

We've been launching strange stuff into space since it became possible.



Once an internet obsession, astronauts were slimed in 2020 in the International Space Station with the satisfyingly gooey DIY toy. Nickelodeon sent about two liters of slime to the space station for astronauts to play games, toss slime-filled balloons, and make slime bubbles to understand how a fluid that isn't water behaves in the absence of gravity. The findings of the experiment could impact how liquids are handled in space and could influence plant watering on the space station, carbon dioxide and wastewater processing, along with life support systems on future deep space missions.

Photo Courtesy: NASA

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The EAS newsletter, Observer, is published monthly. Anyone wishing to contribute articles or photos may mail them to the club's PO Box: EAS, PO Box 3474, Evansville, IN 47733, or e-mail them to the editor at:

dasiceman@yahoo.com

To the Members of the EAS

To benefit the Evansville Astronomical Society and Facebook Group members, we have an informative online live Zoom presentation at 7:30 CDT on May 21st featuring the famous author, lecturer, Emmy Award recipient, television celebrity, and discoverer of many comets including Shoemaker-Levy 9 that collided with Jupiter in 1994, Dr. David Levy. Please join us for this sure to be, memorable event. Hope to see you there!

Tony Bryan
EAS President

Click to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89724331806?pwd=VVFTV2lyYml2Z1JlR21GZUlvWldqdz09>

Meeting ID: 897 2433 1806

Passcode: 011101

Please check our Facebook Group Page and Website for updates.

If you are unfamiliar with online meetings, you may wish to visit the following link ahead of the meeting night to learn more:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting>

The Evansville Astronomical Society now has a Youtube Channel and for those that missed the live sessions of our previous Zoom Meetings and Presentations, you can watch a video stream of these events. This link can also be found on our website <http://evansvilleastro.org>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8A9iE6gz0JE1Rr8VuxqmDg?fbclid=IwAR0In5rjdsA-GdGKkhLTvVRFx1fENmVeSPpWtw2Rc6sBB79w702cLyB1n14&app=desktop>

The **Evansville Astronomical Society (EAS)** is a non-profit organization fully incorporated in the state of Indiana. It has, as its primary goal, the advancement of amateur astronomy. Founded in 1952, the society seeks to:

- 1... maintain adequate facilities for its members and the public in order to extensively study the skies and
- 2... promote an educational program for those who wish to learn more about the science of Astronomy.

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month, except June, when the annual EAS picnic is held. The society also sponsors monthly Open House events during the warmer seasons that afford the public an opportunity to tour the observatory.

EAS 2021 Officers and Contacts

President – Tony Bryan
812.827.3234

evansvilleastro@gmail.com

Vice President – Scott Conner

Secretary – Dave Kube
740.223.6854

Treasurer – Amy Barrett

Counselors
Ken Harris (2019)
Mitch Luman (2020)
Michael Borman (2021)

Webmaster – Michael Borman

Program Director
Chuck Allen

Newsletter editor – Dave Kube
dasiceman@yahoo.com

For more information about the EAS or directions to the Observatory, please visit the club's web page:

www.evansvilleastro.org



Local Events and Information

EAS Update

Please note we currently have a Zoom Meeting scheduled for May 21st at 7:30pm CDT.

EAS Update

Please note that currently all public meetings have been canceled and therefore we are trying to meet via online Zoom Meeting until further notice.

EAS Update

EAS Update

EAS Update

EAS Update

EAS Update:

Please visit our website www.evansvilleastro.org and our Facebook Group page to keep yourself up to date for any changes.

FOR SALE:

Telescopes and accessories for sale...

As mentioned in last month's issue, Mike Borman still has some excellent telescope equipment and imaging accessories for sale. Some of the gear has already been sold. If interested, go to Mike's web page. Here is the link: <http://www.mborman.org/forsale.htm>

What would happen if Earth stopped spinning?



The Day the Earth Stopped Spinning would be a far more destructive movie than the Hollywood original. We may not realize it, but our planet's rotation underlies some of the most basic processes on Earth. Indeed, we probably wouldn't be here if Earth was a stationary planet.

Credit: danm12/Shutterstock

If Earth stopped spinning all at once, it would be enormously catastrophic for much of the planet's surface. Though we don't feel it, we're all moving along with the planet as it rotates; at the equator, this works out to around 1,000 miles per hour. Stop the planet suddenly, and everything sitting on top of it would go flying eastward. Imagine people, houses, trees, boulders and more being launched sideways at hundreds of miles an hour. In the aftermath, high speed winds, still rotating nearly as fast as the planet, would scour the surface clean.

If the slowdown happened more gradually, the effects would still be dramatic, but would unfold over a longer period of time. The first thing we might notice is that the Sun no longer Travels across the sky over the course of a day. The apparent motion of the Sun comes from Earth's rotation, so if the planet were stationary, it would cause a single day to last half a yearlong (though we could look forward to some very long-lasting sunsets).

Without the 24-hour days we're used to, biological circadian rhythms would be thrown entirely out of whack. The rhythmic cellular processes that tell our bodies when to sleep and when to wake depend in part on regular changes in sunlight to function.

Atmospheric patterns on Earth are also tied to the planet's rotation. If the planet stopped spinning, it would greatly change the way air currents move (once the 1,000 mph winds had died down). The wind patterns we see today play a significant role in driving rainfall and temperatures around the globe.

But a motionless planet would also likely mean the end of our magnetic field. Though scientists are still unclear on the exact mechanisms, it's thought that the magnetic field is created by the movements of Earth's liquid metal core.

Satellite sky glow may make it impossible to avoid light pollution.



Note: Artist's impression; size of debris exaggerated as compared to the Earth

Calculations suggest satellites are already making it harder to find truly dark skies.

Credit: ESA

In the past few years, astronomers have raised concerns about the growing number of satellites being launched — especially the mega constellations launched by companies like SpaceX. When satellites streak overhead, they can disrupt naked-eye observing and astrophotography, as well as observations by professional telescopes

As any astronomer knows, amateur or professional, the key to seeing much of the cosmos is dark skies. That's why modern ground-based observatories are built in remote locations — like the Vera C. Rubin Observatory atop the peak of Cerro Pachón in Chile. And it's also why many backyard observers travel far from city lights to get the best views of the sky possible. But if artificial skyglow really brightens the atmosphere as much as this new research suggests, it could be impossible to avoid, even far from any standard sources of light pollution like streetlights.

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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Up and Coming Events 2021

EAS Meetings and Events are currently on hold or cancelled due to the current COVID-19 situation.

Please note we currently have a Zoom Meeting scheduled for May 21st at 7:30pm CDT.

Please visit our Web Page <http://www.evansvilleastro.org> for updates.

Please visit our Facebook Group Page for updates.

Moon Phases

New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Third Quarter
June 10 th , 2021	June 17 th , 2021	June 24 th , 2021	June 2 nd , 2021

[Moon Phases courtesy of Time and Date.com](http://www.timeanddate.com)

EAS Unofficial Meeting Notes for April – 2021

To benefit the Evansville Astronomical Society and Facebook Group members, we had an informative online Zoom presentation on April 16th by Chuck Allen, an active member of the Evansville Astronomical Society.

Chucks presentation was entitled “Vignettes” a collection of Astronomical Shorts Stories about failed or almost discoveries.

The online meeting began at 7:34 PM CDT on March 19, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted – Dave Kube – Secretary