

1990-91

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- Dec 19 J. Child  
3:30 PM Will prob'ly snow tonight - just chance to  
25° return camera to Obs'y. Will leave Schmidt  
Windy here & hope for best. Good results from last  
trip - 16"5 in 10 minutes w/ 6.3" Schmidt!  
All ok here & really soaked in now so  
better get out soon! Still have pieces of  
prime focus camera with me
- Dec 22-23 Why am I here?? IT is 8:00 PM, the dome  
10° is closed, and the thermo says 10°.  
It's not supposed to be this cold! No snow after all,  
otherwise, all ok. Dec. slow motion acting a  
bit funny - probably the cold. J. Child
- Dec 23-25 Nice weather - warmed up abit, seeing fair.  
24° 55% Ran series of asteroid photos with Schmidt.  
Having focus probs. due to cold weather.  
Everything is ok. ~~just a little bit~~
- Dec 29-30 Padilla, Sorensen & Gill. Clear but cold.  
Astrophotography until midnight.
- Jan 18-20 Jack & Maria Child, 2 nites of asteroid photog.  
Fri nite - clear, very poor seeing. Follow-up on  
1991 AQ for GHO, 1990 XB1 for test. All ok except  
one of the black ashtrays/troubain upstairs had  
about 1/2 cup water in it. Don't know how it got  
there. (drips in from shutter) - Roger  
28° 70% Sat nite - very good seeing, but lots of clouds.  
developed & checked films - may have something!  
Will know tomorrow. Did get 2 more shots (so far)  
tonight. Cabin ok - took out front toilet; back  
toilet needs new valve,

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Feb. 13-14 Poyer alone. Did 2 research plates, <sup>one of M31,</sup> one of TT Cr.  
 50% 38°F Some video of Jupiter - SEB and EZ all blend together.  
 no wind Visual observations for Hipparchus program. Some  
 high cirrus to work around.

There is no snow - have we ever driven in here in February? The drought continues, all is dry here. Thank you Jack Child for the improvements on the prime - focus camera - it works very smoothly now.

Feb. 20-21 Poyer, Tom Cove, Andrea Boattini from Florence, Italy.  
 45% 40°F High cirrus - so could only do visual variables.  
 NO WIND Seeing very good for Jupiter. No snow yet!

Mar 8-9 J. Child here for Asteroids! Road closed, skid  
 30° in - beautiful weather but storm due in 24 hrs  
 Very light breeze Some good puddles on floor upstairs, and on  
 bench where monitor was. High clouds  
 arrived about 1am. Everything ok  
 good seeing

April 10-11 Poyer alone. Hiked in over large snow drifts -  
 18°F 47% some 3 foot deep. Very hazy due to Peset winds,  
 light breezes could not see lights there because of haze till  
 morning. Photographed Inv. Her 91 and RULMI.  
 Cotton-ball seeing and hazy. Caught UGEM up.  
 Scope tracked very good, I replaced oil-pan oil  
 due to some water in it. No evidence of large  
 puddles - each storm has its own look characteristic.  
 LEAK

Apr 13-14 Jack & Marion Child here for Asteroid photos. Obs'y &  
 40° Telescope working great - except for dig. circles: large errors  
 in RA due to slippage or? Sometimes when telescope is  
 moved in RA, circles don't change.

Probably still set for 2000 <sup>↑</sup> coords. see detailed instructions on clipboard

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May 8-9  
40°F 80%

U.S. Forest  
 Ranger Mack and myself cleared rocks and  
 60' of snow drift to open the road. Strong windy  
 night - seeing 0, but clear and dark.  
 35 mm format color photos of SN N6C 4527 (11.7 mag.)  
 and SN N6C 4902. Mv. Her<sup>91</sup> visual at 14.3 mag.  
 Mv. Oph<sup>91</sup> 11.8  
 Could only get to 15.0 mag. due to poor seeing!

May 15-16  
55% 42°F

Poyer. Finally a full night of observing - no wind,  
 no clouds, good seeing. Tricolor set of N6C 4527  
 and its 11.8 supernova. Chart film of SN N6C 4902  
 and other photography. All works perfectly!

