



SHENANDOAH ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

June 2010

Jupiter News



Photo by Christopher Go

Original story, June 3, 2010: Not just one but *two* veteran planetary imagers caught the shots of a lifetime on June 3rd, when they both video recorded a tiny, brilliant flare on Jupiter swelling and fading at 20:31 Universal Time. The flare brightened and faded in about two seconds. Its progress is recorded on many frames of each video. - S&T web site

Betty sent out news about this but I decided to use it in this newsletter anyway. You can get much more information about this on the Sky and Telescope site or on the Astromart News.

One of the recordings referred to was taken by Anthony Wesley of Australia who had also found a dark spot on Jupiter last year. The other was Christopher Go of the Philippines.

Also, note that the southern cloud belt of Jupiter has faded out. There are theories as to why but no one knows for sure. But you have to get up early to check this out since Jupiter is up in the mornings.

Program at LFCC June 14

7:00 PM Room 336 in modular building

Alan will be bringing a professional presentation by one of the experts in the field. Others we have watched were very good, actually excellent. So there is much to learn about the planets, stars, and galaxies. The meeting will be in the modular building behind the main building. It is best to park in the back south east parking lot closest to the modular building. Come to the end entrance facing the parking lot and go down the hall to Room 336. We also elect officers this month.

Pale Green Planet

Now is your chance to find Uranus in case you have never seen the 6th planet. It is within a half degree of Jupiter as I write this but will remain within one degree for another two weeks or more. Of course, it must be seen in the morning hours before dawn breaks as that is where you will find Jupiter. Anyway, one way to find a difficult object is to catch it close to something easy to find.

Another object that most amateur astronomers likely do not see often is the asteroid Ceres. And that is available now and will be for a few weeks this summer. Look in S&T for more information including the path as it moves through Sagittarius. Ceres is the largest and brightest asteroid and the first one discovered in 1801. There is another comet named McNaught that is moving through Andromeda and Perseus.

(S&T pages 60 – 62)