NIGHTFALL

Newsletter of the
Huachuca Astronomy Club of
Southeastern Arizona

March 2012

President's Notes: First, I would like to thank HAC member Cindy Lund. Many of you may have heard my ***loud sigh of relief*** when she volunteered to serve as our newsletter editor. Please join me in welcoming her as new editor of Nightfall.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Friday, March 2 at Cochise College at 7 pm.** Due to a schedule conflict, **we will NOT meet at the student union**. We **will** be meeting in Cochise College room 1105 of the Science Building, located directly across from the student union. We'd like to thank Instructor Natasha Nichols for allowing us to use her classroom for this meeting. Our speakers will be board members and noted authors, Bob Kepple and Glen Sanner, who will discuss the basics of setting up a telescope and navigating the night sky.

Also, astronomy instructor Natasha Nichols will discuss the size of our Milky Way galaxy, and she will also discuss the size of the universe as well as the cooling process of the Sun. During her presentation, she will also answer the question "What is a nebula?"

Urgent Action Needed: The Arizona legislature is pushing a bill through the legislative process, and we need you help to stop it. Please call, write, visit, and/or email your representatives or senator and ask them **not** to support HB 2757. This law would overturn an existing law that prohibits electronic billboards along Arizona Highways. If approved, this law would allow billboards to destroy the beauty of our night skies, and it would hurt the scenic beauty that we all appreciate in Arizona. This is the last thing we need! *(Please read more on this important topic at the end of this newsletter.)*

Wishing you all clear skies and great observing, **Bob Gent**

Kartchner Caverns Star Night is scheduled for Saturday, March 17, 2012: Everyone is invited to this event at Kartchner Caverns. We have a special guest speaker, Father Christopher J. Corbally, S.J. Father Corbally is a Vice Director of the Vatican Observatory located on Mount Graham in Southern Arizona. As such, he oversees the observatory's research group in Tucson, while maintaining contact and occasional visits to the observatory's headquarters at Castel Gandolfo, Italy. He is an Adjunct Associate Astronomer at the Department of Astronomy, University of Arizona. Among other college degrees, he holds a Ph.D. in Astronomy from the University of Toronto. His talk is titled, "The Vatican and Astronomy: From a Calendar to the Cosmos," and he will cover the Catholic Church's active work in astronomical research for over 400 years. He will also discuss highlights of this history and on why the Vatican Observatory has a presence in Arizona.

Although there will be some solar telescopes in the mid-afternoon, the main event starts off with an introduction in the Discovery Center auditorium at 5:30 pm. In the event of heavy cloud cover or rain, there will be an abbreviated program including slide talks held in the auditorium. ***Our last event in September drew more than 200 visitors, and we will need your help.*** Thanks to everyone who's bringing a telescope. If you have any questions, please let me know at RLGent@cox.net.

Patterson Observatory Public Nights: Our next scheduled public nights at the Patterson Observatory will be held on February 23, March 29, and April 26. All HAC members are welcome to attend or help out if you like. We usually begin opening up just before sunset. We will also be hosting groups of visitors from local schools, Cochise College, and University of Arizona South.

This Year's Big Events: There will be an annular eclipse in Arizona on May 20, 2012. Some HAC members will be visiting Page, Arizona to watch and photograph it from the centerline. Also, the last Venus Transit for over 105 years will be visible next June 5. Don't miss it! The HAC board has reserved a part of the Veteran's Memorial Park for us to set up solar telescopes on May 20 and June 5. We will need help from members who are not going to Page, AZ and who have solar telescopes.

Sky-Calendar Update for March 2012 by Doug Snyder

Note: Unless otherwise noted, all dates and times are shown in Arizona's Mountain Standard Time – NOT in U.T.!

March 3 (Saturday): MARS at opposition - 1:35 pm; its angular size is 13.9 arc-seconds and its current magnitude is -1.2 (that is slightly dimmer than the star Sirius); on this orbit, Mars and Earth close to within about 63 million miles of each other, and that occurs on **March 5**. The north polar cap is tilted towards Earth, so take a look at MARS this month – it will be in the constellation LEO and following the star Regulus all month.

