The Sonora Astronomical Society's
SONORAN STARRY NIGHTS

NOVEMBER 2026

November Meeting Details

DATE: Saturday, November 21st, 2026
MEETING TIME: 2:30 PM (2:00 access)
PLACE: Sahuarita Library & Zoom
MEETING SCHEDULE:
(2:15 PM ZOOM Waiting Room Available)
2:30 Meeting Intro and Welcome
2:40 Featured Presentation Followed by Club Activities/Business

Next Member Star Parties

DATE: Thursday, November 5th, 2026
TIME: 5:15 PM
PLACE: Madera Canyon Parking Lot
(300 ft past 9 mile marker, Madera Canyon Rd)
See website, directions for details and map.

- LOOKING AHEAD -
THE FOLLOWING STAR PARTY WILL BE:
DATE: Thursday, December 10th, 2026
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Madera Canyon Parking Lot

NOTE: If you have a telescope that you don't know how to use, or are looking to buy a telescope and want to compare different telescopes, join us at a star party and we can give you some help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT CLUB MEETING
DATE: December 19th, 2026
LOCATION: Sahuarita Library & Zoom
TIME: 2:30 PM (in person + Zoom)
Speaker: T B A
Subject: T B A

November Presentation

Speaker: T B A.

Subject: T B A
Abstract: .
Biography:
WHAT'S NEXT?

NASA has several outreach activities. The YouTube channel holds many interesting current and past videos to watch.

NASA's Night Sky Network has a live YouTube Webinar each month (and a video that can be viewed if you missed the live presentation) featuring an interesting array of subjects.

The **November** presentation is:
50 Years of Voyager Discoveries, and will air November 4th at 7:00 PM MST (AZ).

Viewing of and details on this presentation are on YouTube by clicking:

https://www.youtube.com/@NASANightSkyNetwork

Then look for the presentation (should be first shown).

Complete details are also available on the SAS website, News and Letters page and on the Calendar (Events page).

Our Website is:
https://sonoraastronomicalsociety.org

https://
sonoraastronomicalsoc...

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

SONORAN STARRY NIGHTS

PRESIDENTS NOTES

Greetings everyone,

Our November meeting will take place on November 21st at the Sahuarita library (670 Sahuarita Rd). There is parking behind the library. The meeting room is just to the left as you enter the front door. The meeting will officially start at 2:30pm this month with ZOOM login available by 2:15pm. If anyone has any suggestions for meeting presentations or knows someone we can bring in for a presentation, please let me know.

It looks like the monsoon has finally departed. So get your telescope out of mothballs and get out and do some observing again.

There is one public star parties this month to be held on the 20th at Canoa Ranch. Start time is 6:00 PM.

We no longer have access to Canoa Preserve Park for our club star parties. I have heard rumors they will be installing lights for the baseball fields at that location sometime in the future so we would have needed to move anyway. We are now using our new site which is on the way up to Madera Canyon. There is a map to our new site available on our website. The November club star party is scheduled for the 5th. Again, check our website for details. If you have any questions about the site, let me know.

Stay safe,

John Dwyer
President

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MEMBER EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Have a telescope or other astronomy equipment for sale? Contact John Dwyer with your item(s) to get them listed here.

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Member Brian Lane has an EBay Ad he invites you to review:

Celestron C8 Edge HD with CGEM II mount and accessories.
The 'package' is too comprehensive for the newsletter so please look on EBay. I have it on auction so price is flexible, especially f I don't have to ship everything. The package includes a Hyperstar V4 and a lot of goodies that would ordinarily drive the retail price up if purchased individually.
This would be a good opportunity for someone to step up their home observatory.

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Telescopes and Accessories for Sale
Gary Carroll 303 581 1041

Orion 80mm Refractor $75
Orion 127mm Apex Cassegrain Reflector $75

Heavy duty tripod w/ Alt/Az tracker from Orion $250
*2 Medium duty tripods @ $25 each
*Light duty tripod $10 *23mm eyepiece $20
*25mm eyepiece $20 *26mm eyepiece $20
*6mm eyepiece $10 *6mm eyepiece $10
*2x Barlow lens $20 *Cheap 2x Barlow lens $10
*90 degree diagonal $25 *45 degree diagonal $25
*Misc. 1.25" filters $10 ea.

