

**December  
2007**



**OBSERVER**

## **December Meeting**

December 14, 2007 7:00PM

TCC Metro Campus - Philips Auditorium  
Building 2 9th and Cincinnati

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By Tamara Green

I wish all of you and your families a very merry holiday season and a Happy New Year! (and, Owen, don't forget to wish your club president a happy 40th, 'K? You wouldn't want to be on Santa's bad list, right?)

For our December 14 meeting, I am still trying to secure a guest speaker, although December is an iffy month for weather, as we found out last year. Hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate with us this year, and that I will be able to get someone to give us a presentation you all will enjoy. So if you're up to it, take a break from all that nerve-fraying holiday shopping and office parties and come on out and have a little fun with your astronomy friends!

Also, don't forget our December star party on Friday the 7th. It probably will be chilly, but you will get to see highlights such as Sirius and the other bright stars of winter, the nebulous M42, the planet Mars, and other winter wonders!

I look forward to seeing you all and clear skies!

Tamara

# **Lands Tidbits** – by *John Land* **Dec 14, 2007**

**The Royal Canadian Handbooks for 2008 are in.** Be sure to pick yours up at the meeting. Price is \$19 I only have two extra from the ones preordered.

**Only TEN 2008 wall calendars left.** \$ 8 each first come first served.

## **Our membership rates for 2007 – 2008**

Adults - \$ 35 per year includes Astronomical League Membership

Sr. Adult discount \$25 per year for those 65 or older includes Astronomical League Membership

Students \$ 15 without League membership.

Students \$ 20 with League membership.

The regular membership allows all members in the family to participate in club events but only ONE voting membership and one Astronomical League membership.

If an additional member of the family would like to join with voting rights the additional cost is \$15. Additional League memberships within a family are \$ 5 each.

**Welcome Recent New Members:** Larry Lumpkin, Charles Bell, Steve Loder

You may renew your [Sky & Telescope subscription](#) directly with out having to mail in the subscriptions to the club treasurer. You may have already notice the new address if you received a renewal notice. You will still receive the club discount rate of \$ 32.95 per year. Sky & Telescope will send out a list annually to verify club membership. You may also phone in your renewal at 1-800-253-0245. You will need to know your subscription number when you call. The new change should make renewing your subscription more convenient and allow you to use your credit card. The down side seems to be that it has added about an extra month to getting renewals and new subscriptions started. So send renewals in at least 2 months before they expire.

[NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS must still be sent to the club treasurer.](#) [Forms are available on the website.](#)

## **DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP or Subscriptions LAPSE !!**

Check your MAILING LABEL for membership expiration date. Those receiving Email should get a reminder when your membership is up for renewal or you may contact John Land. You may also renew magazine subscriptions through the club for substantial discounts.

**Magazine subscriptions Renewals:** Several of you may be receiving renewal notices for you Astronomy or Sky & Telescope. Sky & Telescope may be renewed directly to the company. If you have an individual membership you may renew through the club you get a substantial discount. Go to the website and fill out the renewal form then print it off and mail it in with your notice and envelope from the magazine. Or you may fill out and mail in the form below.

**GUEST SIGN IN SECTION** on the Website is already bringing the club new contacts for potential new members.

**Changing EMAIL** - When you change your email or mailing address be sure to send me the new information so I can update the club records. You can use the Join feature on the club web page to make changes.

### **ON LINE Club Memberships and Renewals:**

**Adults** - \$ 35 per year includes Astronomical League Membership

**Sr. Adult** - discount \$25 per year for those 65 or older includes Astronomical League Membership

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We now have an automated on line registration form on the website for new AND renewal memberships plus magazine subscriptions. You simply type in your information and hit send to submit the information.

<http://www.astrotulsa.com/Club/join.asp>

You can then **print a copy of the form and mail in your check.**

Astronomy Club of Tulsa - 25209 E 62nd St – Broken Arrow, OK 74014

**Magazine Subscriptions:** If your magazines are coming up for renewal, try to save the mailing label or renewal form you get in the mail. Do NOT mail renewals back to the magazine!

To get the club discount you must go through the club group rate.

Astronomy is \$ 34 for 1 year or \$ 60 for 2 years. [www.astronomy.com](http://www.astronomy.com)

Sky & Telescope is \$33 / yr [www.skyandtelescope.com](http://www.skyandtelescope.com)

Sky and Telescope also offers a 10% discount on their products.