March 5 (Monday): MERCURY makes a good western appearance as it reaches a greatest elongation on that evening and can be viewed about 45 minutes after sunset, where it may be about 7° above the horizon.

March 8 (Thursday): Full Moon – sometimes named the 'Sleepy Moon'

March 10 (Saturday): Begin about two weeks of the Zodiacal Light in our evening western skies after twilight; this light glow is primarily caused by scattered sunlight from micrometer sized dust particles in the upper atmosphere in the vicinity of the ecliptic.

March 12 & 13 (Plus several days on either side): JUPITER and VENUS approach and pass each other in the evening sky; through a telescope, the brighter Venus will show as a 20" arc-second orb, and Jupiter as a 35" well-lit disk. On these two dates, the two planets are within 3° of each! (photo op!)

March 19 (Monday): Vernal Equinox; the Sun, traveling along the ecliptic, passes into the northern hemisphere, and Spring begins (10:14 pm MST).

March 22 (Thursday): **NEW Moon** – 7:38 am MST; beginning of 'lunation 1104')
: On Jupiter, starting at 7:35 pm; a Double-shadow transit with satellites Io

and Ganymede; both shadows should be visible until 8:31 pm when the shadow of Io egresses the disk. The shadow of Ganymede should be visible until 9:20 pm.

March 26, 27 (Monday, Tuesday): VENUS at greatest elongation (highest elevation); over 40° high in the evening sky. Also, look for amazing views of the crescent Moon, Jupiter, and Venus during that week!

Other Updates: A new comet was discovered by an amateur using the CCD method on February 11 (UT) and it is moving into the constellation of Pisces. It is designated Comet **C/2012 C2 (Bruenjes).** The date of perihelion is currently 2012 March 12.72466 (UT). It may remain at about magnitude 11 until after reaching perihelion (nearest approach to the Sun), then be fainter in the morning sky. For comet data, visit the Harvard Minor Planet Center.
Comet **C/2009 P1 (Garradd)** Discovered in August of 2009, and reaching perihelion in late December of 2011, it continues to be the observable comet for the times at around magnitude 7 or somewhat brighter. After passing through the constellation Hercules earlier this year, it is now visiting Draco and some regions of Ursa Major and is a morning target, but only until April when it probably becomes much fainter.

Globe At Night: March 13 – 22 ; saving our night skies; visit http://www.globeatnight.org/

Remember: There is ALWAYS something happening `up there' whether we know it or not; CAN you discover it? These updates are just a fraction of observable sky events!

CLEAR SKIES UNTIL NEXT MONTH – Doug Snyder

Travels on the Celestial Sphere with Bob Kepple and Glen Sanner

On the evening of January 17, 2012 Bob and I were searching for small gatherings of galaxies in Gemini, The Twins. We were observing at Discovery Observatory West in my backyard and it was a nice evening with clear skies and fairly steady viewing. We found two trios of galaxies about 2.5° and 4° respectively NNW of Castor, (66-alpha geminorum). The first trio was comprised of NGC's 2389, 2388 and 2385. NGC 2389 was the brightest of this group, 3' NE of 2388. 2389 appeared as a slight E-W oval with an even halo. NGC 2388 appeared not as bright as 2389 and is elongated NE-SW more-so than 2389, it too had an evenly illuminated halo. 2385 appeared as another NE-SW elongation of light, this galaxy was the dimmest of the lot at magnitude 14. At magnitude 15, UGC 3879 was glimpsed as a faint elongated wisp of light 13' SE of NGC 2389.
Our other trio of galaxies, NGC 2379, 2375 and 2373 were found 16' west of NGC 2385. These galaxies were all in the 13.5 to 14.5 magnitude range. NGC 2379 was the eastern most and the brightest of the group, appearing as faint round glow of light with a brighter center. 4' WNW of 2379 you find 2375, a slightly elongated wisp of light at magnitude 14. Seven minutes W of 2375 we found 2373 as a round glow immediately SW of a 13th magnitude star. Some of the data (magnitudes etc.) in this list was extracted from the NASA/IPAC ExtraGalactic Database (NED) found on the internet. We probably spent an hour looking at these galaxies trying to collect all of the photons we could from these faint wisps of light. It was cold and clear, the ambience of the music was good as were the hot drinks and delightful conversation, we highly recommend it.