May 18-19

30°  
wind

J. Child - 16 Fields, including new asteroids  
 1991 JX, 1991 JY. Also did 694 Eckard for SAO.  
 Good night, but some wind with poor seeing.  
 Cabin & absy ok, but plumbing in cabin  
 (main valve) still not fixed. Restocked  
 absy w/ food, water, & tape.  
 Hello, Clint - welcome back!

June 7-8

Scovil, alone

Opened up, all O.K. Had trouble with digital circles  
 but mostly my own fault - couldn't remember how to set up.  
 Got 12 variables using old circles. Clear but hazy.

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June 8-9 Ford, Scovil. Opened ca. 9:30 PM PDST.  
Sky muggy, but OK near zenith. Trouble  
with read-outs, did not try to use them.  
Obs'd 12 vars. (CES) including 8 (FD).  
Closed dome ca. 2:45 AM PDST. Temp  
58°, no wind.

June 9-10 Scovil, Royer. Checked encoder ratios  
on digital circles - one had lost its  $\pm$  sign. all OK  
after that - some streaky clouds in West, murky near  
horizons but OK overhead. got ~ 6 variables by  
1:30 AM.

June 10-11 Ford, Scovil. Opened, ca. 10 PM. Checked  
out digital circles, finally working OK. Obs'd  
17 variables (CES), 10 (CBF). Sky hazy, not  
a good night except near zenith. Temp. 62°,  
light wind. Closed dome with dawn light,  
4:45 AM PDST June 11,

June 11-12 Scovil, alone. Poor seeing, sky  
bright with haze. got 22 variables, several with  
new charts to be checked. Did mostly variables from  
faint list, with some U Gens + some Hipparcos thrown in.  
Digital circles not really working well. Declination  
readings noticeably off after large movements. Suspect  
ratio is in error.

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June 12-13. Ford, Scovil. Opened ca. 10 PM PDST. Hazy sky, temp.  $60^{\circ}$  -  $42^{\circ}$ . Obs'd variables: 4 (FD); 14 (CES). Ford returned to w/w house ca. 1:30 AM PDST; Scovil continued obs'g till dawn light. Digital circles encoders still not working 100%, but nearly so. Scovil returned to obs'g in afternoon June 13, to work on encoders. Rotation chain on cage slipping, troublesome. Re-measured digital Dec. ratio, found + entered slight correction - better now.

June 13-14. Ford, Scovil. Opened ca. 10:15 PM PDST. Temp.  $62^{\circ}$  -  $41^{\circ}$ . Obs'd variables: 8 (FD); 14 (CES). Ford returned to w/w house ca. 2 AM PDST; Scovil continued obs'g till dawn light. Digital encoders better; cage rotation chain still troublesome, slipping.

June 14 - Afternoon - Scovil alone - cut out excess wire to Digital RA encoder + re spliced wires. Oiled the rotating cage - opening between part fixed to scope + rotating part. Now works very smoothly + easily with scope vertical or horizontal. Also re-routed + tied down wires dangling from upper end of scope. They were sometimes tangling in the dec. Digital encoder.

9:30 PM Scovil, Ford + Bilodeau met Jack + Karen Child at Ohig. Quick photos of Jupiter, Mars, Venus + Moon conjunction, then variables. Still some problems with digital setting circles. - lose quite a bit ( $20$ - $40''$ ) in RA when going over pier, and  $1^{\circ}$ - $3^{\circ}$  in Dec. Problem might be we move too fast over the pole. Difficulty finding some fields, mostly chart problems. Scovil 10, Ford 6, Bilodeau 10, Child about 6. Same weather, temp  $\approx 50^{\circ}$  no clouds but hazy + poor seeing.

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June 15-16 Ford + Scovil, variables - same weather pattern, Temp  $\sim 50^\circ$ , light west wind, hazy, bright sky even after moonset. Digital circles still not working 100%. Scovil 10 variables, Ford 6.

Sunday  
June 16-17 Scovil up in afternoon for more work on digital circles. Re-checked RA ratio ~~and~~ + changed same, then experimented. Now tracks very well with old RA circle, but digital declination indicator changes when scope is moved in RA, even with sec clamp set. Yuck!

