

# San Diego Astronomy Association

Celebrating Over 50 Years of Astronomical Outreach



March 2026

<https://www.sdaa.org/>

A Non-Profit Educational Association  
P.O. Box 23215, San Diego, CA 92193-3215

### Next SDAA Business Meeting

March 10th at 7:00pm

Via Zoom

### Next Program Meeting

March 18th 2026

Via Zoom

## *March Program Meeting*

### CONTENTS

March 2026, Vol LXIV, Issue 3  
Published Monthly by the  
San Diego Astronomy Association  
Incorporated in California in 1963

Program Meeting.....	1
Night Sky Charts.....	2
Sky Events.....	5
Astronomical League Notes.....	9
Private Pad News.....	10
SD County Fair.....	11
Texas Star Party.....	12
Wanted.....	12
SDAA Contacts.....	14
February Minutes.....	15
2026 TDS Star Party Schedule.....	26

March 18th  
Speaker: TBD

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit articles  
for publication is the  
**15th** of each month.

See <https://sdaa.org/program-meeting/>

Link to SDAA Merchandise Store <https://sdaa28.wildapricot.org/SDAA-Store>

Link to Outreach Calendar <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=g-calendar@sdaa.org&ctz=America/Los>

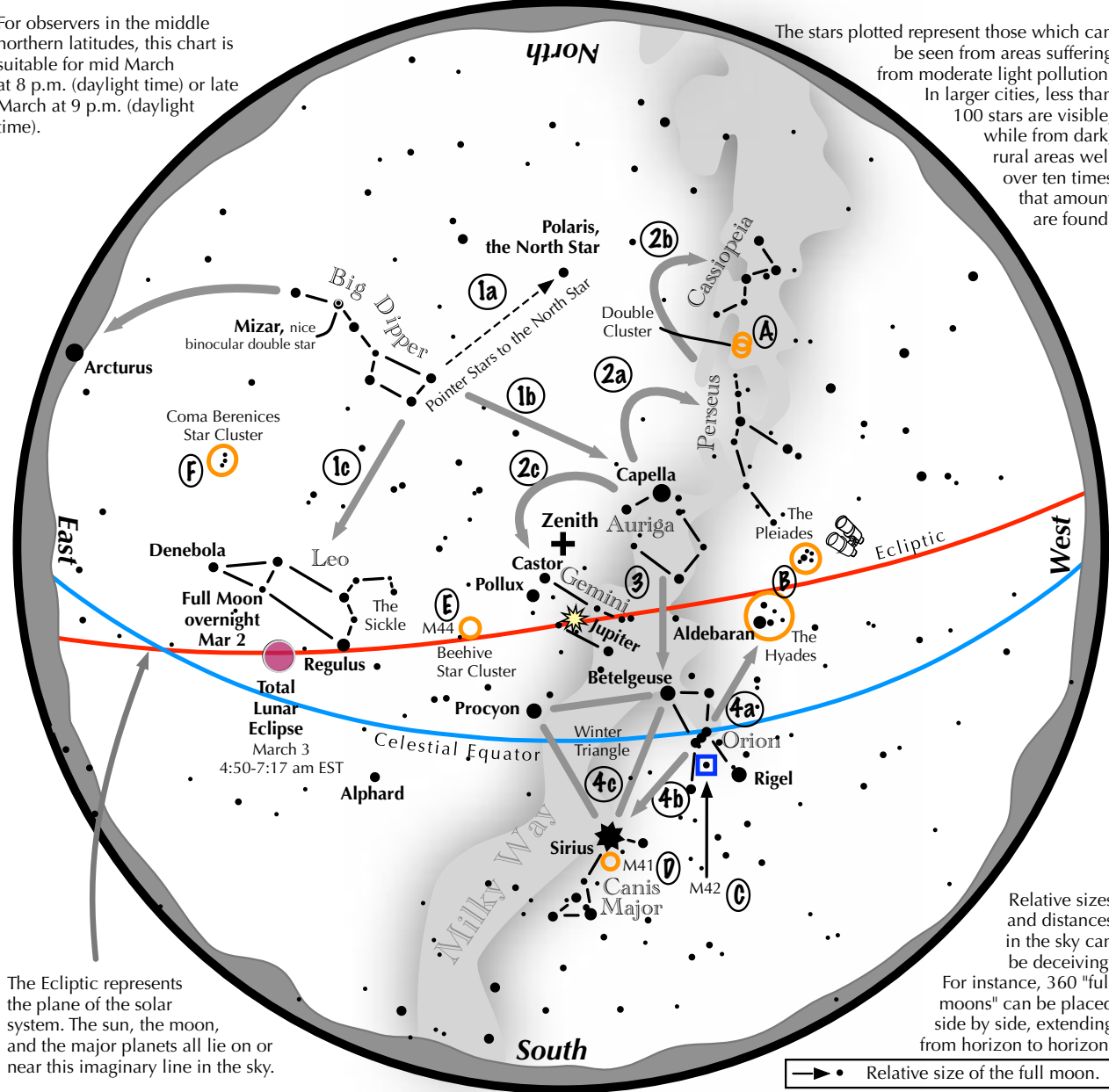


# San Diego Astronomy Association

## Navigating the mid March Night Sky

For observers in the middle northern latitudes, this chart is suitable for mid March at 8 p.m. (daylight time) or late March at 9 p.m. (daylight time).

The stars plotted represent those which can be seen from areas suffering from moderate light pollution. In larger cities, less than 100 stars are visible, while from dark, rural areas well over ten times that amount are found.



The Ecliptic represents the plane of the solar system. The sun, the moon, and the major planets all lie on or near this imaginary line in the sky.

Relative sizes and distances in the sky can be deceiving. For instance, 360 "full moons" can be placed side by side, extending from horizon to horizon.

→ • Relative size of the full moon.

### Navigating the March night sky: Simply start with what you know or with what you can easily find.

- 1 Above the northeast horizon rises the Big Dipper. Draw a line from its two end bowl stars upwards to the North Star. Its top bowl stars point west to Capella in Auriga, nearly overhead. Leo reclines below the Dipper's bowl.
- 2 From Capella jump northwestward along the Milky Way to Perseus, then to the "W" of Cassiopeia. Next jump southeastward from Capella to the twin stars of Castor and Pollux in Gemini.
- 3 Directly south of Capella stands the constellation of Orion with its three Belt Stars, its bright red star Betelgeuse, and its bright blue-white star Rigel.
- 4 Use Orion's three Belt stars to point northwest to the red star Aldebaran and the Hyades star cluster, then to the Pleiades star cluster. Travel southeast from the Belt stars to the brightest star in the night sky, Sirius. It is a member of the Winter Triangle.

### Binocular Highlights

**A:** Between the "W" of Cassiopeia and Perseus lies the Double Cluster. **B:** Examine the stars of the Pleiades and Hyades, two naked eye star clusters. **C:** M42 in Orion is a star forming nebula. **D:** Look south of Sirius for the star cluster M41. **E:** M44, a star cluster barely visible to the naked eye, lies to the southeast of Pollux. **F:** Look high in the east for the loose star cluster of Coma Berenices.



