

THE OBSERVER



NGC 2623: Merging Galaxies from Hubble
Image Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA

UPCOMING EVENTS:

EVAC Public Star Party - January 10

EVAC Meeting - January 17

EVAC Star Party - January 18

Evac Star Party - January 25

Check out all of the upcoming club events in the Calendars on page 9.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Desk of the President *by Gordon Rosner*

Greetings to all for the new year from your new president.

I first must again thank Janet Evelan and all who helped her to make our annual club Holiday Party another success. The food was stellar, the drinks were cosmic, decorations of shining magnitudes, and the party goers were an open cluster of stars resulting in a big bang of a party.

WOW... What a great 2019 our club had as Tom Mozdzen lead the club during the year. A recap of all the great work our club's officers and members did was included in last month's newsletter. I certainly have

"big shoes" to fill. Our club is on a sound published policy and financial foundation. So as we "stand on the shoulders of giants" of our club, we should now focus on club growth. Not just growing our membership, but growing our mission statement of "...to further the education of its members and the public in astronomy and related physical sciences...".

A tool for this growth is already in place. The look and organization of our new website, evaonline.org, is now a one-stop-shop for all that is our club. Be sure to receive club email announcements, updates, and activities by subscribing to the

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From the Desk of the President

Continued from page 1

[“EVAC-Announce”](#) FreeLists link near the bottom of our Home page. Thanks again go to Marty Pieczonka and his daughter-in-law Heather, along with the many EVAC members who worked on the content and layout of our new site. Please visit our new site to become familiar with it so you can suggest our site as a resource for those you meet who want to learn more about astronomy.

A major tool for our growth this year will come from inputs from the General Membership. Be it suggestions for club trips, comments for improvements, spreading the word of upcoming astronomy events, lessons learned from past club events, activities of other clubs, or just personal thoughts for club growth, will tap into the vast knowledge, experiences, and desires we all have. One vehicle for that is already in place. That is, the [”General Questions - Contact President”](#) link at the bottom of our web site home page. Click on that and you can create an email message that comes directly to me. I have already received a few thoughtful inputs that are being reviewed. I cannot guarantee that all inputs will be incorporated, but I can certainly guarantee that all will be reviewed and if club mission appropriate, will be considered for the appropriate level of approval for incorporation. If you have an input but you want to remain anonymous, there will be a suggestion box for all at our monthly General Membership Meetings that you can place your anonymous input in.

A major part of our monthly General Membership Meetings are the short member presentations. I encourage anyone to consider doing this. Because our club members consists of the entire astronomy enthusiast spectrum, from professional astrophotographers to the wide-eyed wonder of young guests and new members who never even looked through a telescope, any astronomy related presentation, at any level, is welcome. Especially those targeted at beginners. Our main speakers are highly respected professionals who all started at some time. Let's provide that spark of life-long learning to all our club members and guests via your member presentations.

Our club Vice President schedules our main speakers. However I, your president, schedule member presentations for each meeting. So, please contact me for scheduling your five to ten minute presentation. Our Outreach and Events Coordinator, Ken Milward, has already proved his organizational skills by organizing the well attended

trip to the Mirror Lab in Tucson. The next club trip has been scheduled to the MMT telescope on Mount Hopkins, south of Tucson, on Friday, April 24. Ken's trips are gaining popularity demonstrated by this next trip already being sold out. Ken will provide trip updates during our monthly General Membership Meetings but if interested in attending, listen for any open slots resulting from ticket holder cancelations. We appreciate Ken's outreach role and is a prime example of our club's mission statement. Please consider supporting Ken in his fun and rewarding events.

Congratulations to our GRCO Observatory Manager, Claude Haynes, and all the Assistant Observatory Managers and Operators for reaching a major milestone on December 20th. The observatory welcomed it's 150,000th visitor since opening in October, 2006. What more appropriate than a 6 year old boy, Hudson Jaramillo, visiting the observatory with his family to explore the wonders of the universe with us? Claude will give a short presentation on this momentous event during the January Meeting.



Our January General Membership Meeting speaker will be Rogier Windhorst who will give us an update on the status of the build and intended science for the James Webb Space Telescope, now scheduled to be launched in early 2021.

