



***November, 2002***

---

At the **November 1** meeting...

***Dr. John Freeman***

*Rice University*

***Space Storms***

**+**

***HAS Officer Elections***

---

*Houston Astronomical Society*

***GuideStar***

---

HAS Web Page: <http://www.AstronomyHouston.org>

See the *GuideStar's* Monthly Calendar of Events to confirm dates and times of all events for the month, and check the Web Page for any last minute changes.

★★★★★ **The Houston Astronomical Society** ★★★★★★

The Houston Astronomical Society is a non-profit corporation organized under section 501 (C) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society was formed for education and scientific purposes. All contributions and gifts are deductible for federal income tax purposes. General membership meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

★★★★★★★★★ **Officers & Past President** ★★★★★★★★★★

President: Kirk Kendrick ..... H: 281-391-3834      Treasurer: Debbie Moran ..... H: 713-666-9428  
 Vice Pres: Bill Leach ..... H: 281-893-4057      Past President: Don Pearce ..... H: 713-432-0734  
 Secretary: Brian Cudnik ..... H: 832- 912-1244

★★★★★★★★★ **Additional Board Members** ★★★★★★★★★★

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
|  | Liaison responsibility            |
| Bill Flanagan ..... 713-699-8819 ..... | Telescope Loaner Program          |
| Howard Leverenz ..... 713-957-8667     |                                   |
| Jay Levy ..... 281-557-4920 .....      | Field Trip and Observing, Program |
| Christopher Mendell ..... 281-488-8906 |                                   |
| Steve Sartor ..... 281-370-3544        |                                   |

★★★★★★★★★ **Committee Chairpersons** ★★★★★★★★★★

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Audit ..... Matt Delevoryas ..... 713-666-9428       | Program ..... Scott Mitchell ..... 713-461-3020 |
| Education ..... Richard Nugent ..... 713-524-1993    | ..... Don Pearce ..... 713-432-0734             |
| Field Tr./Obsg. .... Steve Grubbs ..... 713-455-5701 | Publicity ..... Warren Wundt ..... 713-697-2960 |
| Novice ..... George Stradley ..... 281-376-5787      | Telescope ..... Darin Palmer ..... 713-223-3123 |
| Observatory ..... Michael Dye ..... 281-498-1703     | Welcoming ..... Marg Nunez ..... 713-529-2549   |
|  | ..... Hannah Lange ..... 832-715-7833           |

★★★★★★★★★ **Ad-Hoc Committee Chairpersons** ★★★★★★★★★★

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Historian ..... Leland Dolan ..... 713-688-0981        | Publ. Star Party ..... Marg Nunez ..... 713-529-2549      |
| Librarian ..... Peggy Gilchrist ..... 281-443-8773     | Rice U. Coord. .... Matt Delevoryas ..... 713-666-9428    |
| Logo Mds Sales ..... Judy Dye ..... 281-498-1703       | Schedule Obs'v'ty ..... Steve Goldberg ..... 713-721-5077 |
| Long Range Plan ..... Bill Leach ..... 281-893-4057    | Texas Star Pty ..... Steve Goldberg ..... 713-721-5077    |
| Parliamentarian ..... Kirk Kendrick ..... 281-391-3834 |   |

★★★★★★ **Special Interest Groups & Help Committees** ★★★★★★★

These are now listed on the inside of *GuideStar* (not every month). See the Table of Contents

★★★★★★★★★ **Advisors** ★★★★★★★★★★

Dr. Reginald DuFour, Rice Univ.      Dr. Lawrence Pinsky, U. of H.

★★★★★★★★★ **Dues and Membership Information** ★★★★★★★★★★

|                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Annual Dues: Regular ... \$33.00 | Student ..... \$5.00 |
| Associate .... \$5.00            | Honorary ..... None  |
| Sustaining . \$50.00             |                      |

All members have the right to participate in Society functions and to use the Observatory Site. Regular and Student Members receive a subscription to *The Reflector*. Regular, Student, and Honorary Members receive *The GuideStar*. Associate Members, immediate family members of a Regular Member, have all membership rights, but do not receive publications. Sustaining members have the same rights as regular members with the additional dues treated as a donation to the Society. *Sky & Telescope* mag \$29.95/year, *Astronomy* mag \$29/year -- see club treasurer.