THE NOVEMBER SKY

SKY HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

The evening sky is beginning to get better for planets this month. **Saturn,** which reached opposition early last month, will be visible most of the evening. **Neptune** is slightly ahead of Saturn and the two will be moving closer together as the month goes on. **Uranus** achieves opposition on the 25th and will be visible most of the night. Both **Jupiter** and **Mars** rise around midnight by the middle of the month when Jupiter will be passing Mars within just over 1º.

Venus is now low in the southeastern morning sky. **Mercury** also in the morning sky will reach Greatest Western Elongation of 20º on the 21st but will be very low in the night sky.

There are no comets under 10th magnitude visible this month.

NOVEMBER MOON/SUN TIMES

DATE	M-Rise	M-Set	M-Phase	Sun-set	Star Party
Sun 11/01	-----	13:18	3rd Qtr	17:34	
Mon 11/02	0:07	13:54		17:33	
Tue 11/03	1:12	14:25		17:32	
Wed 11/04	2:15	14:54		17:31	
Thu 11/05	3:16	15:22		17:31	S.A.S. SP
Fri 11/06	4:16	15:50		17:30	
Sat 11/07	5:16	16:20		17:29	
Sun 11/08	6:17	16:53		17:28	
Mon 11/09	7:17	17:30	New	17:28	
Tue 11/10	8:17	18:12		17:27	
Wed 11/11	9:14	19:00		17:26	
Thu 11/12	10:06	19:52		17:26	
Fri 11/13	10:53	20:48		17:25	
Sat 11/14	11:34	21:45		17:25	
Sun 11/15	12:10	22:43		17:24	
Mon 11/16	12:42	23:41		17:24	
Tue 11/17	13:11	-----	1st Qtr	17:23	
Wed 11/18	13:39	0:39		17:23	
Thu 11/19	14:06	1:37		17:22	
Fri 11/20	14:34	2:37		17:22	
Sat 11/21	15:06	3:40		17:21	SAS Meeting
Sun 11/22	15:42	4:48		17:21	
Mon 11/23	16:25	5:59		17:21	
Tue 11/24	17:18	7:13	Full	17:20	
Wed 11/25	18:21	8:26		17:20	
Thu 11/26	19:31	9:32		17:20	
Fri 11/27	20:44	10:29		17:20	
Sat 11/28	21:56	11:16		17:20	
Sun 11/29	23:05	11:54		17:19	
Mon 11/30	-----	12:27	3rd Qtr	17:19	
					(S)=Solar