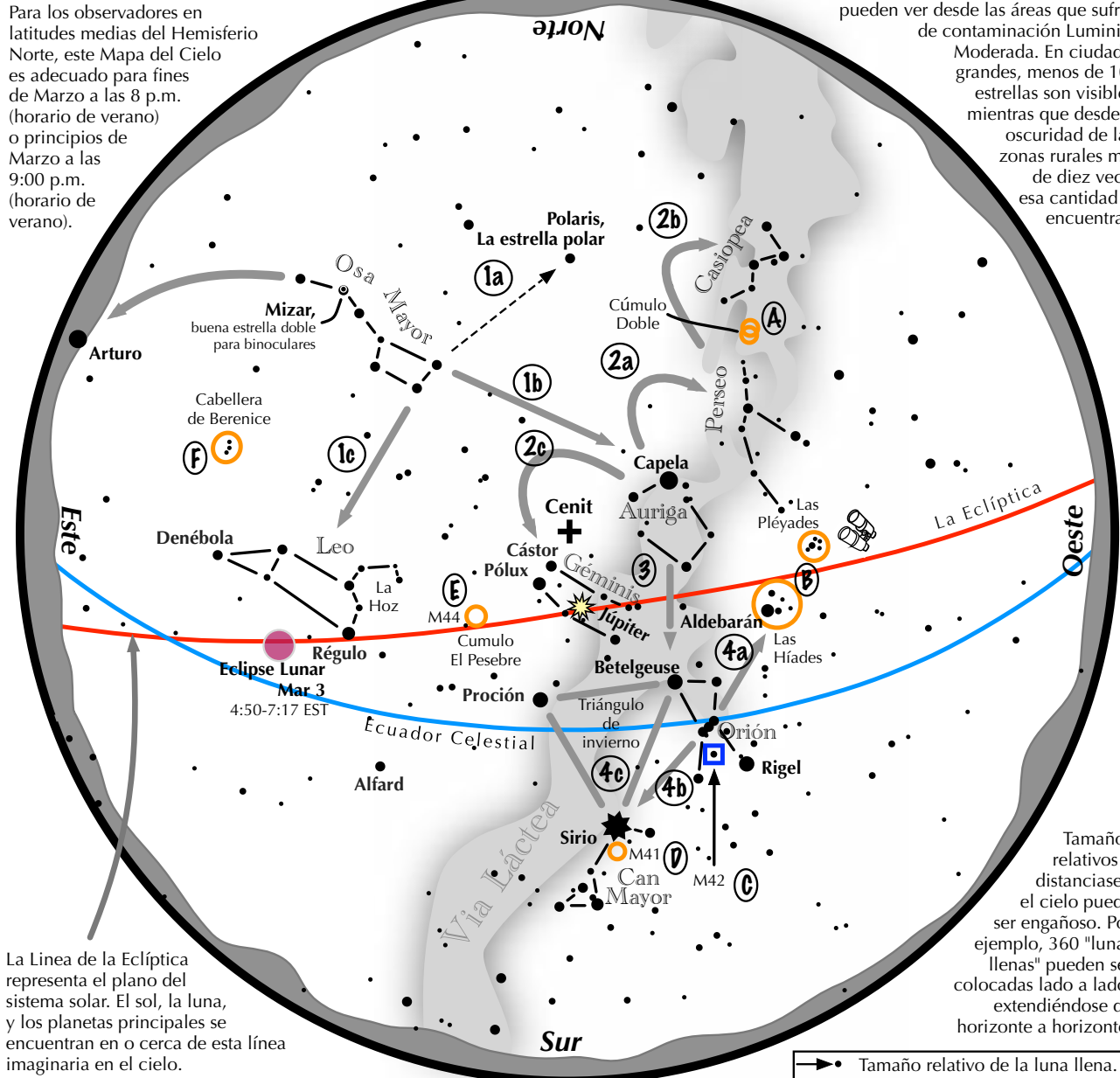


# San Diego Astronomy Association

## Navegando por el cielo nocturno de Marzo

Para los observadores en latitudes medias del Hemisferio Norte, este Mapa del Cielo es adecuado para fines de Marzo a las 8 p.m. (horario de verano) o principios de Marzo a las 9:00 p.m. (horario de verano).

Las estrellas trazadas representan las que se pueden ver desde las áreas que sufren de contaminación Luminica Moderada. En ciudades grandes, menos de 100 estrellas son visibles, mientras que desde la oscuridad de las zonas rurales más de diez veces esa cantidad se encuentran.



La Línea de la Eclíptica representa el plano del sistema solar. El sol, la luna, y los planetas principales se encuentran en o cerca de esta línea imaginaria en el cielo.

Tamaños relativos y distancias en el cielo pueden ser engañoso. Por ejemplo, 360 "lunas llenas" pueden ser colocadas lado a lado, extendiéndose de horizonte a horizonte.

→• Tamaño relativo de la luna llena.

### Navegando por el cielo nocturno: simplemente comience con lo que sabe o con lo que puede encontrar fácilmente.

- 1 Sobre el horizonte noreste se alza la Osa Mayor. Dibuja una línea desde sus dos estrellas finales hasta la estrella polar. Las estrellas superiores del tazón apuntan al oeste a Capela, casi por encima. Leo yace debajo del tazón de la Osa Mayor.
- 2 Desde Capela, salte hacia el noroeste a lo largo de la Vía Láctea hacia Perseo, luego hacia la "W" de Casiopea. Siguiente salto hacia el sureste desde Capela a las estrellas gemelas de Cástor y Pólux en Géminis.
- 3 Directamente al sur de Capela se encuentra la constelación de Orión con sus tres estrellas del Cinturón de Orión, su brillante estrella roja Betelgeuse y su brillante estrella azul-blanca Rigel.
- 4 Usa las tres estrellas del Cinturón de Orión para apuntar al noroeste hacia la estrella roja Aldebarán y el cúmulo estelar Hiades, y luego hacia el cúmulo estelar de las Pléyades. Viaja hacia el sudeste desde las estrellas del cinturón hasta la estrella más brillante en el cielo nocturno, Sirio. Es un miembro del Triángulo de invierno.

### Puntos destacados con binoculares

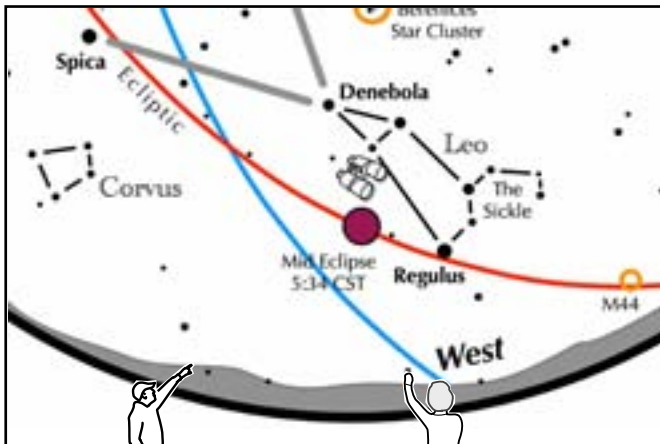
**A:** Entre la "W" de Casiopea y Perseo se encuentra el Doble Cúmulo. **B:** Examina las estrellas de las Pléyades y las Híades. **C:** M42 en Orión es una nebulosa formadora de estrellas. **D:** Mire al sur de Sirio para el cúmulo estelar M41. **E:** M44, un cúmulo de estrellas apenas perceptible a simple vista, se encuentra al sureste de Pólux. **F:** Mira alto en el este para ver el cúmulo de estrellas perdidas de Cabellera de Berenice.





# San Diego Astronomy Association

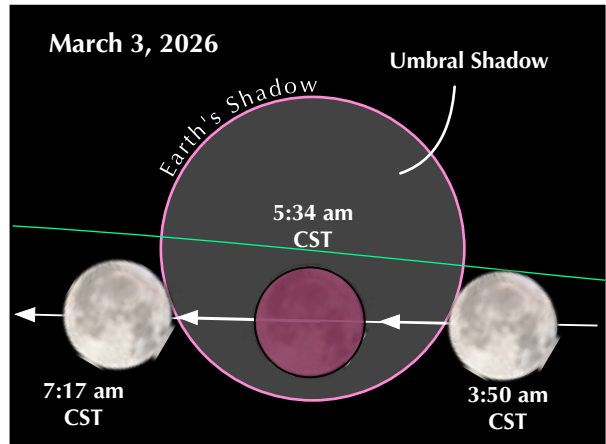
If you can observe only one celestial event in the morning this March, see this one.



