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Feb 21 Mary & Tom Cragg with Jerry Bilodeau visited observatory. No observing - too cloudy. Now have key for gate at end of road.

March 18-19 Jerry Bilodeau and Tom Cragg used telescope all night. Seeing fair, transparency good, virtually no wind at all. Temperature from 56 - 48° F. Each worked ~~some~~ binocular stars while other was on 18".
Jerry got 67 estimates (31 w/18, 36 w/ binoc), 24 were sanctum - faintest ~17(0).
Cragg got 58 estimates (31 w/18, 27 w/ binoc including an eclipse of W UMa), 26 sanctum. Telescope worked very well all night - so did the dome. Crescent moon early P.M.

March 19

Cragg + Carpenter arrived up here at 7:30. Looked like a good site but clouded up about 9:00. Only got 5 vars. Machinery O.K.

May 10

Carpenter, Ford. 9 PM PDST until 01:30 AM PDST May 11. Transparency good, seeing fair, no moon. Machinery OK. Carpenter, 3 est's, Ford 7 with 4 sanctums including sky check on new chart for 122714 AL Com in which two 17.3^(P) comp. stars seen. Suspect sequence is too faint, since a 16.4^(P) star is too easy to see, looks about 15.4(v).

May 11

Ford. Got 21 estimates 12 sanctums. Good sky, seeing fair. Obs'g from 8:30 PM PDST until 01:45 AM PDST May 12. Machinery OK except for some sticking at times, and closing shutters alone took 35 minutes, 6 trips up + down obs'g ladder. Shutters obviously "on last legs", but can be operated. Oiled drive worm + gear (was dry). New gate was open, coming + going.

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May 12

Ford, Bilodeau. Obs'g from 9:15 PM PDST to 2:45 AM PDST May 13. Bilodeau (working also w/ binoculars), got 21 estimates total; est's w/ 18" = 14 total, w/ 10 sanctums. Sky good, some light wind, no moon, temp. 54°-48°. Electrical + some controls OK, except for sticking in three spots.

May 13

Ford, Bilodeau. Obs'g 9:30 PM PDST to 3:45 AM PDST May 14. Total 18" estimates = 17, w/ 13 sanctums. Bilodeau also working binoculars. Machinery OK. Temp. 50°-44°. Sky OK, except for some haze in S horizon + S.W. - "no problem".

May 14

Ford, Joe Walder. 9:00 PM - 12:30 PM PDST, when haze got too bad to continue. Crescent moon, W. First part of time spent on familiarizing Walder w/ the 18" scope. Also obs'd M13 - seeing poor. Total est's: Walder 3; Ford 9, w/ 5 sanctums.

May 20

Ford, Bilodeau, Bob Jones. 1st qtr. moon; obs'g 10:45 PM PDST to 02:20 AM PDST May 21, (Fd), 04:15 AM (Bilodeau + Jones). 7 est's (Fd), 6 sanctums. Poor seeing. Temp 30° - 27° - cold! - after snow storm!

May 21

Ford, C.E. Scovel. Gibbous moon. Temp 38°. Obs'g: 10; 9 of them sanctum. Stopped obs'g 3:30 AM PDST May 22. Seeing fair, especially better after moon set.

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July 15-16 - Jerry Bilodeau & Tom Cragg used telescope all night on variables. Some wind at start, calming down to virtually nothing by mid-night. A four day crescent moon in the evening. Cragg got 46, Bilodeau got 40 estimates & 24 each with the 18", each with 19 sanctums. Slow operation to start then better. Seeing fair, transparency very good - horizon haze at start. Shirtsleeve all night.

Aug. 4-5. Bilodeau + Ford. Started 10:15 PM PDST, worked until 03:45 AM PDST Aug. 5. Ford (18" only) 19 estimates, 13 sanctums. Chart checking + ft. list stars. Bilodeau (18" + 8x50 binoculars), estimates, sanctums. No wind; warm night, Temp. 66°-62°, seeing fair.

