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1986

1986

Jan. 6 through 24th - Boyer and Padilla for photo run on Halley. Good plates showing much out-gassing - but shi-lights gave heavy fog on plates. Exceptionally good weather - road usable by bicycle. Jan. 24th scope restored to visual. R. E. Boyer

April/22/86 Jeff here for inspection

4/26/86 I have the extension ladder at my house.

Bill Goff

May 7-8 '86 Boyer. Plates of Comet Halley
32°F 55% - slight NW wind, clear but very bright to south. Comet is just below naked-eye visibility. Very weak tail, a dust tail according to filtered plates.

May 14-15 Boyer and Padilla. Fixed refractor mounting bracket so that it can be mounted on with the cage-rotating control box. Works, but takes all counter-balances. Hazy and scudding broken clouds - did not even see comet with binoculars!

May 28-29 Boyer and Padilla - Did Comet Halley ^{1° TAIL}
50°F 35% with 18" f7 and 4" f5. Windy from West, also patches of high cirrus. Also photographed another Bob Evans supernova in NGC 5128 at -43°.
m 13.0

June 11-12 Boyer. Average seeing. Somewhat hazy and bright sky. No clouds
W wind moderate Did NGC 5128 again after good result last time.
37% 58°F Also Halley - very faint now - no visible tail, stellar nucleus hard to see.

Mars is super - buff colored interior with almost continuous bright ring around the edges as shown:
Almost as bright as Jupiter.



1986

July 2-3
63°F 45%Some gusty
wind - every
direction

Royer, Porman, Middendorf. Clouds all night - no observations at all - couldn't find or see Halley in early P.M., even though there was a clear patch of sky there. Did some weed clearing. All OK

7/5

Boff here with Bob Stepan and Mike Keeple, some variables and Mars/Saturn, seeing was awful. There appears to be some trouble in the control box, relay is not working for some of the lights.

UB

July 9-10
52°F 35%

Royer. NYC 5128 into its setting - very bright down there. ^{city lights} Did series on Mars now at opposition - seeing got better through the night as west wind died. Transparency good. Some unknown trouble with R.A. drive, it slips occasionally? Secondary worm gear had loose set-screw - I hope that was it.

July 30-31
62°F 18%

Royer. Photographed Mars by projection. Also M27. Tracking best ever!

Aug 3-4

Observed Mars visually all night after Bill Goff acquainted me with the system (cage rotation, etc.). A bit of west wind 1st part of night and transparency not best, but improved as the night went on - seeing ~1" arc on Jupiter at dawn. Got 55 stars, 30 of which were sanatoriums. Faintest star glimpsed was the 17.2 in UV Per field. Skirtleleva temp all night!! Rotating head a joy to work with - really eased the pain!

T. Cragg

Aug. 27-28
58°F 47%

Royer. Photography of Mars + Jupiter. No wind, lazy. Seeing 1-2 sec. of arc - not good. Mars S cap melting fast, north evening clouds still there. Desert storm and lightning to NE till 11:00 P.M. P.D.T.

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8/9/86

Late entry, Bill Goff here with 5 guests from Riverside Astronomical Society, did a couple of variables, Mars + Saturn and a few deep sky objects. Seeing was superb.

8/30/86 Goff here.

8/31/86. Opened up, 8:45 PM. Goff, Ford, Bilodeau, and T. Hagg. Seeing good, no moon till crescent rising ca. 4:30 AM. Transparency fair to good; Temp, 65° - 60° F. No wind. Obs'd vars.: (P & L) 15 including 11 sanctums. Two visitors from ca. 11 PM thru 12:30 = Bill Beniston + friend. Viewed ring nebula, M-15, and Jupiter; then back to the vars. Total no. of all est's made = more than 60 before dawn lite ca. 5 AM.

+ Goff +
9/1/86. Ford + Fr. Royer, Fd. Obs'd 5 vars. before 11 PM, including new Nova Cyg '86. Royer took over + photo'd the Nova field + Mars + Jupiter. Closed up ca. 2 AM. Sky good, same as on 8/31 - 9/1. Temp. 65° - 55° F.

~~9/3/86~~ 9/3/86. Ford, Tom Cave + Sylvia Cave. Opened 9:30 PM. Good sky, temp. 65°, no wind. Obs'd 5 vars., including 4 sanctums. Also Jupiter w/ orange filter. Seeing fair w/ 9mm. Nagler eyepiece. Closed up at 00:30 9/4.

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9/4-5 Ford, Goff. Opened 9:30 PM PDST, Transparency fair, seeing fair, light wind, temp. 65°. Obs'd total of 5 vars, including 4 sanctums. Closed dome 00:32 AM Sept. 5.

Sept 6-7 Ford, Bilodeau. Opened 9:45 PM PDST, Transparency + seeing fair, no wind, temp ca. 60°. Obs'd total of 7 vars. (Fd) including 2 sanctums. Stopped 1:30 AM PDST Sept. 7.

9/11-12 Jack & Maren Child (The Honeymooners!)
Here to photo. 1986RA - newly discovered AMOR asteroid, with only 2 days observations so far. Need more positions! But, typical weather for this observer - clear 'til sunset then completely clouded over!
ps: miraculous break in clouds - got 1 photo

9/12-13 Jack & Maren Child (Back Again)
Much better tonight. LA apparently socked in, but dark & clear here. M31 naked eye, some good detail on Jupiter. 4 more photos vicinity 1986 RA. Observed 'til 4 am. John Stevenson arrived about 11:30 am to work on lights. Finally remembered to bring clock I bought 2 years ago! All is ok.

9/19/86 Goff here with a scout group of 8. Fun for all!

Oct. 8-9, 86 Boyer. Comet Wilson at 11.2^{for to E.} - used R DEL sequence. Seeing good enough for Mars + Jupiter photography. NO WIND 45°F 60% Saw no Discoboloid meteors! Did some variables. Good night - desert lightning in distance.

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10/10/86 Off here for inspection and tour.
WS

Oct 11-12 Padilla & Ray bros. Planetary photography in early eve & piggyback exposures after moon set. Valley fogged in - very dark sky. Transp good seeing fair. Temp 50-38°F.

10/22 The truck plate relay for the white lights upstairs finally gave up. I couldn't get the white lights on at all. The system is temporarily bypassed so that the wall breaker is the only way to turn lights on and off.
WS

11/2/86 Off here for variables. Excellent evening, seeing as good as it gets, got into 165, 3 times, 36-32°.
WS

11/28/86 Off here for variables, little wind, 32°, poor seeing. 3 strangers from Wrightwood come to the door, the usual lookie-lookis.

Dec. 3-4, 86 Poyer and Padilla
40°F 45% Some wind. Heavy to SW Nova Cyg 86 12.1
SUTAU < 13.3 - due to increasing cirrus couldn't see fainter.
Photographed Comet Wilson and Sonells in early evening Both about 11.0 mag, Sonells has stellar nucleus, both have faint NE TAIL. Clouded out by 11:30 P.M.

March 9-10 1987 Poyer alone. Hiked in, gate locked, though road is passable. Met Steve Carbaugh doing road check in preparation for opening, U.S. Forest Ranger. All OK at Obs., came through winter fine.
27°F 83%
NO WIND