

1979

Feb 24/25

40°/55%

Arrived @ 6pm. Lots of snow, big dr. Fts.
Road was open to VPR gate however.

cloudy with storm due Monday, so I may
not get much done. Hope it clears!

Verily, the stars shine bright!
But nasty clouds do take that light
and bounce it back into the night.

well, I did get a good night's sleep. Got a
few peeks at Jupiter through the clouds. The
seeing was actually pretty steady. Everything A-OK!
J. Child

Mar 2/3

22°/70%

Made it in again! Road open to ground rails
this time. It snowed again since last weekend,
they must want to get in to the tower bad,
because the snow is deep.

Cold, clear, & Windy. The seeing is terrible - as
bad as I can remember. Will photograph
anyway.

Midnight - wind is gone, still 22°, 70%, some
high clouds, but seeing is now good!
Turned into a good night! J. Child

Mar 3/4

32°/75%

Warmer, High Cirrus. Extremely bright flash @ 0657 UT.
lit up inside of dome like a flash bulb. Prob. meteor,
but could not find a trail immed. after.

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1979

Apr 28/29

Arrived 7PM, Road open thru to snowplow!
Observatory secure & electricity off.

Meter reading: 07939 eve
07957 next morn

18 KWH

everything is working fine. Brought up a CB.
& tested it out. Ch 11 is working but I
don't think Ch 9 (REACT) is. Also replaced Fast RA
wire;

May 4-5

Padilla, Lorenson & Thomas. Arrived about
11pm. Visual observing after moon set. Seeing
extremely poor - cotton ball images. High winds.
T.V. Ant. broken out side. Needs new twin
wire or coax.

May 2-3
'79

Joel Child, J. McPough, R. Poyer.

Photo M100 supernova 18" + 4"

40°F

New fields photographed for C.B. Ford - TU Oph + M M Sco

56%

at -42° dec. - good photo!

slight wind

May 24-25

R. Poyer, R. Faulstich, T. Pollock, and Renee Faulstich + Lucy Evans

50-44°F

Clouds decreasing through night. Photo RR Sco +

60%

Antares square of nebulosity on 4" f5.

no wind

All systems A OK.

May 25-26

Same group as above. More astrophotos all guided
by autoguider. Finished Antares tricolor set on 4".
Did 52 Can + TU Cap on 18".

50°F

55%

no wind

or clouds
after

11:00 P.M.

Oiled all rollers on dome. Cleaned floor.
Beautiful daytime cumulus clouds! Lots of
snow still on north-facing slopes south of us.

1979

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- June 14 Ford, Carpenter. 3 PM PDST. Checked out equip't and condition of obs'g = excellent, preparatory to obs'g session during coming dark moon (June 24th).
- June 15th Ford, Carpenter, 11 AM - 1:30 PM. Converted telescope from photo to visual mode: removed cameras, re-balanced counterweights. Sorted charts, inserted new prelim. charts in obs'g file, up-dating same.
- June 16th - 17th Ford, alone. Opened dome 9:15 PM PDST. Estimated 12 vars. including 8 sanctums before closing. Gusty winds, subsiding somewhat during obs'g time. Seeing poor, temp. 50°F. All equip't working OK in visual mode. Closed dome 00:15 ~~AM~~ PDST June 17.
- June 17-18 Ford, Carpenter. Opened dome 10:45 PM PDST. Transparency OK, seeing fair to poor, light wind gusts, temp COLD! = 41/20-40°F. Total est's: FD = 7, w/ 6 sanctums; CE = 1. Equip't all OK. Stopped 02:40 AM PDST June 18.
- June 19-20 Ford, alone. Opened, 9:45 PM PDST. Good transparency, fair seeing, no wind, temp. 55°-50°F. Obs'd total of 19 vars., of which 12 were sanctum, and 7 were new chart chs. All equip't OK for visual. Stopped 02:15 AM PDST June 20.
- June 20-21 Ford, Royer. Opened 9:30 PM PDST. No wind, good sky, seeing fair to good, temp. 58°-54°F. Obs'd (FD) a total of 17 vars., including 11 sanctums + 5 new chart chs. Closed dome 02:40 AM PDST June 21. A good night's effort! Royer also obs'g (visual!).