View to the west on March 3 at 5 am CST

### Eclipse times

- Partial eclipse begins: 3:50 a.m. CST
- Total eclipse begins: 5:04
- Mid eclipse: 5:34
- Total eclipse ends: 6:03
- Partial eclipse ends: 7:17



### The Moon slides through a total eclipse

In the hours before dawn on March 3, the brilliant full moon slides into Earth's shadow.

- Even though the partial umbral eclipse begins at 3:50 a.m. CDT, darkening might not be noticed for another 5 minutes.
- When totality is reached, the full moon's brilliance is gone, allowing the stars to appear. Can you see that the moon lies east of Regulus and below Leo?
- At mid eclipse, what color is the moon? How red is it?
- During the partial phases, can you notice that the shadow's edge is not straight, but curved?

© 2026 Astronomical League, all rights reserved [www.astroleague.org](http://www.astroleague.org)



# San Diego Astronomy Association

## *Sky Events for March 2026*

*By Robert Victor*

*Seasonal westward drift of the stars, a total lunar eclipse in the wee hours of Tues. March 3, Jupiter high at dusk, and Venus emerging as evening "star".*

As March opens, the star **Rigel** in Orion's foot reaches its high point directly south around evening mid-twilight, and the Mother-goat star **Capella** passes its high point north of overhead only three minutes later. Orion's familiar pattern is, "Three in a row (the belt), two above, two below." Rigel is the bright blue-white star to the lower right of Orion's belt. **Betelgeuse** is the reddish star to the belt's upper left. By around the end of twilight on March 1, all seven bright stars of Orion's pattern, ending with Betelgeuse, have passed their high points in the south. Some 50 minutes after Betelgeuse, the brightest nighttime star, **Sirius**, reaches its high point. **Canopus**, the second brightest star, attains its highest position just 3°-4° above the southern horizon 22 minutes earlier and 36° lower than Sirius' crossing.

**Jupiter** on March 1 transits (reaches its high point) just 20 minutes after Sirius does, but nearly 40° higher. **Castor, Procyon, and Pollux** all transit in quick succession between 50 and 61 minutes after Sirius.

As a consequence of the Earth's revolution around the Sun, all the stars' crossings will occur earlier, by nearly 4 minutes per day, and by month's end, they'll all occur either during twilight, or even in daylight, before sunset. So, look soon!

At dusk on **Sunday, March 1**, the star **Regulus** will appear 5 degrees lower left of the 98-percent Moon, which closes in on the star all night, falling just short as they set in the brightening dawn on Monday, March 2. **Overnight on Monday to Tuesday, March 2-3**, the Moon will be Full, with a special event in the darkness before dawn on March 3: **A total lunar eclipse!**

There will be two major lunar eclipses visible from California in 2026. The first will be total, **during the early morning hours of Tuesday, March 3**. The other will be a very deep partial eclipse (93%) on Thursday evening, August 27. If the sky is clear, both should be beautiful, colorful events!

When most or all of the Moon is immersed within Earth's shadow, the shaded portion is not completely dark, but typically takes on a coppery reddish or rusty color, from sunlight which has passed through Earth's atmosphere and been refracted, or bent, into the shadow, to reach the Moon. The bluer light passing through lower levels of Earth's atmosphere has been scattered out in other directions, causing our daytime skies to appear blue.

For the predawn eclipse on Tuesday, March 3rd, you can plan to nap on Monday evening and set an alarm to get you up and out by 1:50 a.m. Tuesday. That's the time of the start of partial eclipse, when the Moon first starts to enter the umbra, or dark, circular central core of Earth's shadow.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

Total eclipse will last for nearly one hour, from 3:04 a.m. until 4:03 a.m. PST. Within that hour, at mid-totality or greatest eclipse at 3:34 a.m., the Moon will appear deepest within the shadow, and likely darkest.

The French astronomer A. Danjon proposed a useful five-point scale to summarize the visual appearance and brightness of the Moon during total lunar eclipses. “L” values for various luminosities are defined as follows:

<b>L value</b>	<b>Description of Moon in Total eclipse</b>
----------------	---

L=0	Very dark eclipse. Moon almost invisible, especially at mid-totality.
-----	---

L=1	Dark eclipse, grey or brownish in coloration. Details distinguishable only with difficulty.
-----	---

L=2	Deep red or rust-colored eclipse. Very dark central shadow, while outer edge of umbra is relatively bright.
-----	---

L=3	Brick-red eclipse. Umbral shadow usually has a bright or yellow rim.
-----	--

L=4	Very bright, copper-red or orange eclipse. Umbral shadow has a bluish, very bright rim.
-----	---

Try evaluating the brightness and color of this eclipse at the beginning, middle, and end of totality, by using the above **L** scale. For more information, visit:

<https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/OH/Danjon.html>

Partial eclipse will conclude at 5:17 a.m., when the Moon completely exits the umbra.

If you don't wish to follow the entire 3 hours and 27 minutes of Moon's encounter with Earth's dark shadow, then the most impressive 20-minute intervals to follow would be centered on the beginning and end of totality, that is, from 2:54 a.m. until 3:14 a.m., and from 3:53 a.m. until 4:13 a.m. You may also want to check at 3:34 a.m., when the Moon is deepest within the shadow.

Again, that's early Tuesday morning, March 3. Wishing you clear skies!

At mid-eclipse, note the star Regulus, heart of Leo, the Lion, in the west, 12° lower right of the totally eclipsed Moon. Other bright zodiacal stars are blue-white Spica in SSW, and reddish Antares in SSE. It's no coincidence that Regulus, Moon, Spica, and Antares appear in a nearly straight line across the sky, as all are within a few degrees of Earth's orbit plane. Other bright stars visible at mid-eclipse include golden Arcturus, high above Spica, and the Summer Triangle of Vega, Deneb, and Altair, in northeast to east. Can you notice the Milky Way passing through the Summer Triangle? Half an hour later, as totality ends at 4:03 a.m., with the Triangle higher and the sky still dark, the Milky Way will be easier to see.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

**Follow the waning Moon at dawn through March 16.** Watch for close encounters of a gibbous Moon with stars: Spica on March 6, and Antares on March 10. This month's southernmost Moon occurs on the morning of March 11, when it's at Last Quarter phase, half full and 90° west of the Sun, near the place where the Sun appeared three months earlier, in December, when the winter solstice was about to occur. After the total eclipse on March 3, the next good chances to see the Milky Way begin around March 14 or 15, when the Moon will be a crescent, well east of the Teapot of Sagittarius, and continue through March 27 or 28. Best time to look during those two weeks is just before the start of morning twilight.

**Mercury** passes inferior conjunction, nearly between Earth and Sun on March 7, and moves into the morning sky. Not until two weeks later does Mercury attain first magnitude, but with the zodiacal belt of constellations making its minimum angle with the horizon in morning twilight at this time of year, Mercury in the closing days of March attains a maximum altitude of only 5° as seen from the Coachella Valley for this apparition, at mid-twilight while the Sun is 9° down. Despite Mercury's reaching its maximum possible angle of nearly 28° from the Sun on April 3, this is a very poor apparition. Use binoculars to try to pick it up very low in E to ESE in bright twilight.

