http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,48016,00.html

Coming Soon: Spectacular Meteors

By Elan Lohmann

The United States can look forward to the most spectacular meteor show since 1966 -- and it might be another 98 years before anything so sensational will be seen again. The Nov. 18 Leonid meteor shower will be "very impressive, rare and something that you'll want to see," said Peter Jenniskens, a research scientist specializing in the study of meteors at the NASA/Ames Research Center at California's Moffett Field.

Viewing conditions in the United States are expected to be sublime this year. One reason for this is the new moon, which falls on Nov. 18, when the sky will be its darkest. A typical Leonid shower yields about 10 to 15 meteors per hour, but this year Jenniskens estimates the meteor shower will have as many as 4,200 an hour at its peak. Viewers along the East Coast will likely see the meteors fall directly from above, while in the West they will shoot across the sky at an angle.

The perfect viewing time is estimated to be between 4 and 6 a.m. EST, on Nov. 18. "It is a naked-eye event. All one needs is a clear dark sky away from the city lights to enjoy the phenomena," Jenniskens said. The whole show should last 2 hours and create the effect of Earth moving through a trail of dust, Jenniskens said. An ordinary meteor showers occurs when Earth passes through debris left behind by comets. But this year, the Earth will be passing through particularly dense ribbons of comet debris.

For a sneak preview, a good resource is the Leonid Flux Estimator, produced by the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence/NASA Ames center. Tools on the site will calculate the best locations for viewing, the optimal spots from any town and how active the shower is expected to be in that area.

The Leonid storm will occur when the Earth passes through a trail of tiny dust particles left behind by Comet Tempel-Tuttle during its passage in 1767. Tempel-Tuttle orbits the sun every 33.25 years, shedding dust particles as it is warmed by sunlight. It first crossed the Earth's orbit in 860 A.D. The earth passes through some of the trail every year, but this year it will be particularly close. Jenniskens said the next major Leonid storm will occur again in 2099, which will be one of its last tours. "The comet will then leave the Earth's orbit for good," he said.

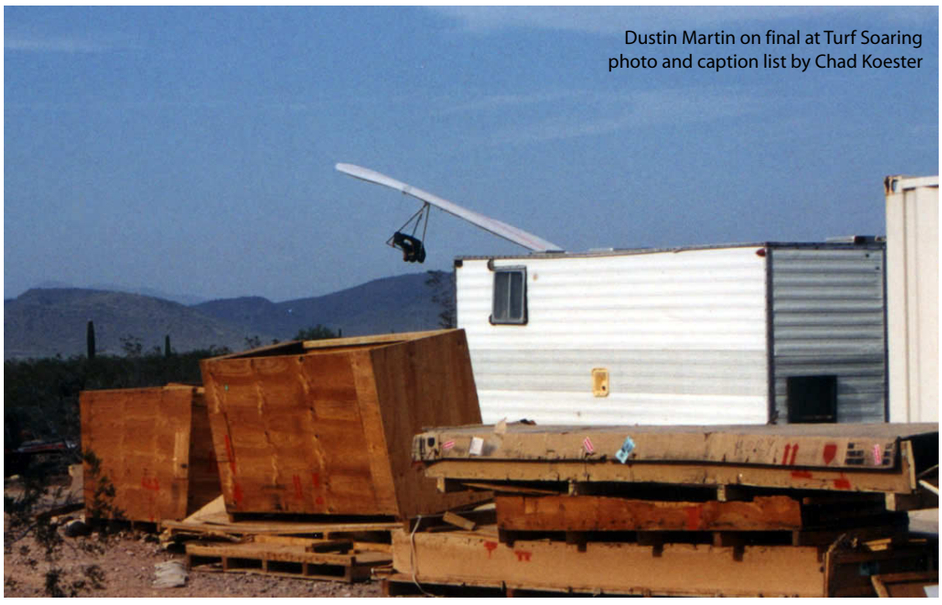
In November 1833, the show was so spectacular many eyewitnesses feared the world was coming to an end. In 1966, Americans viewed another excellent stellar show, while in 1999, Europe witnessed an epic series of showers.