Membership Application: Send funds to address shown on outside cover of *Guidestar*. Attention - Treasurer, along with the following information: Name, Address, Phone Number, Special Interests in Astronomy, Do you own a Telescope? (If so, what kind?), and where you first heard of H.A.S.

## **Table of Contents**

|    |                            |    |                         |
|----|----------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 4  | Observations of the Editor | 15 | Membership Renewals     |
| 5  | Meeting notice             |    | Other Meetings          |
| 6  | October/November Calendar  | 16 | HAS Web Page            |
| 7  | Hunt for Planets           | 17 | Observatory Duty Roster |
| 9  | Asteroid Occultation       | 18 | Logo Sales              |
| 10 | Recent Photographs         |    |                         |
| 12 | Observatory Corner         |    |                         |

***Check the web site:***

***<http://www.astronomyhouston.org>***

## **Welcome to New Members!**

The Houston Astronomical Society encourages you to join our group of active amateur astronomers and take advantage of the benefits of membership. As a member you'll have access to the club observing site near Columbus, Texas. (You're required to participate in a site orientation meeting before you get the gate lock combination.) The site has concrete pads for setting up your telescope, restroom and bunkhouse facilities, and areas set aside for camping. You'll get monthly issues of the *GuideStar* newsletter, you'll get to vote and to serve the organization as an officer, and you will be supporting the local amateur astronomy community.

## **Special Interest Group Listing**

*Any member who wants specific information on a SIG listed below may call the listed individual. Also, see the "Ad Hoc Committee Chairpersons" on the inside front cover and the "Special Help Volunteers" listing (not in every issue).*

|                           |                       |              |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Advanced .....            | Bill Flanagan .....   | 713-699-8819 |
| Comets .....              | Don Pearce .....      | 713-432-0734 |
| Lunar & Planetary .....   | John Blubaugh .....   | 713-921-4275 |
| Occultations & Grazes ... | Wayne Hutchison ..... | 713-827-0828 |
| Advanced .....            | Bill Leach .....      | 281-893-4057 |

---

# *Observations... of the editor*

---

by *Bill Pellerin, GuideStar Editor*

Sunday, 10/13/02--

What a fine weekend this was for astronomy. Friday night was the Houston area all-clubs meeting with Brad Schaefer as the presenter. His presentation on the origin of the Greek constellations was excellent. In this presentation, Brad discussed the origin of the various constellations of the night sky, which civilization was responsible for the creation of the constellation, and when they created it. Very interesting.

Yesterday was Astronomy Day at the George Observatory in Brazos Bend Park. The place was swarming with participants. The organization of the event was outstanding. I was able to attend a presentation by Dr. Reggie DuFour from Rice University and saw a bit of a presentation by Bill Leach on astrology. All the presentations were well attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

There were lots of telescopes set up on the deck and lots of eager observers. Luckily, the sky was clear and the near first quarter moon shown brilliantly in the sky.

We had some printed *GuideStars* for the participants in Astronomy Day, so we were able to do some recruiting of potential new members.

-----

The *GuideStar* will be mailed this month, thanks to Anne Hallman and Hanna Lange who have assumed responsibility for this effort. When you see them, let them know that you appreciate their efforts.

-----

If you have email, and who doesn't these days, you should be a subscriber to the HAS list server. It's easy to understand what it does. When you send an email to the list server, the server, in turn, sends it out to every subscriber to the server. That's it!

*Continued on page 14...*

# ***Houston Astronomical Society***

---

***Special Meeting Notice  
For Friday, November 1, 2002***

***Dr. John Freeman  
of Rice University  
Space Storms  
+  
HAS Elections***

---

**Schedule of meeting activities:**

All meetings are at the University of Houston Science and Research building. See the inside back cover for a map to the location.

