

Northern Colorado Astronomical Society Meeting Minutes 9/4/25

**President**

Greg Marino
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Vice President

Carla Johns
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Treasurer

Charlie Davis
treasurer@nocoastro.org

Secretary

Rob Sireno
secretary@nocoastro.org

Agenda**Reports:**

Treasurer - Charlie Davis

Outreach - Greg Halac

Announcements:

Dark Sky Weekend in Centennial, WY – Joe Izen

2026 Budget and Dues Discussion – Greg Marino

Other Announcements

Tonight's Program – Full Dome Shows:

Vera Rubin Telescope Pictures – Scott McKinney

Messengers of Time and Space

Attendance

44 in person, 6 online, total 50

Treasurer's Report

Balance 8/5/25

\$ 382.08	Checking
\$ 2,057.24	CD
\$ 938.53	PayPal
\$ 140.00	Unsold Shirts
\$ 3,517.85	Total

Major Expenses

Printing, snacks, PayPal fees

Income

8 new Memberships

Membership as of 9/3/25

151 paid members

Welcome New Members!

Frederick Frost Sunderman

Jared Pitre

James Raichart

Scott Kinder

Danny Darr

Celia Rife

Christian Camilo Rayo Cano

Bernard Heavey

Michael Prochada (renewal)

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Balance Sheet

2025 Northern Astronomical Society Budget - September 2025							
Income			2025 Budget		2025 Actual		
	Each	No.	Amount	No.	Amount		
Memberships	\$25.00	130	\$ 3,250.00	151	\$ 3,775.00		
Donations			\$ 500.00		\$ 270.00		
T-Shirts				97	\$ 1,940.00		
T-Shirts: 7 inventory @ \$20/shirt				7	\$ 140.00		
Total Income			\$ 3,750.00		\$ 6,125.00		
Expenses		Due	Each	2025 Budget		2025 Actual	
				No.	Amount	Paid	Amount
FoCo Museum of Discovery donation	Feb	\$ 6.00			\$ 600.00	Y	\$ 600.00
Insurance	Jan			\$ 315.00	Y	\$ 315.00	
Member Meetings and refreshments				\$ 480.00		\$ 367.91	
International Dark-Sky Association membership	Jan			\$ 100.00	Y	\$ 100.00	
State of Colorado filing fee	Jun			\$ 10.00	Y	\$ 25.00	
Astronomical League dues (per member)	Jun		130	\$ 780.00	Y	\$ 784.00	
PayPal fees (from memberships and misc.)			100	\$ 136.00		\$ 259.11	
Outreach & Educational Supplies				\$ 820.00		\$ 409.96	
Astronomy Day Expenses						\$ 2,304.22	
Marketing & Print Material				\$ 500.00		\$ 766.89	
Miscellaneous						\$ 11.58	
Website Hosting						\$ 356.36	
T-Shirts						\$ 1,668.22	
Total Expenses					\$ 3,741.00	\$ 7,968.25	
Net				\$ 9.00	\$ (1,843.25)		

Outreach Report - Greg Halac

Date	LAST MONTH EVENTS	Visitors	Hours	Comments
8-Aug	Overland Park	11	1	Cloud-out; "talked" astronomy
9-Aug	FC Library: SOLAR	203	2.5	Steady stream of observers
15-Aug	RMNP Park & Ride	145	1.5	Cloudy, ~half saw something
16-Aug	Stargazer Observatory	35	2	Good night, incl Lvld overflow
16-Aug	Lvld Sylvan Dale	66	2	Good night, but only 3 scopes

Date	CANCELLATIONS	Visitors	Comments
22-Aug	X RMNP Park & Ride: Clouds	0	Canceled by RMNP
23-Aug	X LCP Eagle's Nest: Forecast	0	Believe skies cleared by the start
27-Aug	X Poudre Learning Ctr: Rain	0	"Make up" at Poudre Trail ride

