



**nomical Society of Greenwich**

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**November 2013**

**Monthly Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 6, 7:30 PM**

**“Of Comets, Telescopes, and the Celestial Sphere”**

After an update on the Bowman Observatory and Comet ISON, we'll present the next astronomy lesson with Professor Alex Filippenko, “The Celestial Sphere.” Hope to see many of you there!

**Bowman Observatory Public Nights  
(Weather Permitting)**

November 12 & 26 – 7-9 PM

December 10 – 7-9

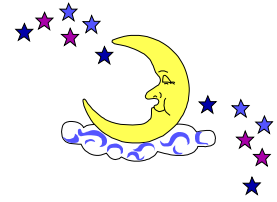
January 14 & 28, 7-9 PM



Comet ISON, October 5 (photo M. Jager)

## Lunacy

November	2	Moon passes <i>Spica</i>
	3	<i>New Moon</i> causes a total solar eclipse visible from the Atlantic Ocean and equatorial Africa. A partial eclipse at sunrise (6:30 AM) will be visible from the East Coast.
	6	Moon, at perigee (227,025 miles from Earth), passes <b>Venus</b>
	7	Moon passes <b>Pluto</b>
	10	<i>First Quarter</i>
	11	Moon passes <b>Neptune</b>
	13	Moon passes <b>Uranus</b>
	17	<i>Full Moon</i> – “Beaver Moon”
	21	Moon passes <b>Jupiter</b>
	22	Moon at apogee (251,931 miles from Earth)
	25	<i>Last Quarter</i>
	27	Moon passes <b>Mars</b>
	29	Moon passes <i>Spica</i>



## News of the Worlds

**Leonid Meteor Shower** peaks November 17.

**Venus**, in *Sagittarius*, reaches greatest elongation ( $47^\circ$  east of the Sun) on November 1, although it remains close to the horizon because of the shallow angle of the ecliptic. When the angle of the ecliptic grows steeper as winter arrives, Venus will climb higher in the sky. Already blazing at mag. -4.5, it shines even more brightly by month's end (-4.8).

**Neptune** (mag.7.9) lies in central *Aquarius*, while **Uranus** (mag.5.8) hangs out in the next Zodiac constellation, *Pisces*. Both can be found in a dark sky with binoculars or a small telescope.

Next to rise is **Jupiter**, glowing brightly at mag. -2.5 in *Gemini*. Our largest planet dominates the night sky, rising around 10:15 PM (EDT) on November 1 and progressing to 7:15 (EST) by the end.

**Mars** (mag.1.4) moves eastward from *Leo* to *Virgo*, rising around 2:20 AM (EDT) at the beginning of November and around 12:50 AM (EST) by the end.

**Mercury** (mag.-0.6), is in inferior conjunction (passing between Earth and Sun) November 1, then pops up in the morning sky, reaches greatest elongation ( $19^\circ$  west of the Sun) November 17, and then drops down to meet **Saturn** - just emerging from its November 6 conjunction with the Sun – November 25.

**Comet ISON** passes all three of these early-morning planets on its way to the Sun. Will it break up, or re-emerge in December? Time will tell...



Speaking of time, remember to “fall back” on the night of November 2/3 as we change from Daylight Saving Time to Standard!