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Jan. 20-21 Jack and Maren Child. Well, here we are!
Arrived by skis at 5:00 P.M. Beautiful day, good snow.
Found quite a puddle, half-frozen, and some snow
upstairs. Used towels to clean it up. Do we have
→ a mop? Pesks and telescope appear dry.

Everything working great. Ran series of test
exposures on stars and galaxies using TMAX 3200.
Seeing poor with intermittent wind.

March 21-22 Poyer hiked in alone. Some 2 foot deep
42°F 48% snow banks still on road, but most of road clear.
light W. wind Looked in vain for Comet Austin in the western
twilight though haze and scattered cirrus. It must
be fainter than 5th mag.

WET
MOP IS
AGAINST
THE WALL
UPSTAIRS

Did 2 plates of M81 for nova search for
James Bryan, Jr. Did visuals too. All OK here,
Obs. survived the Upland earthquake - nothing displaced.

March 28-29 Poyer hiked in again - road still has bad spots.
22°F 88% Snow though the clouds and drizzle coming up the
mountain - common for this time of year. Broken
clouds up here. I saw Comet Austin for my first time,
about 6th mag. Small, not much central condensation
in the head, slight bit of tail. Poor transparency.
It is about 20° from the sun, in twilight.

Did M81 on hypered IIIa F. - It came
out super - could go more than 60'. Did RGB
type stars in SGR in A.M. sky.

Saturn's equatorial belt almost as dark as
the crepe ring crossing the ball.

Mars shows 5 polar cap large and visible
with dark banding around it. couldn't make out
N. cap in the poor seeing.

April 14 Stephenson, Webb, Rofferty installed new combination
lock on gate (old chain + locks stolen!) Same combination,
contact Fr. Poyer for same.

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April 17
32°F 100%
NO WIND

Poyer drove in alone. Good OK, light snow, but melting on warm ground. Telescope all dressed up for Jupiter videotaping and then for Comet Austin, but no where to go - cloudy all night.

April 18
34°F 90%
NO WIND

Cloudy all day, but cleared totally in late afternoon. Did video of Jupiter - still no sign of SEB. Seeing fair. Did some visuals, then a 2 hour exposure of M81 on hypered IIIaF - guided downstairs - no problems, and no earthquakes visible on monitor, though there have been swarms of them around, Upland, Palm Springs. A 2 hour guiding session is not easy, even downstairs! Comet Austin is about 5th mag., not even as good as Iaseth-Brewington! 1° tail

 Central condensation, but no stellar nucleus. Blue-green - mostly gas tail it appears. Good transparency in spite of crescent moon and high humidity.

April 19-20
36°F 75%
NO WIND

Poyer. Did visuals early eve. Jupiter still shows no sign of SEB on other side. Then clouded out rest of the night and no breaks for Comet Austin.

April 25-26
42°F 53%
NO WIND

Padilla and Poyer. Jupiter same. Z Com half-up. M81 photo. Comet Austin in morning sky - still looks the same, about 5th mag. - barely naked-eye, and faint 1° tail. No stellar nucleus, just strong central condensation surrounded by blue glow.

April 28-29
40°F 53%
Heavy "wind"
From West

Stephenson, Webb, Sorensen, Rafferty
High clouds and Very High Wind began after sunset and continued All Night making use of telescope impossible

May 2-3
38°F 53%
W WIND - lying.

Poyer and Padilla. Jupiter same, no SEB. Did visual variables. Scattered clouds. RY Sgr going down, at 8.7 mag. Comet Austin between 5-6 mag.

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with fraction of a degree tail - disappointing. Still very blue - head size growing as it approaches Earth. P. Comet Schwassmann-Wachmann^{III} 89d, looked worth a photo at 10th mag., but some tail.

May 5-6

50°F 48%

No Wind

Stephenson, Rafferty, Sorensen, Webb

No S.E.B. on Jupiter, Shot Video of Same experimented with Filters to enhance markings slight improvement with Blue Filter. Shot 15 min Exposure of m13, 30 min Exposure of m27 both on tri X. Shot 10 min Exposure of Austin (1989c1) on Blue sensitive 103Ac, Austin not Vis. Naked eye, Vis. in binocular. Comet getting larger but fainter, tail approx. 1°.

May 16-17

40°F 43%

quaty wind

Poyer. Broken clouds all night - poor seeing.

