



THE OBSERVER



[Rick Scott - M20 \(Trifid Nebula\) in Sagittarius with Most Stars Removed](#)

From the Desk of the President *by Steve Bradshaw*

Can you believe that it is already the fall of 2025? The fall season brings three exciting things to the East Valley Astronomy Club.

First, public outreach star parties are starting up again! Sometimes we can host one, or perhaps even two, events each week over the next several months. These gatherings are always a lot of fun, so please consider joining fellow members in supporting our community outreach efforts. The good news is that we already have around 10–15 regular volunteers, but we can always use more help. No one is expected to attend every event, just supporting a few events is very helpful.

One reason we need additional sup-

port is our new astronomy booth. With this addition, we can offer outdoor telescope viewing and, when indoor space is available, set up the booth as well. If you attended last month’s club meeting, you got a chance to see it in person. We’re excited to present a professionally designed astronomy display to the community.

Second, fall also means it’s time for our big private club star parties. First up—starting September 18th is the four-night Hyman Rim Ranch Star Party for those who signed up. Located on the Mogollon Rim near Forest Lakes, the ranch offers spectacular dark sky views. James Yoder has done a fantastic job organizing this event. If you weren’t able to

UPCOMING EVENTS:

GRCO Monthly Star Party - Sep. 12th
EVAC Monthly Club Meeting - Sep. 19th

For more details, and to see all of the upcoming club events, check out the [events page](#) on our website or the [Calendar](#) page of this newsletter.

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From the Desk of the President

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sign up this time, keep an eye out for future opportunities—the location never disappoints. Due to a scheduling conflict, I had to cancel my spot this year, but I hope to rejoin next year.

On October 24th and 25th, we'll also host our All AZ Star Party. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate this year! If you've never been to the Hovatter Road site, it features beautifully dark skies and wide-open spaces. The site is a bit rustic, which adds to its charm. The event is well attended and offers plenty of opportunities to socialize with other club members throughout the day and into the night. It's a great way to meet and connect with fellow enthusiasts.

Third, fall is also election season for the club. This year, we'll be electing a new president. After two years, my term is ending, and it's time to pass the reins to someone new.

We'll also need to elect a new vice president and secretary. Serving in these roles is a rewarding experience, which is why you'll see my name as a candidate for club secretary. Additionally, we need to elect three new "at large" board members.

If you're interested in serving the club in 2026, please email me at president@evaonline.org. If you'd like more information about the roles, we can arrange a time to talk. The bottom line is that none of the positions are difficult, and former role-holders are happy to help you learn the ropes during the first few months.

Until next month enjoy looking up, learning, and connecting with others,

Steve

Moon Phases September 2025



Full "Corn" Moon

September 7th

11:08 AM



Third Quarter Moon

September 14th

3:32 AM



New Moon

September 21st

12:54 PM



First Quarter Moon

September 29th

4:53 PM

Moon Names | Did you know...?

Most years, the September Full Moon is the Harvest Moon. This particular name is given to the Full Moon closest to the September equinox.

The reason why the Harvest Moon varies is that the lunar month doesn't line up with the equinox. Usually, the closest Full Moon occurs in September, but every three years or so, it falls in October.

When the October Full Moon is not a Harvest Moon, it is known as the Hunter's Moon.

The Full Moon in September also has traditional names; the most well-known one is the Full Corn Moon, Green Corn Moon or simply Corn Moon, from Native American tribes harvesting their corn around that time.

The Anglo-Saxon name is Harvest Moon, while Celtic and Old English names are Wine Moon, Song Moon, and Barley Moon.

Space & Time: Monthly Edition

by Morgan J. Moran

Question: What do eclipses, equinoxes, and a ringed giant in the spotlight have in common?

Answer: September!

SEPTEMBER 2025 ASTRONOMY HIGHLIGHTS

September 1st – Aurigid Meteor Shower

A modest display (about 6 meteors/hour) radiating from Auriga. Best viewed in the pre-dawn hours — a nice warm-up for the month ahead.