Novice meeting: ..... 7:00 p.m.

Site orientation meeting: ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Classroom 121

General meeting: ..... 8:00 p.m.  
Room 117

**See the inside back cover for a map  
and more information.**

# November/December Calendar:



Photo by Scott Mitchell

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Event</i> |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
|-------------|-------------|--------------|

## November 2002

|       |            |   |
|-------|------------|---|
| 1     | 7:00 p.m.  | Novice Presentation - U of H.   |
|       | 8:00 p.m.  | General membership meeting U of H.<br>Elections; Dr. John Freeman, Rice University,<br>to speak on storms in space. |
| 2     |            | Prime Night-Columbus  |
| 4     | 2:34 p.m.  | New Moon  |
| 9-10  | 12:35 a.m. | Occultation of 5.3 mag. Pi Arietis by 828 Lindemania;<br>contact Richard Nugent, 713-524-1993, to participate.      |
| 11    | 2:52 p.m.  | First Quarter Moon  |
| 12    | 7:30 p.m.  | Advanced SIG meeting, contact Bill Flanagan, 713-699-<br>8819   |
| 17-18 |            | Peak of Leonid meteor shower  |
| 19    | 7:34 p.m.  | Full Moon   |
| 27    | 9:46 a.m.  | Last Quarter Moon   |
| 30    |            | Members Observatory Night- Columbus   |

## December 2002

|    |           |  |
|----|-----------|--|
| 4  | 1:34 a.m. | New Moon   |
| 6  | 7:00 p.m. | Novice Presentation - U of H.  |
|    | 8:00 p.m. | General membership meeting U of H.<br>TBD                            |
| 7  |           | Members Observatory Night- Columbus                                  |
| 11 | 9:49 a.m. | First Quarter Moon   |
| 14 | 6:00 a.m. | Geminid meteor shower maximum; often bright, plentiful,<br>and slow. |
| 17 |           | Saturn at opposition   |
|    | 7:30 p.m. | Advanced SIG meeting, contact Bill Flanagan, 713-699-<br>8819        |
| 19 | 1:10 p.m. | Full Moon  |
| 21 | 7:14 p.m. | Winter Solstice. Sun reaches furthest southern limit.                |
| 26 | 6:31 p.m. | Last Quarter Moon  |
| 28 |           | Prime Night-Columbus   |

Send calendar events to [JBlubaugh@aol.com](mailto:JBlubaugh@aol.com)  
or call 713-921-4275.

---

# ***Hunt for Planets with Dr. Geoff Marcy***

## ***...at the W.M. Keck Observatory***

---

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) announces a unique fundraising auction—an observing night at the W.M. Keck Observatory in Hawai'i with internationally renowned astronomer Dr. Geoff Marcy.

The ASP has pledged to donate 5% of the auction proceeds to the amateur astronomy club of the winner's choice.

The highlight of the five day/four night trip for two is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend a night in the Keck I control room with Dr. Marcy and his team during one of his scheduled observing runs. Dr. Marcy will host dinner that evening, and the winner will be able to sleep overnight at the VSQ (Visiting Scientists' Quarters), which is open only to astronomers. The auction package includes round trip airfare for two, resort accommodations, car rental, meals, and a behind-the-scenes VIP tour of the W.M. Keck Observatory conducted by a Keck staff member.

Potential bidders may visit the ASP Web site at <http://www.astrosociety.org> immediately to get full information and to be notified exactly when the auction will begin. The auction will be held in January 2003 on a popular auction Web site. The winner can schedule the trip to coincide with any of Dr. Marcy's scheduled observing nights in 2003.

The Keck I and II twin 10-meter telescopes are the world's largest optical telescopes, located at the summit of Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawai'i, at an altitude of 13,796 feet. The Observatory headquarters, Visiting Scientists' Quarters, and control rooms are located in Waimea, at about 2,500 feet.