Number	Galaxy Type	Right Ascension	Declination	Size	Magnitude	
NGC 2385	Sb	07h28.4m	+33° 50'	0.7' x 0.3'	m14.2v	SB 12.4
NGC 2388	S?	07h28.8m	+33° 49'	0.9' x 0.6'	m13.7v	SB 12.9
NGC 2389	SAB(rs)c	07h29.1m	+33° 51'	1.8' x 1.4'	m12.9v	SB 13.8
NGC 2379	SAO	07h27.4m	+33° 49'	1.0' x 1.0'	m13.5v	SB 13.4
NGC 2375	SB(s)b	07h27.1m	+33° 50'	1.0' x 1.3'	m14.4v	SB?
NGC 2373	S?	07h26.6m	+33° 49'	0.5" x 0.5'	m14.7v	SB?

My Favorite Spring Sky Objects by Cindy Lund

My favorite spring objects are The Orion Nebula and the Whirlpool Galaxy. I also like Thor's Helmet, Omega Centauri, and the Ghost of Jupiter.

M42, the Orion Nebula: Right Ascension: $05^h\ 35^m\ 17.3^s$, Declination: -05° 23' 28?
The Orion Nebula is complex and full of details. It includes M43, De Marian Nebula, the arc on the right of M42, and the Trapezium, the four brightest stars of the open cluster being formed in the Orion Nebula. Every time I look at it I notice something different. It's full of bright arcs and dark lanes. I have even seen color in the Orion Nebula; a green arc. It's also bright enough that I can make out the details easily.

M51, the Whirlpool Galaxy: Right Ascension: $13^h\ 29^m\ 52.7^s$, Declination: +47° 11' 43?
This galaxy lives up to its name. I love the clear spiral structure. I can really see the arms. Many galaxies appear as a fuzzy lens shape around a bright central dot, but the whirlpool galaxy is face on, so the spiral arms are clear. I have noticed that they don't show up as well without a dark sky. For example, the arms didn't appear when I saw M51 at Patterson Observatory because the sky has too much light in Sierra Vista. Also, note its companion galaxy, NGC 5195.

NGC 2359 Thor's Helmet: Right Ascension: $07^h\ 18^m\ 30.0^s$, Declination: -13°13'48.0"
Another aptly named object, this emission nebula looks like a Viking helmet with horns (even though real Viking helmets didn't have horns) I like the unique shape. So many objects are round or elliptical, so this object stands out.

NGC 5139, Omega Centauri: Right Ascension: $13^h\ 26^m\ 45.89^s$, Declination: -47° 28' 36.7?
This globular cluster is huge. So huge, that it may actually be the core of a dwarf galaxy, and not a globular cluster. It's very bright and dense, with a prominent core. It looks like a cotton ball after it's been tugged all around.

NGC 3242 Ghost of Jupiter: Right Ascension: $10^h\ 24^m\ 46.1^s$, Declination: -18° 38' 32.6?
This small planetary nebula is turquoise. I like seeing color in the sky and a bright turquoise is quite rare. Most objects don't show color when viewed through a telescope, but this one's color is easily visible.

Next month, I will write about how I got interested in astronomy.