**Evening planets: Venus** (mag. -3.9), increases its elongation east of Sun from 13° to 20° in March, becoming more noticeable. The steep angle of ecliptic to horizon at dusk at this time of year is an advantage; Venus sets about an hour after sunset on Mar. 1, and 1.6 hours after on Mar. 31. Use binoculars to watch Venus' close encounter with departing first-mag. **Saturn** March 7 and 8. **Jupiter**, of mag. -2.4 to -2.2 in central Gemini high in southern sky at nightfall, ends retrograde March 10, when it's 10.6° from Pollux and 11.2° from Castor, not going quite far enough west to form an isosceles triangle. **Watch Venus draw closer to Jupiter until June 9.** They're 111° apart on Mar. 1, to 74° on Mar. 31.

**Follow Moon at dusk Mar. 19-Apr. 1.** Look for the young crescent Moon with earthshine – “the old Moon in the new Moon's arms” -- within 6° lower right of **Venus** on March 19, and within 10° upper right of Venus on the next evening. Between those evenings, at 7:46 a.m. PDT on the 20th, Spring begins in Earth's northern hemisphere as the Sun crosses to the north of the equator.

The waxing crescent Moon climbs from 4° below the **Pleiades star cluster** at dusk on the 22nd to 10° above it on the 23rd. Also on the 23rd, **Aldebaran**, eye of Taurus and follower of the Pleiades, will appear about 10° south (left) of the Moon. Aim your binoculars at Aldebaran, and you'll see the **Hyades cluster** in the same field. The “V” formed by Aldebaran and the Hyades makes up the head of the Bull.

Binoculars also provide wonderful views of the Pleiades cluster. **Bonus:** Look for a pair of stars 21' (arcminutes), or 0.35° apart, within 5° S of the Pleiades. They are **13 and 14 Tauri**, mags. 5.7 and 6.1. **Uranus**, of mag. 5.7, is a close match in brightness to 13 Tauri. **During Mar. 17-26,**



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

Uranus passes closely south of the two stars: 12' from 13 Tauri on Mar. 17; forming an isosceles triangle with them, 14' from each, on Mar. 20; and 5' from 14 Tauri on Mar 26.

On the evenings of Mar. 24 and 25, the Moon is in the far northern part of the zodiac and near First Quarter phase, close to half full and 90 degrees east of the Sun, near the Sun's position against the stars three months from now, around the date of the summer solstice, in June. On March 24 at dusk, the fat crescent Moon appears in eastern Taurus, near 1.7-mag. **Elnath**, tip of the Bull's northern horn. On the next evening, the slightly gibbous Moon is in **western Gemini**.

On March 25 and 26, from one evening to the next, the waxing gibbous Moon leapfrogs past bright **Jupiter**, and lands 3° south of **Pollux**, brighter of the "Twin" stars of Gemini.

On March 27 at nightfall, the Moon is in Cancer, closely north of the **Beehive**, but the lunar phase of 75 percent will make the cluster's stars difficult to observe; use binoculars or a telescope.

On March 28 at dusk, **Regulus** appears 9° lower left of the Moon. On the next evening, the star appears 4°-5° to the Moon's upper right.

The next Full Moon will occur on the evening of April 1, with the star Spica rising 10° to its lower left.

-----  
The Astronomical Society of the Desert will host a star party on Saturday, Mar. 14, at Sawmill Trailhead, a site in the Santa Rosa Mountains at elevation 4,000 feet; and on Saturday, Mar. 21, at the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center. For more information, including maps and directions to the two observing sites, visit [astrorx.org](http://astrorx.org). Check that website also, for a links to "Lecture Meeting Dates", and to "Impromptu Star Parties" which Bob V., the author of this column, is planning to offer in the West Valley, mostly in Palm Springs, in March and April.

-----  
The Abrams Planetarium *Sky Calendar* includes illustrations of many of the events described in this column, as well as an evening constellation chart. To subscribe for \$12 per year or to view a sample, visit <https://www.abramsplanetarium.org/skycalendar/>



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

## *Astronomical League Notes*

By Mark Smith

The Western Region of the Astronomical League has planned a group roundtable of member club reps in Flagstaff in mid-April. In addition to electing regional officer and completing the reconstitution of the region as a functional entity within the Astronomical League, we hope to start planning on regional events including star parties, educational events, research collaborations, and more. If you have anything that you would specifically like the Astronomical League to do, please let me know and I'll make sure it is brought up.

As the Western Region continues to stand back up, the Astronomical League also offers a wide variety of observing programs and publications. We publish monthly sky charts and observing targets supplied by the League in the newsletter every month, but the League puts their quarterly newsletter, *The Reflector*, online for anybody to use. There are a variety of observing guides that will help everybody from novices to experienced observers. I encourage everybody to check out all of the League's offerings at [www.astroleague.org](http://www.astroleague.org) whether you join the club or not.

If you are interested in what you've read, I invite you to explore what the Astronomical League has to offer and use it to help guide or enrich your astronomy. You may even decide to join the next time you renew your SDAA membership. If you have any questions about the Astronomical League, please don't hesitate to contact me at [ALCOR@SDAA.org](mailto:ALCOR@SDAA.org).



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

## *Private Pad News*

by Mark Smith

Engineering work is getting close to complete and the club is mostly waiting for SCG&E to switch over power of the club buildings to the new North Grid before shutting off power to the South Grid and starting work. Once work begins, there will be no private vehicles allowed on the Private Pads until work is complete and the trenches are filled in. It is likely that foot traffic will also be restricted for much of the Private Pad area. It is currently estimated that this will take less than a month but it is possible that the work could take longer. Expect notice from the club with more details before work begins.

Once the work is complete, it will probably take at least another 2 months for final inspections to occur before the grid will be powered. Once we bring power back up, there will be no legacy on pad connections to the grid. Exact requirements for new on-pad wiring are still being worked out, but provisions have been made to allow on pad infrastructure to be updated and connected to the new grid if the pad lessee desires. The requirements and standards will be published before we power up the Private Pads again. Stand Alone systems that function off of the grid will not be affected, although access will be restricted during construction.

When everything is complete, we will have a reliable grid on the Private Pads for the first time in over a decade. New bollards similar to what are on the Public Pads will have been installed (you can see the marked positions on the Private Pads now) and, when the new entry system is brought online, we hope to eliminate the sign in requirement. In addition, we are planning new procedures to ensure the long term stability of the grid and avoid the issues that lead to it being turned off.

While we are waiting for electricity to return, we still have several Private Pads available. I realize that without electricity, the pads are of limited use to most members, but they still provide a viable option for many visual astronomers. In addition, if you are already a Pad Lessee, please continue to sign into your pad whenever you are at TDS whether you set up on your pad or are using the Public Pads. Although Pad Usage requirements have been waived while there is no power on the pads, the Private Pads Usage Data are the best TDS usage tracking information that we currently have.

If you have any feedback, are interested in leasing a Private Pad, or just have questions about them, please don't hesitate to contact me at [pads@sdaa.org](mailto:pads@sdaa.org) or [emarksmi@san.rr.com](mailto:emarksmi@san.rr.com).



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

## *SDAA Comes to the San Diego County Fair!*

By Mark Smith

Every year the San Diego County Fair holds the worlds largest juried photography exhibition. Prizes are given out in a number of different divisions including night photography, nature photography, and many, many more. Although there are almost always many wonderful wide field and deep sky astronomy photographs, there has never been a specific award for them. At least until now.

As part of the Member Suggestion Program, the SDAA will now sponsor two prizes for Astrophotography at the Fair. Each prize will be \$150 in cash plus a one year membership to the Club. Even better, SDAA will get to provide judges for the sponsored prizes.

Of course, SDAA members are encouraged to participate in the competition. The process begins with submission of digital images which are due by 8pm on April 7. If your image passes this initial stage, the image must be printed and delivered to the fair for judging. Full details on how to enter images for the fair are located here:

<https://www.sdfair.com/p/participate/entry/photography>

If you are interested in being a judge for our prize, please contact me at [Mark.Smith@sdaa.org](mailto:Mark.Smith@sdaa.org).