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June 22-23. Ford, Jack Child. Opened 9:40 AM PDST.
No wind, Seeing fair to good, fine sky, temp,
59-55°F. Obs'd total of 9 vars. (FD),
of which 5 were sanctums & 3 were new chart
checks. Closed dome 01:15 AM PDST June ~~22~~²³.
All equip't OK for visual.

June 23-24 Ford, Bilodeau. Opened dome 9:45 PM. Chart
chs made on 3 fields - LT Cyg, BW Cyg,
AZ Her, Good sky, fair seeing, temp. 62°.
No wind. Closed dome 1:00 AM PDST
June 24.

June 24-25 Ford, alone. Opened 10:15 PM PDST. A fine
night! - No wind, temp 62° at dome closing. Working
in shirt sleeves part of time. Seeing fair to good,
transp'y good, all equip't working OK. Obs'd
total = 27 vars., including 17 sanctums and 3
new chart chs. Closed dome at 3:15 AM PDST
June 25th.

June 26-27 Ford, alone. Opened 00:15 AM PDST June 27.
A poor nite, with streaks of cirrus, especially in
the S. Attempt to observe recurrent nova U Sco
unsuccessful due to haze. Obs'g OK at higher altitudes,
est'd total of 9 vars., including 2 sanctums,
bringing current June '79 total run to a total
of 104 obsns including 61 sanctums, for FD.
Temp. 68° (obs'g in shirt sleeves!), no wind. Closed
dome at 2:20 AM PDST June 27.

June 27-28 R. Royer, M. Marano, R. Taubert
65°F Some steady cirrus, light wind in evening increased
to strong SW warm wind in A.M. Brightened main R.A.
37% humidity warm gear. Did 3 new variable star fields with
18" and astrograph cameras.

1979

June 28-29 A total of 7 people working with the telescope, from 9:30 PM PDT thru 03:30 AM PDT June 29. First half, = Royer, Marcario, Taubert, Ford, Carpenter, Steve Padilla, and Anna + one visitor Patricia L. Wells (Forest Service). Obs'd visually, and photographed cluster M3 in CVn, looking for newly-announced nova in said cluster. Unable to identify any nova, using a photo of the cluster in "Astronomy" magazine for '79. Obs'd + photo'd 161617 U Sco recurrent nova reported to be bright. Verified OK, est'd magn. 11.6 (FD). Photo guiding done by hand (Marcario). Converted scope to visual mode, ca. 12 midnite PDT, and remainder of time spent all on visual work, by Ford + Marcario. Obs'd 11 vars, including 5 sanctums. Temp. 68°-65°, obs'g mostly in shirtsleeves. Seeing good, but with wind gusts increasing to moderately bothersome by 2:30 AM. Temp's good; obs'd comp. star marked 163 OK in field of 195816 RZ Sge. Royer, Marcario, Taubert, Padilla slept at obs'y; others at W/W house. Padilla took photo of the whole group just before going up the mt. Sky OK, no clouds, crescent moon set ca. 10:30 AM.

July 2-3 Ford, alone. Opened at 00:45 AM July 3rd, after moonset. Good sky, fair seeing, temp. 58°. Obs'd thru till dawn lite, 4:40 AM. Total est's = 13 including 10 sanctums, + chart obs. Equip't all OK. Closed down for "long term", triple-locks on, ⁱⁿ power off.

July 18 Royer, F. Middlebrook S.V., Bossant Brothers, Marty + Royer, and Jerry Trebotic and visitor Patti Wells, US Forest Service. Found our old mascot female rattlesnake next to the load again - very docile - must be the one Royer

70°F
40%

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1979

encountered July 20, '77. After much soul-searching, decided to kill her with two shovels - all OK. Left 9 rattles at Obs. No evidence of companion snake, but worth looking for.

Did visual observing till midnight - lightning to east, partial cloud cover here. V Sco down about -15.0 mag.
Put in newer TV set.