This article made available by **NASA**

November's Night Sky Notes: Light-Day Away

By Kat Troche

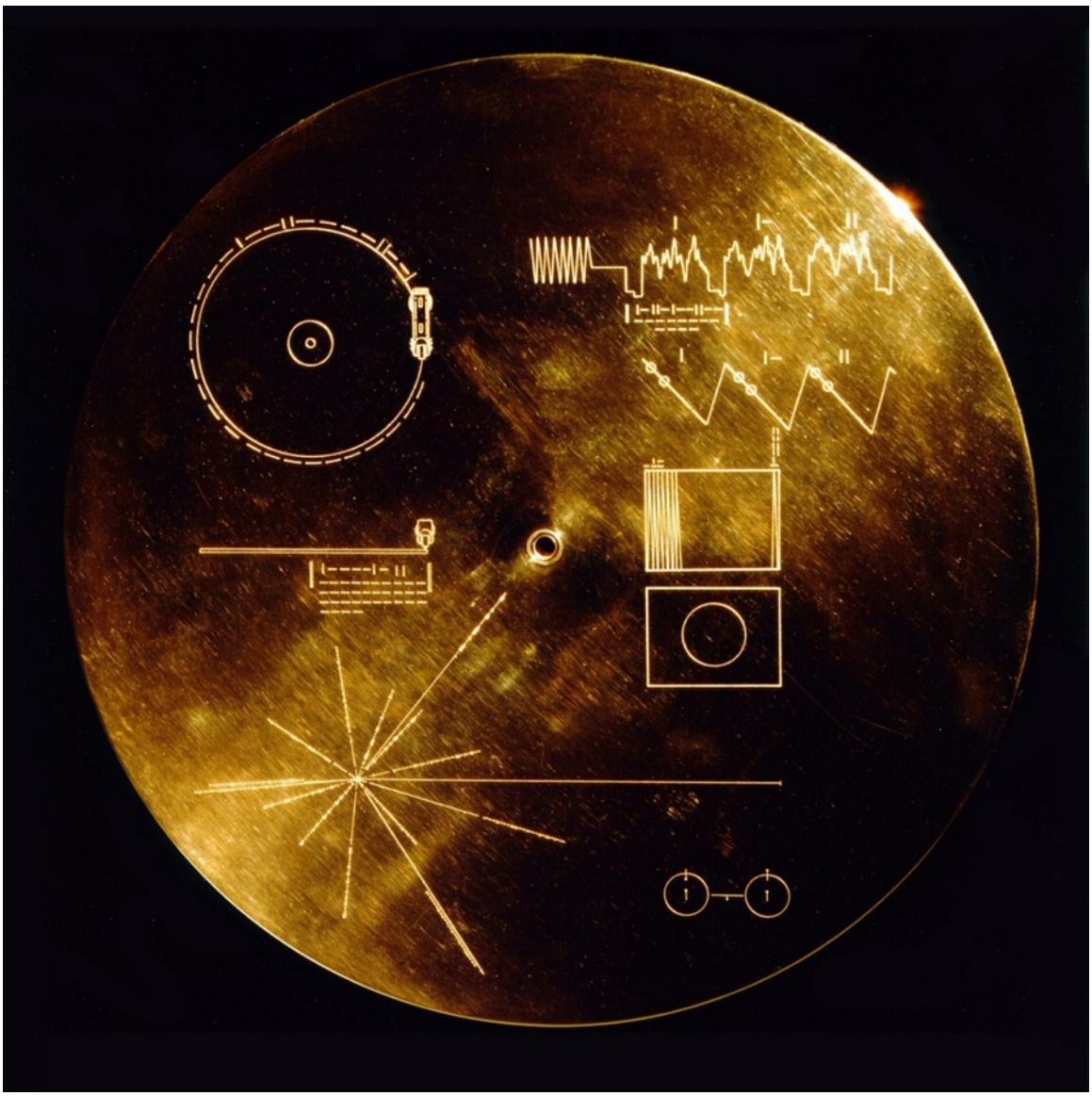


A travel poster of The Grand Tour. Credit: NASA/JPL

Twin Travelers

In 1977, NASA launched twin spacecraft Voyager 1 and 2, taking advantage of a once-every-175-year planetary alignment of the four largest planets in our solar system: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Using six gravity assists between them, this Grand Tour gave us up-close views of the gas and ice giants, including several moons. By the 1980s, the two probes went their separate ways at Saturn. As Voyager 2 continued toward Uranus and Neptune, Voyager 1 grabbed one more portrait of the solar system (excluding Mercury and Mars), including a final image of the pale blue dot we call home.

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The Golden Record cover shown with its extraterrestrial instructions. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Playlist

"Hello from the children of planet Earth."

