



Monthly Notices of the Everglades Astronomical Society



Naples, FL
September 2019

Officers: President: Denise Sabatini **Treasurer:** Victor Farris

Newsletter Editor: Jackie Richards

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1451, Marco Island, FL 34146

Observing Coordinator & information on viewing: Mike Usher

Home Page: <http://naples.net/~nfn19284/eas/> **Webmaster:** Mike Usher

President's Message

Our August meeting at Zoes Kitchen worked out very well. There was also a great attendance for the summer. I always love the summer meetings because I get to talk to everyone about whatever I want. If you know me, you know that I can talk about anything for as long as you'll let me.

It is hard to believe that summer almost is over. Years ago when I lived up north, I dreaded the phrase, "winter's coming." Now I love it. This is not only because of clearer skies, but people are coming back and our regular programming is starting up at the Norris Center. This month, Chris Pritchard will be giving a presentation on Mars. This is also a reminder that the Charles Paul Astronomical Award will be awarded at this meeting.

Jackie has requested that our club seriously start thinking about doing a Messier Marathon in the spring. I know this may sound like a long way out, but I think we all know it will take a bit of planning. Right now, I want to plant the idea in your head. If you have never heard of a Messier Marathon, it is an opportunity that comes around the Vernal Equinox. It starts just after sunset and lasts all night. The goal is to observe as many Messier objects in one night as possible. There will be more information provided at the meeting.

Denise

Dates for Observing

Usually the best times to observe are moonless nights. Below is a list of upcoming Saturday nights that you will likely find fellow club members out there enjoying the skies with you (weather permitting). We will let you know the new location.

Date	Moonrise	Moonset
Sept. 21	12:38 a.m.	1:44 p.m.
Sept. 28	7:02 a.m.	7:38 p.m.

Sky Events

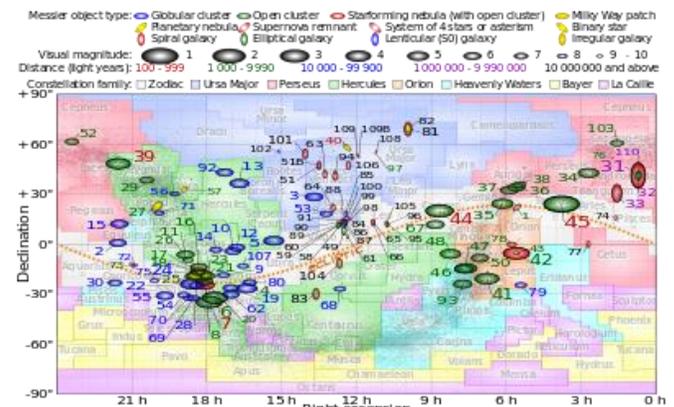
Sept. 5 - First Quarter
Sept. 13 - Full Moon
Sept. 21 - Last Quarter
Sept. 28 - New Moon

Next Meeting

September 10, 2019: Time 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Norris Center, Naples

Messier Marathon By Jackie Richards

As Denise mentioned in the President's Message, I have been gathering information on doing a Messier Marathon for our club. A Messier Marathon usually takes place during a short, three-week period (from mid-March to early April) during which an observer should be able to see all Messier objects in one night. However, it can be broken down into two or three nights. Then, the best nights are, of course, during the new



This is a map of all of the Messier objects. Since I know no one can read this, larger copies will be provided at the meeting. This is just to give you an idea of what the sky map of Messier objects looks like.

PHOTOS BY EAS MEMBERS

moon. I'd like to attempt to see all objects in one night. The Marathon would begin right after sundown and ends just before sunup. We would begin observing objects low in the western sky. We can do this. 😊

The Messier catalog consists of 110 fairly bright deep-sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae and star clusters. According to Wikipedia, a Messier Marathon is best observed from a low northern latitude (around 25 degrees north). That's perfect for Naples as we are at 26. Woo hoo!

The new moon in March 2020 will be on March 24th so the weekend before and after that date are the best times to attempt a Messier Marathon during one of our usual observing nights.