Aug. 21 ^{Pick Loverson later}
22
60-50°F
45% hum. Royer, Marty, Passant, Jerry Trebotic. Repaired broken front window discovered by Fr. Middendorf when up nature hiking thru. Aug. 16. Shutter was pushed in, but apparently no entry was made. Reinforced latches into window sill - existing screws not long enough. Clear night - no wind - but very bright. Did 2 red plates in Sgr. 18" guiding best ever.

Aug. 22
23
58°F 40%
light wind Royer, etc. as above. Repeat on weather - bright night. Auto-guided X Mic field till high curves from distant ^{the} Baja Hurricane covered the sky. Auto-guider results best ever! Tried some press camera tricolor on Sco - Sgr. - but very much fogging from lights.

Aug. 28
29
56°F 40%
no wind Royer - A. Krupchy, Passant has, Marty + Royer. Auto-guider not working E-W. All photos hand-guided, but much help. UZ Ser, CV Aps - both VG that appear to be up. - Seeing average

Aug. 29-30
30
50°F 50%
S.W. WIND till midnight Did RX Mic, SPA, TV Per. And swimming in Jackson Lake - not bad this year. Also did blue plate on And. Galaxy. - Seeing average

Aug. 30-31
31
58°F 38%
no wind Did X + Y Mic, HT Cyg, UY Tau, AH Eri. All with 18" f7 - new field for C.B.T. Seeing very good after midnight. Explored old gold mine under Mt. Baden-Powell. Repaired bullet hole in N side of dome.

1979

Had 2 visiting campers impressed by lunar
detail.

123

While waiting for moon-set - took Allen Kropshy
on snipe hunt. Fr. Royer was the snipe - Allen
was scared!

Sept. 5-6 Lunar Eclipse. Royer, Poissant bro., Royer + Marty
1979 Clear night. Seeing very good. Sid prime focus,
60° 38% astrogaph tricolor and 35 mm shots. It was
no wind a shallow + bright totality.

Oct 5/6 Mike's star party!!
Visual observing with guests.
Seeing 0-1 no wind.
Blondeau came up in the morning to
check out observatory everything working O.K.
See ya later Mike.

Oct. 17 Ron Royer. Reinstalled auto-guider - appears
18 to function well - with a surge in voltage
48-42°F every few minutes - maybe tube.
58% HUM photovisual plates of ^{MAG 11.4} BT-Cyg - ^{MAG 11.5} TW Per - ^{MAG 12.1} AOTAU - RR AVR
light SW all autoguider - 40' each. Good guiding!
wind - some measured tar-paper portions of roof for installation
cirrus of sheet metal.

Oct 18-19 Jack Child - Completely overcast out!
45° 12:30 am; very windy all night long.
Everything working great. Photographed
3 galaxies & Horsehead

OCT 20-21 Padilla, Sorenson + Thomas + guests. Observed
1979 Orionid meteor shower. Partly cloudy early
32°-26° evening, but cleared off by 9pm. Very windy, Temp
85% hum down to 26°F. Found water leaks on floor in dome from
rainstorm.
Views from Stony Ridge Obs. tower obs. Sun afternoon

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1979

Oct 22-23

42°F

44% RH

Jack Child

A relatively crummy night. High clouds would disappear long enough for me to start a photo & then would reappear. Got one 10 minute photo in 4 attempts. Phooey. Everything OK.

Oct 23-24

50°

35% RH

Child, Royer

Clouds went away (Hooray - thanks Fr)
Photographed galaxies, Horsehead

Oct. 24-25

48°F

40%

SW Wind

all night

seeing good

till after

4:00 A.M.

Ron Royer alone. Used autoguider all night.

New fields photographed IIaD + Mr 12:

V1141 Aql 193202

MW + MU Aql 193813 12.0 + 13.0 mag. respectively

HY Cyg 193628 11.6 - redo

RY Cyg 200635 9.0

RT Gem + 1Q Gem 064018

AM Gem 070128 9.2

SZ Cnc 081514

AT Cnc 082228

Barely could see edge-on ring of Saturn. Wet mopped upstairs. Took some off one chair so it is out of way when observing. Can do other chair if necessary. Put molding on desk.

