

# Celestial

Volume 38 Issue 11



# Observer

Nov/Dec 2018



*November Star Party photo by Philip Staudigel with a fish eye lens, 30 second exposure.*

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**Next Meeting:** You're invited to the CCAS Holiday Party on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>! *Details inside.*

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**Next Star Gazing:** Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at sunset at the Santa Margarita KOA. See inside for directions and a map.

# Christmas Party!

Thursday, December 20th in the Wesley Room  
1515 Fredericks Street, San Luis Obispo  
7 PM to 9 PM



In lieu of our December meeting, please join us for our Christmas party! We will be giving away door prizes, including a Helio-Pod, planisphere, night vision flashlight, field guides, pocket atlas, laser pointers, and much more!

Please bring some Christmas goodies to share with everyone, such as cookies, appetizers, candies, etc. Punch and cider will be provided!

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## *CANIS MAJOR*

The great Overdog,  
That heavenly beast  
With a star in one eye,  
Gives a leap in the east.

He dances upright  
All the way to the west,  
And never once drops  
On his forefeet to rest.

I'm a poor underdog,  
But to-night I will bark  
With the great Overdog  
That romps through the dark.

Robert Frost, 1928

## *WHEN I HEARD THE LEARN'D ASTRONOMER*

When I heard the learn'd astronomer,  
When the proofs, the figures, were  
ranged in columns before me,  
When I was shown the charts and  
diagrams, to add, divide, and measure  
them,  
When I sitting heard the astronomer  
where he lectured with much applause in  
the lecture-room,  
How soon unaccountable I became tired,  
and sick,  
Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off  
by myself,  
In the mystical moist night-air, and from  
time to time,  
Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.

Walt Whitman, 1865

# Next Star Gazing

December 8th, 2018 at sunset (4:50PM) at the Santa Margarita KOA

Our Sky Star Parties occur once a month, and are free and open to the public, and also weather-permitting. Check our website for all the details!

Here are more photos from our November star party, courtesy of Philip Staudigel!



# Sacramento Mountains Spectroscopy Workshop

The second Sacramento Mountains Spectroscopy Workshop (SMSW-2) will be held in Las Cruces, New Mexico on February 22, 23 and 24, 2019



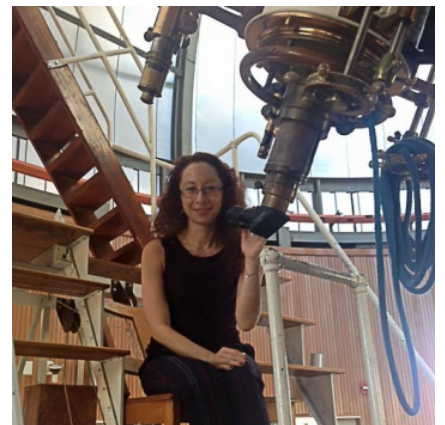
This event is designed to be a boot camp to help friends and neighbors get started and move forward with amateur astronomical spectroscopy. You won't find a boot camp like this anywhere else in the world!

Our in-depth three-day program includes presentations by experienced amateur astronomers and professional astronomers. These presentations will teach you about the hardware and software used by amateurs and introduce you to the kinds of projects you can do as an amateur and how to contribute to pro / am collaborations. In addition, the professional astronomers speaking at SMSW-2 will provide context and detail regarding the astrophysics of spectra and their own research projects.

By the end of the workshop, attendees will be able to take raw data and calibrate it and process it to produce a finished spectra that can be accepted by the BeSS database validators.

You can learn more and register here:

<http://www.smswweb.com/>



# CCAS Officers

Feel free to connect with us!



President: Joseph Carro

Vice President: Tom Frey

Vice President: Aurora Lipper

Outreach Coordinator: Dave Majors

Treasurer: Lee Coombs

Celestial Advisor: Kent Wallace

Webmaster: Joe Richards

## CCAS Contact Information

*Founded in 1979, the Central Coast Astronomical Society (CCAS) is an association of people who share a common interest in astronomy and related sciences.*

Central Coast Astronomical Society

PO Box 1415

San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Website: [www.centralcoastastronomy.org](http://www.centralcoastastronomy.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CentralCoastAstronomicalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/CentralCoastAstronomicalSociety)

## Lectures & Star Parties

### MONTHLY MEETING & LECTURE

On the fourth Thursday of the month (Jan-May, Aug-Oct), we often have world-renowned professionals and amateurs in astronomy speak about their projects during our monthly meetings. The talks are informal and questions are invited.

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in San Luis Obispo. For location and directions, visit our website: [www.sloastro.org](http://www.sloastro.org)

### OUTREACH PROGRAM

We offer a limited number of outreach programs where we bring our star party to you. These custom events include a talk about current topics in space science. After the lectures, we make our telescopes available for your group to observe the wonders of the night sky.

### STAR-GAZING EVENTS

Join us for a star-gazing evening by observing the dark skies through club members' telescopes. It begins just before sunset on one Saturday each month. The Star Party is hosted in Santa Margarita. (See [www.sloastro.org](http://www.sloastro.org) for dates, times and locations).

**Need help operating your telescope?** Bring your telescope one hour early for help on how to work your telescope by our friendly astronomers.



## Why Join CCAS?

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Subscription to *Celestial Newsletter*, our monthly bulletin of articles and events
- Interaction with world class speakers as they present cutting edge astronomical research
- Discounts on *Sky & Telescope* and *Astronomy* magazines
- Social events, such as our annual Star-B-Que
- Club telescopes – use one of the club's loaner scopes, complete with instructional lessons
- Access to 'Members Only' are of the website containing observing tips, scope tricks, and educational articles for all levels
- Field trips – to observatories and other locations of scientific interest, such as Mt. Wilson Observatory in Pasadena, Chabot, Space and Science Center, Fremont Peak, and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (registration fee may be requested)
- Extended observing hours on public nights and private observing sessions exclusively for CCAS members
- Assistance from club members, and other "how-tos" to help you best enjoy amateur astronomy and astrophotography

*Questions about membership or other events?* Call Lee Coombs at (805) 466-2788 or visit our website at:

[www.sloastro.org](http://www.sloastro.org)

## How to Join

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is annual for each upcoming year, beginning when you first sign up. You can sign up online or mail in this form:

*Membership Categories* (Check one):

- \$15 Youth/Student
- \$15 Seniors
- \$20 Individual/Family

*Magazine subscriptions* Add specified amount to membership fee for a 1-year subscription.

- Sky & Telescope* (+ \$33) only in September
- Astronomy* (+ \$34) only available in September

*Information: (PRINT CLEARLY!!)*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Newsletter Subscription:*

You can choose E-Mail (recommended) or hard copy delivery for *Celestial Observer*: (check one)

- E-Mail (full color)
- Hard Copy (black & white)

Please make checks payable to Central Coast Astronomical Society and mail to P.O. Box 1415, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405.