Dr. Marcy, of the University of California, Berkeley, and his research team are the world's premier planet hunters, having uncovered more than seventy of the approximately 100 extrasolar planets found to date. The team monitors the spectra of over 1,200 stars and recently found a

*Continued....*

---

## ***Hunt for Planets... from previous page***

---

planetary system that bears some resemblance to our own, with a planet in an orbit similar to Jupiter's orbiting a Sun-like star.

"I'm looking forward to observing with the auction winner as we continue our search for extra-solar planets," said Dr. Marcy. "Every time you have the privilege to point one of the giant Keck telescopes skyward it feels like you're embarking on an epic voyage of discovery. You feel a kinship with Galileo, Tycho Brahe, Kepler, Newton, Hubble and so many others driven to explore the boundaries of the universe. And, on a practical level, the auction is a wonderful way to contribute to the ASP's programs that build science literacy, inspire kids, and nurture the next generation of scientists and astronomers."

The auction is a fundraising event for the ASP's nationwide education programs. These include The Universe in the Classroom, a free, Web-based newsletter for teachers, the Society's Web site with extensive resources for educators, Project ASTRO astronomer/teacher partnerships in cities around the country, and the Society's public information program, which responds to thousands of information requests every year from students of all ages.

"The ASP wishes to express its gratitude to Dr. Marcy and to the staff of the W.M. Keck Observatory for making this unique fundraising event possible. We simply can't thank them enough," said Michael Bennett, ASP Executive Director.

"Furthermore, the ASP is pleased to donate five percent of the winning bid to the amateur astronomy club of the winner's choice," added Bennett. "We want to demonstrate our support for the amateur astronomy community and their important outreach and educational efforts."

Founded in 1889, the non-profit Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) has grown far beyond the regional institution implied in its name to become the world's largest general astronomy organization, with members in all 50 states and over 70 countries. Bringing together professional astronomers, amateur astronomers and science educators over the last 114 years, the ASP has become an acknowledged leader in astronomy education at all levels and a respected source of astronomical information

*Continued...*



---

## **Hunt for Planets... from previous page**

for the general public. The ASP produces several important general, technical, and educational publications, including the bimonthly Mercury magazine for all ASP members, the technical journal Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the ASP Conference Series, The Universe in the Classroom teachers' newsletter, and others. In furtherance of its mission in astronomy education, the ASP developed the NSF-funded Project ASTRO, a nationwide program that partners amateur and professional astronomers with teachers and classrooms. The Society also produces an extensive catalog of astronomy-related products for educators, amateur astronomers, and the public.

---

## ***Asteroid to Occult 5th Magnitude Star***

---

Plan on taking part in an observing event on November 10. On that date there will be an occultation of a 5th magnitude star (Pi Arietis) by asteroid Lindemania...right over the Houston area. Details can be found at <http://www.eclipsetours.com/events.html>. Paul Maley is leading an effort to get enough observers scattered over the path to be able to fully map the asteroid. This could be a true all-clubs observing event!

Check the H.A.S. web site for updates, and subscribe to the 'list server'.

These types of occultations ... with naked eye stars ... covering a large area of the Houston ... with a known asteroid whose elements are known (little error in path)... are rare.

---

## *Recent Photographs*

Alan Gilchrist and Bob Rogers work on the C14 mount at the HAS observatory site near Columbus (instead of attending Astronomy Day). Thanks to those who worked on this, the HAS membership will have access to this fine instrument.

Submitted by Michael Dye



Scott Mitchell, our program chair, was also our presenter at the September, 2002 meeting. His presentation on his observing trip to South America was excellent, and was accompanied by sky photographs and photos of the participants in the trip.

Photo by Bill Pellerin



*Continued...*

---

## *... more photos*

Bradley Schaefer from UT provided the presentation for the All-Clubs meeting on Friday, August 11 at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. His presentation was on the creation and naming of constellations and provided the attendees with significant information on which civilization is the most likely to have been responsible for naming which constellations, and when.

All photos by Bill Pellerin



Barbara Wilson at the all-clubs meeting helped open the festivities.