I'll see you during our next General Membership Meeting on Friday, 17 January, starting at 7:30PM. "Keep your feet on the ground, and keep reaching for the stars!"

Your president,

Gordon Rosner

January EVAC Events

by Ken Milward

The MMT Mount Hopkins telescope tour was sold out at the Christmas party. This is going to be a special tour for the thirty of us that will be attending on April 24, 2020. Visit with and get to know your fellow astronomers that are going. This could be an excellent opportunity to carpool down there. Some of us have discussed getting a hotel room on the south side of Tucson to avoid the morning traffic. The tour starts early and the bus waits for no one. More details will follow as we get closer to the date.

Once again wear your name badges so that you can be entered in the raffle at the monthly meetings. Take an opportunity to introduce yourself to our visitors and people that you don't know at the break. You just might find a new friend out there among us.

I brought a suggestion box to the Christmas party fashioned out of a empty Folders coffee container along with paper and pen. At the end of the party I collected the container only to find it empty. Before I spend any more time and money on a more elaborate box I will have to find something in this one. I find it hard to believe that none of you have any suggestions, recommendations, or requests. What about topics, speakers, places to go, and improvements. This is your club and this is a way to communicate your wishes.

Tonto National Monument will be holding a celebration in honor of their designation as a International Dark Sky Park on January 25 from 6pm-10pm. This is open to the public. If you would like to bring a telescope please contact me to assure adequate set up space.

It is time to give back. I have not seen any new faces at our outreach star parties and have missed seeing some old ones. Please consider attending one of these it can

be a very rewarding experience introducing someone to astronomy.

January Star Parties

1/16/20 CTA Goodman Elementary School,
2600 W. Knox Rd. Chandler 5:00-7:00
Cross Streets: Dobson & Ray
Contact: Pamela Scott

1/21/20 Redbird Elementary School
1020 S. Extension, Mesa 5:30-7:30
Cross Streets: Southern & Country Club
Set Up: Basketball Courts
Contact: Vicki Lescoe

1/23/20 Santan Elementary School
1550 E. Chandler Heights Rd. 6:00-7:30
Cross Streets: McQueen & Chandler Heights
Set up: Basketball Courts (dark area away from grass)
Contact: Danica Schroeder

1/30/20 Carlson Elementary School
5400 S. White Drive, Chandler 5:00-7:30
Cross Streets: Lindsay & Chandler Heights
Set Up: Basketball Courts
Contact: Nicole Bruder

Ken Milward

Outreach Event Coordinator (events@evaonline.org)

To contact me for event questions or to volunteer to support outreach events, please use the "Contact Events Coordinator" link at the bottom of the main page on our web site located at evaonline.org.

FIRST QUARTER MOON ON JANUARY 2 AT 23:45

FULL MOON ON JANUARY 10 AT 14:21

LAST QUARTER MOON ON DECEMBER 17 AT 07:58

NEW MOON ON JANUARY 25 AT 16:42

Find Out What's Happening – Join EVAC-Announce List

If you would like to receive email announcements about EVAC meetings and activities, please join the EVAC–Announce mailing list. Click on the link below to subscribe. Enter your full email address in the box titled User Options and press OK. You will receive a confirmation email. Your privacy is respected by EVAC and we will never sell your email address, or use it for non-club relevant solicitations. This mailing list is designed for communication from EVAC, and does not enable users to respond to the message. If you wish to contact club officers, please use the list on the Contact-Us tab. To subscribe to the EVAC–Announce mail group click: <http://www.freelists.org/list/evac-announce>. To unsubscribe use the same link, enter your email address and select Unsubscribe from the “Choose An Action” list. Another list that may be of interest is AZ-Observering. To subscribe click <http://www.freelists.org/list/az-observing>.

EVAC also has a Facebook Group where members may share ideas, photos, and Astronomy related information. To join: [EVAC Facebook Group](#).

The Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory (GRCO) also has a Facebook Group where members may share ideas, photos, and Astronomy related information. To visit, please click on [Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory - GRCO](#).

Looking for that perfect weekend activity?

Why not resolve to getting involved?