Jupiter the same. Couldn't see any tail to Austin, but hazy and moonlight. Just a big blob. Did get a couple RCB types, Boeing, RY Sqr. 10.2
MV Sqr. m 14.0

May 20-21

Ford + Scovil. High haze (cirrus) but gradually clearing to OK at end of obs'g. Seeing fair, transp'g poss. Obs'd total of 12 vars. Temp. 50°F, very light wind.

In afternoon May 20, Ford, Scovil, Goff + Steavenson surveyed problems of mounting new digital read-out system for RA + Dec. on the telescope, Steavenson made sketches, will make necessary brackets and obtain pulley wheels, etc. for the job. Keys to new middle door lock on the obs'g bldg. given to Ford + Goff. Scovil began job of up-dating the master file of charts, using a complete new set brought from Conn. (prelim.s)

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May 20-21 (cont'd). Cage rotation controls newly installed by Stevenson working fine. Closed up ca. 2:45 AM PST.

May 22-23 Scovil + Ford. Opened, 9:40 PM PST. Continuing high cirrus, seeing + transparency. Obs'd 9 Vais (FD), Chart file work completed by Scovil. Installed Velero doors positioning new paddle controlling cage rotation + RA slow motion. Wind troublesome, could observe only east of meridian. Closed dome 2:45 AM PST. Equipment in general working OK. In afternoon make trip to Victrola to laundromat, do large amt. of house laundry. This was the 4th consecutive night of unsatisfactory sky conditions.

May 23-24 Royer and Tom care. Cloudy in evening. 38°F 65% Morning clear. Did variables, RY 50R 10.8. NW wind hr. lat. 89 13.6. Comet Austin barely naked eye, round and fuzzy. Stellar-like nucleus. Saturn - detected Keeler's division, ring A. Equatorial belt still dark. No bright spots yet in northern hemisphere. Mars shows S polar cap quite large. Sytis major, Sinus Meridianus, Lobus, Mare Margaritiferum after sunrise! Pacilla at W/W house in evening, showed video tape of 25th anniversary of Ford Obs'y. Parts for new digital read-out sensor mountings delivered by Royer (from Stephenson).

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May 24-25. Ford + Scovil. Spent most of 5/24 afternoon installing new digital read-out systems (RA + Dec) on telescope. Returned to W/W house ca. 7:30 PM PDT after heating. Skies still hazy, but returned to obs. ca. 11 PM, but set on Vega + Altair per instruction, and first test setting on RT Lyrae field was successful. Obs'd a total of 9 vars (FO) including RT Sgr (10.8) and R CrB (6.6), the latter apparently starting a new decline in brightness. Light winds, only β moderately troublesome. Temp. 40 F (\pm). Closed dome at dawn like, ca. 4 AM PDT.

May 25-26. Scovil, alone, using new digital read-out system, which worked OK east of meridian, but not west. Obs'd vars. Returned to W/W house ca. 2 AM PDT.

May 26-27. Ford + Bilodeau. Opened, ca. 9:00 PM PDT. High cirrus clouds continuing - not good. Temp. 44°. Did not use digital read-out system. Obs'd SS Oph at 13.9 and γ Sgr Oph at 13.5 (F3). Bilodeau's family also at obs. Stopped ca. 1:00 AM PDT - clouds + wind too bad to continue. A night of frustration!

May 28. RAIN! (AM + PM)

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May 29-30. For, Scovil + Giese. Opened at 9:15 PM PDST. Spent ca. 45^{hr} setting up digital read-outs. Still not working 100%. Increasing high haze + clouds. Temp. 47°, light wind. Obs'd total of 7 vars (CES) before quitting (clouds too bad to continue), ca. 11:30 PM PDST. Closed dome + bldg. for "long leaving"; All electricity turned off.

June 4-5 Poyer alone. Photographed Comets Austin and Levy in last morning window before MOON.
60°F 42% WEST WIND
Austin is fading, Levy looks promising.
RV SGR 10.8 MV SGR 13.8 RCB 6.1
Jupiter fading fast into evening twilight - poor seeing, but no sign of SEB. NEB is doubled.

June 17 Rich Sorensen, Jr. Stephenson, Shawn Hill. Checked out dec + R.A. encoders - need tower dec. race. Usual observing.

June 20-21 Poyer. Did new variable star fields - good night, 42% 56°F but a bit hazy - typical of this time of year. - guided downstairs.
NO WIND
Jupiter is in evening twilight, still no SEB, but NEB is still doubled, north component about half a magnitude as S. component. There is a dark - as dark as NEB south polar hood.

