

# SPECTRUM

Northern Cross Science Foundation Newsletter

November 2022



**Auriga Nebulosity** - After assisting at a recent Harrington Beach public viewing night, Don Woelz went home and set up his own gear to shoot a complex part of the sky. From left is the Spider Nebula (IC 417); the Tadpoles Nebula (IC140 and NGC 1983 within); and the Flaming Star Nebula (IC 405). This photo spans about five degrees inside the constellation Auriga. Woelz made 75 subframes of 240 seconds each through his Zenithstar 73mm refractor with an 0.8x reducer. An Optolong L-enhance filter enhances the visibility of these faint gas clouds.

## New Venue, Holiday Party, Board of Directors Nominations

Hello Friends ,

As this year draws to a close, I have a few exciting things to tell you about!

### A New Chapter Begins

We meet at our new home — the Jackson Community Center — for the first time this month! While I'm unfortunately not able to attend, Vice President Joyce Jentges will launch our new series of in-person meetings on Thursday, November 3. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. The meeting starts at 6:30 and concludes by 7:45, so we can be out before 8:00pm.

The Jackson Community Center is at N165W20330 Hickory Lane Jackson, WI 53037

### Board Of Directors Nominations

Board members Gene DuPree, Joyce Jentges, and Rick Kazmierski all have their 3-year terms coming to an end this year. At the November meeting, we will take nominations for those three seats for terms that will span 2023 through 2025. At the December meeting, we will take additional nominations, and then have a vote of the membership. As a reminder, while Board members are elected by the general membership to 3-year terms, the Board elects officers from amongst themselves every year.

### Holiday Party Is Back

For our December meeting, we are bringing back our annual holiday pot-luck party! We ask that everyone bring a dish to pass, and our new location has plenty of counter space and outlets for crock pots, so no worries there. Savory dishes, snacks, and sweet treats are all welcome! The NCSF will supply soft drinks, plates, and utensils.

- Jeff Setzer. NCSF President

## Coming Up

**Thursday, Nov. 3**  
**General Meeting 6 pm**

In-person, [Jackson Community Center](#)  
N165 W20330 Hickory Lane  
Jackson, WI 53037

**Tuesday morning Nov. 8**  
Total eclipse of the moon  
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**Thursday, December 1**  
**Holiday Party**

In-person, [Jackson Community Center](#)  
N165 W20330 Hickory Lane  
Jackson, WI 53037



## A Lunar Eclipse for Early Risers

On the morning of Nov. 8, early-risers and night owls will be treated to a pre-dawn total lunar eclipse. For those of us in southeast Wisconsin, you'll need to find a clear site looking west for an unobstructed view. You'll see the first dark slice appear at 3:09 am, when the moon is 35 degrees above the western horizon.

When the totality starts at 4:16 a.m., the moon will have dropped to 25 degrees. And once it begins, take a look at the rest of the sky too. Mars shines high in the south over the bright constellations Orion and Taurus.

When totality ends at 5:42, twilight will have started and the moon will be just 10 degrees high. Sunrise soon follows at 6:35.

Bring binoculars, because the burnt-orange full moon appearing against a backdrop of stars is always a spectacular sight.

And while you have those binoculars, search for Uranus, which will appear as a blue-green star just a few degrees east of the moon.



*Three 6th-magnitude stars in the constellation Libra can be seen near the eclipsed moon on May 15 of this year. The photo was taken with an iPhone placed at the eyepiece of 20x77 binoculars mounted on a tripod. - Ernie Mastroianni photo*

## Public Viewing Night October 29

We arrived by 6:15 at the Pike Lake Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Al Steinberg was set up looking at the Moon. We had about 25-30 visitors. The temperature was down to 41 and humidity was up to 81 percent when we decided it was time to leave. We looked at Jupiter, Saturn, M11, 13, 27, 31, 34, 57, and NGC 7662, 884, 869, 45, and CR 399.

We then the planets Neptune, Uranus, Mars, and finished up with NGC 1502, Kimble's Cascade.

