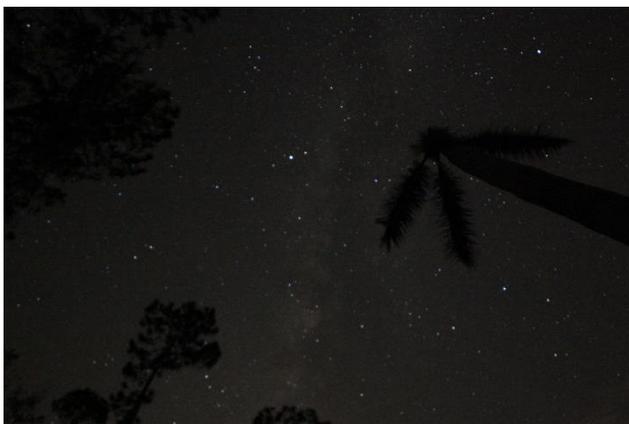


Photo of the Milky Way by Todd Strackbein taken in his yard on 10/12/17 (2 nights after Hurricane Irma) during power outage. Canon 60D, 30 Sec, Exposure, ISO 1,000.

It's funny that during the week-long preparation for Hurricane Irma, knowing that everyone would lose power, I thought about going outside to check out the sky but had forgotten after the storm. So I was glad I couldn't sleep and got to see our amazingly beautiful Milky Way right over my house. That's the only thing that I am thankful that Hurricane Irma gave to me.

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Published Articles by EAS Members

Ted Wolfe's article in the Naples News/Collier Citizen on October 3, 2017: Looking Up: The 'Spanish Dancer' spiraling through the heavens to its own beat.



Photo by Ted Wolfe of NGC 1566 "The Spanish Dancer."

<http://www.naplesnews.com/story/news/local/communities/collier-citizen/2017/10/03/looking-up-spanish-dancer-spiraling-through-heavens-its-own-beat/728298001/>

TO VIEW THE ABOVE ARTICLE, PRESS "CTRL" AND LEFT CLICK BUTTON.

The below link provides previous articles in the Collier Citizen by Ted Wolfe that appeared over past years.
<http://www.naplesnews.com/search/Ted%20Wolfe/>

To view all of Ted Wolfe's photos, visit his website @ www.tedwolfe.com.

2018 WSP WILL NOT BE HELD IN THE KEYS DUE TO CURRENT CONDITION

By Todd Strackbein

There is no chance that the 2018 Winter Star Party (WSP) will be held in the Keys due to damage sustained by Hurricane Irma. The Southern Cross Astronomical Society (SCAS) is looking at Chiefland as the best option. Chiefland does lack fixed restroom facilities/showers and ability to host RVs. They are working on some options nearby to help support RVs and on how to solve lack of showers and toilets. Other locations have also been discussed. A decision and an announcement should come soon.



Aerial view of the current condition of the WSP site in the Keys. Photo by NOAA. Contributed by Todd Strackbein.

Lots of sand washed up on shore.

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Photo by Chuck Pavlick of M101 (the Pinwheel Galaxy). Celestron Edge 9.25 f/10; Starlight Xpress SX 25c; 10 @ 480 secs.; captured in Nebulosity; processed in Pixinsight & Photoshop.

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Photo by Ted Wolfe (equipment in Chile) of The Ink Spot Nebula and open cluster NGC 6520 in Sagittarius.



The Sun by Chuck Pavlick 8/18/17.

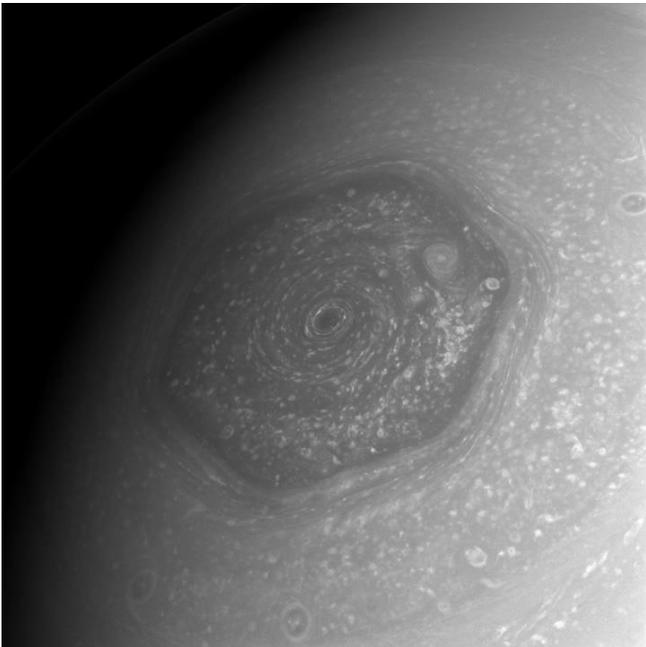


Cassini Says Goodbye By Teagan Wall

On September 15th, the Cassini spacecraft will have its final mission. It will dive into the planet Saturn, gathering information and sending it back to Earth for as long as possible. As it dives, it will burn up in the atmosphere, much like a meteor. Cassini's original mission was supposed to last four years, but it has now been orbiting Saturn for more than 13 years!

The spacecraft has seen and discovered so many things in that time. In 2010, Cassini saw a massive storm in Saturn's northern hemisphere. During this storm, scientists learned that Saturn's atmosphere has water vapor, which rose to the surface. Cassini also looked at the giant storm at Saturn's north pole. This storm is shaped like a hexagon. NASA used pictures and other data from Cassini to learn how the storm got its six-sided shape.

Cassini also looked at some of Saturn's moons, such as Titan and Enceladus. Titan is Saturn's largest moon. Cassini carried a lander to Titan. The lander, called Huygens, parachuted from Cassini down to the surface of the moon. It turns out, Titan is quite an exciting place! It has seas, rivers, lakes and rain. This means that in some ways, Titan's landscape looks a bit like Earth. However, its seas and rivers aren't made of water—they're made of a chemical called methane.



Caption: This image of the hexagonal storm on Saturn's north pole was taken by Cassini in 2013. Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/Space Science Institute

Cassini also helped us learn that Saturn's moon Enceladus is covered in ice. Underneath the ice is a giant liquid ocean that covers the whole moon. Tall geysers from this ocean spray out of cracks in the ice and into space, like a giant sneeze. Cassini flew through one of these geysers. We learned that the ocean is made of very salty water, along with some of the chemicals that living things need.

If there is life on Enceladus, NASA scientists don't want life from Earth getting mixed in. Tiny living things may have hitched a ride on Cassini when it left Earth. If these germs are still alive, and they land on Enceladus, they could grow and spread. We want to protect Enceladus, so that if we find life, we can be sure it didn't come from Earth. This idea is called planetary protection.

Scientists worry that when Cassini runs out of fuel, it could crash into Titan or Enceladus. So years ago, they came up with a plan to prevent that from happening. Cassini will complete its exploration by diving into Saturn—on purpose. The spacecraft will burn up and become part of the planet it explored. During its final plunge, Cassini will tell us more about Saturn's atmosphere, and protect the moons at the same time. What an exciting way to say goodbye!

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EAS 2018 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.

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