



THE OBSERVER



[Leo Libbey - Comet C/2025 A6 \(Lemmon\)](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

GRCO Monthly Star Party - Oct. 10th

EVAC Monthly Club Meeting - Oct. 17th

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Desk of the President

by Steve Bradshaw

It's with a heavy heart that I share the current outlook for our 2026 elections—it's not encouraging. So far, no one has stepped forward to fill any officer or board positions for the upcoming year. While I understand that life gets busy and commitments can feel daunting, I want to speak candidly—not to berate or guilt anyone, but to invite reflection and hope.

Our club thrives because of the energy, creativity, and dedication of its volunteers. New faces bring fresh ideas, and they also give our current team a chance to rest and recharge. Without that cycle of renewal, we risk burnout and stagnation.

I want to share a story that many

of you may remember. A few years ago, Claude Haynes—one of our most devoted members—was simultaneously serving as President, Events Coordinator, and GRCO Manager. He was stretched thin, often sacrificing personal time just to keep the lights on. His commitment kept our club alive during its most fragile moments. But no one should have to carry that kind of load alone.

If you've ever felt the magic of a star party, the thrill of learning something new, or the warmth of our community—consider stepping up. Your voice, your energy, could be the spark that keeps us shining. You don't need to be an expert in astronomy or governance. You just need to care.

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From the Desk of the President

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We especially need volunteers for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each role comes with support, guidance, and the chance to shape the future of EVAC. If you're curious but unsure, reach out. Let's talk. No pressure—just possibilities.

And if you feel that tug—that quiet nudge to give back—know that your contribution would mean the world.

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

Steve

Moon Phases October 2025



**Full "Harvest"
Moon**

October 6th

8:47 PM



Third Quarter Moon

October 13th

11:12 AM



New Moon

October 21st

5:25 AM



First Quarter Moon

October 29th

9:20 AM

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

Q: What's the difference between a Harvest Moon and a regular Full Moon?

A: The Harvest Moon rises closer to sunset than other full moons, thanks to the Moon's shallow angle to the horizon in autumn. It's also known for its warm, amber glow.

October 2025 Cosmic Events & Skywatching Tips

- **Harvest Moon:** Rises earlier than usual, casting golden light across the desert.
- **Planetary Parade:** Venus (west), Jupiter (east), Saturn in between—catch them after sunset.
- **Meteor Showers:**
 - Draconids: Oct 8 – brief but dramatic.
 - Orionids: Oct 21–22 – best after midnight. September 1st – Aurigid Meteor Shower

The Harvest Moon In folklore, it lit the fields for farmers. In EVAC tradition, it lights up our imaginations. This month, we invite you to...

Name That Crater!

Spotted a quirky lunar feature during a star party? Give it a name! Submit your most whimsical crater names to webmaster@eva-online.org -- We'll feature favorites in next month's newsletter.



HISTORIC OCTOBER SPACE MOMENTS

October 4, 1957 – Sputnik 1 Launches

The Soviet Union launched the first artificial satellite, Sputnik 1, marking the dawn of the Space Age. Its beeping signal from orbit stunned the world and kicked off the space race.

October 11, 1968 – Apollo 7

NASA's first successful crewed

Takes Flight

Apollo mission, Apollo 7, tested the command module in Earth orbit. It paved the way for future lunar missions and featured the first live TV broadcast from space.

October 15, 1997 – Cassini-Huygens Launch

NASA and ESA launched the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft toward Saturn. It would go on to deliver breathtaking images of Saturn's rings and moons, and even drop a probe onto Titan.

October 9, 2009 – LCROSS Moon Impact

NASA's LCROSS mission deliberately crashed into a shadowed crater near the Moon's south pole, confirming the presence of water ice—an essential discovery for future lunar exploration.

EVAC Outreach Events - October 2025

by Alice Kobe

October Star Parties:

- October 8th - 7:30 PM til 8:30 PM - Apache Junction Multi-Generational Center
- October 10th - Sundown til 9:30 PM - GRCO 2nd Friday Public Star Party
- October 14th - 6:30 PM til 8:00 PM - Fulton Homes At Cooley Station HOA
- October 15th - 6:30 PM til 8:00 PM - Spectrum Elementary School
- October 16th - 6:30 PM til 8:00 PM - Leading Edge Academy Queen Creek
- October 21st - 6:30 PM til 8:30 PM - Lyon's Gate HOA

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.
5. Be familiar with the Public Outreach Events Operations Manual - found [here](#).



