

Danbury Mission Technologies

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Have you ever thought about, what is actually the space looks like? You might have seen some pictures showing the beauty of the planets in our system, they are so kind of gorgeous, so kind of amazing. However, do you want to take a real look to the sky, to see whether those planets actually look like the way in your mind? So, today we went to the Danbury Mission Technologies, which is situated at 100 Wooster Hts Rd, Danbury



It's a military base before, which built during the cold war period, working as an radar base, to detect the missiles might be sent by USSR at that time, and it also used for space exploration, having some contribution to Hubble telescope and other satellites. But now it worked as a research center for astronomy purposes. The family and friends invited us to go the trip, and they actually sent us this telescope that we brought on that day, the Orion 8 inch Dobsonian.



When we arrived at there, there are a group of people stayed at there already to set up their telescopes, it seems like a party for all the astronomy lovers!



As the night approaches, the first object we looked is the moon, to test and check at first. Due to the fact that the moon is quite bright at night, it would cause the damage to the eyes, so as we switched to moon lens, which has been better.



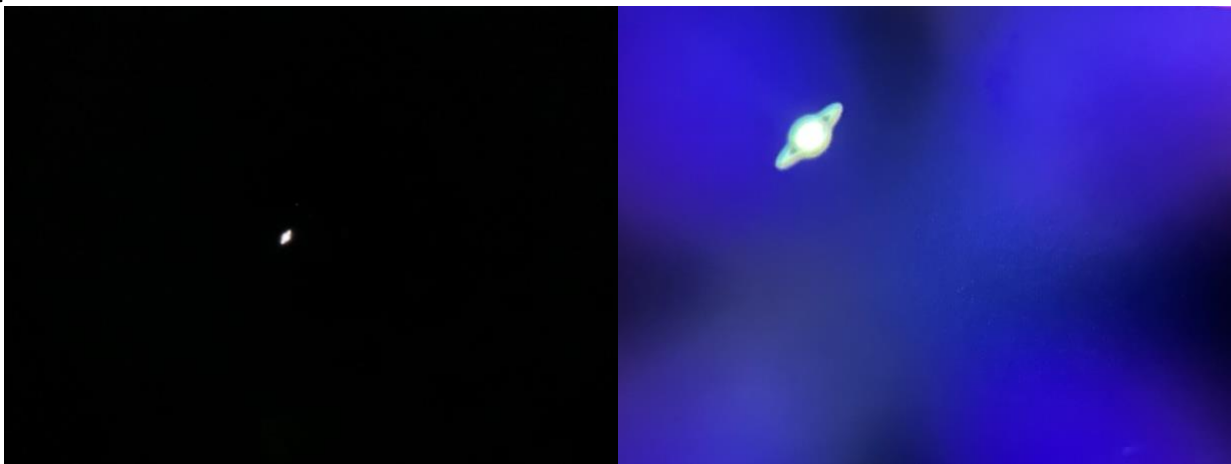
Which later, I told my members with the legend of the Moon rabbit in Chinese traditional story. The rabbit, is the one zodiac animals among the twelve, the Chinese god transformed into a poor old man to take a look in human word, and the rabbit jumped into the pot to feed the “poor old man”, so the god was very touched, so he brought the rabbit back to the sky, which is referred to the moon, and the rabbit is making drug on the moon.



Moon Rabbit;

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Rabbit_in_the_moon_standing_by_pot.png

Then we looked at the Saturn, which is the sixth planet in our solar system, and it's also the second largest planet, it is special because of the ring surrounding around the planet itself, which is composed by plenty of small particles and asteroids.



As the time passed, the Jupiter finally raised above the horizon, the largest planet in our solar system, also the fifth planet in it. It also has 4 main moon, Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto. The most interesting thing about Europa is icy, which the ice layer cover the subsurface ocean. “If you want to find life, just follow the water”, so the liquid water means there might be a great chance that there are extraterrestrial underneath the ice.



<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/36/Cryobot.jpg>

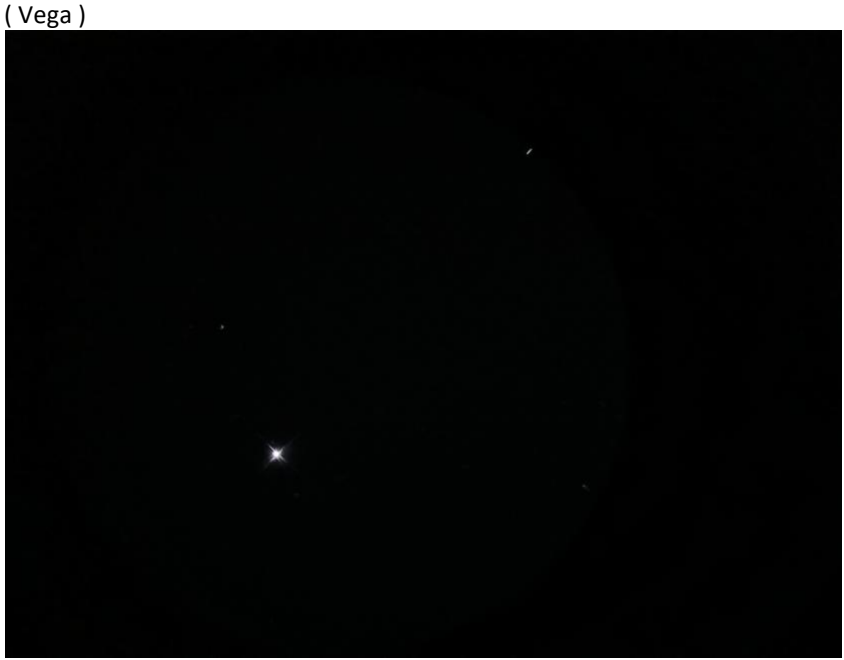


(we actually can see the strips of the Jupiter in our telescope, due to the light and pixel problem of the phone, we couldn't show them in the phone.)

The Summer Triangle, was just about above our heads, which is combined with the three stars, Vega(25 ly, 1.1 times to the Sun, 40 times of luminosity to the Sun, in Lyra), Altair(16.7 ly, 30 times to the Sun, 11 times of luminosity, in Aquila), and Deneb(1550 ly, around 5625 times to the Sun, tens of thousands times of luminosity, in Cygnus)



(Summer Triangle)





(Deneb)

(Altair)



And now, it comes to the one I like the most, and it also the one took the longest time to find. The one of the most intriguing astronomical event, the Binary Star System. It probably took us 20 mins to find this system. The Albireo, in Cygnus, it's 420 ly from the Earth. Albireo A appears in orange, while the B appears in Blue.



Member's feedback:

Going to DMT was such an awesome chance for our club to enhance our skills with the Orion telescope! We got to try it out, practice focusing, and locating stars and planets with the help of other experienced people. As the club's co-leader, stargazing at DMT was a great opportunity to learn and see where we can improve. We really want to have more stargazing sessions in our club meetings, so fixing our telescope was important. And let me tell you, seeing the moon, stars like Vega, and planets like Jupiter and Saturn up close on a clear night was a special moment for me. I enjoyed sharing my

passion with other stargazers and seeing the different technology and telescopes they used.

Stargazing allows me to feel a deep connection with the interconnectedness we share with the universe and its stars. Astronomy holds tremendous significance for me, and I aspire to further explore astrophysics both as a student at CA and as a co-leader of our club. I'm determined to introduce more traditions and organize stargazing events to enhance our club's experiences. Opportunities like going to DMT contribute to the incredible moments that CA offers.

---- Carey Madeline