

THE NIGHT WATCH

POMONA VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

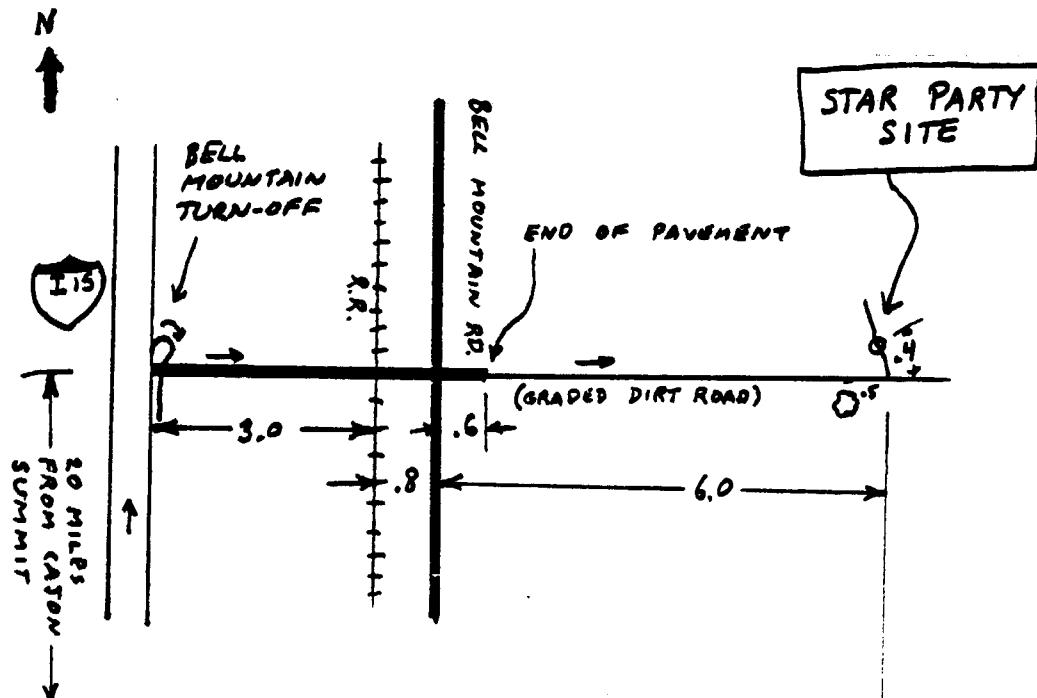
August 1982

Issue # 33

Regular meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Friday of each month in room 134 Millikan Hall, Pomona College-- northeast corner of 6th Street and College Ave. , Claremont. Executive Committee meetings are at 6:45.

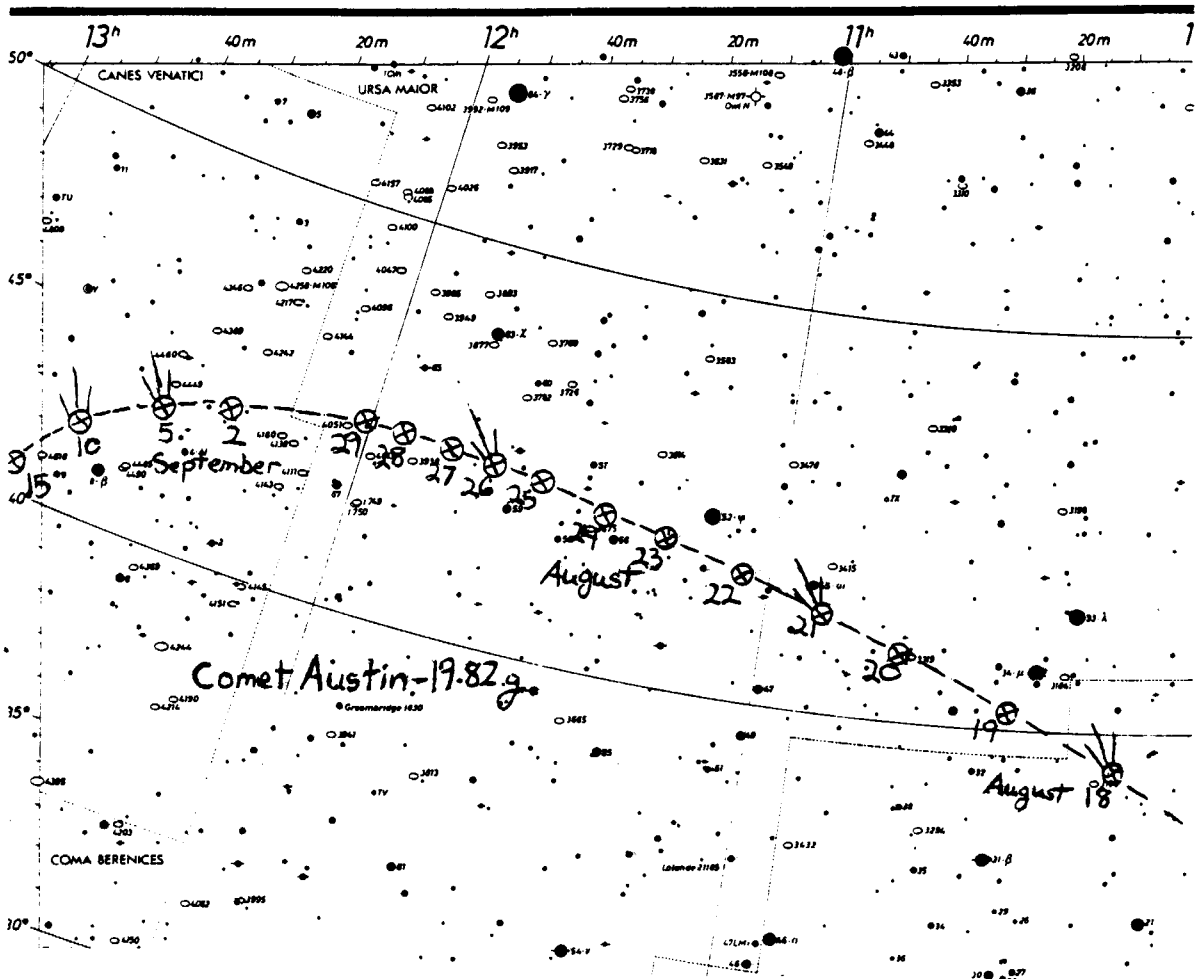
Friday Aug. 20 General Meeting---This will be a show and tell meeting. There will be no feature speaker. If you have something to share, come prepared to do so. Among other things Anthony Cook will bring us up to date on Comet Austin. (See other parts of this newsletter also.) At the meeting we will also take nominations for the election of officers. Elections will take place at the September meeting.