I have printed some material which will be available at the next meeting.

Article on EAS Member, Ted Wolfe published in the Ft. Myers News Press



On August 11, 2019, the Ft. Myers News Press ran a four-page article on Ted Wolfe in the Tropicalia Sunday insert magazine. Photo of the magazine cover is above.

<https://www.news-press.com/story/tech/science/environment/2019/08/10/meet-naples-astrophotographer-who-takes-us-distant-galaxies/1768952001/>

Press "Ctrl" and Left Click on the link to view the article.

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



Saturn by Chuck Pavlick on 8/22/19.

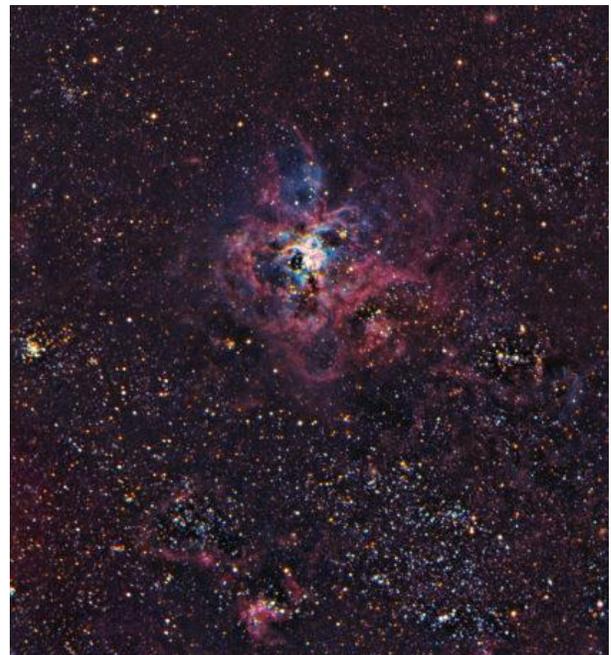
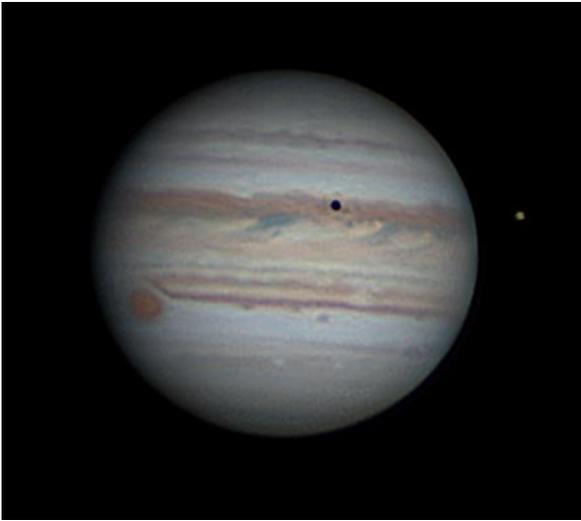


Photo of NGC 2070 by Ted Wolfe taken in Chile.



Image of The Great Red Spot on Jupiter taken by Chuck Pavlick in August 2019.



Jupiter with Io transit in August 2019. Image by Chuck Pavlick.

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NASA Night Sky Notes

Spot the Stars of the Summer Triangle by David Prosper

September skies are a showcase for the **Summer Triangle**, its three stars gleaming directly overhead after sunset. The **equinox** ushers in the official change of seasons on September 23. **Jupiter** and **Saturn** maintain their vigil over the southern horizon, but set earlier each evening, while the terrestrial planets remain hidden.