This prize was made possible by a member suggestion that was submitted to the club through the Member Proposal Committee. That committee is looking for other member suggestions for programs large and small that the SDAA can take on. If you have an idea that you think would be a fit for the SDAA, the process starts at

<https://forms.gle/cDkCW5DNFh6ayVho9>.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

## *Texas Star Party 2026*

Texas Star Party is about more than dark skies. It is about observing together, sharing discoveries, and the community that forms under truly dark skies.

Come for the stars. Stay for the people.

TSP 2026 registration is now open, and we will be direct: space is filling up fast. Many of the most popular cabins and bunkhouses are already being claimed. If you have your eye on a particular accommodation, now is the time to reserve your spot.

Fewer rules, more freedom, and a welcoming atmosphere. More time to do what we love: explore the universe together under some of the darkest skies in North America.

Here is what is new for 2026:

Register and choose your housing entirely online. No lottery. No waiting. First come, first served. See real-time accommodation availability on our website so you know exactly what is open. Lock in your spot in minutes with a streamlined registration experience.

Whether this will be your first Texas Star Party or your next one, we expect 2026 to be a truly legendary and memorable event. The skies will be dark, the conversations long, and the friendships unforgettable.

**REGISTER NOW**

[https://texasstarparty.org/?utm\\_campaign=website&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=sendgrid](https://texasstarparty.org/?utm_campaign=website&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid)

**WANTED** - Aerospace Engineer is looking for a vintage 4-inch refracting telescope from the 1950s or 1960s that was made by the GOTO Kogaku Company of Tokyo, Japan. The refractor can be in any condition. I will do personal pick-up and pay a fair price. Please, contact Norbert at [janmaatcalifornia@yahoo.com](mailto:janmaatcalifornia@yahoo.com) (personal email) or at 650-507-9944 (cell phone, text anytime, call after 8:00pm).



# Astronomical.League

on Facebook ...

Monthly sky maps,  
Observing activities,  
AL LIVE sessions,  
League news & a whole lot more!



## AL YouTube Channel

Observing Program Previews: What a program requires of the Observer.

Our View from Earth: How to find interesting celestial objects in three minutes. Perfect for club viewing.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

## *SDAA Contacts*

### *Club Officers and Directors*

President	<a href="mailto:President@sdaa.org">President@sdaa.org</a>
Vice President	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@sdaa.org">VicePresident@sdaa.org</a>
Recording Secretary	<a href="mailto:Recording@sdaa.org">Recording@sdaa.org</a>
Treasurer	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@sdaa.org">Treasurer@sdaa.org</a>
Corresponding Secretary	<a href="mailto:Corresponding@sdaa.org">Corresponding@sdaa.org</a>
Director Alpha	<a href="mailto:DirectorAlpha@sdaa.org">DirectorAlpha@sdaa.org</a>
Director Beta	<a href="mailto:DirectorBeta@sdaa.org">DirectorBeta@sdaa.org</a>
Director Delta	<a href="mailto:DirectorDelta@sdaa.org">DirectorDelta@sdaa.org</a>
Director Gamma	<a href="mailto:DirectorGamma@sdaa.org">DirectorGamma@sdaa.org</a>

### *Committees*

Site Maintenance	<a href="mailto:TDS@sdaa.org">TDS@sdaa.org</a>
Observatory Director	<a href="mailto:Observatory@sdaa.org">Observatory@sdaa.org</a>
Private Pads	<a href="mailto:Pads@sdaa.org">Pads@sdaa.org</a>
Outreach	<a href="mailto:Outreach@sdaa.org">Outreach@sdaa.org</a>
N. County Star Parties	<a href="mailto:NorthStarParty@sdaa.org">NorthStarParty@sdaa.org</a>
S. County Star Parties	<a href="mailto:SouthStarParty@sdaa.org">SouthStarParty@sdaa.org</a>
E. County Star Parties	<a href="mailto:EastStarParty@sdaa.org">EastStarParty@sdaa.org</a>
Central County Star Parties	<a href="mailto:CentralStarParty@sdaa.org">CentralStarParty@sdaa.org</a>
Camp with the Stars	<a href="mailto:CampWiththeStars@sdaa.org">CampWiththeStars@sdaa.org</a>
K.Q. Ranch Coordinator	<a href="mailto:KQ@sdaa.org">KQ@sdaa.org</a>
Newsletter	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@sdaa.org">Newsletter@sdaa.org</a>
New Member Mentor	<a href="mailto:Mentor@sdaa.org">Mentor@sdaa.org</a>
Webmaster	<a href="mailto:Webmaster@sdaa.org">Webmaster@sdaa.org</a>
AISIG	<a href="mailto:AISIG@sdaa.org">AISIG@sdaa.org</a>
Site Acquisition	<a href="mailto:SecondSite@sdaa.org">SecondSite@sdaa.org</a>
Field Trips	<a href="mailto:FieldTrips@sdaa.org">FieldTrips@sdaa.org</a>
Grants/Fund Raising	<a href="mailto:Grants@sdaa.org">Grants@sdaa.org</a>
Julian StarFest	<a href="mailto:info@julianstarfest.com">info@julianstarfest.com</a>
Merchandising	<a href="mailto:Merchandising@sdaa.org">Merchandising@sdaa.org</a>
Publicity	<a href="mailto:Publicity@sdaa.org">Publicity@sdaa.org</a>
Loaner Scopes	<a href="mailto:loanerscopes@sdaa.org">loanerscopes@sdaa.org</a>
Cruzen Observatory Director	<a href="mailto:cruzen@sdaa.org">cruzen@sdaa.org</a>
TARO Observatory Director	<a href="mailto:TARO@sdaa.org">TARO@sdaa.org</a>
TDS Network	<a href="mailto:TDSNet@sdaa.org">TDSNet@sdaa.org</a>
TDS Operations	<a href="mailto:TDS@sdaa.org">TDS@sdaa.org</a>
ALCOR (Astronomical League Correspondent)	<a href="mailto:ALCOR@sdaa.org">ALCOR@sdaa.org</a>

For more info:

<https://sdaa.org/contacts/>

#### **SDAA Editorial Staff**

Editor - Andrea Kuhl  
since April 2011

[newsletter@sdaa.org](mailto:newsletter@sdaa.org)

Assistant Editor: Craig Ewing

Have a great new piece of gear? Read an astronomy-related book that you think others should know about? How about a photograph of an SDAA Member in action? Or are you simply tired of seeing these Boxes in the Newsletter rather than something, well, interesting?

Join the campaign to rid the Newsletter of little boxes by sharing them with the membership. In return for your efforts, you will get your very own byline or photograph credit in addition to the undying gratitude of the Newsletter Editor. Just send your article or picture to [Newsletter@SDAA.Org](mailto:Newsletter@SDAA.Org).



# San Diego Astronomy Association

## *San Diego Astronomy Association Board of Directors Meeting February 10, 2026* – Unapproved and subject to revision

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order at 7:03pm with the following BOD members in attendance: Dave Decker, President; Jim Love, Vice President; Kin Searcy, Recording Secretary; Ross Salinger, Corresponding Secretary; Damon Blackman, Director; Francisco Contreras, Director; Tom Kennedy, Director; Drew Koning, Director. Board member absent and excused was Mike Chasin, Treasurer.

### 2. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

The December meeting minutes V1.1 were approved by unanimous resolution. (Motion: D. Koning /Second: J. Love)

### 3. Members Present

Bee Pagarigan, Mark Smith, and David Wood were present.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was on vacation, and a cumulative treasurer's report will be reviewed next month. D. Wood indicated that \$4.7M from the Chalmers trust is expected to be distributed to the Foundation this week and \$1M remains to cover obligations. This residual could be released at the end of the year.