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Date	UPCOMING EVENTS	Start	Comments
5-Sep	FRCC Observatory	8p	
6-Sep	Lvld Library: SOLAR	11a	
7-Sep	Poudre Trail - PLC	8p	Trail bike ride event
12-Sep	FCNA Bobcat Ridge	7:15p	
13-Sep	Centerra: SOLAR	10a	Nature festival - in the "Wild Zone"
13-Sep	LCP Hermit Park	8p	Last "mountain" outreach in 2025
26-Sep	Grover, CO	7:30p	Finally?
27-Sep	CSP Jackson Lake	7:30p	
30-Sep	Poudre Learning Ctr	7:30p	

Joe Izen will be hosting a Dark Sky Weekend star party in Centennial, Wyoming

Northern Colorado Astronomical Society Dark Sky Star Party (and more) Weekend Friday, Sept. 19 5PM – Sunday, Sept. 21 Noon

- Home of NCAS member Joe Izen
- 90 mins from Fort Collins, 30 mins west of Laramie.
Elevation 8200 ft / 2500 m
- Bortle 2 (very dark) skies, new Moon weekend
- LASSO, Cosmic Cowboys, Nerd Nite, local Wyoming community invited.
- Guest scope set-up starts 5PM
- Sunset at 7:04 PM
- Full dark, observing start at 8:40 PM



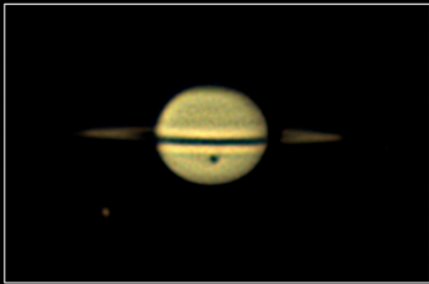
129 North Fork Rd., Centennial, WY

[Google Map](#)

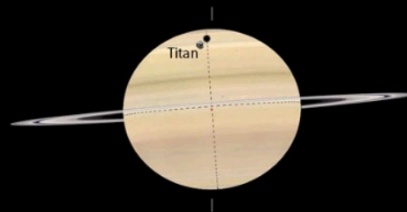
Focus on Saturn

- Saturn in opposition (closest to Earth) on 21 September
- Saturn's rings at maximum brightness (Seeliger effect).
- Friday night only: Titan transits in front of Saturn!

Transit of Titan and Titan's Shadow
19Sep 10:09 PM – 20Sep 12:34 AM MDT



Titan Shadow Transit
July 2, 2025 Joe Izen



[Credit: Sky and Telescope](#)

Overnighter and Day Tripper-ToDo

- Hike the [Snowy Range](#), Medicine Bow-Routt Nat Forest
- Local history: [NICI Museum](#) in the historic Centennial railroad depot (Sat/Sun 12-4)
- Visit [Laramie, Wyoming](#)
- Hike in [Vedauwoo](#), Medicine Bow-Routt Nat Forest
- Drive over the Snowies for a (free!) soak in Saratoga's [Hobo Hot Springs](#)
- Take in the fall colors on Joe's back porch overlooking Pat's Pond or in the tea house next to the North Fork of the Little Laramie River
- Saturday only: Pot-luck at 5PM



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Accommodations for Overnighters

4.5 guest bedrooms

- BR1: Queen bed
- BR2: Full bed
- BR3: 2 twin beds
- BR4: Twin bunk bed
- BR4.5: Full room bed in sunroom
 - Couch, Loveseat, floor space on rugs.
 - Plan to bring a sleeping bag or your own sheets.

Request space by email:
joe@utdallas.edu and greg@halac.com

or

- Tent camp amongst Joe's aspens.
- Hotels: Old Corral Hotel, Friendly Motel



2026 Budget

We are working on our 2026 budget, and wanted to give everyone a heads up that we are thinking of asking for a dues increase to better cover costs.

- We want to enhance the scope loan program which may involve some spending, however it's likely that we can fund that by selling some unneeded equipment.
- We've been asked if we are going to repeat our Astronomy Day event. Not decided yet, but if we do, we will need additional funding – not dues alone.
- We plan to have some smaller events (ex: International Observe the Moon day on October 4).
- We are planning to review the budget at our November meeting and then vote on the budget in December.

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Program(s)

Vera Rubin Telescope Images by Scott McKinney