Contact Claude Haynes to join the staff at GRCO

Email: grco@evaconline.org

EVAC Logoed Clothing is Back

We will be taking orders at the January meeting for hats, sweatshirts with hoods, and shirts with pockets. We will have sizing and color samples at the meeting. Please come prepared to prepay and if we have a minimum order quantity of 25, the order will be placed after the meeting.

Sizes, Colors, and pricing:

- The shirt sizes S – XL are \$15, with XXL being \$18
- Colors are Silver-Gray, Light Blue, Royal Blue
- The sweatshirts sizes S – XL are \$25, with XXL being \$30
- Colors are Light Gray, Dark Gray, Purplish-Blue, and Turquoise
- One size hat \$12 which can be vented or non-vented
- Current color is black with white lettering
- Potentially we may be able to do a Gray hat with black lettering

Contact Tom Mozdzen at vp@evaonline.org if you have questions or need more information.



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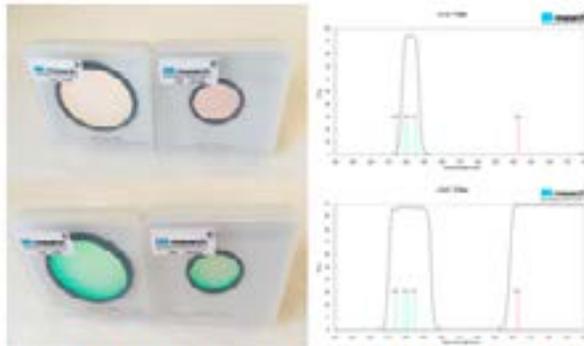
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Classified Ads



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IC 405

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[SkyPi Remote Observatory](#)



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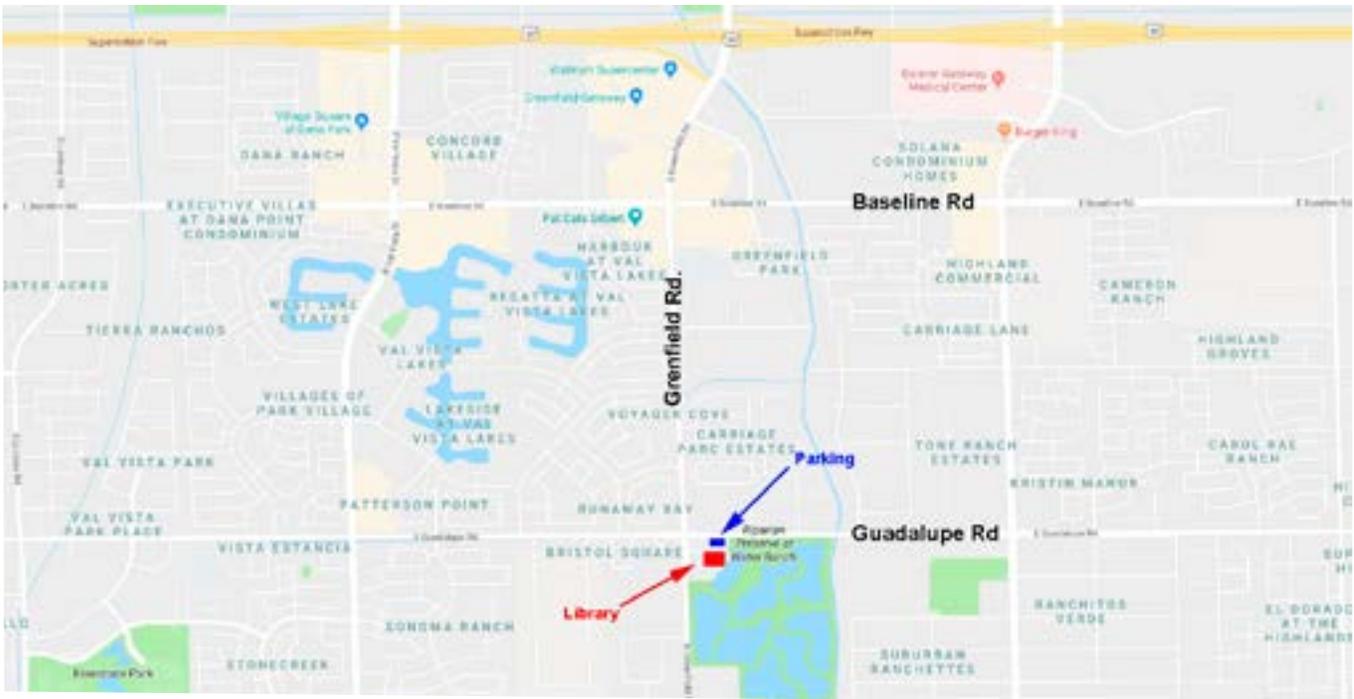
Upcoming Meetings