5. **Standard Reports** The standard reports are included as submitted with Board discussion and action in italics.

#### a) TDS Operations

Pagarigan/Schutze

TDS Operations Committee Charter – update/revisions are in progress

An improved method for updating members on TDS East developments is in progress.

#### b) TDS-W

Burch

A quick update for TDSW - we now have:

Dining Room Set w/6 chairs

4 chairs from Ikea



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

Tables and lamps

Blackout curtains on all windows

Area cleaned of potential trip and fall hazards behind house

All exterior security cameras installed

1st computer desk

Next week the junk pile should be gone, and Woody and I (mostly Woody) are working on the parking and some exterior lighting (red). Alexander is working his way through the to do list and we should be more than ready to host the Eclipse event if the weather cooperates.

c) Lipp Observatory

Rumsey

Lipp telescope and observatory continue to function well. Star party dates have been set and published on both SDAA calendars as well as in the monthly newsletter.

d) Loaner Equipment

Krizak

35 loaner items are currently out. 15 were returned in January and 15 were checked out. Three new loaner items have been added to the fleet:

- SDAA-095 - Celestron Power Tank (this has a dead battery so I've ordered a replacement)
- SDAA-096 - Hotech laser CT collimator (we already owned this but I registered it as a formal loaner item because a member wanted to borrow it)
- SDAA-097 - Coronado SolarMax II 60mm

The SolarMax came as part of a much larger donation that was noted in the December minutes.

Pending equipment notes:

- Orion XX12i push-to Dob with travel cases for the mirror box, UTA, and trusses
- A couple spare push-to control boxes and extra encoder sets were included with the XX12i donation, so we can upgrade our XT10i's that have had the push-to functionality removed
- A nice collection of Orion Stratus eyepieces came in the donation that I'll assemble into a kit. I've purchased a pluck-foam case from Harbor Freight for this.
- Celestron C6 OTA: I'm considering pairing this with the iOptron Cube Pro mount, but it's only rated for 8 lbs so it might be too much scope for that mount. So, this may end up on the donated Orion VersaGo mount, or maybe an Orion AstroView manual equatorial mount we already have.
- Celestron C8 OTA: I'll probably match this up with the CG-5 AS-GT mount (SDAA-027) as we have a much nicer (and similarly spec'd) iOptron GEM28 that members can already borrow if they want just an equatorial mount.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

## Maintenance notes:

- SDAA-095 Celestron Power Tank battery doesn't hold a charge; I've ordered a replacement
- SDAA-036 8" Meade SCT + MT Pro: still trying to find time to work on this, the kit is out of service because the iOptron handset battery keeps draining, causing the mount to behave erratically.

## Retired equipment:

- Donated Orion SpaceProbe 130: sold at banquet auction
- Donated 5" solar filter: sold at banquet auction
- Donated Meade LS8 OTA: sold at banquet auction

## New volunteers:

I made a plea at the banquet for volunteers to assist. As of the following morning I have half a dozen members who have reached out offering to help! I will be coordinating with these folks over the coming weeks to get more hands working on this program.

I have exceeded my budget for the loaner program for this fiscal year and would like to request a budget extension.

Required: \$1000 extension for ongoing repair and integration tasks. We keep getting great donated equipment, but each one requires \$\$ for odds and ends to prepare the equipment for use in the loaner program. Assuming the donation rate keeps up, this also means next year's budget will be accordingly extended, so the annual run rate will go up for FY27.

Requested: \$2500 one-time allotment to purchase additional eyepieces. With all the recent donated telescopes, we are short on eyepieces again. I can't just throw more spare Plossls at the problem; we need good widefield 2" eyepieces to go with our loaner scopes to give lessees the best experience when searching for faint fuzzies. I plan to build a new eyepiece kit featuring a few Baader Morpheus eyepieces (plus a 2" widefield), and likely another Agena Starguider kit (also with a 2" widefield eyepiece). Those two sets, plus the new Orion Stratus set from the recent donation, puts us back in a strong position with eyepiece kits to go with loaner scopes.

*The BOD referred action on these requests until reviewed by the SDAA Treasurer.*

e) Storage Facility

Krizak

I've had a couple offers from members willing to help move the Lucas Newtonian to TDS. Weather (and thus lack of visits to TDS) has thus far stymied these plans. The challenge here isn't really that the telescope is "big" or "heavy" -- it's just that it's big enough that there's not room in a truck/SUV for that and your own telescope, and it's really tough to justify a drive out to TDS just to deliver this scope. I'd still like to see it moved, though.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

With new volunteers for the loaner program, we will need to broaden the access to the storage facility. Today we only have three keys, held by myself, Dave Wood, and Mike Chasin. The keys are "barrel" style that can't be easily duplicated, so I'm going to purchase a replacement lock that uses standard blade-style keys so we can easily make copies to hand out to vetted, trained volunteers who will need access.

f) Private Pads & Policies

Smith

The committee continues to work on updating Pad Rules including a proposal for requirements to wire and connect pad electrical to the new grid. We had one more pad returned and have had 1 enquiry about leasing a Private Pad, but the very first question was about the availability of power. Interest continues to be very low primarily due to the power issues.

*The BOD discussed the advisability of requiring a security deposit for highly developed pads. The matter was deferred pending the SDAA Treasurer's input on feasibility with the accounting system.*

g) SDAA Monthly Programs Report for November 2025

Searcy

*Addressed in paragraph 7e.*

h) AISIG

Wood

ASISG - no report for this month. Zoom meetings will resume in February. Next meeting topic TBD.

i) Newsletter

Kuhl

Nothing new to report this month.

j) Website

Stevens

Nothing new to report.

k) SDAA Social Media Report for February 2026

Pagarigan

ORBIT - This is a temporary working group consisting of Pagarigan (Content), Gracie (Content), Jeff Stevens (Webmaster), Melissa (Design) and Francisco (Content).

Actions work-in-progress



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

Add TDS Update webpage for both east side electric grid and west side new property – Initial Goal: Introduce members to the SDAA Foundation and how it communicates/works with the SDAA BOD.

Add member highlight page – identify skillsets within membership beyond those associated with astronomy. Build strong membership demographics database.

## Facebook Focus

Current member count is 474 as of 260208, Two members added since last report. This is a private account limited to SDAA Members who agree to the group rules. Facebook is a potential backup in the event a member-only webpage is not doable.

## SDAA Podcast

The podcast team (video editor, hosts, featured guests/programs) are gearing up for a 2026 debut.

