

1968

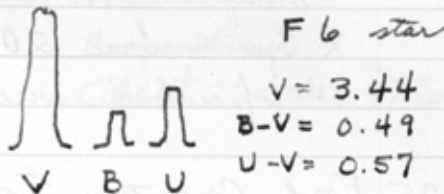
Jan 19

Bornhurst, Carpenter, Cragg

Primary interest was to check out PEP to find necessary changes to facilitate operations. PEP worked fine, crosshair light very bad (floods field with light & very bad contact). Also one must be very careful not to touch telescope or star is lost out of diaphragm.

Big problem for night was cirrus - no usable PEP data obtainable. However something is very peculiar with filters. On X Tri this was the result:

Tried a couple of estimates with PEP on X Tri but cirrus clobbered us.



Looks like something's wrong with filter transmissions. PEP was used entirely at $HV = 500$

Seeing - fairly good Transparency - variable cirrus
Temp - high 30's occasional E wind

Carpenter measured distance of focal plane from top of flange. Found it to be 4.0 inches.

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Feb 2

BORNHURST,

Determining photo electric standards & site constants - RUNNING mostly A.O, B.O, F.O etc. on TONZANITLA ext. stand. PEP H.V. = 600. Dark seems OK. some lite leak on dark slide on bushing.

Unable to dampen system enough for a cm - looks like simply getting good data -

Seeing - 2-3 Transp. "Fabulous"
Temp - 40°-42° slight SW wind.

Found both of those FRIGGING H6 LITES ON AGAIN!!! We will go to court some day over this. Wd.

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11 AM

Feb. 19 Ford, Mrs. Ford + son Rick D'Arcy, for daytime visit. No snow on ground, temp. ca. 60°F. No wind. Returned to Apple Valley 12:30 PM. High cirrus, very heavy, judged the nite would be N.G.

Feb 20-21 Ford, Carpenter, Tom & Mary Cragg for the night. Cirrus early, increasing wind later. By morning SW wind of heavy gale force.

Seeing spotty - 4 to < 1 transparency var
Modified Oliver charts for AR And, BE, BR, BP, Cam,
X Syn. Some 20 variables looked up visually,
14 of which were sanctum.

Feb 25 Ford, Carpenter, Tom & Mary Cragg here for observing. Temp 48-44. Increasing cirrus quickly put an end to observing early. Only a few stars looked at before closing down.

Feb. 26 Ford, Carpenter: repaired observing ladder, installed objective in 5 1/2" refr. quice scope. Sky cloudy. Returned to Bellflower, 6 PM.

Mar. 1 Carpenter, Bornhurst, Ford. Built extension on obs'g desk, to 10' width; finished staining new bookcase + bureau drawer set for "engine room". Clouds, no obs'g done, but stayed overnight to continue work on Mar. 2. Discussed details, made rough plans, for machine-shop + bathroom addition to building.

Mar. 2 Carpenter, Bornhurst, Ford. Worked on electrical connections for very fast R.A. motion + photographic guiding on 18". Weather cleared in P.M.; Bornhurst returned to Mt. Wilson. Carpenter's Ford remained to work visually with 18". Total 12 estimates for FD, 10 for Carpenter. Seeing average. Stopped obs'g 1:45 AM PST Mar. 3.

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Mar. 3 Ford Carpenter, closed up, returned to Ballflower
10:45 AM.

Mar 25 Carpenter, Tom & Mary Cragg. here all night.
Transparency fabulous - strong gusty SW wind -
never opened at all. Temp just below freezing

Mar 26 Carpenter, Tom & Mary Cragg.
Seeing - very good Transparency - rather good
Temp - 50° in afternoon, 36° during observing session
Worked visually until 1:45
Cragg Carpenter
23 binocular About 22 vars 17 sanctums
23 Orion Nebula
25 w/ 18" (17 sanctum)
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This was one of the best nites we ever saw here
The 172^d comp stars in XX Lac were remarkably
easy. Seeing and trans held up all nite - no wind

April 24/25 - Carpenter, Marvin Baldwin, & Cragg
Forgot to bring over PEP adapter for 18" —
Marvin drove back to Mt. Wilson to get it!
Carpenter & Cragg observed visually 1st half of night
working some 15 stars (8 sanctums).
X Leo, SU UMa, & TW Vir up. (not U Gem's)
Seeing variable, sky transparency
Finding problems with epistating eyepiece on PEP
essentially impossible without finder & guide 'scope.
Spent last half of night finding and trying for sequence
for SW Boo just in time to be greeted by dawn.

April 25-26 - Carpenter, Baldwin, Cragg
Finally decided to use eyepieces and turret to find
stars for PEP since this was only successful method
found during previous night! Discovered something

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fishy with PEP focus position - it would NOT come to focus in its regular adapter as it was TOO CLOSE TO THE TELESCOPE FOCAL PLANE. It turned out to be usable in the high power eyepiece draw-tube on the turret! This enabled us to use the other eyepieces to locate stars then swing in the PEP for measurement!

Occasional cirrus caused considerable concern on the output, but maybe some results were obtained on sequences for RR Gem, UY Boo, and SW Boo, all RR Lyrae stars. Last part of night was rather good except for SW wind.

MAY 9 BORNHURST - Plowing weeds for ANNUAL SPRING inspection - wx = High broken cirrus - 50°
Paint down exterior. Found frost window opening

MAY 27 BORNHURST & Jacques - wx = clear w/m, no moon - some PEP but need Sinden scope.