Bill Leach was one of organizers of Astronomy Day, and also did a presentation outdoors. When I wandered by, he was talking about why Astrology can't be accurate.



---

# *Observatory Corner*

---



*By Michael B. Dye Observatory Chairman*



This month I have two items to talk about, first the annual Picnic and second, the return of the C-14. I was told that the picnic was a lot of fun. I was not able to attend because I overstressed myself on Thursday moving about two yards of dirt off the road. I was told to spend Saturday and Sunday resting. Ken Miller did the cooking and Marilyn Burke provided a wild pig to supplement the Hamburgers and Hotdogs. I had about twenty-five people sign up using E-mail and about 40 or

so attended. Believe it or not, I was told that despite my vague request to bring food, we had a wide enough variety of food to go around. My thanks to all the members who attended the picnic and brought food. You helped make the 2002 Annual Picnic a big hit.

The sky was clear for the three days I spent at the Observatory Site and Saturday was no exception. I was told much fun was had by all consuming food during the evening and observing during the night. The highlight of the festivities was a presentation by Allen Gilchrist to Ed Szczepanski of the Yard Of The Month sign indicating what a good job that Ed was doing keeping the grass around the pad and picnic area groomed. I agree, keep up the good work, Ed.



Saturday (October 12<sup>th</sup>) the same day as Astronomy Day at the George Observatory, Allen Gilchrist, Ed Preston and Bob Rogers installed the C-14 back into the Observatory. I helped somewhat and took a few pictures when I wasn't helping. Allen and Ed cleared off the metal tray that is attached to the pier and started assembling the C-14 back onto the pier. Bob started assembling the computer that is to be used to control the Telescope. I took pictures of all this activity. Bob did indicate that if the light flashed next to him again while he had his hands inside the computer that he was

*Continued...*

---

## ***Observatory Corner... from previous page***

---

working on, I might find the camera in a very inconvenient location. The monitor, the box that contained the control electronics and the due shield power supply were installed on the pier tray. The computer was installed under the tray on the West Side of the pier which is the direction that the Monitor faces. A portion of Allen's report to the Observatory Committee is as follows.

"We reassembled the system, mounted the accessories, got everything balanced and installed the stepper motors and electronics. The system came up fine, and needed only minor adjustments go get everything running." . . . "After the assembly, Bob and I did a polar alignment on Saturday night. We took our time, with a couple of false starts (one of the keeper nuts was on the wrong side, requiring a partial disassembly of the system before we could get close enough to the pole to do a drift alignment). We eventually achieved less than 1 arc second of detectable drift in ten minutes at the meridian and about 30 degrees above the Eastern horizon."

The Observatory Committee has decided that all key holders will need to be retrained on proper use of the C-14. Training classes will be announced later this year. As soon as the people who will be performing the training become proficient in the scope use.

The Society continues to benefit from members who shop at Randalls. For this we (the Society) thanks you. Please link your Randalls card to the Houston Astronomical Society so that the society can benefit from the Randalls program. Our number is #6618. This is very easy to do, just go to the Courtesy Booth and tell the person there what you what to do. We are also in the process of getting a Kroger number that does the same thing for Kroger but this activity does not seem to be moving along very fast. I think I need to talk to someone.

Please fill out the appropriate log form when you use the site. Remember we use these forms as attendance records and to report Observatory Site problems such as broken toilets.

---

## ***Observations... from page 4***

---

I got an email from the list server today alerting me to a visible pass of the space shuttle and the International Space Station. As a result of that email I went outside at the specified time, looked in the specified direction, and there came the space shuttle, followed quickly by the ISS. Pretty neat. This sighting was made from a location about 3 miles from downtown Houston, so you KNOW that the objects were quite bright.

I've told you this before, however, if you're interested in seeing and identifying satellites check out [www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com).

-----

I posted information on the list server about a public presentation (tomorrow - 10/19/2002) of the World Space Conference. Dr. Jill Tarter, who is the director of the Center for the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Research will be giving a talk at 11:00 a.m. at the George Brown Convention Center. I'm planning on going to this, and I'll let you know next month how it turns out.