I could not find comet Austin? Used 18" low-power and swept whole area.

June 27-28 Poyer. Finished photographing new fields. Photographed Comet Levy - looks good at about 8th mag. - broad - short fan tail. Left video set-up for Jack Child's asteroid project.
33% 60°F strong west wind HAZY

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July 11-12
53% 62°F
NO WIND

Poyer and Fred Middelborg, S.V. Visual only tonight. SN NSC 5493 barely visible in the central glare at about 14.5 mag. - This washed out in the photos of 6-28. RY SGR 7.6, MV SGR 13.0 - both slowly recovering. Looked again in vain for Comet Austin. Comet Levy at 8.5 mag, with strong center - looks promising, but not brightening too well.

July 20-21
Breezy

J Child & Greg Lyzenga. Worked with video system to determine feasibility for timing and recording asteroid occultations for IOTA. System worked very well, and can probably do occultations down to about 9.5. This approach, with WWV input to audio channel gives us precise timings and a chance to review an event if we choose. Looks like we'll be back in Sep-Oct for some real occultation events. Also took photos of M31 for James Bryan. Scope, Obsy, all in great shape. Also, tried to photograph new near-earth asteroid for G10 (1585).

JULY 28
NO WIND

W. WEBB, J STEPHENSON WORKED ON DRIVE MOTOR CONTACTORS. THE BRUSHES WERE IN BETTER CONDITION THAN EXPECTED.

Aug 19

Stephenson, Webb - stopped by during day Everything looks o.k.

Aug. 22-23
50°F 42%
NO WIND

Poyer, ^{Marty} Poyant, ^{Mike} Vanderwell. Did visuals early evening. V 348 Sgr. 14.6 - down. RY Sgr. 8.0 Comet Levy = 2.1 or 4.0 mag. Naked eye best, $\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ no tail naked eye. Great sight in Mega-boxes. M31 photo. Jupiter at 5:00 A.M. - still no SEB

HAPPY 25th ANNIVERSARY - FORD OBS.!

- 1990
 Aug 24-25 Padilla, Sorenson & Stephenson. Here on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Ford Observatory. Celebrated with a toast. Viewed & photographed Comet Levy in early eve. Very windy - cool for this time of year.
 more 10-29 backward. We now have some about
- 1990
 AUG 26 STEPHENSON & WEBB - VIEW AND PHOTOGRAPHED COMET LEVY. CLOUDS MOVED IN ABOUT 9:00 PM AND STOPPED ALL VIEWING. VERY WINDY ALL NIGHT
- Aug. 29-30 Payer alone. Clear, West wind at times, some strong gusts. 42% 58°F Comet Levy still naked eye in spite of gibbous moon near it. About 4.0 mag., no visible tail, about 10' arc head. Pic And. Gal. and RS Eri plates after moonset. Pic video of Jupiter - SEB is reforming as long dash streaks!
- Sep 1-2 Jack & Maren Child / Greg Lyzenga / Ernie Williams 35% 48° (& 300 # electronic gear) For occultation of SAO 186284 by 679 PAX. Equipment set up to record event and time visually as well as WWV on audio. All worked ok, but we did not observe an occultation. We may have missed it as we were late starting, or it may have missed vs. Path width was only 73.6 km. Will be back for 51 Nemouse occ. Sep 29-30!
 Everything OK! Painted door Frame, west door
- Sept. 12-13 Payer alone. Visuals. Photo Comet Levy - still 60°F 35% looks about the same, but into SW glow. lt. W. wind Video tapes of Jupiter, still reforming SEB with streaks + spots, and Mars.
 Put new gasket on Reeper door, but it is too thick! - Press close!

Sep 15-16 Jack & Marc Child with Marcelo & Tetesa Villactes
 55°, 34% Windy, poor seeing. Introduced our friends
 to Saturn, M31, M57, M13, MARS, JUPITER, M42, the moon,
 and the sun. Observatory in excellent shape,
 everything OK. Painted rear door - Good job, Marc!

Sept. 19-20 Payer. Visuals of variables. Seeing too poor
 40° 70% for planetary video, plus broken clouds.
 Readjusted dec. readout and improved wheel
 ratios - remote readouts much better and usable.
 C-14 and 2 TRW researchers set up outside
 to do CCD brightness readings of satellites with
 fair success and lots of fussing! Nice set-up,
 but they have more to learn.