November 17th & 18th

Oatman

Road Work
Flying
Camping

Party



Dustin Martin on final at Turf Soaring
photo and caption list by Chad Koester

1. The perfect Demo Glider Approach
2. Has anyone seen an LZ?
3. Damn! This is going to hurt!
4. I Think I Can! I Think I Can! I Think I Can!
5. May be if I land here, no one will see me whack
6. May be if I land here, no one will know I just wet myself
7. WHAT THE HELL IS THIS GUY DOING!
8. Demo Glider: Guess I bought this one!
9. ....and for my next trick....
10. SSSSSHHHHHHIIIIIIIITTTTTT!!!!!!!!

by Shawn Jarrell

Yarnell

The Yarnell Mining Corporation which is under the Bema Gold Corporation has some issues that would restrict the operation there. They would need to purchase more property to separate the tailings and of course transport it there. They cannot just dump it off the edge since all of the property surrounding them is either BLM or state land. They have three parcels of land that the road to launch runs across the corners. The launch is on BLM land. By law, the owner can not restrict access to BLM land. They might provide an escort service or some other road might have to be made if they do operate there in the future. J.B. House, the owner of Country Wide Communications Co, owns some land closer to the town of Yarnell and works on the towers up there. He had said that there is not enough gold in that hill to spend the extra $ and is also having some permit problems to operate there. Hopefully that is correct. I am still looking into a special use permit for the launch and landing areas to give us some hard ground to stand on in the future if the need arises. More info will be reported as it comes!

photo by Shawn Jarrell

by Laura Salamone

El Golfo Trip

Hello everyone. Corey and I are planning another El Golfo aerotowing trip over Thanksgiving. For those of you who don't know, El Golfo is a small fishing village in Mexico about an hour south of Yuma. We are always welcome there, the natives are friendly. We will be staying at Las Cochas Hotel again. $40 per night per room with two double beds. Phone number is 011-52-651-5-70-01 to make reservations. There is a cheaper motel not on the beach called Los Angulos $25 per night, phone is 011-52-651-5-70-05. There is camping on the beach. There are restaurants and bars. We tow on the beach. It's all very casual. We take donations for tows. Contact Corey or I for more info or questions. Corey's e-mail address is corey@mwaz.com. Phone is 928-775-6709.

ahgc@northlink.com

Classified

For sale: Wills Wing 155XC. Recently inspected. Red/White/Blue asymmetric sail. Outboard Hall wheels. Tail fin. $800. jdevorak@whitehat.com work#480.804.8135

For sale: 1999 Isuzu Trooper. 40k miles still under factory warranty. Crater Rated. Will give killer deal to foot launched pilot. $17,200.00 call Jerry Dalen at 623-934-6094 or jerry@sprintmail.com

For sale: Litespeed 155 in new condition 50 hours. Make me an offer. Undersurface is red/gray/red. Used CSX 5 for $2500 with probably 100 hours. contact flydustin@hotmail.com

For sale: Wills Wing RamAir 154. Fluorescent red LE w/ fluorescent orange under-surface. Sail is still crisp with almost no blemishes. Adjustable VG. Brand new wing wires. $1,750.00 **High-Energy Sports Pod harness.** Deep-blue pod harness with a small light-blue and a small white stripe going down both sides. Great condition with no rips or tears but it could use a mild bath. Adjustable for a person from 5'9" to 6'5" tall. $250.00 **20 gore High Energy parachute w/swivel.** Fully inspected and repacked by Betty Phiffer. Brand new deployment bag, new swivel, & new strap. $100.00 **Ball 651 variometer.** Has the 1 foot increment modification. $100.00 **"Sport" oxygen system**. $30.00 **Ball helmet.** White, half helmet version. Structurally sound but it could use a paint job. $25.00 **Knee-hanger harness.** Black, in new condition. $30.00 **Parachute swivel.** (uninstalled) New never used. $20.00 **Drogue chute.** Orange w/ bag. $15.00 **Pair of black Ultra-Mitts.** VERY WARM Like new. $20.00 Wills Wing **airspeed indicator.** Like new. $10.00 **"Jack" hook knife.** $5.00 **Set of 12" training wheels.** Blue and in great shape. $15.00 **Water bottle and holder.** Custom made. It connects to a downtube for in-flight use. $10.00. total:$2,380.00 Note: will sell all items together for $2000. Call Ken Bruder(home) 480-962-5974 (cell) 480-206-4184 (work) 480-592-2343 or Ken.Bruder@Honeywell.com