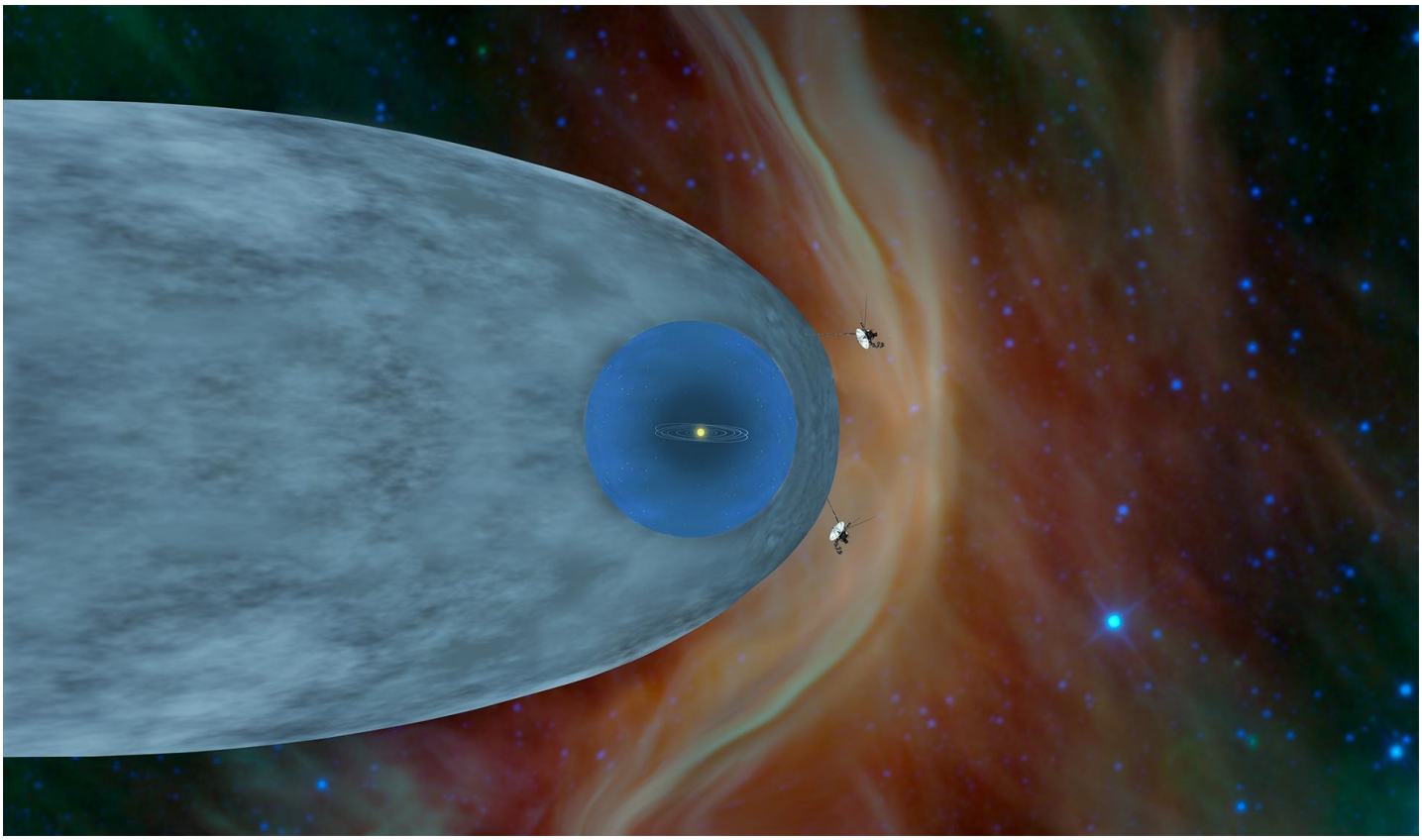
Every good road trip needs some music to match. In this case, each craft carries the Golden Record, a 12-inch phonograph record with spoken greetings in 55 languages, 27 musical tracks, 116 images, and other sounds from Earth. Each record is protected by an outer cover featuring etchings showing our Sun's location relative to 14 pulsars, along with instructions on how to play it. The design used various metals to protect the information encoded from space radiation: the record used copper and gold plating, and the cover used aluminum. The cover was electroplated with an ultra-pure sample of the isotope uranium-238. Uranium-238 has a half-life of 4.468 billion years.

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Continued….

Are We There Yet?

Did you know that a light-minute is a measure of distance, not time? In August 2012 and November 2018, Voyager 1 and 2 crossed the heliopause, the boundary where the Sun's solar wind meets the interstellar medium. Using NASA's Deep Space Network, Earth communicates with both spacecraft and tracks each on its journey. At the time of this article, the Canberra antenna tracked Voyager 1 at 25.80 billion km, or just over 16 billion miles.



This illustration shows the positions of NASA's Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 probes outside the heliosphere, a protective bubble created by the Sun that extends well past Pluto's orbit. The red wave in front of the light blue heliopause is the bow shock. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech.

On November 18, 2026, 49 years after its launch, Voyager 1 will cross the one-light-day mark, 16.1 billion miles from the Sun. You may have heard the term *light-year* in your favorite sci-fi movie or show, or when stargazing and referring to an object outside of our solar system. This video best demonstrates the different distances between the inner solar system, outer solar system, and beyond, using light measurements. Additionally, track each Voyager spacecraft here.

