

HGO Still Snowed In

For all you new SVAS Members, please let me assure you, there is an observatory in the Sierra Mountains! I have been there! Really!

If the weather gremlins would pay attention and maybe check the sky-I mean, Orion sets by 23:30; Arcturus is visible by 19:00. That means *Spring* here in Nor Cal. As I am writing this, even more snow is falling at Blue Canyon, adding to the 3 ½ feet that piled up over winter.

Sunday, April 11th was the target date to go to HGO to install the new Feather Touch focuser (which is still sitting on the table in my living room) onto the RC16, align it with the new camber plate, collimate the mirrors, do a star-test and be ready for the April SVAS Members' Star Party at HGO on the 17th.



Photo Courtesy Of Bob Lea, posted 4/17

Ok he says, while rubbing hands together, time for a new plan.

Saturday, May 2nd is the target date to visit HGO. The Dome Crew hopes to install the new Feather Touch focuser (which is still sitting on the table in my living room) onto the RC16, align it with the new camber plate, collimate the mirrors, do a star-test and be ready for the first SVAS Members' Star Party of the year at HGO on May 15th. (.....is there an echo in here?)

HGO is member operated. If something needs to be fixed, then it is up to the SVAS Membership to get it done. In the next few months I will be asking for volunteers to help with things that need to get done up the hill before winter 2010 comes. Some of the jobs this year will be major, requiring many days work, others simple, taking less than an hour.

I will be using all the resources available to me (Constant Contact, the Observer, both the "classic" and "E" versions, the yahoo group and e-mail) to be able to bug, I mean, contact you concerning "repair parties" at HGO. I should remind you, all the work done on Saturdays will be followed by a ****star*party**** that night.

Looking forward to a great observing season at HGO.

ppp