January 17
February 21
March 20
April 17
May 15
June 19
July 17

The monthly general meeting is your chance to find out what other club members are up to, learn about upcoming club events and listen to presentations by professional and well-known amateur astronomers.

Our meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the Southeast Regional Library in Gilbert. The library is located at 775 N. Greenfield Road; on the southeast corner of Greenfield and Guadalupe Roads. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Visitors are always welcome!



Southeast Regional Library
775 N. Greenfield Road
Gilbert, Az. 85234



JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 10 - Public Star Party

January 16 - CTA Goodman Elementary

January 17 - EVAC Monthly Meeting

January 18 - EVAC Star Party

January 21 - Redbird Elementary

January 23 - San Tan Elementary

January 25 - Tonto National Monument

January 30 - Carlson Elementary

FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

February 5 - Altadena Middle School

February 6 - C.O. Greenfield

February 7 - Public Star Party

February 15 - EVAC Star Party

February 20 - Carson Jr, High

February 21 - EVAC Monthly Meeting

February 22 - EVAC Star Party

February 27 - Cortina Elementary

East Valley Astronomy Club – 2020 Membership Form.

IMPORTANT: All memberships expire on December 31 of each year

New Member Dues (select according to the month you are joining the club)

	Individual	Family	
January, February & March	\$30.00	\$35.00	
April, May & June	\$22.50	\$26.25	
July, August & September	\$15.00	\$17.50	
October, November & December	\$37.50	\$43.75	<i>(Includes following year)</i>

Renewal (current members only):

\$30.00 Individual **\$35.00 Family**

Astronomical League: \$7.50 Annually (per person)

Name Badges: Quantity: _____

\$10.00 Each

Name to imprint: _____

Total amount enclosed:

Please make check or money order payable to EVAC
Payment will be made using PayPal

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Email:

City
State
Zip

URL
For website

Would you be interested in our outreach program? Yes No

How did you discover East Valley Astronomy Club?

Liability Release Form

In consideration of attending any publicized Star Party hosted by the East Valley Astronomy Club (hereinafter referred to as "EVAC"), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby affirm that I and any related entities, predecessors, successors, affiliates, attorneys, guarantors, insurers, transferees, assigns, parents, spouses, children, subsidiaries, accountants, officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, members, and trustees, past and present, hereby forever release, acquit and discharge to hold EVAC and its related entities, predecessors, successors, affiliates, attorneys, guarantors, insurers, transferees, assigns, parents, spouses, subsidiaries, accountants, officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, members, and trustees, past and present, from any and all causes of action, claims, losses, damages, liabilities, expenses (including attorneys' fees) and demands of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, that in any way relate to, arise out of, or concern EVAC and/or my presence on the premises of any EVAC Star Party and related areas, whether or not those causes of action, claims, damages, liabilities, and demands are part of the specific subject matter of EVAC or any EVAC Star Party. This release is intended to and does cover all injuries and damages, and the consequences thereof, whether known or unknown at the time of the execution of this release, which have occurred or may hereafter occur or which may hereafter be discovered, and which may have been caused or may be claimed to have been caused by the said incident, and specifically includes, but is not limited to, bodily injuries, mental and emotional injury, pain and suffering, medical treatments, and loss of earnings or income.

My signature upon this form also indicates agreement and acceptance on behalf of all minor children (under 18 years of age) under my care in attendance. EVAC only recognizes those who are members or invitees and who also have a signed Liability Release Form on file as participants at an EVAC Star Party.

Signature _____

Date _____

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The East Valley Astronomy Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.

www.evaonline.org

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Webmaster: Marty Pieczonka

SkyWatch Coordinator: Claude Haynes

Observatory Manager: Claude Haynes