### **Address Corrections- Email changes – Questions:**

You may forward questions to the club by going to our club website and Fill out an online form or just click on John Land and send an email. Please leave a clear subject line and message with your name, phone number, your question – along with address or email



**Astronomy Club of Tulsa  
70th Anniversary  
Nov. 16, 2007**

**Front Row Left to Right**

John Land, Reggie Kikugawa, Tom McDonough, Denny Young

**2nd Row Left to Right**

Amy Pagan, Dewey Smith, Owen Green, Tamara Green, Denny Mishler, Tim Davis,  
Teresa Kincannon, Judy Lieser, Phillip Dunbar, Jim Miller, John Barry, Steve Chapman

**Back Row Left to Right**

Dennis Karcher, Chris Pagan, Gary Thomas, Rick Walker, Peggy Walker, Craig Davis,  
Rod Gallagher, Bill Lea, Bob Lieser, John Podpechan, Allan Harkness

# “Astro-Surfing” – Astronomy on the Internet

## by D. J. Karcher

### #1 – Your Basic Daily Astronomy Fix!

The internet has become a basic part of everyday communications in modern day life and the amount of information that it contains and transmits is absolutely incredible. I log on daily to check e-mail and do a bit of “surfing on the net”. Over the last few years, I’ve discovered a few sites that have become almost a ritual to check every day, and have been added to my “favorites” list on my web browser. In just a few minutes, I can get a daily astronomy fix, learn a few new facts and perhaps get a bit of late breaking news from the world of the stars. This list is by no means comprehensive, but it has become my habit to check these sites when I first log on and check my e-mail. I hope that you’ll enjoy them too, if you’ve not already found these fine resources.



**APOD** – Astronomy Picture of the Day (<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>) the granddaddy of daily internet picture sites. APOD has been around since 1995 and never fails to provide a “wow” factor photograph along with interpretation by a professional astronomer. The pictures (naturally) are heavily based on NASA resources, but there are numerous contributions by amateur astronomers.

**EPOD** – Earth-Science Picture of the Day (<http://epod.usra.edu/index.php3>) another NASA grant site that highlights the diverse processes and phenomena which shape the planet Earth. EPOD collects and archives photos, imagery, graphics, and artwork with short explanatory captions and links exemplifying features within the Earth system and frequently highlights atmospheric and meteorological phenomena that are of significant interest to the astronomy community.

**LPOD** – Lunar Photo of the Day (<http://www.lpod.org/>) this site is run by Charles A. Wood, a lunar geological expert and regular contributor to Sky & Telescope Magazine. LPOD always has a fine example of amateur lunar photography or historical information with Chuck’s professional interpretation of the images.

**NASA** - Image of the Day Gallery (<http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/index.html>) a fine smorgasbord of NASA images and archives, updated Monday through Friday. The site includes links to Hubble, Cassini and many other important and current NASA projects. Good way to stay up-to-date on the ISS and Space Shuttle programs.

**Universe Today** (<http://www.universetoday.com/>) - a good site for breaking news and what’s up in the sky, but has a heavy dose of advertising. Lots of great links, however.

**Space Weather** (<http://spaceweather.com/>) – news and information about the Sun-Earth environment. Sunspot & aurora alerts as well as general news and information on breaking events (had a lot of great information about the comet 17P/Holmes outburst). Not a lot going on with the Sun currently near solar sunspot minimum, but an excellent place to check for news routinely.

# EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

## Telescopes and Accessories

**Free** - Low profile German Equatorial mount suitable for a 6 inch or 8 inch telescopes. Also has a motor RA drive.

**Free** - Complete collection of Astronomy Magazines from 1976 to 1999. Neatly tied in bundles by year. Also have some individual years of Sky and Telescope. They have been stored indoors and are in excellent shape. If you don't save them they're going to the recycle bins.

**For Sale** - \$ 100 - new 10 inch f 7 mirror in a mirror cell with 2 inch diagonal mirror and 2 inch helical focuser. Would make a great Dobsonian kit for someone willing to make a truss Dob out of it.

My garage is overflowing with stuff I don't use much anymore. If you can make some use of these things you are welcome to them.