Sept 22-23 Padilla, Sorensen & Gill. Seeing fair to poor.
 Visual observing Saturn & Mars, and other objects.

Sept. 29-30 Jack Child / Greg & Mary Lyzenga / Ernie Williams
 45° 65% Videorecorded occultation of SAO 163983 by
 asteroid 51 Nemausa. Recorded a miss (last
 minute astrometry suggests path was a few
 hundred miles west off the coast). Weather
 and seeing was surprisingly good, considering we
 drove up in a thunderstorm! Video setup
 worked great, and someday we're actually going
 to capture one of these events! Other activities
 for the evening included some nice video views
 of the 79% lit waxing moon and photographic
 exposures of a recently discovered asteroid
 (1990 SQ by Eleanor Helin).

JC - had a terrible time with off-axis guider. Removal
 tube assy and dressed it up a bit so it now slides
 in & out a bit easier. Also fixed retainer board
 for mirror cover assy (hope it suits everyone!)

Also - drove some nails into middle step of platform ladder - it kept sliding back and could have popped out and caused a serious accident.
Put second coat of paint on back door.
Everything else ok. Bought a few tools and some more 10-24 hardware. We now have some short thumbscrews for video/eyepiece adaptor plate.

Oct. 4
47% 48°
NO WIND

Poyer. Full moon. Clear, seeing fair.
9 visuals - down to 15.4. Used redout R.A. + dec - very fast since you can work from one position to make settings, and very accurate!
Video of Jupiter + Mars. SEB and STB very active.

Oct. 10-11
NO WIND
42% 60°F

Poyer. Visuals, 2 Tech-Pan⁺ films of And. M31 and Ring nebula, visual filter. VERY GOOD
Did color video of Jupiter and Mars, very good, but had to use Nagler 9mm eyepiece that I will take with me to continue at home. Jupiter is very active, lots of dark spots and streaks.

Oct. 17-18
85% 45°F

Poyer. Scattered clouds and very poor seeing. Could do no photography. Did some visual estimates and planetary video - poor quality. Great White Spot on Saturn transited about 4:10 UT, it reaches around almost as far as we can see each side.

Oct 20-21
52% 33°F
Light Wind

Stephenson, seeing very poor. Photography impossible. Visual of S, M33, NGC 891, 772, 7479, was able to see the two brightest members of Stephan's Quintet NGC 7319, 7320 at mag 13.7 and 13.6. Sky bright.

Oct. 24-25
47% 48°F
NO WIND

Poyer. Made set-up for medium format camera, had to adjust photo-diagonal downward to reach focus, and reverse mounting plate - it worked. Photos all night!
WELL - BUT OFF - SQUARE.

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Nov. 7-8
30°F 48%

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Royer, Jack Child, Greg Fyzenga. Photo set-up and run. Very poor seeing, good transparency. We have an E.-wind condition, with light gusts over the mountain, heavy in Lagon Pass.

Nov. 14-15
40°F 45%
NO WIND

Royer and Jack Child. Jack donated new carpet for living room, and installed it. Very nice to arise from sleep on! Thank you Jack. (donated by Werner Floorcoverings, Abensdale, IL)

High cirrus moving in - just visual obs.
Caught U GEM on rise 13:00

Nov 17-18

Stephenson & Webb, Lounsen, Bill & Padilla
Astrophotography prime focus with 18". Deep sky objects & planetary - Mars & Jupiter. Seeing fair.

Nov 21-22
26° 60%

Royer, Jack & Maren Child.
Royer 2 photos M31. Mounted adapter plates for Schmidt camera on tube, then tested. Camera weighs 22#, and telescope balances nicely. 2 photos M65, M66 - got 1670 star in 10' with 6.3" aperture!

Nov 22-23
28° 60%

Jack & Maren Child
Series of photos with Schmidt to determine lim. mag & sky fog limits. Telescope working very well. Taking 4x5 camera for rework. TMO Schmidt is operational. Jim Young has taken pix with their 10" F2.
- seeing poor, some wind, not very dark

Nov. 28-29
25°F 52%
some wind
all directions

Royer. Visual only. Checked out most of the Rosat target cataclysmic variables - 2 are up, SS Cyg and AO PSC. RY Sgr almost back up to normal. Seeing poor, scattered high cirrus.
Great set of charts HERE!

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,