## I) Outreach Report

Ammann

The year 2025 was not kind to SDAA's astronomical observing events. We were hoping for a better year, but that didn't seem to be in the cards for 2026. Right off the bat, Kumeyaay Lake Campground was cancelled on January 2nd along with Stars-in-the-Park on January 7th because of the dreaded coastal marine layer. We finally got our first 2026 weather break at John Paul Jones Elementary School on January 9th with a clear cold night sky. Brad Freese, Michael Gillen, Woody Schlom, William Cecil, and Dennis Ammann were there to show the students the night sky with Jupiter being the main attraction because it was almost at opposition. Dave Decker headed the SDAA Oakoasis County Park contingent with a nice clear sky and slight breeze. Dave's visitors also viewed bright blazing Jupiter at its 'official opposition day', January 10th. TDS Public Night event didn't make out so well and had to be cancelled due to high winds. The next week was named 'Big Star Week' because there were events each night, starting with Longfellow Elementary School on January 12th. Woody Schlom, Michael Gillen, and Dennis Ammann made up SDAA Telescope Row. The next night was Marie Curie Elementary School, with a 200 plus turnout of parents and students, all patiently waiting in lines. Chris Rogers, Woody Schlom, William Cecil, and Dennis Ammann were there providing views of the night sky. We were lucky to have Chris Golight, a friend of the school, provide his large telescope for viewing too. Continuing on the next night at Solana Vista Elementary School were: Woody Schlom, William Cecil, Michael Gillen, and Dennis Ammann. Finally rounding out the schools for that week was La Mesa Dale Elementary School again with Woody Schlom, Dennis Ammann, and Dave Whigham. Principal Tammie Bobbett is an old hand at organizing her stargazing event by sending out small groups to telescope row, eliminating long lines. Rounding out the week on Friday, January 16th was SDAA member Kin Searcy's Sycamore Canyon West. The turnout of both astronomers and the public wasn't as large as previous months. This ratio of astronomers to visitors results in quality time for the visitors. One example was Ken Hotelling's observer, a



# San Diego Astronomy Association

90 year old lady who told him, "That was the first time I looked through a telescope!" What a great experience that was for her and Ken! On Saturday, January 17th TDS Member Night experienced 10-15mph winds with up to 20-25mph gusts and a semi-clear night sky. Our good luck with clear skies ended on January 20th with Spreckles Elementary School being cancelled, Thursday, Morning Creek Elementary School cancelled, and finally Sycamore Canyon East cancelled, all because of inclement weather.

Year to Date Totals:

2026	Previous	January	YTD
Completed	0	7	7
Canceled	0	7	7
Total	0	905	905

m) TARO

Wood

TARO - TARO is non-operational.

OTA was removed for cleaning - the optics have never been cleaned in the 10 years since TARO has been operational. Cleaning will require complete disassembly of the OTA. We expect cleaning to occur during the month of February. *D. Wood and J. Hermann are doing the cleaning.* The rotator has been returned to Optec for repairs and adjustments due to clutch slipping. Total repair costs are TBD but typically these repairs have been less than 200.00. *Time to complete the repair is 2 - 3 weeks.*

n) Cruzen Observatory

Salinger

The Cruzen observatory continues to be under-utilized. There were 5 reservations during 2025. I sent out a revised operations manual. Once I get 5 requests, I'll schedule something.

As I understand it, the G11 brought over \$600 which covers my proposal to buy a PiFinder. This will eliminate the rather complicated and touchy digital setting circle system and will make the DK much easier to use.

If the usage doesn't pick up, I really think that we should reconsider the observational use only rule. The CGX/Tak system could be used for casual BYO imaging without much expense. A manual could be written for safe use. The only equipment that would be needed for DSLR use would be some kind of guiding system. I'm sure that we have an old refractor lurking somewhere.

*Given the under utilization, the BOD discussed ways to increase member use. R. Salinger intends to generate an email blast and make personal appeals to members at TDS and TDS-W.*



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

o) Pad 70 Observatory

Salinger

At this point the operations guide is ready to be published. I've been testing the system using it for the past two weeks, weather permitting. I replaced the ZWO6200 with a QHY268C as the ZWO stopped downloading images and is being repaired. (My camera, my expense, of course.) At some point I'd like to tap the remaining grant we got from the Downing Family Foundation to commission the Edge 11 that was donated. The Edge needs some work – collimation specifically - before there's any point in using it. I would expect to get this done in the next 30 days using a small camera – QHY183M – that I use for testing.

What's needed now are some beta testers who would like to use the system for 2 weeks to shake out the operations guide.

I'll send out a membership broadcast about the system once that's complete. I have a few volunteers helping me but could use more, of course.

p) Merchandise Report

Burch

Nothing new to report. *Following banquet sales, the BOD needs an update on inventory stocks, improved quality, and application of the new SDAA logo.*

q) Astronomical League Report

Smith

Planning continues for a mid-April in person meeting of the West Region club reps in Flagstaff. No hard details are available yet. Note that I plan on treating the trip as a mini-vacation and don't plan on asking the club for travel reimbursement.

*The West Region Meeting will be held 14 - 16 April. The BOD is very interested in participating in and sponsoring AL events in a reconstituted West Region.*

r) JSF Report

Vacant

s) Grid Reconstruction

Wood

North Grid rebuild has been completed. We are currently waiting on SDG&E for an estimated installation date for the new 200-amp service which includes the new transformer and service meter. Once the meter has been installed, all club asserts including the Lipp/Warming Room, Showers/Restrooms and the public pads will be cut over to the upgraded service.

South Grid - 50% plans have been completed and will be reviewed

Construction will begin once the north section cut-over has been completed on the North Grid



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

We have received a quote for an electric gate control system that will be included as part of the south grid rebuild.

*D. Wood described a gate control system under consideration that would use RFID chips on member car windows or a phone app. The gate would be a powered, double swing gate, existing TDS unit or replacement depending on condition, with emergency manual opening capability. The TDS-W gate could be powered and controlled by the same member access system. M. Smith would like the access control system to handle private pad usage to replace the sign-in notebook.*

t) Membership Project Committee

Love

The committee reviewed a proposal submitted by Mark Smith titled "SD County Fair Photography Award" via the online submission tool.

The description of the idea is The San Diego County Fair holds the world's largest juried print photography contest every year. In addition to the awards handed out by the fair judges, numerous other organizations sponsor awards. Those awards are specific to the purpose of those groups. For example, the Darkroomers sponsor 2 awards for excellence in print photography and the Photoshop User Group sponsors 5 awards for excellence in photo editing. I propose that SDAA sponsor 2 prizes for astrophotography.

Project documents are archived in the MPC shared drive.

Using the ranking tool the project received a total score of 82/100

A motion was made to "Recommend the committee approve the forwarding of the project to the Board of Directors for Approval." The motion passed 6 for, 0 against, and 1 abstaining. The proposal will be taken to the Feb board meeting for consideration.

*The BOD unanimously approved a motion to approve the project for execution (Motion: K. Searcy / Second: R. Salinger)*

The committee has changed our meeting dates from the 3rd Tuesday of the month to the first Tuesday of the month to enable participation in other club activities.

u) Strategic Planning Committee

Blackman

The SPC met January 29th and prepared for the Board's review and/or approval for:

1. Charters for [Membership](#) and [Facilities Planning](#) Committees for Board approval.
2. Draft of publicly facing Strategic Plan for Board approval. (Attached)



# San Diego Astronomy Association

3. Review SDAA Scope for Digital Infrastructure, previously reviewed by Board. (Attached) The plan is to email this document with additional details regarding bid timeline and requirements for interim support.
4. Review job description draft for Executive Director (or similar) ([Link](#))

*The SPC material was received too late for review prior to the meeting. The BOD considered the committee charters to be close to approval but need BOD comment and adjudication that should occur prior to the March meeting. The publicly facing Strategic Plan is well done but requires editing and the same BOD review and comment. The BOD agreed that the SPC should send the bid material for the much-needed digital infrastructure project to SDAA membership and vendors. The contract action will require BOD approval. No action on the ED job description is required currently.*

**Action Item: BOD 02-01: SPC forward a link to an on-line editable version of the charters for membership and facilities planning committees. BOD members will provide markups by the end of February.**

**Action Item: BOD 02-02: SPC form a group to simplify slides 2 and 3 of the strategic plan and forward a link to an on-line editable version for BOD markup.**

**Action Item: BOD 02-03: K. Searcy and D. Wood forward SDAA images to the SPC for the strategic plan.**

Damon spoke with John Downing and Steve Snyder and both agreed to help in our search in any way they can. Steve asked if we would be open to hiring an ED who worked remotely as it might offer high quality at a more affordable rate.