September 7th – Total Lunar Eclipse (Full Harvest Moon)

A dramatic “blood moon” visible across Africa, Europe, Asia, and Oceania. In Arizona, we’ll see only a partial phase before moonset — worth the early alarm.

September 9th – ϵ -Perseid Meteor Shower Peak

A minor shower (5 meteors/hour) but with occasional bright streaks. Look toward Perseus in the early morning.

September 21st – Saturn at Opposition

The ringed planet shines at its brightest for the year, rising at sunset and visible all night. Even a small telescope will reveal the rings.

September 21st – Partial Solar Eclipse

Visible mainly from eastern Australia, New Zealand, and parts of Antarctica — but still a fun reminder to check the global sky.

September 22nd – September Equinox

At 5:20 a.m. MST, the Sun crosses the celestial equator. Day and night are nearly equal — and autumn begins in the Northern Hemisphere.

September 23rd – Neptune at Opposition

The distant blue giant is at its brightest. Binoculars or a telescope will help you spot it in Pisces.

September 24th – Moon–Mars Conjunction

A delicate pairing low in the evening sky — a nice photo opportunity.



HISTORIC SEPTEMBER SPACE MOMENTS

September 12, 1966 – Gemini 11 Launch

Astronauts Pete Conrad and Dick Gordon set an altitude record of 853 miles, docking with an Agena target vehicle.

September 14, 1959 – Luna 2 Impact

The Soviet probe became the first human-made object to reach the Moon, crashing into its surface and marking a milestone in space exploration.

September 26, 1983 – Soyuz T-10-1 Launch Abort

A dramatic escape: the crew capsule was blasted free seconds before the rocket exploded on the pad — a testament to the value of launch escape systems.

EVAC Outreach Events - September 2025

by Alice Kobe

September Star Parties:

- September 12th - Sundown til 9:30 PM - GRCO 2nd Friday Public Star Party
- September 20th - 5:00 PM til 8:00 PM - Apache Junction Multi-Generational Center Mad Science Event

Details can be found on the EVAC website - evaonline.org/events-meetings.

Updates, reminders, etc. associated with outreach events are done via email. To sign up and receive these emails go to freelists.org/list/evac-outreach to be added on the mailing list.

Just a few reminders for all star party events:

1. After signing up on the EVAC outreach email list, always check your email before leaving for an event for any updates, changes, or cancellations.
2. Arrive early enough to have your equipment setup before start time of the event.
3. We do not allow any public viewing until the sun is completely below the horizon.
4. No lasers mounted on telescopes. Volunteers are allowed to use lasers to point out objects in the night sky by holding the laser above your head while using. Do not give the laser to visitors to operate.



EVAC Starry Rewards Outreach Volunteer Recognition Program

Rewards Luncheon October 11th from Noon to 1:15 PM at Rancho de Tia Rosa

According to the score sheet, **the following club members have accumulated the required 10 points for the luncheon:** Adam Baum (17), Alice Klobe (39), Andrea Matthias (10), Brooks Scofield (13), Claude Haynes (35), David Patroit (15), Don Wrigley (25), Gordon Rosner (39), John Dunegan (16), Josh Eyre (19), Nathan Eskey (12), Steve Bradshaw (25), Yesenia Galeana (13).

These members have between 5 and 9 points and still have plenty of time to qualify by October: Bill Dellinges (7), Chris Giles (5), David Kennerly (6), Jeff Foreman (8), Jeff Hardee (6), Jessica Ayala (7), Joaquin Sanchez (8), John Flynn (8), Jonathan Eskey (5), Morgan Moran (7), Nicole Park (5), Orlando Payne (6), Rick Warburton (7), Rick Wilt (5), Steve Feist (7), Ted Blank (6).