- Gene and Charlotte DuPree



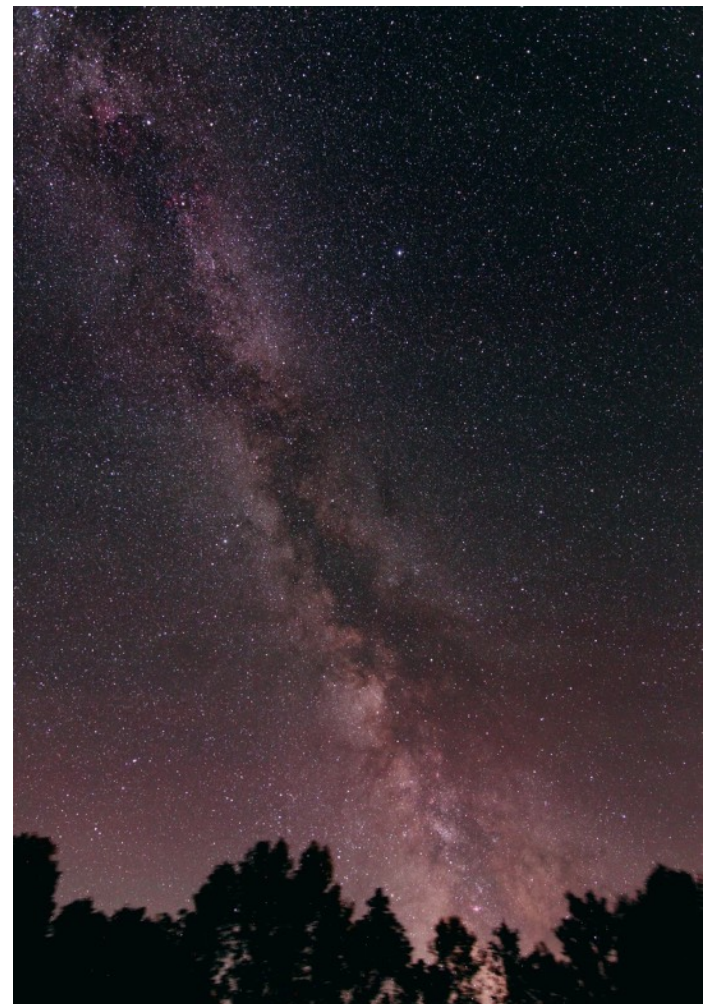
*The SLS rocket and Orion spacecraft emerge from the Vehicle Assembly Building on August 16 for the first launch attempt which was later scrubbed. NASA photo*

## A Second Try for Artemis

NASA has slated Monday Nov. 14 at 12:07 am EST (Sunday, Nov. 13 at 11:07 pm CST) for the next launch attempt of the Artemis I mission, which will send the uncrewed Orion spacecraft beyond the moon and back. If it goes up on time, it will be a spectacular night launch.

Previous attempts to launch in late August and early September were scrubbed due to hydrogen leaks and other technical issues. The SLS rocket system was then rolled back to the Vehicle Assembly Building on Sept. 26 to avoid exposure to Hurricane Ian. NASA plans to roll the rocket back to the launch pad as early as Nov. 4.

You can get updates from the [NASA blog](#) and see it live on [NASA TV](#). - Ernie Mastroianni



*Wide Field Milky Way - Rick Kazmierski mounted his Canon DSLR on an Orion Skyview mount to capture the Milky Way from zenith to horizon at the Pike River Starfest last July. It's a single exposure of just 2 minutes with a Tokina 11-20mm lens.*



## Perseverance Rover Highlights NCSF Trip to Adler Planetarium

October 22, 2022 was a beautiful day in Chicago for six members of the NCSF. Jim and Laura Hahn, Greg and Kathy Scriba, Mike Borchert and Joyce Jentges took in the sights of Chicago and the Adler Planetarium.

I wanted to go to the planetarium because they had a full size mock up of the Perseverance Rover and Ingenuity, the helicopter. We enjoyed a beautiful 75-degree day for our outing and even got to enjoy looking through solar telescopes set up outside.

We were able to tour the entire museum and take in a planetarium show called Planet Nine. The show went into details about the search for the elusive Planet 9. Upon our return to Milwaukee, we finished off the day with dinner near the airport. - *Joyce Jentges*



**Above:** The Perseverance mockup, complete with an Ingenuity helicopter, was on display at the Adler Planetarium.  
**Right:** NCSF member Jim Hahn studies a display that features the planet Neptune. Joyce Jentges photos.



## Binocular Observing Night Overcast but Useful for New Members

We arrived at the observatory around 6:30 on October 15. It was mostly clear when we left home, but there was a cloud line across the state, so we had heavy clouds when we arrived.

Joining us were new member Mary Jo Wirth with her friend Shirley, new member Cary Kaczik, Joyce Jentges, and Kevin and Kathy Bert. We spent time in the observatory talking about telescopes because they are interested in buying one. A BIG thanks to Kathy for supplying a bucket of astro nuggets. It's been three years since we have had the pleasure of eating them. We stayed until about 8:30.