John Land (918) 357-1759 [astroclubbiz@valornet.com](mailto:astroclubbiz@valornet.com)

## Meade 10" LX50

The telescope is in perfect condition with tripod & superwedge and carrying case. Also included Filter set 1: #12(yellow),#23A(red),#58(green), #80A(Blue) and a Meade MD 96 1.25 Moon filter; Meade Superplossl 32mm multi-coated eye piece; Meade 2X Teleneegative Amplifier; and Meade Super Plossl 26mm Multi-coated. Asking \$1200 OBO

Annie Guinn (918) 786-9810 [cabinhome@earthlink.net](mailto:cabinhome@earthlink.net)

The estate of Ken Willcox has several items for sale. Anyone who's interested please contact:

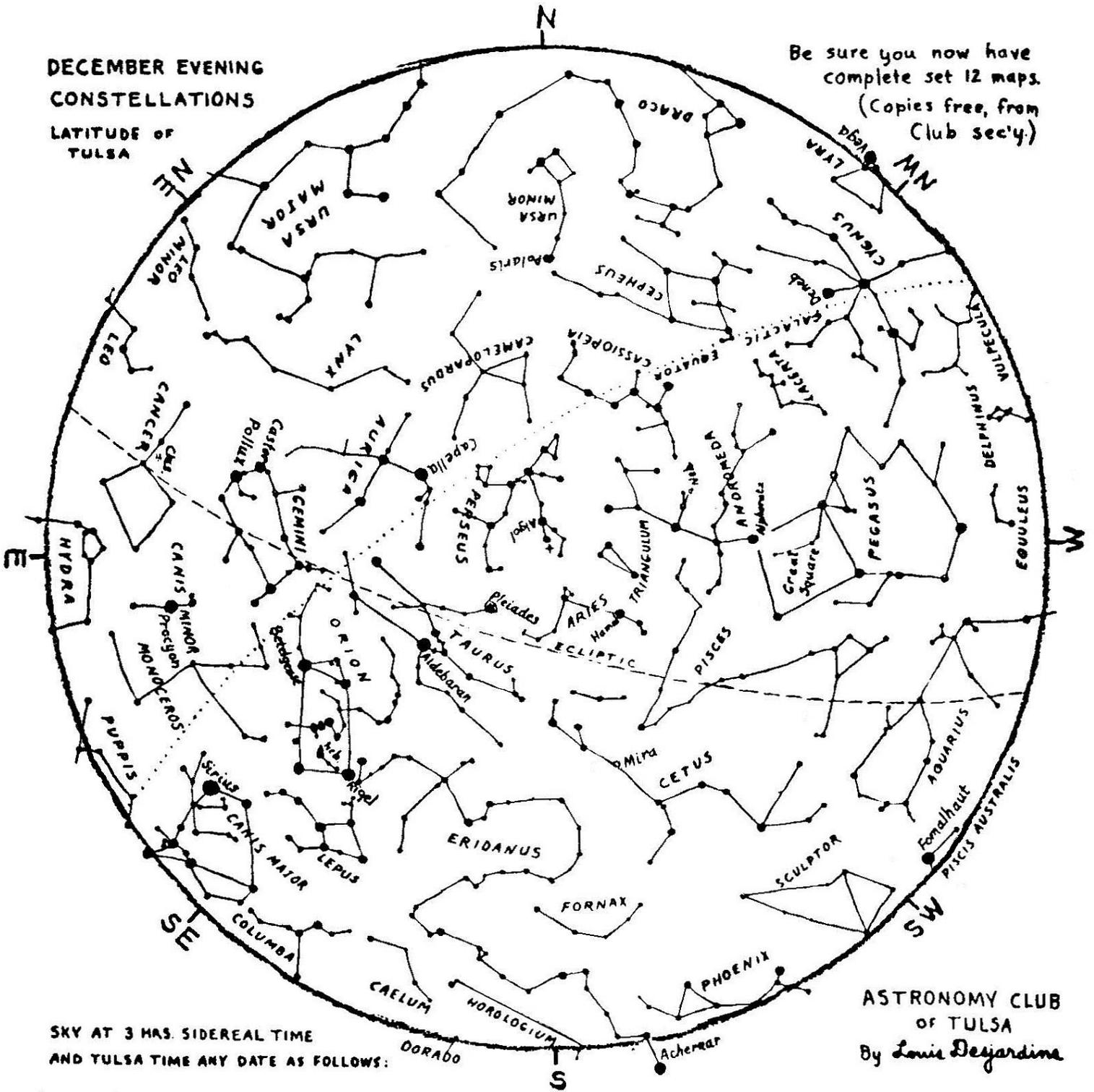
John Grismore (918) 333-5257 [jgrismore@cablone.net](mailto:jgrismore@cablone.net)