***Until next time... clear skies and new moons!***

***..Bill***

---

# ***Membership Renewals...***

---

**Please check the mailing label on your copy of the *GuideStar*.**

It'll tell you when your membership expires. If it expires soon, please send your renewal to the address on the outside cover of *GuideStar*. The dues information is on the inside front cover.

Membership in the Houston Astronomical Society is one of the great bargains in Astronomy. For a regular membership of \$33 you get the opportunity to support an active and growing organization, you get the monthly *GuideStar* newsletter, and you get access to the outstanding H.A.S. observing site near Columbus, Texas. (You must attend an orientation, given monthly, to use the site.) And, after two months of membership you can borrow, at no charge, one of the Society's loaner telescopes. It's the best deal in town, we think. Please renew your membership when it expires.

***Thanks!***

---

## ***Other Meetings...***

---

**Fort Bend Astronomy Club** meets the third Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the First Colony conference Center. Novice meeting begins at 7:00, regular meeting begins at 8:00. Web site: <http://www.fbac.org>

**Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society** meets in the the Lunar and Planetary Institute on the 2nd Friday of each month. Web site: <http://www.ghgcorp.com/cbr/jscas.html>

**North Houston Astronomy Club** meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Friday of each month in the Teaching Theatre of the Student Center at Kingwood College. Call 281-312-1650 or E-mail [bill.leach@nhmccd.edu](mailto:bill.leach@nhmccd.edu). Web site: [www.astronomyclub.org](http://www.astronomyclub.org)

---

## ***HAS Web Page***

The Houston Astronomical Society Web page has information on the society, its resources, and meeting information.

The address is: <http://www.astronomyhouston.org>

Want your astronomy work and name on the Internet for the whole world to see? Have some neat equipment? Pictures in film, CCD, hand drawings or video format are all welcome on the page. Do you have an idea to improve the page? I'm listening. Send me Email at [goldberg@infohiwy.net](mailto:goldberg@infohiwy.net). (You can click on my name on the HAS home page). Or, you can call Steve Goldberg (WebMaster), at 713-721-5077.

---



***GuideStar deadline  
for the December  
issue  
is November 15***



---

# ***Observatory Duty Roster***

---

*by Michael B. Dye, Observatory Chairman*

This is the duty list for November, December and January 2003. If you are listed in this roster, please be sure to contact your supervisor for any information that you may need and the date and time to be at the site. You may change from site duty to open house or from open house to site duty by pre-arrangement with the Site Supervisor for that month. Changes between months require Observatory Chairman coordination.

**November Supervisor ..... Logan Rimes ..... 713-681-5397**  
Robert Menius ..... Site  
Larry Mitchell ..... Members Observatory Night 11-30-02  
Debbie Moran ..... Site  
Mark Mulrooney ..... Members Observatory Night 11-30-02  
Ben Negy, Jr. .... Members Observatory Night 11-30-02  
Johnny Norris ..... Site

**December Supervisor ..... Robert Rogers ..... 281-997-9682**  
Richard Nugent ..... Site  
Ralph Overturf ..... Site  
Don Pearce ..... Site  
Sim Picheloup ..... Members Observatory Night 12-07-02  
Steve Simpson ..... Members Observatory Night 12-07-02  
Henry Schneider ..... Members Observatory Night 12-07-02

**January Supervisor ..... To be announced ..... xxx-xxx-xxxx**  
Marge Nunez ..... Site  
Steve Simpson ..... Site  
Larry Wadle ..... Site  
Mark R. Watson ..... Members Observatory Night 01-xx-03  
Barbara Wilson ..... Members Observatory Night 01-xx-03  
Buster Wilson ..... Members Observatory Night 01-xx-03

Please remember that Site work can be done anytime and does not have to be done just before Members Observatory Night. Contact your Site Supervisor for details. Names are selected for Site Duty using the current Alphabetical listing for Observatory Key Holders. If any member knows of a conflict please call me before your name is listed.