- *Charlotte and Gene DuPree*

## For Sale

- CPC 9.25 SC GOTO (purchased new in 2007) scope includes tripod, landing pad and much gingerbread
- C 8 SC orange tube (purchased new in 1979) includes tripod, wedge and some extras
- C 6 6" Refractor (purchased new in 2004) includes tripod, equatorial head, counterweights and more
- C 4 4" Refractor (purchased used) tripod, equatorial head, counterweights
- Revolution Imaging System (TV Camera/Screen) for a telescope. Purchased new in 2017

## Potential Donations

- Edmund Astroscan
- Orion 3" short focus refractor (purchased used) tripod, equatorial head and counterweights
- Celestron 4.25" Newtonian GOTO scope (purchased used)

Call Gene and Charlotte to make an offer: 262-675-0941. They would like to sell local (Being sold by Dave Beine).



**Board of Directors, 2022****President - Jeff Setzer**

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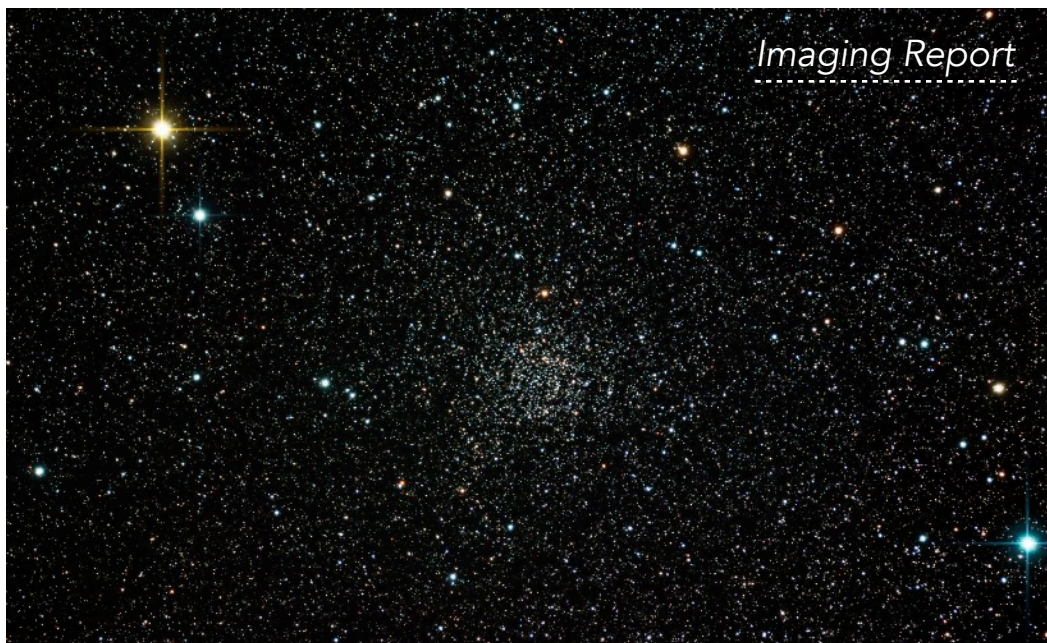
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NCSF is a member of the [North-Central Region of the Astronomical League](#).

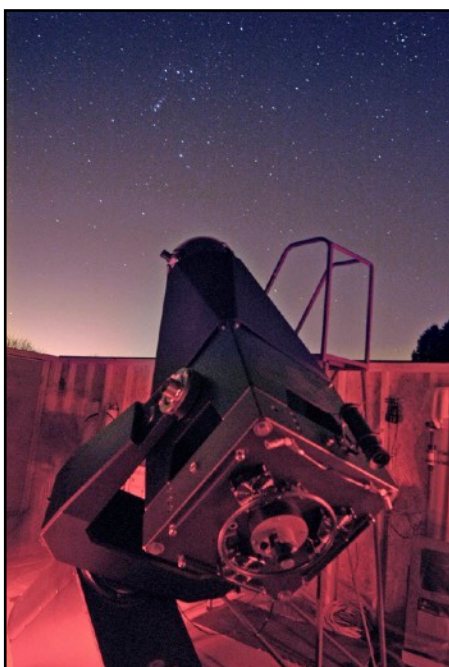


NCSF supports the [International Dark Sky Association](#)

**Imaging Report**

**A Winter Rose** - Rick Kazmierski captured this image of Caroline's Rose (also known as NGC 7789) from his home observatory last month. Often overlooked, this open cluster in Cassiopeia has dark lanes and star loops that resemble rose petal patterns. It's best seen in fall and winter. It was discovered by Caroline Herschel in 1783. Rick used his 105mm refractor, a QHY color camera and 42 total minutes of exposure.

**California in Black and White** - Ernie Mastroianni used a 300mm Nikon telephoto lens to capture the hydrogen alpha gas clouds of the California Nebula from his Milwaukee back yard. Two total hours of four-minute exposures captured the detail after isolating data from just the red channel.

**Spectrum newsletter**

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