Eagle-Picher	12V 5Amp Porta-Pac		rechargeable	with cigarette lighter socket, battery condition unknown	\$10.00
Celestron	Telescope	C8		with tripod, wedge, visual back	\$500.00
Edmund	Lens Luster Cleaning Solution				
NASA	Atlas of Galaxies		book, 1988	currently selling for \$125	\$75.00
NASA	Moon Viewed by Lunar Obiter		book, 1970		\$20.00
SBIG	CCD Camera		ST-6 Opto-Head	no cable, software or documentation	\$350.00
SBIG	CCDOPS Software		Macintosh		
SBIG	Color Filter Wheel		CFW-6A		\$350.00
Starlight	Astro Flashlight				\$5.00
Zelco	Lumifier (astro light?)			in package	\$5.00
	Illuminator Batteries	2 per pack	SR-44	condition unknown	
	Allen Wrenches				
	Assorted Books				
	Assorted NASA Slides				
	Assorted Small Hardware				
	Assorted Posters				
	Film Hypering Apparatus ?				
	Hand Mirror		front surface?	solar filter ???	\$3.00
	Lighted Magnifier			corroded battery clip	\$1.00
	Notebooks of Astro Slides (5)			Ken's slides and some from NASA	
	Notebooks of Astro Slides (5)			Ken's slides and some from NASA	
	Solar Filter	3"	corrector cap	for C8?	\$30.00

**DECEMBER EVENING  
CONSTELLATIONS**

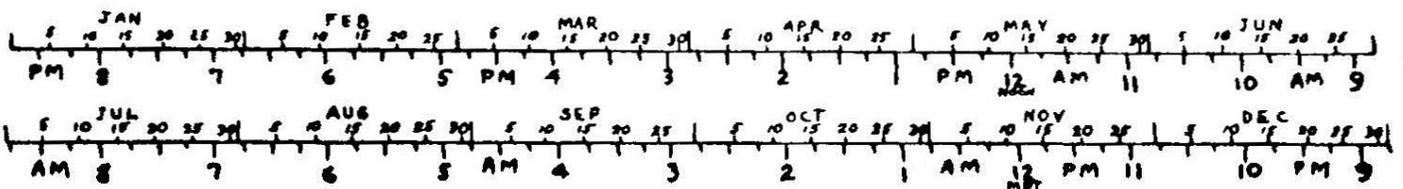
LATITUDE OF  
TULSA

Be sure you now have  
complete set 12 maps.  
(Copies free, from  
Club sec'y.)



SKY AT 3 HRS. SIDEREAL TIME  
AND TULSA TIME ANY DATE AS FOLLOWS:

ASTRONOMY CLUB  
OF TULSA  
By Louis Desjardine



Thanks to Jim Miller for scanning the original map.

## CLUB OFFICERS

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
President	Tamara Green	918-851-1213
Vice-President	Tom McDonough	918-665-1853
Treasurer	John Land	918-357-1759
Secretary	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477

## BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

NAME	PHONE
Ann Bruun	918-834-0757
Steve Chapman	918-342-1643
Rod Gallagher	918-369-3827
Owen Green	918-851-1213
Jim Miller	918-627-4551
Richie Shroff	918-835-3565
Bill Steen	918-251-3062
Tony White	918-258-1221

## APPOINTED STAFF

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
RMCC Facility Manager	Craig Davis	918-252-1781
Membership Chairman	John Land	918-357-1759
Observing Chairman	David Stine	918-834-1310
New Members	Tom McDonough	918-665-1853
Observatory Director	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477
Webmaster	Jerry Mullennix	918-237-8220
Newsletter Editor	Tom McDonough	918-665-1853
Night Sky Network	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

*Astronomy Club of Tulsa membership (\$35/year) includes membership in the Astronomical League and subscription to ACT's "Observer" and AL's "Reflector". "Astronomy" (\$34/year) and "Sky and Telescope" (\$33/year) are also available through the club. For more information contact John Land at 918-357-1759. Permission is hereby granted to reprint from this publication provided credit is given to the original author and the Astronomy Club of Tulsa Observer is identified as the source.*

The Astronomy Club of Tulsa is a member of the Astronomical League and the Night Sky Network



<http://www.astroleague.org>

<http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov>

*ACT welcomes your questions, suggestions, comments, and submissions for publication.*

*Please send all inquiries to [Newsletter@astrotulsa.com](mailto:Newsletter@astrotulsa.com)*