Members of the SPC are also working on updating our org chart

v) Banquet Auction & Raffle

Krizak

The auction finished showing we raised \$6,255. For reference, 2025's banquet auction raised \$5,596 and 2024's auction \$6,566. So, this year's event was right in line with expectations. The auction process went smoothly, with only one minor complaint due to failed payment processing, and one complaint about being "sniped" at the last minute. Five auction winners were not present and will need further coordination to retrieve their items.

The raffle went great as well and raised around \$3500 (Dave W. has the official number). The two SeeStar telescopes were the stand-out favorites. Perhaps @Addy Perry can add some additional subjective stats regarding which of the raffle items were most popular (had the most raffle ticket deposits) - this can help us for future raffles to purchase items that our members are most excited about.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

All said it was a lot of work putting the auction and raffle together. I feel like the auction is too much work for what we get out of it, especially given that "fundraiser" is a bit disingenuous given that we subsidized half the cost of the tickets (so even after the auction+raffle we're pretty close to a wash) and have over \$14 million in the bank. If I'm to continue leading the auction effort, I would like us to consider ways of making it less of a burden for volunteers, for example requiring all auction winners to be present to claim their items, and to limit the auction to items that would conceivably fetch more than \$50 in the auction, with small/inexpensive items handled as live auction items or even just giveaways to help drive attendance. Reducing the number of auction items, and ensuring that all those items leave the venue with new owners, would go a long way toward reducing the workload required to run the auction. I could even see a future where we stop doing the auction entirely and just have the "big ticket" items that would normally be in the auction, implemented as raffle items instead (alongside a smaller slate of new-in-box raffle items).

w) Banquet Committee

Wood

It was successful.... financial cost details will be outlined at the March business meeting.

## 6. Old Business

a) Release Document/Logo Merchandise. B. Pagarigan is working with the member who created the new SDAA logos to finalize the release provided by our lawyer. Once it has been signed and deemed complete, she will upload all logos to Wild Apricot.

b) Balboa Park parking. Previously D. Amman and D. Decker had an action item (BOD 12-04) to contact the R. H. Fleet for parking tags for SDAA star party volunteers. D. Wood knows the Fleet contact for volunteer approval and will take action. At this point, the city has announced that there will be no parking fee enforcement after 6pm.

## 7. New Business

a) Schlom parking on private pad. M. Smith will use the usual structure approval process for the portable observatory.

b) Advance funding for loaner scope program - deferred for treasurer input.

c) Loaner scope program reimbursement - deferred for treasurer input.



# San Diego Astronomy Association

---

d) S. Myers request for TDS conduit use. With the new North grid at TDS, there is an existing buried conduit between the observatories that the observatory owners would like to use for data transmission. The existing copper wiring would be removed for salvage and safety.

The BOD approved a motion 7 to 0, with R. Salinger abstaining, to allow the conduit use (Motion: K. Searcy / Second: J. Love) as follows: The Corresponding Secretary will develop a document conveying BOD approval for the conduit use for signature by the relevant observatory owners. The document will require them to clear the conduit, provide salvaged wiring to SDAA, and deliver a technical description of the resulting setup for SDAA site records.

e) Program meetings. No program meetings are scheduled, and a new committee would be needed to restart the program meetings. K. Searcy reported that MTRP can schedule their auditorium on the former third Wednesday schedule from April through October. Since SDAA partners with MTRP, there is no facility fee, but SDAA would pay for event security.

The BOD discussed the meeting cycle, location and attendance (25 - 45), and format (new, lecture, tutorial, member presented) and concluded that the issue should be brought to the membership at a town-hall type of Zoom.

**Action Item: BOD 02-04: D. Decker, F. Contrera, K. Searcy organize a member town-hall Zoom. Target date is 19 February.**

## 8. Action Items

BOD 02-01: SPC forward a link to an on-line editable version of the charters for membership and facilities planning committees. BOD members will provide markups by end February.

BOD 02-02: SPC form a group to simplify slides 2 and 3 of the strategic plan and forward a link to an on-line editable version for BOD markup.

BOD 02-03: K. Searcy and D. Wood forward SDAA images to the SPC for the strategic plan.

BOD 02-04: D. Decker and F. Contreras organize a member town-hall Zoom. Target date is 19 February.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm by unanimous resolution. (Motion: D. Wood/Second: K. Searcy)



# San Diego Astronomy Association

## 2026 TDS Star Party Schedule

Date	Type	Sunset	Astro. Twi.	Moonrise(set)	Closing	Illumination	Hosts
Jan-10-26	Public	4:58 PM	6:25 PM	12:42 AM	9:30 PM	51.1%	Ed Rumsey
Jan-17-26	Member	5:04 PM	6:30 PM	6:56 AM	9:30 PM	1.2%	Ed Rumsey
Feb-07-26	Public	5:23 PM	6:47 PM	11:28 PM	10:00 PM	69.1%	Jim Traweek & Jannet
Feb-14-26	Member	5:30 PM	6:53 PM	5:31 AM	10:00 PM	8.0%	
Mar-14-26	Member	6:52 PM	8:14 PM	5:03 AM	11:00 PM	20.3%	Igor von Nyssen
Mar-21-26	Public	6:57 PM	8:20 PM	(10:19 PM)	11:30 PM	10.8%	
Apr-11-26	Public	7:12 PM	8:37 PM	3:32 AM	11:30 PM	36.3%	
Apr-18-26	Member	7:17 PM	8:44 PM	(9:13 PM)	12:00 AM	2.9%	
May-09-26	Public	7:32 PM	9:05 PM	2:01 AM	12:00 AM	53.2%	
May-16-26	Member	7:37 PM	9:12 PM	(8:03 PM)	12:00 AM	0.2%	
Jun-06-26	Public	7:50 PM	9:31 PM	12:31 AM	12:30 AM	69.0%	
Jun-13-26	Member	7:53 PM	9:35 PM	4:47 AM	12:30 AM	3.1%	
Jul-11-26	Member	7:55 PM	9:34 PM	3:30 AM	12:30 AM	10.8%	
Jul-18-26	Public	7:52 PM	9:29 PM	(10:47 PM)	12:30 AM	25.7%	
Aug-08-26	Public	7:37 PM	9:07 PM	2:19 AM	12:00 AM	22.1%	
Aug-15-26	Member	7:29 PM	8:58 PM	(9:14 PM)	12:00 AM	12.6%	
Sep-05-26	Public	7:04 PM	8:28 PM	1:15 AM	11:30 PM	35.5%	
Sep-12-26	Member	6:55 PM	8:18 PM	(7:41 PM)	11:30 PM	3.6%	
Oct-03-26	Public	6:27 PM	7:48 PM	12:17 AM	11:00 PM	50.0%	
Oct-10-26	Member	6:18 PM	7:39 PM	7:50 AM	10:30 PM	0.1%	Paul Krizak
Nov-07-26	Member	4:49 PM	6:13 PM	5:40 AM	9:30 PM	2.5%	
Nov-14-26	Public	4:44 PM	6:09 PM	(9:06 PM)	9:00 PM	27.2%	
Dec-05-26	Member	4:39 PM	6:06 PM	4:33 AM	9:00 PM	10.3%	
Dec-12-26	Public	4:40 PM	6:08 PM	(7:57 PM)	9:00 PM	13.1%	

SDAA is now registered with the employer fund-matching platform Benevity. If your workplace offers matching charitable donations for non-profits and uses Benevity to distribute funds, you can now designate the San Diego Astronomy Association. Thank you for supporting the SDAA!

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Send dues and renewals to P.O. Box 23215, San Diego, CA 92193-3215 or renew on-line. The notice that your membership in SDAA will expire is sent by email. Dues are \$60 for Contributing Memberships; \$40 for Basic Membership; \$70 for Private Pads; \$5 for each Family membership.