Aug. 5-6. Bilodeau + Ford. Obs'd 9:30 PM PDST until 2:30 AM PDST Aug. 6. Stopped by too much slip in leather beltting controlling RA setting circle. Ford, 9 est's, of which 6 sanctum. (18" only) Bilodeau (18" + 8x50 binoc's) est's, of which sanctum.

Aug. 6 Carpenter, Ford, Bilodeau, came up to obs'y 2-3:30 PM to repair leather beltting on RA axis. Repairs completed OK. Light thunderstorm + rain shower before departing.

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 Aug. ~~7-8~~
 8-9

Ford. Obs'g from twilight to 11:30 PM PDST. Total est's = 13, with 9 sanctums. Light intermittent wind, not troublesome. Temp. 64°. Seeing fair, sky good. All equipment working OK, but wooden shutters difficult to close.

Aug. ~~8~~
 9

Two men from Meluso construction, + Ford 9 AM. PDST. Installation of new brackets on building sides, to take new Ash Dome. Perfect day, no wind. Left obs'g to get more mat'ls for the job, (to continue Aug. 9) — 2:15 PM.

Meluso's men returned ca. 4 PM with mat'ls, completed job ca. 6:30 PM, including new sections on roof corners, ready for Ash-Dome's track.

Aug. ~~8~~
 9-10

Ford. Obs'g 9:30 PM PDST until ~~02:10~~ ^{AM.} ~~midnite.~~ Total est's = 15, of which 10 were sanctum. Good transparency, fair seeing, Temp. very warm = 72°-70°. No wind. Equipment all OK except some shutter troubles.

Aug. 10-11

Ford, Carpenter. Obs'g 8:30 PM PDST until 00:40 AM PDST Aug. 11. Total est's = 18, of which 8 sanctum by PD; Total for CE = 7 est's, all sanctum. Temp. again 70°, lowering to 64° at end of obs'g. Equipment OK. Sky transparency only fair, seeing good. No wind. Shirt sleeves all during obs'g time.

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Aug. 12-13 Ford, Cragg, Belodeau + Jones. Good obsy, fair seeing, light wind, Temp. 57°-54°. FD obsns = 9 total including 4 Sanctuums. The LAST night when the original (1964) wooden dome was used, before destruction on Aug. 13, 1972. Stopped obs'g ca. 00:45 AM PDST Aug. 13th.

Aug. 13. Crew arrived 9-10 AM to destroy old wooden dome. Crew present: Cragg, Bomburst, Ford, Carpenter, Belodeau, Jones (B.), Phil Simpson (San Bernardino Astro. Society); Clifford Holmes (Riverside Astro. Society). Dome dismantled and entirely cleared from obsy roof by 6 PM PDST

Aug. 14. AM - Debris from dome destruction assembled in piles to be picked up by W/W Disposal Co. Area around obsy bldg, cleared for operations in erecting new metal Ash Dome. Crew: Ford, Belodeau, Jones. Wood preservative coating applied to new 4x8 brackets + track base installed by Meluso's men on Aug. 9.

Aug. 15. 8:30 AM. Ash-Dome's truck arrived at obsy w/ driver Dick Kinzler + nephew "Mike" (15 yrs old). Crew: Ford, Belodeau, Cragg, B. Jones to help in new dome erection. Entire day spent in mounting new dome track, fastening it to bldg, and in leveling same.

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Aug. 16 8:30 AM. Erection crew, same as Aug. 15 except for Cragg, for new Ash Dome. Spent entire day assembling skirt and other base parts for dome.

Aug. 17 8:30 AM. Crew same as Aug. 16. Erected dome sheets strips following setup of scaffolding for same. w/w Disposal Co. Truck arrived, loaded old wooden dome parts for removal to dump. Dome rotation motors mounted OK.

Aug. 18 8:30 AM. Crew same as Aug. 16. Horizontal dome supports mounted, hydraulic motor mounted, shutters hoisted + mounted by 4 PM, all parts assembled + dome erection completed at 8 PM. PDST. A LONG day! Everybody totally exhausted, to bed at w/w house by 9:30 PM.