EVAC Starry Rewards Outreach Volunteer Luncheon

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

Congratulations to the following club members who have accumulated the required 10 points for the luncheon:

Adam Baum (19), Alice Klobe (42), Andrea Matthias (10), Brooks Scofield (13), Claude Haynes (39), David Patroit (15), Don Wrigley (29), Gordon Rosner (42), John Dunegan (17), Josh Eyre (20), Nathan Eskey (13), Steve Bradshaw (27), Yesenia Galeana (14).

EVAC Monthly Club Meeting Minutes - September 19, 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 3 new guests recognized.
- Steve acknowledged the approximately 30 club members currently at the Mogollon Rim star party.
- There were 61 people in attendance and 28 on the Zoom call.
- Membership and Information: Members were reminded how to join and stay informed via email announcements, the website, and the club's Facebook page.
- Classes: James Yoder is starting a Beginner Telescope Class on October 27th, consisting of five Zoom sessions and four hands-on telescope nights.
- Alice Klobe, the Events Coordinator, provided details on the East Valley Astronomy Club's (EVAC) mission to give back to the community and share the love of astronomy through two primary avenues: the Greco Observatory and Public Outreach Events.
 - October Calendar: The outreach season is starting up, and October is busy with six scheduled star parties. You can check the website's Events and Meetings calendar for the full schedule. The Second Friday Star Party did not occur this month due to construction.
 - New Manual: A new Outreach Events Operations Manual was drafted by Gordon Rosner and is now available on the EVAC website under the "About" tab. This manual helps volunteers understand the expectations for outreach and the coordinator's responsibilities.
- Elections for President, Vice President, and three Board members will be held in November; volunteers for these positions were requested.
- The club's big yearly event, the All-AZ Star Party, is scheduled for October 24th and 25th at Hovatter Road site. The event will feature a potluck, a build-your-own taco bar (\$5), and a raffle with a 127mm Mak-Cass telescope as the grand prize.

Featured Speakers

History and Legacy of the Vatican Observatory:

Jim Ren, representing the Vatican Observatory, presented a talk on the History and Legacy of the Vatican Observatory. He detailed the Catholic Church's long-standing support for astronomy, which dates to 1582. Ren's presentation covered the Vatican's historical role, the relationship between faith and science, and the contributions of key figures like the priest who proposed the Big Bang theory. He also highlighted the modern Vatican Advanced Technology Telescope (VATT) on Mount Graham in Arizona. Currently, a major research focus for the observatory is tracking Near-Earth Objects (NEOs) and asteroids to assess potential impact threats.

Author of Objects in the Heavens:

Author Peter Beern gave an engaging presentation on his book, *Objects in the Heavens*, a comprehensive observing guide now in its seventh version. Beern explained that he created the guide to fill the gap left by incomplete resources, focusing on making the sky accessible to amateur astronomers. The book limits its focus primarily on the Northern Hemisphere and celestial objects of magnitude 10 or brighter, making them viewable with smaller telescopes and binoculars. He also shared valuable tips, including the importance of understanding Right Ascension for locating objects and using sketching as a powerful aid to enhance visual acuity at the eyepiece.

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:

- [Celestron AVX Mount and Tripod](#) (Sale Price = \$600)
- [Meade LX200 GPS SCT UHTC Package](#) (Sale Price = \$1,800)
- [Orion AstroView 6 EQ Newtonian Telescope](#) (Sale Price = \$300)
- [Orion StarSeeker IV mount & Tripod](#) (Sale Price = \$150)
- [Celestron C4.5 Newtonian](#) (Sale Price = \$150)
- [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).

- [Orion Scenix 7 x 50 Binoculars](#) (Sale Price = \$40)

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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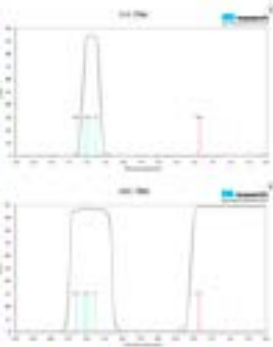
Apache-Sitgreaves Observatory

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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



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

November 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						

November 14th - 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM - EVAC/GRCO Monthly 2nd Friday Star Party

November 18th - Ironwood Crossing HOA Star Party

November 21st - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM - EVAC Monthly Meeting

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
	☐	☐	☐

Renewal Dues (Current Members Only)

Astronomical League: \$10.00 Annually: ☐

Individual	Family	Student (18yr+ with ID)
\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
☐	☐	☐

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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Rosner and Andrew Thorpe*

Events Coordinator: Alice Klobe

Property Director: Tom Jacobs

Refreshments: Open

*Observing Program Coordinator: Wayne
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AL Representative: Brooks Scofield

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Webmaster: Brandon Feldman

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