Ford + Scovil returned about midnight for more variables - Ford 5, Scovil 6. Quite windy with clouds to east which blew away. Quit about 3 AM when clouds returned.

Monday + Tuesday June 17+18 cloudy - no stars  
Total variables for trip Ford 39, Scovil 135.

Sept. 4-5 Poyer, Cave, Chores, Judson - of guest book.  
55% 58°F Desert lightning + thunder and rain here. Saw  
NO WIND Saturn well in breaks in the clouds. Pinkish  
N. E. belt. Glimpses of Keeler's division.  
S pole coming out from behind rings.

Sept. 11-12 Poyer alone. Photographed 4 fields for AAVSO.  
68% 42°F Sky milky white, even in daylight - must be the  
NO WIND high volcanic ash! WPL Table Mt. Obs. had a  
laser beam shining upward till about midnight,  
maybe measuring the volcanic ash height + density?  
Hard to see the Milky Way.

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9/28-29 J. Child w/Charlie & Ann Oostdyk Fot trial  
run with 8" F1.5 Schmidt. 5 Fields of new  
Amor 1991 RJ2 16<sup>h</sup>4 for Follow up. Nice  
night once the clouds left (midnight). All ok

Oct. 2-3 Feast of the Guardian Angels. Poyer alone. Photographed 4  
58°F low fields for AAVSO chart improvement. Sky is still  
46% humidity hazy from stratospheric ash - it reflects local lights.  
NO WIND Seeing was good. Scope guided better than ever,  
attention to oiling all bearings has helped a lot.  
There is really very little actual periodic error in  
the gear system at all. Maintenance is the key to  
good photos! A good night except for transparency,  
my guardian angel was with me!

Oct 5-6 Stephenson, Sorensen, Tex and Pearl Ritter, Scott Scharny  
50°F 45%RH Star party for Excelsior Club, Visual to 1 AM  
No Wind Thought we found a comet but was just NGC 404,  
Looked at Saturn, M27, M22, M74 Est.  
Sky was very bright, moon in Predawn  
was very impressive, Hunting Season is open  
So keep your head down.

Oct. 10<sup>9+</sup> Poyer alone. Did visuals in Sag and W. Set 91 in  
NO WIND early evening through dispersing clouds. Then finished  
52°F 47% AAVSO photo project (except for 3 fields near sun)  
Good night, but still had to see Milky Way.

NOV 2-3 Sorensen & Padilla. Open house during early eve  
NO Wind with members of Pomona Valley Astronomers - star party.  
near relay station. Viewing w/ 18" until 11 pm -

NW 12-13 Special trip to photo 1991 VF -  
 38° new Apollo asteroid. East window  
 60% broken out, but no entry. Everything  
 OK, top & bottom. RA slo-mo is  
 intermittent, I think a relay is  
 acting up. Will check it next time.  
 Good luck w/ VF. I don't think  
 I got it, but hard to tell. Beautiful  
 night, but not very dark. Pinatubo dust??

Nov. 13-14 <sup>Don</sup> Poyer, <sup>Marty</sup> Poissant, Curtis Christensen.  
 Partly cloudy Color video early evening of moon + Saturn.  
 36°F 62% Very poor seeing! Windy too.

Did 2 photos, M31 nova search and  
 asteroid position plate (IIIaF<sup>4</sup>+0) of 1991 VF  
 Repaired broken window. No other damage.

Dec. 4-5 Poyer, Marty Poissant, Jim Whelan. Lots of  
 no wind high cirrus - could only do a few visual obs.  
 38°F 55% Fixed guide refractor mount to allow some!  
 tube rotation.

1992

April 8-9 Poyer hiked in alone. Much snow on road, only  
 40°F 65% patches around Obs. All OK at Obs. except front  
 NO WIND wooden door was damp and swollen. Hard to  
 open and impossible to close. I recessed hinges  
 and soaped frame. It is still snug, but I  
 couldn't do more without a plane.

Visual observations only during the night.  
 Poor seeing and transparency, could only get to  
 15<sup>th</sup> mag., but got Iv. Pup and Cyg. and other  
 important observations.

Mounted refractor on tube - it is hardy to  
 find fields from the floor. Cage will rotate,