

In this issue...

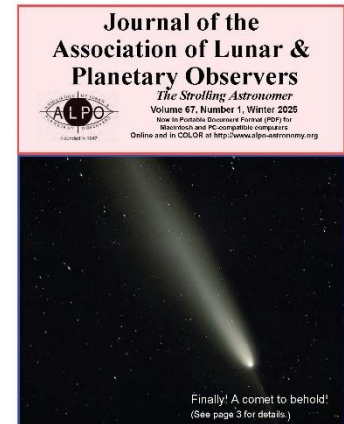
(Winter 2025, JALPO67-1)

In our Point of View opinion column, Journal Editor Shawn Dilles offers his thoughts on the “Awe-Inspiring Beauty and Scientific Impact of Amateur Observing.” What you’ll also find in this issue includes:

- A roundup of general interest news, including a request to our membership about possible ALPO items to offer that can subtly promote our organization.
- A report from our Membership Secretary as to our current membership categories.
- Minutes of the July 26 ALPO Board of Directors meeting.
- A look back at selected goings-on in *The Strolling Astronomer* 75, 50 and 25 years ago as presented by Carl Hergenrother.
- A great reminder to all about our fascinating Lunar & Planetary Training Program. Do we need it? You betcha!!! And probably more than most of us realize.
- Solar Section Coordinator Rik Hill provides the latest Carrington Rotation Report, this time, rotations 2284 thru 2286. Says Rik: “The activity in these three rotations saw the highest in two solar cycles. While close to the solar max, I would quote Winston Churchill: ‘It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.’ ”
- From our Lunar Domes Studies Program Coordinator Raffello Lena, a detailed study of five aligned lunar cones located near Mösting crater using a wide range of instrumentation.
- From our Mars Observing Section Coordinator Roger Venable, another paper that really sets our organization and this Journal so high up with its serious investigations of all things lunar and planetary. Here, a method of measuring contrasts in images of Mars is described which involves superimposing two images made a few minutes apart, one in blue light and the other in full visible spectrum light, with further details on how those images are used to study a certain anomaly on that planet.
- An accompanying paper also from Mr. Venable which deals with “Understanding the North Polar Hood by Studying Recent Images”.
- A directory of who’s who and what’s what of all things ALPO in the *ALPO Resources* section.

These reports and those who produce and contribute to them are what make our organization so vital to observational solar system astronomy. We are extremely proud of the work they do.

The Table of Contents hyperlinks and page “thumbnail links” make it easy to jump directly to a desired article. Plus, the various e-mail addresses and hyperlinks (in blue text) throughout the issue can be used to instantly e-mail authors and ALPO staff members.



As always, this issue requires the free utility Adobe Reader (Version 7.0 or higher) available at www.adobe.com

To access some of our earlier digital issues of our Journal, visit to our homepage at www.alpo-astronomy.org/ALPO/Publications/Index and click on the desired issue. We plan to add more issues over time until we have everything back to Volume 1 in place, but it will take more time.

For information on becoming an ALPO member, please contact the ALPO membership secretary at matt.will@alpo-astronomy.org

The ALPO thanks the following for their continued support of the ALPO:

- *Sky & Telescope* magazine (and its owner, the American Astronomical Society); *Sky & Tel* has maintained its outside back cover ad on the Journal without fail since 1960 and we look forward to many more years of this.
- *Celestron Telescopes*.
- The makers of both the *Catseye Collimation System* and *Catsperch Observing Chairs*.

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-- Shawn Dilles, Roger Venable and Ken Poshedly

The staff of the *Journal of the Assn of Lunar & Planetary Observers*