And these members have between 2 and 4 points: Betty Rhodes (5), Bob Austin (2), Brandon Feldman (4), Damien Schulz (3), Derek Youngson (4), Jake LeAlcala (2), John Jenzen (4), Kathryn Johnson (3), Kaylin Washburn (4), Kearan Gibbs (3), Krissy Elwood (4), Kristi Jencks (2), Logan Carlson (2), Marty Pieczonka (3), Merrill Jencks (3), Michael Nixon (3), Nahla Washington (2), Rachel Neglia (3), Tom Mozden (3).

EVAC Monthly Club Meeting Minutes - August 15, 2025

by Jeff Foreman

Meeting Minutes

YouTube: Many EVAC monthly meetings can be viewed on YouTube. Just search for the East Valley Astronomy Club on the YouTube website to locate the recordings, or select this [link](#) for the recordings.

Welcome

- EVAC president, Steve Bradshaw, invited everyone to the meeting.
- There were 2 new guests recognized.
- There were 55 people in attendance and 27 on the Zoom call.
- Events Coordinator, Alice Klobe, reviewed past and future public outreach events for the club.

Member Presentations

James Yoder - Building Heart 3D-Printed Binoculars

James presented his 3D-printed, 80mm binoculars from a company called Analog Sky, which he built from a kit. The basic kit, which includes metal parts, lenses, and hardware, costs \$700. He recommends spending an extra \$300 to have the 3D parts pre-printed by the company to avoid potential issues with misaligned parts. He advised that while printing the kit yourself is an option, it may be easier to purchase the pre-printed parts and assemble the kit.

Nathan Eskey - Unistellar eVscope 2: EVAC's Public Outreach Star

Nathan shared his experience with the club's new Unistellar EV Scope 2, praising its ease of use for public outreach. He noted its ability to capture and display vibrant color images of celestial objects even in light-polluted areas. He also pointed out its high cost and a limited catalog of objects.

Main Presentation

Mark Johnston- The Major Observatories of Chile

Mark Johnson, a NASA Solar System Ambassador, discussed his visit to several major observatories in Chile. He explained that Chile is an ideal location for astronomy due to its high altitude, dry climate, and stable atmosphere. He provided details on the following observatories he visited:

- **Gemini Observatory:** An 8.1-meter telescope that uses a laser for adaptive optics.
- **SOAR Telescope:** A 4.2-meter telescope that focuses on spectroscopy.
- **Vera Rubin Observatory:** Home to the Simony Telescope, which has the world's largest digital camera and is designed to survey the entire southern sky.
- **ALMA:** A network of 66 radio telescopes used for millimeter-wave astronomy, which can see through interstellar dust.

Used Equipment For Sale at Great Prices

The East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) has used astronomy equipment for sale. Please note that equipment sales are **“as is”** and are **“pick-up only”**.

For more details and to answer any questions, contact the EVAC Property Director, James Yoder (properties@evaonline.org) or visit the EVAC Sales webpage [HERE](#). This page includes a brief description of the items, photos and reference materials (e.g. users manuals, etc.).

Equipment being offered for sale this month includes:

- [Meade 16" Starliner](#) (Sale Price = \$800)
- [Meade LX200 GPS SCT UHTC Package](#) (Sale Price = \$1,800)
- [Orion AstroView 6 EQ Newtonian Telescope](#) (Sale Price = \$300)
- [Celestron Astro Fi 90mm Refractor Telescope Kit](#) (Sale Price = \$150)
- [Celestron C4.5 Newtonian](#) (Sale Price = \$150)
- [10" Dob Spooner Telescope](#) (Sale Price = \$400)
- [Thousand Oaks Type 2 Solar Filter ID=308mm](#) (Sale Price = \$30)

Non-EVAC Equipment for Sale (This is mostly member sales, EVAC is neither responsible for, nor endorses this equipment).

EVAC Equipment Rental Program - Select [THIS LINK](#) to submit a request to reserve equipment.