Aug. 19-20 FIRST night of operation w/new Ash Dome. Ford, Cragg, Belodeau, B Jones. (following WAA Convention mtg. in Riverside).
Obsus: Cragg, Ford, 3 each. Belodeau + Jones worked thru fall dawn light Aug. 20. Total obsus = 60 ext's (including Orion Nebular Variables). Poor seeing, moon setting
Temp. 52°.

Aug. 20 Ford + 4 guests (Huttons + friends, neighbors in w/w), to inspect new dome installation, 4-5 PM.

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AUG. 25-26 Bilodan and Jones - Moon 2 days past full and lots of moisture in the air made for poor transparency; Seeing was surprisingly good. Temperature: 64° - 61° - no wind. Observed from 9:30 P.S.T. to 12:00 P.S.T. - Bilodan: 5 estimates (3 sanctums), Jones: 4 estimates (3 sanctums). Total: 9 estimates (6 sanctums). Discovered door to storage room under the stairway to be unlocked and locked same; nothing appeared missing.

AUG. 26 Bilodan and Jones - arrived at obs'y. about 12:30 P.S.T. raked the South and East sides of the grounds. Had to quit because of on-coming thunder storm. Rotated the dome so the shutter was facing due West (apparent direction from which was coming).

AUG. 27 Bilodan and Jones arrived at observatory at 11:30 P.S.T. to inspect bldg., etc. after light rain and wind of previous night. No water was found inside bldg. Everything ok. Put away ^{new} drop ~~or~~ cord which was used on night of 8-25. ($\frac{7}{8}$ watt red bulb worked moderately well but will probably work better with a shield to reduce intensity of light. Will try same next time.) Policed area, picked up empty cans and put into trash can inside bldg. Will try to find a way to bring trash to town on next trip. Sky cloudy and started to rain as we left. Recommended that we get a metal door and frame when possible. Left dome ~~is~~ facing ~~due~~ South West as recommended.

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- SEPT. 1 Bilodeau and Jones: 8:45 to 10:00 P.S.T.
Busty winds (20-25 m.p.h.) - dome holds up well under this condition. Thunder Storm in N.E. Temperature 63°. Transparency good to fair (deteriorating). Seeing bad. Decided to come home due to bad conditions.
- SEPT. 2 Bilodeau, Jones and Phil Simpson: arrived 7:45 p.m. P.S.T. Moderate to heavy rain and winds during day. Leaks in S.E. and ~~the~~ S.W. corners. Quite a bit of water on floor traceable to S.E. corner (S.E. corner most severe). Plywood in this corner cracked. S.W. corner leaked in same place as before. Dome apparently weather-tight.
Windy (20-25 mph with gusts up to 30 mph).
Temp: 58° - 55°. Transparency: good; seeing: good to fair. Observed from 8:15 - 2:30 P.S.T.
28 estimates (2 visual; 26 with scope - all sightings).
- SEPT. 4 Bilodeau and Jones: Arrived at 11:00 A.M. P.S.T.
Surveyed the effects of yesterday's storm. Same as before. Ruddle near scope (possibly leak in overhead shutter at joint on left side. Will have to investigate the seal at that point. Checked for water inside ring (only traces of damp sawdust from space between base and baseplate. Minimal seal apparently will suffice.
Put bucket under S.E. corner and put plastic on work bench in S.W. corner.

