

Program – After meeting star party

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Greg Smith – editor.

**Meeting: Wednesday 8pm
August 17, 2022**

Hot August Nights

We certainly have had a few of these lately. They have been very pleasant for being outside and looking at the stars. It is so nice that it is getting dark so much earlier. With it being dark by 10pm I find it easier to stay out and observe the sky. A few of the nights have had the marine clouds come in early and shut down any hope of seeing anything. We never know, but we still have a few weeks of August and then September to do some observing.

I must admit that the bright full moon this past week did put a downer on watching the Perseid meteor shower for me. I tried watching from my backyard here in town, but the light pollution along with the full moon washed out the sky. Along with getting older, 10pm is the new midnight for me. Staying up late at night gets harder and harder every year.

I want to stay out and star gaze with my scope. I have been doing some cleaning out of my garage. Getting rid of a bunch of junk that has been filling the garage over the years is very mentally and physically tiring,

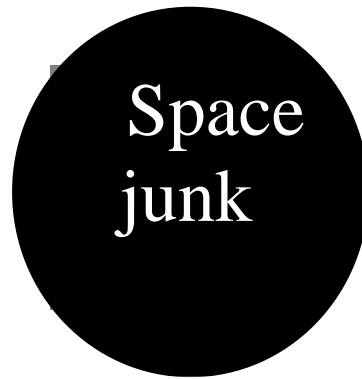
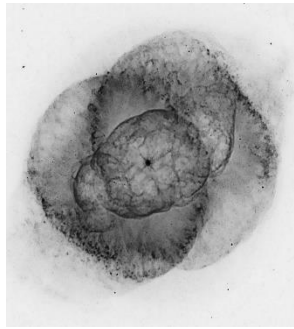
so trying to concentrate on picking out what to view is quite the mental job.

I hope you have had better luck taking advantage of these warmer nights and doing some star hopping. For sure, we do not have many of these warm nights left.

I have to admit that with a full moon lunar viewing is quite easy to do. So get out your moon filter and dim the light and see some great sights. Looking for central peaks in some craters is always fun. The astronomy magazines always have ideas on what to look for.

Saturn is at opposition. So it is at its best viewing right now. This is the one that wows all who see it in a scope. Bring your neighbors over for a planet hopping, star hopping picnic. Especially get some young kids over and show them Saturn, just wait for all the “Mom you ‘gotta’ see this and Dad come look” expressions of excitement. It will make you new friends in the neighborhood.

*Every Day is a Star Filled Day,
Every Night is a Starry Night*



We believe the new space age needs new rules,' the commission said two years after its last major update.

It's time to modernize the fight against space junk, U.S. regulators say.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is pledging to update the rules it enacted just two years ago to address space debris, with a new focus on in-space servicing assembly and manufacturing (ISAM) risks and opportunities.

"We believe the new space age needs new rules," FCC chair Jessica Rosenworcel said in an Aug. 5 statement([opens in new tab](#)). Existing regulations, she added, were generally "designed for a time when going to space was astronomically expensive and limited to the prowess of our political superpowers."

Rosenworcel pointed out that megaconstellations and crowdfunded satellites were not possible in the 1950s when space exploration first began. That said, the new push piggybacks off a similar space debris effort that the FCC publicized much more recently, in 2020).

That 2020 update was said to be the most comprehensive revision to space debris rules in more than 15 years, tackling regulations for U.S. satellite applicants to disclose collision risk, the probability of safe disposal and possible casualty risk, among other measures.

This time around, the FCC has increased discussion around ISAM capabilities that may add to or help address the thousands of pieces of junk clustering in Earth's orbit, depending on the situation.

The FCC says([opens in new tab](#)) ISAM may be able to assist emerging technology in satellite refueling, fixing old spacecraft, debris capture or repurposing old satellites. But it warns that making things in space may generate debris on its own, saying the matter requires more discussion and, down the line, enforcement of a set of rules.

"It's crucial that, as we consider crafting orbital debris mitigation rules for U.S satellite service providers, that we ensure the same or similar obligations apply to ISAM providers and other space operators," FCC Commissioner Nathan Simington said a different Aug. 5 statement([opens in new tab](#)).

Space junk has featured in a lot of news coverage in recent months, particularly in relation to a Russian anti-satellite test in November 2021 that generated a new plume of debris that has since generated "squalls" of close encounters in orbit.

Meanwhile, SpaceX has received criticism for the orbital debris risk presented by its fast-growing Starlink constellation, although the company maintains that its satellites can maneuver autonomously to avoid collisions.

2022 Friends of Galileo Astronomy Viewing Schedule

August Moon: New=27, Full=11

- 17 Club Meeting (In-person / Zoom?)
26-28 MSHI Sky & Star Party at Coldwater Science and Learning Center

September Moon: New=25, Full=10

- 1/2 Sidewalk Astronomy (Location TBD)
21 Club Meeting (In-Person/Zoom)
23/24 Club Star Party at Mike's
30 Club Star Party at Mike's

October Moon: New=25, Full= 9

- 1 Club Star Party at Mike's (if not held September 30)
19 Club Meeting (In-Person/Zoom)
21/22 Club Star Party @ Mike's

☞ August 2022 Meeting ☞

DATE: August 17, 2022

TIME: 8:00pm

PLACE: Hybrid in person / Zoom - originating from Mike Fiest's home

PROGRAM : after meeting star party

Moon Phases

3rd Qtr.: Thurs. Aug 18th, **New:** Sat. Aug 27th, **1st Qtr.:** September 4th **Full:** Sat Sept 10th

End of twilight - when the stars start to come out.

WED Aug 17th 8:49 pm

Wed Aug 31 8:23 pm

Wed. Sept 21st 7:41 pm.

The Star Report is posted on the clubs website: 1. It is listed in the blog portion of the website.

Minutes of the July FOG Meeting

We had five people in person attending and six people in Zoom attendance. Overall a good showing. Mike Fiest gave a presentation of his new automated telescope that photographs what it sees.

Friends of Galileo Club Officers

PRESIDENT	Ted Gruber
VICE-PRESIDENT/ PROGRAM CHAIR	Mark Thorson
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Next Month's Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for items in next month's newsletter is:
Wednesday: seven days before next meeting.

Please feel free to send in your thoughts and experiences about your astronomical adventures.

Submit your material by E-mail to: gryth@msn.com

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