SONORAN STARRY NIGHTS

S.A.S. CLUB OFFICERS

OFFICE/POSITION	NAME	PHONE NO.
Chairman of the Board	Open	
President	John Dwyer	(520) 393-3680
Secretary	Michael Moraghan	(520) 399-3352
Treasurer	John McGee	(520) 207-6188
Star party Coordinator	Open	
Newsletter Editor	Joe Castor	(620) 584-4454
Webmaster	Joe Castor	(620) 584-4454
ALCOR* (Currently Inactive)	Inactive	
NSN** Representative	Open	
Past President Emeritus	Open	
*Astronomical League		
**Night Sky Network		

WHY JOIN SAS

1. SAS Family Membership Fee is only $25.00 per year.
2. SAS monthly newsletter "The Sonoran Starry Nights."
3. Top-quality astronomy lectures by local astronomers!
4. SAS Discount for Astronomy Magazine $34.00 for 1yr or $60.00 for 2 yr renewed through our treasurer.
5. SAS Discount subscription rate for Sky & Telescope Magazine — self-renewed.
6. RASC Observer's Handbook at a discount, $30.00.
7. SAS T-Shirts for sale for $10.00—M, L, XL.
8. Member of International Dark-sky Association (IDA).
9. SAS Discount for Astronomy 2020 Calendar $10.00
10. SAS monthly Member Star Parties.
11. SAS Telescope and astronomy book loan programs.
12. SAS outreach to astronomy education in schools.
13. SAS fellowship with other amateur astronomers!

CLUB DUES

Dues (family or individual) are $25 annually, payable each year in the month you initially joined the club. You will receive a reminder in the monthly newsletter e-mail of your due date. You can either pay at the club meeting or mail it to the club's address (S.A.S., P.O. Box 1081, Green Valley, AZ, 85622).

SAS WEBSITE

If you want to keep up-to-date with club activities, such as star parties, etc., check out our website (and Calendar) at:
https://sonoraastronomicalsociety.org

SAS STATISTICS & FINANCES

Lifetime Members:	1
Individual & Family Members:	84
Total Membership:	**85**

Bank Balance as of Sept 30:	$ 1,559.31
Deposits / (D/Ws):	$50.00 / ($0 .00)
Bank Balance as of Oct 31:	**$1,609.31**

LOCAL ASTRO-IMAGING GROUP: Sonoran Desert Astro Imagers (SDAI), Larry Phillips, Coordinator

Are you interested in Astrophotography or are you currently involved in imaging the skies? If so, you are invited to join the Sonoran Desert Astro Imagers group. Our meetings focus on improving our skills, helping each other, workshops, and field trips. We meet on Thursdays at 9 AM. The meetings are on Zoom, except once-a-month we get together in-person at the Quail Creek Conference Center. Email notifications are sent to members before each meeting.
Please send your Name and E-mail address to my address below and we'll include you in the emailing notices of monthly meetings; "the when and where meeting notice." Do you have any questions? If so, call me (Larry Phillips) at (520) 777-8027 or email to llp41astro@cox.net. Clear Skies! Larry Phillips

ABOUT THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE

While SAS is no longer an active member of the Astronomical League, a SAS member may join the Astronomical League as an at-large member. What are the advantages to joining the AL?
1. You can receive various observing awards by joining an "observing club" and observing the required number of objects. There are all levels of clubs from beginner to advanced, viewing constellations to deep-sky objects and using either your naked eyes, binoculars, or a telescope. Contact our ALCOR rep Burley Packwood for details.
2. You can get a 10% discount on books purchased through the AL Book Service.
3. You will receive the AL's quarterly "Reflector" magazine which keeps you up to date on all the AL activities.
More info at www.astroleague.org

SAS IS A MEMBER OF IDA

SAS is proud to be a member of the International Dark-Sky Association, supporting the reduction in light pollution around the U.S. and the world.
More info at www.darksky.org

SAS NON-PROFIT STATUS

The Sonora Astronomical Society is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit charitable organization! SAS has a CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING from the State of Arizona Corporation Commission!

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

To renew your Sky and Telescope Magazine at the Club Rate, you can go directly to their website, or to order it new, or to order or renew Astronomy Magazine, contact the Club Treasurer.

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