

# ***THE TEXAS STAR PARTY*** ***2012 TELESCOPE OBSERVING CLUB***

**BY JOHN WAGONER**  
**TEXAS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF DALLAS**

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

Welcome to the Texas Star Party's Telescope Observing Club. The purpose of this club is not to test your observing skills by throwing the toughest objects at you that are hard to see under any conditions, but to give you an opportunity to observe 28 showcase objects under the ideal conditions of these pristine West Texas skies, thus displaying them to their best advantage. The regular observing program is “**2012**”. You need to observe all 28 objects to get your pin, but if you are using a smaller scope and have a little trouble with some of the objects, just mark it as “tried” and move on, and you will get credit for the object. Also, be careful of the RA and DEC in the list as they are not in order. There is a reason for this. See if you can figure it out. We are also bringing back “**Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!**” from last year. This is a list of 25 commonly named objects.

That's it. Any size telescope can be used. All observations must be made at the Texas Star Party to qualify. All objects are within range of small (6”) to medium sized (10”) telescopes, and are available for observation between 9:00PM and 3:00AM any time during the TSP. Each person completing this list will receive an official Texas Star Party Telescope Observing Club lapel pin. These pins are not sold at the TSP and can only be acquired by completing the program, so wear them proudly.

To receive your pin, turn in your observations to ***John Wagoner - TSP Observing Chairman*** any time during the Texas Star Party. I will be at the outside door leading into the TSP Meeting Hall each day between 1:00 PM and 2:30 PM. except Saturday (10:00-11:30 AM). If you finish the list the last night of TSP, or I am not available to give you your pin, just mail your observations to me at 1409 Sequoia Dr., Plano, Tx. 75023, and I will see that you get a pin.

Good luck and good observing. Now, let's get out there and **observe!!!**

P.S. If you would like to see some of your favorite objects on a future TSP program, or have any ideas for a new program, let me know during TSP or email me at [john@wagoner.org](mailto:john@wagoner.org)

For those of you who missed previous TSP's, pins for the following programs are still available:  
**2010 – About Face. --- 2009 – Texas Star Party 5X5 --- 2007 - Be A Sap (Shapley-Ames Person)**  
**2006 – Eye in the Sky --- 2004 – Starlight, Starbright**  
**2003 - The Great Celestial A.R.C.” (Asterisms, Radio sources, & Clusters)**

You can download these observing programs from the TSP website: [www.texasstarparty.org](http://www.texasstarparty.org).



## “Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!”

Object	Type	R.A.	Dec	Con	Size	Mag	Date	Time
NGC 3034	Gal	09 55.8	+69 41	UMa	12'	8.4	Cigar	M82
NGC 3587	PIneb	11 14.8	+55 01	UMa	194"	9.9	Owl	M97
NGC 5457	Gal	14 03.2	+54 21	UMa	26'	7.9	Pinwheel	M101
NGC 4486	Gal	12 30.8	+12 24	Vir	7'	7.1	Smoking Gun	M87
NGC 4594	Gal	12 40.0	-11 37	Vir	7'	8.0	Sombrero	M104
NGC 4631	Gal	12 42.1	+32 32	CVn	15'	9.2	Whale	
NGC 5055	Gal	13 15.8	+42 02	CVn	14'	8.3	Sunflower	M63
NGC 4826	Gal	12 56.7	+21 41	Com	9'	8.5	Black Eye	M64
NGC 5128	Gal	13 25.5	-43 01	Cen	31'	6.7	Hamburger	
NGC 6231	OpCl	16 54.0	-41 48	Sco	14'	2.6	Table of Scorpius	
NGC 6302	PIneb	17 13.7	-37 06	Sco	50"	9.6	Bug	
NGC 6405	OpCl	17 40.1	-32 13	Sco	33'	4.2	Butterfly	M6
NGC 6543	PIneb	17 58.6	+66 38	Dra	350"	8.1	Cat's Eye	
NGC 6611	OpCl	18 18.8	-13 47	SerCd	21'	6.0	Star Queen	M16
NGC 6618	Neb	18 20.8	-16 11	Sag	20'	6.0	Swan	M17
NGC 6818	PIneb	19 44.0	-14 09	Sag	17"	9.3	Little Gem	
NGC 6705	OpCl	18 51.1	-06 16	Sct	13'	5.8	Wild Duck	M11
NGC 6811	OpCl	19 36.9	+46 23	Cyg	20'	6.8	Hole in a Cluster	
NGC 6826	PIneb	19 44.8	+50 31	Cyg	25"	8.8	Blinking Planetary	
Cr 399	OpCl	19 25.4	+20 11	Vul	60'	3.6	Coathanger	
NGC 6853	PIneb	19 59.6	+22 43	Vul	348"	7.3	Apple Core	M27
NGC 7654	OpCl	23 24.2	+61 35	Cas	12'	6.9	Salt and Pepper	M52
NGC 225	OpCl	00 43.4	+61 47	Cas	12'	7.0	Sailboat	
Stock 2	OpCl	02 15.0	+59 16	Cas	60'	4.4	Muscleman	
NGC 457	OpCl	01 19.1	+58 20	Cas	13'	6.4	E.T.	