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The Strolling Astronomer

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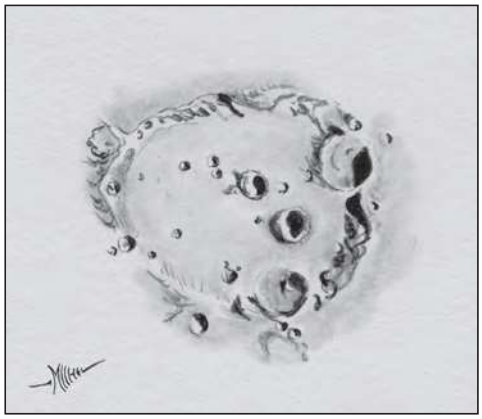
The drama of Clavius Crater

(See page 3 for details.)

Inside the ALPO
Member, section and activity news



Sketch by Michel Deconinck of Rocbaron, France. Michel did this work on 2013 August 16, 19:00 UT, using a Bresser 100 mm f/9 refractor telescope with a 10 mm eyepiece at 90x.

explorations with a thermal imager, this time with a new model on a large reflector. Robert Reeves, Greg Shanos and Robert H. Hays, Jr. provided interesting observations and articles about the month's "Focus-On" article (Clavius) and Alberto Anunziato led the "Focus-On: Lunar Base Clavius" with 41 outstanding pages of text and 79 images from around the globe. See the cover of this Journal and also the accompanying image to this report.

The following is the schedule for future *Focus-On* topics. Articles and images of the lunar targets are due to David Teske and Alberto Anunziato by the 20th of the month prior to publication. Observers are encouraged to search for observations of these targets in previous observations or make them the target of future lunar observations:

- July 2025: Due June 20, 2025 (Rupes Recta)
- September 2025: Due August 20, 2025 (Mare Humorum)

The Lunar Observer also featured articles concerning lunar topographic studies, including familiar and not-so-familiar lunar targets (see above for topics of articles). These articles typically ranged in sizes from 1-4 pages. Each month *The Lunar Observer* also features an in-depth article from Dr. Anthony Cook on the Lunar Geologic Change Detection Program (the LTP Program in the ALPO) and the Basin and Buried Crater Project. Other features are articles about lunar features, articles about lunar domes and images of recent lunar topographic studies.

Electronic submissions can now be made by emailing to the coordinator. See the most recent issue of *The Lunar Observer* on the ALPO website (*http://www.alpo-astronomy.org/gallery3/index.php/Lunar*) for instructions. Hard copy submissions should continue to be mailed to the coordinator at the address listed in the ALPO Resources Section of the Journal.

The lunar image gallery/archive is also now active. Wayne Bailey continues to submit archived images to the Lunar Gallery. This coordinator is now adding current lunar image submissions to the Lunar Gallery. As the new ALPO-astronomy website matures, all issues of *The Lunar Observer*, including those from its beginning in 1997 as an American Lunar Society publication to June 2004 when it became the newsletter of this ALPO program, will become available on the ALPO website due to hard work by Jim Tomney. Also, in the ALPO Lunar Gallery, images and reports can be found in the Lunar Dome section.

Lunar Meteoritic Impact Search Program

Report by Brian Cudnik, program coordinator
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This coordinator notified various individuals of the potential opportunity to observe lunar meteor flashes during the 14 March 2025 total lunar eclipse. There were 65 minutes of totality plus up to 30 minutes either side of totality (to observe the darkened/eclipsed part of the Moon) – 125 minutes in all – to use for looking for lunar meteoroid impacts. To date, I have received no reports of impact flashes observed during the total lunar eclipse.

The only report I did receive since February of this year, however, was a series of observation intervals conducted by the UAI Lunar Section (Italy) in February, as reported by Antonio Mercatali: four time blocks of 26 to 134 minutes on 2 February (17:59-18:28 UT), 3 February (17:28-18:25 UT), and 5 February (16:44-18:58 UT and a second station at 17:42 to 18:42 UT). No probable impact flashes were detected during these intervals.

Near-Earth asteroid 2024 YR4 was determined earlier this year to have a near-zero chance of impacting the Earth, but a 3.8% chance of impacting the Moon. The impact would occur on the Earth-facing side. More details can be found at:

https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/near-earth-asteroid-2024-yr4-might-aim-for-the-moon/

Also, please visit the ALPO Lunar Meteoritic Impact Search program web page at *https://alpo-astronomy.org/Lunar/Programs/Impacts*

Lunar Transient Phenomena

Report by Dr. Anthony Cook, program coordinator
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Two LTP reports have been submitted since the last summary. Both were given low weights because imagery was taken close to, but not exactly at the time of, the