

# THE SHORELINE OBSERVER



*Newsletter for the  
Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association*

**President-** Peter Burkey

**Vice President-** Steve Tuls

**Secretary/Treasurer-** Rob Tuls

*Robert Wade, Editor*

*May 1991*

## May Meeting

The May meeting of the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association will be held on May 16th, beginning promptly at 7:00 PM in the West Ottawa Middle School Planetarium in Holland, Michigan. Refreshments will be provided. The agenda will be as follows:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 7:00-7:15 | Socializing. Refreshments will be provided by Phil Sherman.  |
| 7:15-7:30 | The May Night Sky by Sandy Plakke and Constellation of the Month by Bob Wade.                        |
| 7:30-     | Video showing or SAAA Starbow! Quiz. Observing after the meeting, weather permitting. Bring a scope. |

## Executive Board Meeting

The meeting was held April 25th with Pete Burkey, Rob Tuls, Steve Tuls, Arlin Ten Kley, Sandy Plakke, and Michelle Tuls present. We summarized Astronomy Day 1991 all present agreed it was a great success. There were plenty of interested people, and everyone did a great job working with them. We would like to give a special thanks to Arlin Ten Kley, Mark Logsdon, Steve Tuls, Rob and Michelle Tuls, Bob Wade, Sandy Plakke, Jim Hotchkiss, and Phil Sherman for their dedication and work.

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Holland, Michigan 49423



We formulated ideas for a corporate sponsor for allowing kids to build telescopes at LibertyFest. Other ideas were pinhole telescopes and a sundial.

Our May star party will take place at Bob Wade's house on May 10th or 11th (both nights if it's clear!). The 22" dobsonian will be available for use. We would also like a public viewing party at Kollen Park on May 17th. The June star party will be held June 14th or 15th. The June club meeting will be on Thursday, June 20th.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Tuls

## 1991 Observing Program

Due to our infamous cloudy weather, there has not been much of a change in our point standings. We now have four members in the running.

Peter Burkey.....30 points  
Mark Logsdon.....130 points  
Steve Tuls.....80 points  
Bob Wade.....145 points

## Supernova!

### IAU Circular No. 5239: SUPERNOVA 1991T IN NGC 4527

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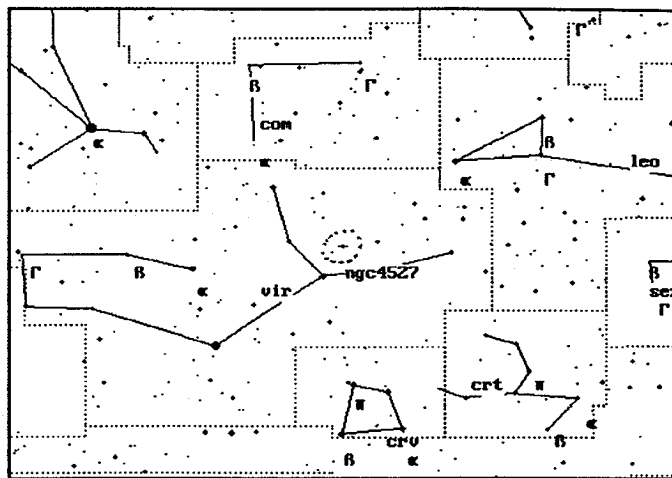
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E. Waagen, AAVSO, reports the discovery of a supernova by Stephen Knight, Waterford, ME, in NGC 4527 (R.A. = 12h31m.6, Decl. = +2° 56', equinox 1950.0). The object has been independently reported by Robert O. Evans, Hazelbrook, N.S.W.; by M. Villi and G. Cortini, Monte Colombo, Italy; and by Wayne Johnson, Anza, CA. Visual magnitude estimates: Apr. 4.48 UT, [15 (Evans); 9.9, [15 (Villi and Cortini); 13.17, 14 (Knight); 14.14, 13.6 (Knight); 15.6, 13 (Evans); 15.9, 13.0 (Villi and Cortini); 16.26, 13.5 (Johnson)].