June 22 1968 Emie & Barbara Lorenz - Too much smoke from forest fires to open up. Used own scopes in yard and at Sai run stars party.

June 25-6 Carpenter & Cragg -
Seeing rather good, transparency very good
Worked visual on variables picking up some 22, nearly all sanctums. Faintest estimate ~17(0).
First hour lost nailing down 3 sections of formica on dome base as they had loosened from one end and would jam in the dome wheels when the dome was rotated. Temperature not below 60° at nite. Very Hot next morning

July 27-8 Carpenter, Tom & Mary Cragg -
Clouded out all night, general rain next morning.
Prime purpose was to paint dome which was accomplished PM of the 27th

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Aug. 20 Carpenter, Ford. Sky clear, but high winds too bad to open dome. Winds continued all night, gusting to 50-60 mph. Wired down dome shutters. Winds slacked off by sunrise Aug. 21.

Aug. 21 Carpenter, Ford. Consulted Joe Meluso in Wrightwood re plans for addition to obs'y. Ford drew up revised plans. Carpenter measured top of dome shutters for installation of aluminum sheeting to prevent rain leaks. Bt't primer for painting same, plus new rope for extension ladder. No wind by sunset, sky looks good, 8 PM PDST, opened dome for obs'g, no moon. Seeing only fair, light wind. Temp. "unusual" - cold! - 41° F. in dome. Checking Olivier charts, many corrections made. "Coffee" break, midnite PDST. Carpenter 6 sanctums; Ford, total 9 w/ 6 sanctums. Closed dome 2:30 AM PDST Aug. 22, Temp. then +38° F. (a record for Aug.?)

Aug. 22 Carpenter, Ford. Secured dome + telescope. Entered chart corrections in charts for obs'y chart file. Returned to Bellflower, 1 PM.

Aug. 26 Carpenter, Ford. Arrived 6 P.M. Too cloudy to observe, + smoke from forest fires.

Aug. 27 Cleared OK, nice day. Painted top of shutters, outside. Two sheets Al on hand to cover same. Fitted steel pcs on bottom track of shutters, to support them. Obs'g: from twilight till 1:30 AM (Carpenter + Ford); continuing to 4 AM (Ford). Totals: CE 9; FD 20. Concentrated on Olivier chart checking. Temp. 60°-55°, very light wind. Bt't new 8' ladder.

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Aug. 28 Carpenter, Ford. Obs'g: 12 minute 28th thru
dawn like 29th. Totals: CE, 6; FD, 14.
Chart checking. A very good nite. No wind, temp.
60°; seeing above average.

Aug. 29 Carpenter, Ford, Closed up 10 AM, returned to
Bellflower.

Aug. 31 Cragg, Ford, Light wind, opened up 9:30 PM.
Moon first qtr., still up. Temp. 60°, Obs'g:
FD 7 (3 sanctum)
CR 11 "

Difficulty locating Y Peg; finally OK. Closed
dome 11:30 PM, returned to Mt. Wilson (Cragg)
and Wrightwood (Ford; first nite in new house
there).

Sept. 3 Carpenter, 3-5 PM, worked on installation of
brackets at bottom of shutter tracks on dome. No
obs'g → too much moon.

Sept. 4 Carpenter. 7-10 AM. More work on brackets,
and on metal Al sheets to cover top section of
shutters. No obs'g.

Sept. 5 Carpenter: 7-10 AM. Finished bracket installation,
and finished placing Al sheets on top sections of
dome. Ford + Borchert: Further conference ^(2-5 PM) on
plans for addition to obs'g. Borchert returned to
Mt. Wilson 5 PM; Ford to Wrightwood house.
No obs'g.

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Oct 27 - Cragg + Carp came to obs'g at about 4:30 P.
 Nailed several pieces of formica track before we
 could use dome. Then went to dinner and back
 to start observing at about 7:30. Moon one day
 before 1st 1/4. Seeing good - trans. excellent. Moon
 did not seem to interfere too much. Seeing deteriorated
 some about 10 pm but got better again about
 midnite. Observed until 3 AM - Cragg got 36 obs
 25 sanctums. Carp 27 obs - 23 sanctums.

Oct 28 Cragg & Carpenter observed a short time in early
 evening. Winded out shortly after beginning -
 only a few observations each. Howling gale
 and clouds next morning

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Jan. 15 Carpenter + Ford. Cirrus clouds stopped obs'g
 night after starting. Obs'd FG Ori < 14.1 , but
 visibilities too poor. Temp. 36°. Cloud done,
 returned to W/W house 9:20 PM.

Jan. 17-25 Bad storm tore off upper part of one shutter.
 Mar. June Bomhurst, temporary repairs to damaged shutter.

June 18 Carpenter & Cragg removed mirrors for aluminizing
 June-July Bomhurst, Carpenter installed new metal
 dome track.

July 10 Carpenter, Cragg, Ford. Re-installed cleaned (but
 not re-aluminized) mirrors in telescope, made rough
 aligning of optics.

July 13 Carpenter, Ford. Obs'd; 11:30 PM - 2:45 AM
 PDST. FD 9 est's (8 sanctum)
 CE 8 "

Temp. at hub, 55° F; wind up, Sky OK,
 seeing fair; Faintest est. = RY Dec ≈ 16.2 .