Equipment rental is available to East Valley Astronomy Club (EVAC) members. Equipment rental rate is \$25/week for up to four weeks at a time. The following equipment is available:

Telescopes

- [Celestron C-8 with Nexstar GoTo mount](#) (Telescope Package SCT01)
- [Celestron 10" Dobsonian Telescope](#) (Telescope Package DBB01)

Imaging Packages

- [Celestron Origin Intelligent Home Observatory](#) (Imaging Package ST01)
- [SeeStar S50 All-In-One smart telescope](#) (Imaging Package S50)
- [Planetary & Moon Imaging Kit](#) (Imaging Kit 01)

Visual Filters Kit

- [Twelve 1.25" filters for deep sky objects](#) (Filters Kit VFR01)

EVAC Equipment Restrictions and Requirements

- Must be EVAC member in good standing (dues are current).
- Rent is on a weekly basis and not to exceed four consecutive weeks.
- Equipment Pick-up and Drop-Off location and times will need to be coordinated with the EVAC property manager.
- Rental fee is due upon pick up of equipment.
- A security deposit is required for equipment being rented (see equipment details for amount).
- Each package has an associated Rental Agreement that must be completed and signed.



SkyPi Remote Observatory

The darkest, most Pristine, sky in the continental U.S. !

At the site: Bathroom facilities, running water, 5 pads w110v, wifi, acres of grassy camp sites.

From the site: Very Large Array 42mi E, The Astronomical Lyceum 55mi E, MRO Observatory 80mi East.

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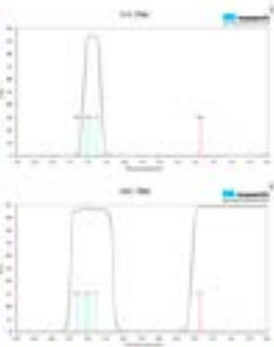

Apache-Sitgreaves Observatory

Overgaard, Arizona

Largest Public
Observing
Telescope
in
Arizona



Critical products for visual observing, too!



A-S Research Nebula Filters: See More Nebulosity!

www.apache-sitgreaves.org

Monthly Meetings will be held in person and also presented live online using Zoom. See the EVAC Web-site for updates.

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 7:00 pm.

Meetings are also available online via Zoom.

Visitors are always welcome!



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



September 2025

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				

September 12th - 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM - EVAC/GRCO Monthly 2nd Friday Star Party

September 19th - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM - EVAC Monthly Meeting

September 20th - 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM - A J Multigenerational Center Mad Science Event

October 2025

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	

October 8th - 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM - Apache Junction Multigenerational Center Star Party

October 10th - Sundown to 9:30 PM - EVAC/GRCO Monthly 2nd Friday Star Party

October 14th - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM - Cooley Station HOA Star Party

October 15th - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM - Spectrum Elementary School Star Party

October 16th - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM - Leading Edge Academy Queen Creek Star Party

October 17th - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM - EVAC Monthly Meeting

October 21st - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM - Lyon's Gate HOA Star Party

East Valley Astronomy Club - 2024 Membership Form

Member Dues (Based on the month you are joining the club)

	Individual	Family	Student (18yr+ with ID)
January - June	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
July - December (<i>Renew in January</i>)	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$10.00
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Renewal Dues (Current Members Only)

Astronomical League: \$10.00 Annually: ☐

Individual	Family	Student (18yr+ with ID)
\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 _____

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 in the Contact-Us area on the Home page of our EVAC website. 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 to consider is AZ-Observing@groups.io, simply click on this link <https://groups.io/g/AZ-Observing> and follow the instructions. EVAC also has a Facebook Group where members may share ideas, photos, and Astronomy related information. Click on the link to join: [East Valley Astronomy Facebook Group](#).

The Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory (GRCO) also has a Facebook Group. To visit, please click on [Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory - GRCO](#). The Observatory is open on Friday and Saturday from sunset until 9:30pm. We need volunteers. Training is provided. Help us engage the community in the wonders of the night sky. Email grco@evaonline.org for information.

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

www.evaonline.org

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