The following position was measured by R. H. McNaught, Anglo-Australian Observatory, from an Uppsala Southern Schmidt photo taken Apr. 15.5: R.A. = 12h31m36s.91, Decl. = +2° 56'28".3; offsets from the nucleus are 25".7 east, 44".4 north. A nearby star of mag about 16 is located at R.A. = 12h31m42s.80, Decl. = +2° 55'15".1. J. Mueller, Palomar Observatory, reports that an IVN (near-infrared) plate taken Apr. 10 with the Oschin Schmidt Telescope failed to show the supernova.



General area where NGC 4527 is located.

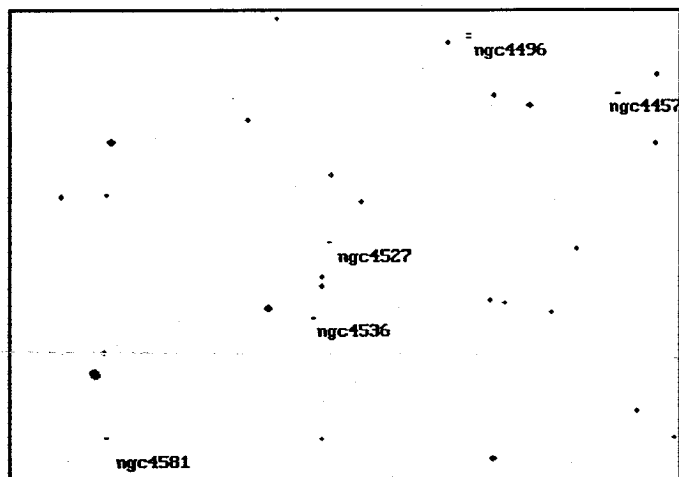
E. Cappellaro, Padua Observatory, reports: "G. Cutispoto (Catania Observatory) obtained the following photometry under non-photometric conditions with the European Southern Observatory 1-m telescope on Apr. 16.35 UT, V = 12.9, B-V = +0.1, U-B = -0.6, V-R = +0.1. A CCD spectrogram (range 350-830 nm) obtained by F. La Franca (Padua University) and C. Goldschmidt (Edinburgh University; correction to IAUC 5237, line 5 from bottom) at the ESO 2.2-m telescope shows a blue, almost featureless continuum, with only two strong lines having P-Cyg profile and absorption measured at 424 and 494 nm. The bright magnitude, the blue color, and the lack of the Balmer lines seem to indicate a type-I SN before maximum." R. P. Kirshner, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, notes that the feature from 424 to 494 nm is also present on a spectrum obtained on Apr. 16.18 UT by J. Peters with the 1.5-m reflector at the Whipple Observatory. The spectrum is highly unusual but is certainly not that of a classic type-II or type-Ia supernova near maximum; it could well be that of a type-I supernova in its very early stages.

### IAU Circular No. 5246: SUPERNOVA 1991T IN NGC 4527

J. Menzies, South African Astronomical Observatory, telexes photometry of SN 1991T made at SAAO, indicating the star's brightening (cf. IAUC 5239): Apr. 17.96 UT, J = 11.73, H = 11.16, K = 10.93 (observer B. Carter); V = 12.4, B-V = +0.11, U-B = -0.71 (observer C. Koen).

A. C. Gilmore reports the following photometry obtained with the 0.6-m Cassegrain reflector at Mt. John University Observatory on Apr. 21.52

T:  $V = 11.84 \pm 0.01$ ,  $U-B = -0.8 \pm 0.2$ ,  $B-V = -0.10 \pm 0.01$ ,  $V-R = +0.08 \pm 0.01$ .



**3.0 degree window centered on NGC 4527.  
SAO stars to magnitude 11.0 are also plotted.**

Visual magnitude estimates: Apr. 17.01 UT, 12.5 (H. Dahle, Oslo, Norway); 18.00, 12.3 (D. Rodriguez, Madrid, Spain; CCD); 18.84, 12.0 (J. pero, Madrid, Spain); 19.5, 12.5 (R. Evans, Hazelbrook, N.S.W.); 19.99, 12.0 (S. Korth, Dusseldorf, Germany); 20.93, 11.9 (K. G. Andersson, Solna, Sweden); 21.94, 12.2 (M. Villi and G. Cortini, Mt. Colombo-Forli, Italy).

Daniel W. E. Green