Saturday Aug. 21 Star Party---We will be taking the 24" telescope to the north Victorville site (see map). Of special interest will be viewing of Comet Austin. The comet will set fairly early in the evening, so come early if you can. We will put up the PVAA sign at the final turnoff to our spot in the desert.



Officer Nominations---Every September the PVAA elects five officers who form an executive committee. Specific duties, job titles, etc. are then worked out by the committee at their organizational meeting. Only full members may participate in the nominations and elections.

Since we have not yet decided on a name for the 24" telescope we have decided to vote on it on the same ballot. If you have thought up any further suggestions submit them at this meeting.



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COMET AUSTIN (1982g)

Further astrometric observations, all by A. C. Gilmore and P. M. Kilmartin at Mt. John University Observatory, extending to Aug. 2 and the following improved parabolic orbital elements are taken from the Aug. 4 batch of MPCs:

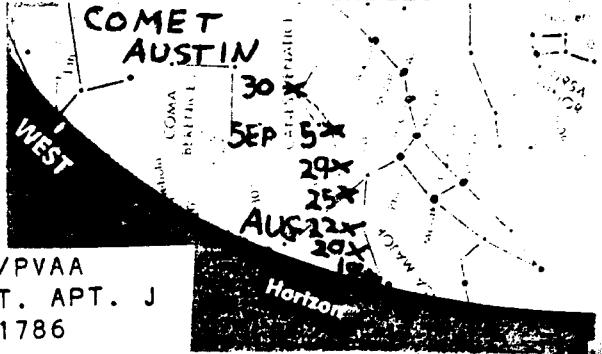
T = 1982 Aug. 24.7215 ET $\omega = 33^\circ 81' 44''$
 $\Omega = 325.5651$ 1950.0
 $i = 84.4970$
 q = 0.647791 AU

1982 ET	α_{1950}	δ_{1950}	Δ	r	m_1
Aug. 7	7 ^h 06 ^m 84	+ 2° 14' 9	0.342	0.748	4.4
8	7 20.58	+ 6 13.1			
9	7 35.31	+10 21.7	0.327	0.728	4.2
10	7 51.00	+14 34.7			
11	8 07.52	+18 45.2	0.325	0.710	4.1
12	8 24.70	+22 45.9			
13	8 42.35	+26 30.3	0.338	0.694	4.1
14	9 00.19	+29 53.3			
15	9 17.96	+32 52.2	0.363	0.680	4.1
16	9 35.37	+35 25.8			
17	9 52.19	+37 34.9	0.398	0.668	4.3
18	10 08.20	+39 21.3			
19	10 23.26	+40 47.2	0.442	0.659	4.4
20	10 37.27	+41 55.5			
21	10 50.19	+42 48.8	0.491	0.653	4.6
22	11 02.00	+43 29.5			
23	11 12.74	+43 59.7	0.545	0.649	4.8
24	11 22.46	+44 21.4			
25	11 31.23	+44 36.0	0.601	0.648	5.0
26	11 39.13	+44 44.8			
27	11 46.21	+44 49.0	0.658	0.650	5.2
28	11 52.57	+44 49.4			
29	11 58.27	+44 46.6	0.717	0.654	5.4
30	12 03.39	+44 41.2			
31	12 07.97	+44 33.8	0.776	0.661	5.7
Sept. 1	12 12.09	+44 24.6			
2	12 15.78	+44 14.1	0.834	0.671	5.9
3	12 19.11	+44 02.4			
4	12 22.10	+43 49.8	0.892	0.684	6.1

m_1 estimate by Gilmore (0.05 refractor): Aug. 2.77 UT, 5.5.

The path of Comet Austin from Aug. 18 to Sept. 15 UT on a section of Sky Atlas 2000.0, Chart 6. Precession has been accounted for in plotting the data. The orientation of any possible tail has also been sketched, although none as yet has been observed.

The small chart shows the approximate relation of Comet Austin to the horizon over a comparable time period. The horizon is for 9:45 p.m. on August 21. Astronomical twilight is roughly 9:00 p.m., so we should be able to see the comet in dark skies.



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