---

# Logo Sales

---

For H.A.S. Logo merchandise, call:  
Judy Ann Dye - 281-498-1703

## Hooded Sweatshirts

Sizes available:

M, L, XL, XXL

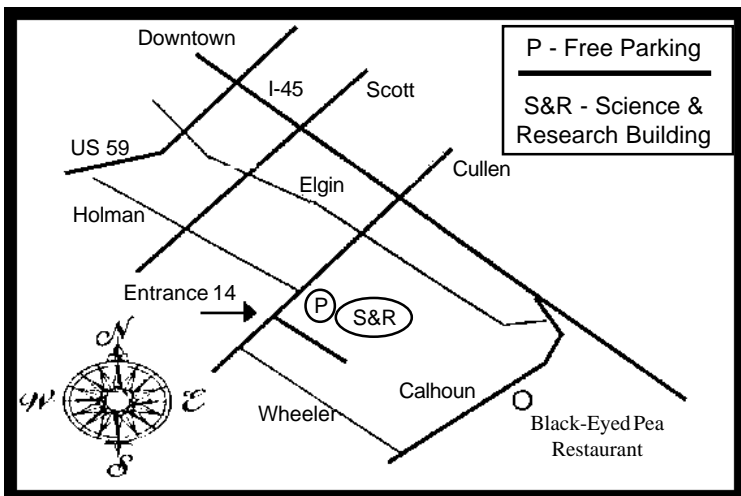
Check with Judy for current prices. These are made from heavy sweatshirt material and were very popular at the previous meetings. If you want one, come to the meeting -- cash and checks accepted.



Books available:

- Observe the Herschel II Guide \$17.00**
- Observe and Understand the Sun \$14.00**
- Astronomy, The Teachers Handbook \$12.00**
- ALPO's Mars Observer's Handbook \$12.00**
- Observe Variable Stars \$17.00**
- Observe Eclipses \$17.00**

Orders will be taken for the 16 inch Levy Planisphere. It sells for \$24.00.



### **General Membership Meeting**

The Houston Astronomical Society holds its regular monthly General Membership Meeting on the first Friday of each month, unless rescheduled due to a holiday. Meetings are in Room 117 of the Science and Research Building at the University of Houston. A Novice Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.. The short business meeting and featured speaker are scheduled at 8:00 p.m. Also typically included are Committee Reports, Special Interest Group Reports, current activity announcements, hardware reviews, an astrophotography slide show by members and other items of interest.

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

The Board of Directors Meeting is held on dates scheduled by the board at 7:00 p.m. in Room 106 of the Space Science Building at Rice University. Call StarLine for Board Meeting information. Information provided to GuideStar will be published. The meetings are open to all members of the Society in good standing. Attendance is encouraged.

### **GuideStar Information**

The H.A.S. *GuideStar*s published monthly by the Houston Astronomical Society. All opinions expressed herein are those of the contributor and not necessarily of Houston Astronomical Society. The monthly Meeting Notice is included herein. *GuideStar*s sent via bulk rate mail to Regular, Student, and Honorary Members of H.A.S., selected individuals and recent visitors to the General Membership Meeting. Contributions to *GuideStar* by members are encouraged. Electronic submission is helpful. Submit the article in ASCII text, MS-Word (preferred), or WordPerfect format on an IBM format floppy or via AOL (BILLP10566). Mail copy to the address shown on the outside cover or to the editor at 256 East 5th Street, Houston, TX 77007. Copy must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the issue to be mailed near the end of the same month. Or, bring copy to the General Membership Meeting and give it to the Editor, or phone to make special arrangements.

Editing & Production: Bill Pellerin, 713-880-8061; FAX: 713-880-8850;

AOL: BILLP10566; Internet: BILLP10566@AOL.COM

Reproduction and Mailing: Jeff Cooper, jcooper@velaw.com

Advertising: Advertisers may inquire concerning ad rates and availability of space.



## **Houston Astronomical Society**

---

P.O. Box 20332 • Houston, TX 77225-0332

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
STAFFORD, TX  
77477  
Permit No. 183