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- SEPT. 9-10 Bilodeau and Jones: No wind; seeing fair-good; Transparency good; Temperatures 58° - 51° ; observed from 9:15 P.M. to 4:25 A.M. P.S.T. Total observations 101 as follows: Jones 16 (7 sanctums); Bilodeau 85 (59 = Orion Nebula; \approx 10 with binocs., 4 visual, 13 with telescopes - 7 sanctums, 7 sanctums in nebula). All was ok at observatory.
- SEPT. 16-17 Bilodeau and Jones: Wind - 10-15 M.P.H.; Temp: 60° - 54° ; Seeing: good to fair; Transparency: good; observed from 11:00 P.M. to 4:30 A.M. P.S.T. Jones: 11 estimates (8 with the telescope, incl. 3 sanctums; 3 with binocs) Bilodeau: 14 estimates (9 with the telescopes, incl. 4 sanctums; 4 with binocs. and 1 visual). Had a terrible time acquiring fields. Empty'd water from bucket in S.E. corner and replaced same; put plastic over work bench.
- SEPT. 17 Bilodeau and Jones: arrived at 12:00 noon P.S.T. finished cleaning up the grounds. Brought trash back with us. Finally took a set of pictures for the Ash Dome Company. ~~Close~~ light breeze and a few puffy clouds. Closed up and left at 2:00 P.M. P.S.T.
- SEPT. 23 Bilodeau and guest: arrived at obs'y about 8:00 P.S.T. Clouds + full moon = no observing. Building checked out OK.
- SEPT. 30 Bilodeau and Jones: 7:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. P.S.T. Slight to moderate wind in early evening getting stronger around 10:00 P.M. Temp: 66° - 61° . Seeing: good to fair; Transparency: good. Jones: 13 estimates (1 with binocs, 12 with 'scopes - including 3 sanctums). Bilodeau: 15 estimates (8 with binocs.; 1 N.E.; 13 with 'scopes - including

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3 sanctums). Total 28 estimates (2 with binocs., 1 N.E., and 25 with 'scopes - to sanctums). Building and machinery OK. Grease box in main drive downstairs needs to be lubricated.

OCT. 1 Bilodean and Jones: arrived at obsy at 9:00 AM P.S.T. Roofer arrived 9:15 A.M. Discussed roofing job. (He will be up in the next two weeks to hot mop the roof. He will also take care of weather stripping.) We cleaned the observing room completely. Strong winds and lots of clouds. Left at 12:00 P.M. P.S.T.

OCT. 7-8 Bilodean and Jones: 8:30 P.M. to 12:30 A.M. P.S.T.; Temp: 53° - 47°; Wind: light; Transparency: fair; Seeing: ~~good~~ fair to bad. Observed for 2 hrs and made 20 estimates - Jones = 7 (5 sanctums) with scope. Bilodean = 13 (7 with scope, incl. 5 sanctums; 4 with binocs; 2 N.E.) Building and machinery OK.)

Oct 21 Bilodean, Tom + Mary Clegg arrived at observatory with materials to prime & paint new dome. Find no way of being able to get out on top to paint upper section without taking onielife in his hands! Perhaps some U bolts can be put on in a few strategic places so we can get out on the dome. Otherwise I'm not sure just how this is going to be done.
The roofing job has been done!

OCT. 28-29 Bilodean and Jones: arrived at observatory at 8:50 P.M. P.S.T. Temp = 38°; Wind = light getting stronger as the night progressed. Seeing = good to fair; Transparency good. Jones: 8 estimates including 1 binoc. and 7 sanctums.

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Oct. 28-29 (cont). Bilodeau: 87 estimates including 3 N.E., 8
 Unoc., 55 mgs. with scope, and 21 sanctums. The ~~or~~
 Orion nebula is included in this night's observations.
 Left at 3:30 A.M. P.S.T.

1973

June 23 Gerry and Kathleen Bilodeau went up to observatory
 to inspect the premises. The building was in good condition
 and had weathered the winter very well. We saw a few
 new water spots on the floor which means the dome
 leaked slightly - it's a good idea to keep the telescopes
 covered. Other than that all seemed normal.
 The weeds need to be cut back!
 No observing was attempted. Wind: 15-25 mph.
 Temp. 65°-70°.

June 27- Observed all night; occasional problems with
 slip circle. Got 54 est with 35 of them in
 the sanctum range. Faintest est. = 17.3. Seeing
 good as well as transparency. Had trouble closing
 shutter - had to remove top plate restricting
 switch from moving into "close" position. 3
 U-Gem stars up, T Leo, - U UMa, & RU Peg
 Temp 80-67 Tom Cragg

June 30 Gerry & Kathleen Bilodeau, Jones arrived
 at observatory 9:30 P.S.T. Steady wind
 15 mph from SW. TEMP. 61° Transparency good
 but seeing varied widely - fair to poor. Made 13 observations
 (3 naked eye - 10 with scope, 8 sanctum). Observed several
 Messier objects. Dome and equipment operated perfectly.
 No troubles with shutter. Left at 4:00 P.S.T.