1979

Oct 26

Jack Child, Martin Ratcliffe, John Sanford

Brought Martin up to see observatory. He's an amateur from England visiting U.S. A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT. Dark, no clouds, no wind, good seeing at times - even photographed the moon. Hope your nights are this splendid, Clint! Telescope working great except refractor - took part of mounting down to rework loose parts.

Looked at Saturn a.m. Seeing not very good but no sign of rings. Just one thin dark band across face

Nov. 10 Ford, Carpenter, 2-3:30 PM. Came up today to prepare for night's obs'g. Everything in good shape, set for visual work. Up-dated chart file w/ latest prelim's.

Nov. 10/11 Ford, Bilodeau. Opened dome 8:30 PM PST. Hazy patches in sky, decided to wait for possible better sky. About 9:15 PM sky improved, but some haze patches still passing thru. Trouble with eyepieces - finally found a #3 and #4 which would fit tubes + could be focussed. Obs'd total of 6 vars. before moon rise (last obs.) + more haze stopped obs'g ca. 1 AM PST Nov. 11.

Nov. 11/12 Ford, Bilodeau. Obs'g 8:15 PM until moonrise + wind stopped us at 2:45 AM PST Nov. 12. Seeing fair, transp'y good. Est'd total of 22 variables, including 4 new chart checks. Eyepieces still bothersome. Temp's 42° to 36° at closing dome. A good nite, except at end of obs'g.

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1979

Nov. 12/13 Ford, alone. Opened dome 7:15 PM. Patches of haze in S + SW. Temp. 48° - 40° . Seeing poor. Obs'd total of 18 vars, including 8 sancturus, mostly in Aquila (W.) Haze worse, higher in sky by 10 PM. Decided to quit, 10:30 PM. Equipment OK; eyepiece turret set out ca. $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to remedy situation.

Nov. 12 Bilosian, alone. Picture taking, ca. 10-12 AM.

Nov. 14/15 Ford, Royer + Ed Galewski (roofing contractor). Opened dome 7:15 PM. Patches of haze, S + SW, not good. Temp. 48° - 45° . No wind, seeing fair. Est'd total of 9 vars., including 4 sancturus + chart checks. Haze worse, too bad to continue, 10:30 PM PST

Nov. 15 Royer + Galewski, 8:30 AM: started all-day job of re-tarring roof corners + ^{roof} over stairwell. Ford made two round trips during the day to W/W + cabin for mats to repair stairwell light-switch + missing Al corner-piece, NE corner of bldg. (replaced). Obs'g ladder re-inforced. Roofing job completed ca. 3:30 PM.

Nov. 15/16 Ford, J. Child. Again, haze patches interfering w/ obs'g. Obs'g 8:15 PM - 10:45 PM PST. Total of 6 vars estimated. Temp. 49° - 45° . Seeing fair, transp'y variable - again, not good. Equipment working OK. Ca. midnight, Child converted to photo mode, worked thru till dawn lite ca. 4:45 AM PST Nov. 16. Periods of clear skies, but haze still interfering. Child obtained photo of faint Comet Meier in AM sky.

1979

Nov. 17/18 Ford, Belodeau. Opened dome ca. 10 PM PST.
 Windy, w/ temp. at 30° F - cold! Transp'y good,
 Seeing the worst I (FD) have ever seen here. Obs'd
 total of 10 vars., including 6 sanctums and
 2 new chart cks = 051800 BI Ori and 044328
 AD Tau, the latter all OK. Also checked out N.Z.
 plot vs. Poyer photo on 041813 AH Eri. Var. not
 visible at NZ plotted posn. Increasing wind + low
 temp. forced closedown at 3:35 AM PST Nov. 18.
 Very good transp'y, very poor seeing!

19/20

Nov. ~~19/20~~ Ford, Poyer, his sister Judith, Padilla. Opened
 dome 8:45 PM. Ford obs'g for whole time, others
 left ca. 10 PM. Obs'd 18 vars., stopped 1:10 AM
 PST Nov. 20. 5 chart cks, 10 sanctums. No
 wind, but seeing just fair, good transp'y. Temp's
 coldest FD has ever experienced at the obs'g -
 28° - 16° F. Hand warmers essential!