The bright three points of the **Summer Triangle** are among the first stars you can see after sunset: Deneb, Vega, and Altair. The Summer Triangle is called an **asterism**, as it's not an official constellation, but still a striking group of stars. However, the Triangle is the key to spotting multiple constellations! Its three stars are themselves the brightest in their respective constellations: Deneb, in Cygnus the Swan; Vega, in Lyra the Harp; and Altair, in Aquila the Eagle. That

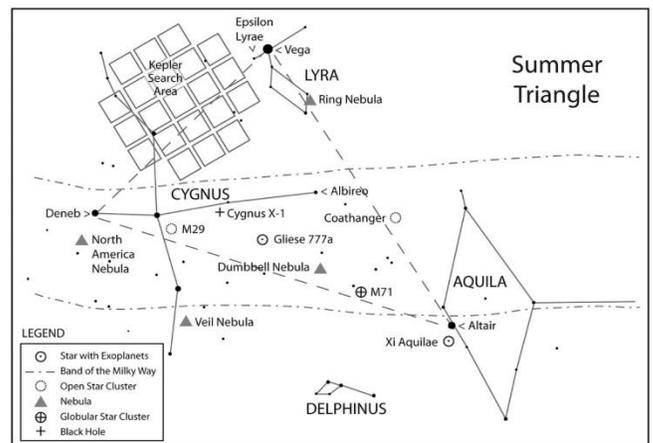
alone would be impressive, but the Summer Triangle also contains two small constellations inside its lines, Vulpecula the Fox and Sagitta the Arrow. There is even another small constellation just outside its borders: diminutive Delphinus the Dolphin. The Summer Triangle is huge!

The **equinox** occurs on September 23, officially ushering in autumn for folks in the Northern Hemisphere and bringing with it longer nights and shorter days, a change many stargazers appreciate. Right before sunrise on the 23rd, look for Deneb - the Summer Triangle's last visible point - flickering right above the western horizon, almost as if saying goodbye to summer.

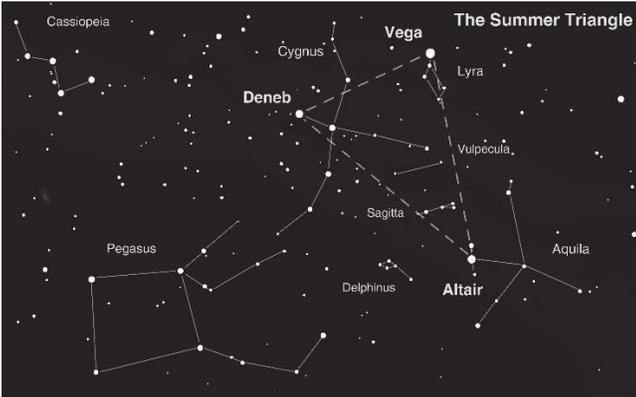
The Summer Triangle region is home to many important astronomical discoveries. Cygnus X-1, the first confirmed black hole, was initially detected here by x-ray equipment on board a sounding rocket launched in 1964. NASA's Kepler Mission, which revolutionized our understanding of exoplanets, discovered thousands of planet candidates within its initial field of view in Cygnus. The Dumbbell Nebula (M27), the first planetary nebula discovered, was spotted by Charles Messier in the diminutive constellation Vulpecula way back in 1764!

Planet watchers can easily find **Jupiter** and **Saturn** shining in the south after sunset, with Jupiter to the right and brighter than Saturn. At the beginning of September, Jupiter sets shortly after midnight, with Saturn following a couple of hours later, around 2:00am. By month's end the gas giant duo are setting noticeably earlier: Jupiter sets right before 10:30pm, with Saturn following just after midnight. Thankfully for planet watchers, earlier fall sunsets help these giant worlds remain in view for a bit longer. The terrestrial planets, Mars, Venus, and Mercury, remain hidden in the Sun's glare for the entire month.

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Once you spot the Summer Triangle, you can explore the cosmic treasures found in this busy region of the Milky Way. Make sure to "Take a Trip Around the Triangle" before it sets this fall! Find the full handout at bit.ly/TriangleTrip



This wider view of the area around the Summer Triangle includes another nearby asterism: the Great Square of Pegasus.

The Night Sky Network program supports astronomy clubs across the USA dedicated to astronomy outreach. Visit nightsky.jpl.nasa.org to find local clubs, events, and more!

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EAS 2019 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: _____

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