Nov. 20-21 Poyer + Padilla all night photo-run - manual guiding
 30° to 16° F since guider being reworked.
 42% Rel. Hum 193628 HY Cyg 40' → had to redo this since lost shot
 no wind 205830 DI Cyg 40' wind - jiggled.
 seeing + One hour plate of region of fast moving (direct) ^{asteroid?}
 transp'y good day to E at request of Eleanor (20) Helix
 18" f7 098+0 6:28 - 7:28 U.T. exactly
 R.A. 2:10' Dec +24° 16.5'
 Tricolor with 4" f5 astrophot of π .a. 06:55' - 12.0
 from 8:50 - 11:40 U.T.

Nov. 21-22 Poyer and his sister Judith. Steve Padilla called back to
 26° F 37% Int. Wilson. In afternoon finished caulking job on roof.
 no wind Set up to photograph AC And, but seemed better to
 seeing ^{very} good wait for a change of brightness for I. D. - no apparent
 change noted visually.
 Did 051800 BI Ori 18" f7 photovisual 40'.

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1979

Nov.
21/22

High-circus moved in at end of exposure and finished us off. Had two visitors from Wrightwood - cf. guest book. Put eye on 4" f5 and saw spectacular view ~5° field of Orion nebulosity. Jack Child's big eyepiece has better off-axis field correction, but doesn't show as faint of nebulosity as the surplus eyes. At any rate, the combo is worth doing occasionally! Makes good comet sights.

Nov. 22-23
36°F 35%
STRONG
S W WIND

Poyser + Judith Poyser. Prepared to work, but overcast, so set up for visual observing for Mr. Ford.

Nov. 23/24

Ford, alone, some haze S + SW, but cleared OK before stopped obs'g 1:25 AM Nov. 24. Seeing + transparency both fair. Light wind, subsiding. Temp 38°-36°. A fairly good night, obs'd total of 26 vars, including 14 sanctuums. Equipment all OK. Crescent moon, setting before obs'g started ca. 8:30 PM

Nov 26

Ford, alone, 1-2 PM. Secured telescope + obs'g for "long leaving". All OK.

Dec 8-9

J CHILD, MYRA WEIR

50°

Everything ok at CBSY & CASW.

40% RH

Good night, steady & clear. Observed ~~Euterpe~~ Euterpe (9:0 asteroid). Photo horsehead.

Dec 15-16

36°

Jack Child / Myra Weir

Beautiful Eve. - Fair seeing. Observed Saturn, Mars, Jupiter. Photo ET Antya, Horsehead, Euterpe. Everything fine. Replaced Dec & RA relays with D.C. relays. !! Dome Motor is loose!! west side.

1979

129

Dec 20/21

30°

BAH, Cloudy, windy, & snowing. 5pm Forecast was for Fair skies - I don't think they would know a Fair sky if they saw one. Worked on autoguider.

Left in a hurry (snow). Autoguider ready for reassembly. Micro switches were loose. Switch on paddle is for AUTO/manual. Manual n.g. with auto. attached. Bye!

Dec. 26-27

20° F 76%

lt. breezes

Clear

Royer, Padilla, McHale, R. Poirant, and Mike Macario requests. Fixed nuts on dome motors. Connected auto-guider, but it does not kick over new D.C. relays. Leave for J. Child.

18" f7 IfaD+nr12 0817.10 GF HYA
0900^{3L} T Pyx

Looked at Jupiter, Mars (prominent N pole cap) and Saturn with rings edge-on - could see the faint but broken line. Seeing poor.

Dec. 27-28

28° F

50%

no wind

some cirrus

Royer, etc. as above. Brought Mike M. + company out to locked gate.

18" f7 IfaD+nr12 23 2144 A₁ And (12.0)
(appears to be different star than charted)

070037 ET Aur field

Scope guided very well!

1980

Jan 19-20

19° / 92%

Child/Weir Rotten night. Clouds came in about 9pm & stayed all night. Got one 15' photo of newly discovered asteroid for Cal-Tech (cut short because of clouds). I think auto-guider is ok but relay wiring is still incorrect.