03/08/2008 at Desert Coyote Observatory		
Object Name	Category	Description and observations
Unknown object	Satellite	small dot moving rapidly across the sky (Dad spotted it)
M42 Orion Nebula	Diffuse Nebula	White arc like) black diagonal / strip separating it from M43
M43 De Mairan's Nebula	Diffuse Nebula	Thick white c around a central star at lower right of M42
M46	Open Cluster	Stars fairly evenly distributed throughout
NGC 2438	Planetary Nebula	Small disk in the right side of M46. Not to bright
NGC 2359 Thor's Helmet	Emission Nebula	Like a Viking Helmet upside down. Half disk with wisps
Trapezium Cluster	Open Cluster	4 stars in tiny narrow trapezoid in center of M42
Saturn	Planet (Gas Giant)	Bright disk, Rings titled / Close to edge on.
3 of Saturn's moons	Large Moons of Saturn	2 on the left close together, 1 on the right

03/21/2009 at Junk Bond Observatory		
Object Name	Category	Description and observations
M35	Open Cluster	Not too dense, no core
M65	Spiral Galaxy	bright core, fainter thin triangles going out from either side
M66	Spiral Galaxy	fainter than M65, similar shape
M82 Cigar Galaxy	Irregular Galaxy	Thin Lens shape, bright core
M108	Spiral Galaxy	Faint with a bright core
M106	Spiral Galaxy	Fuzzy lens shape, with bright dot at center
Saturn	Planet (Gas Giant)	Large disk, rings nearly edge on.
3 of Saturn's moons	Large Moons of Saturn	2 moons near Saturn on the left, 1 farther away on the right

05/23/2009 at Junk Bond Observatory		
Omega Centari	Globular Cluster	huge cluster, core is 1/2 cluster by radius
M51 Whirlpool Galaxy	Spiral Galaxy	Spiral Structure clear, 2 symmetrical arms , bright core
NGC 5195	Companion to WP G	Bright core with fuzzy dimmer area around it.
M65	Spiral Galaxy	Long thin lens, Arms thick as core in middle, thinning to points
M66	Spiral Galaxy	Squat arms, core is middle 1/3.
Saturn	Planet (Gas Giant)	Yellow disk with pencil through it, pencil 2x as long as disk
4 of Saturn's moons	Large Moons of Saturn	Titan, below and to left, Rhea closer, still below, Tetis, Dione above

03/04/2011 at Windy Mountain Observatory on a screen		
NGC 2903	Barred Spiral Galaxy	Bright oval core with bar through long way. Each end of bar has 2 arms, one at top, other closer to center. Arms trace 1/2 circle arc, towards other bar but don't reach it.
NGC 2419	Globular Cluster	Dim, dense, w/ denser core. Core 3/4 of dia. Stars faint
M79	Globular Cluster	Bright core, stars distinguishable
NGC 1535	Planetary Nebula	Disk shaped. center out: bright core, small gap, med bright inner ring, faint outer ring
NGC 2392 Eskimo Nebula	Planetary Nebula	Disk shaped. center out: bright core, small gap, thin bright inner ring, gap, faint outer ring as thick as the core
NGC 2683 UFO Galaxy	Spiral Galaxy	Thin fuzzy lens, bight core a half disk sticking out at center, fainter farther from core
M82 Cigar Galaxy	Starburst Galaxy	Oval, bright core, bright center ring, dim mid ring, thick dimmest outer ring, no gaps
NGC 2352??	Open Cluster	like a connect-the-dots of a man with a longer left arm and a hook for a head
NGC 2362	Open Cluster	About 20 bright & 30 dim stars. Randomly distributed in roughly round shape
M93	Open Cluster	About 50 stars Like a connect-the-dots bird with outstretched wings and tail
M78	Reflection Nebula	fuzzy patch, w/ several dark patches like thumb press, each 1/6 - 1/8 patch by length
Barnard 33 Horsehead Nebula	Dark Nebula	Vaguely darker path in dark sky, shaped like a horsehead or a ball-peen hammer
NGC 2261 Hubble Nebula	Variable Reflection Nebula	Spiral shape, with center oval with thick tail that goes 3/4 way around and splits in two, one part goes straight up, the other arcs above the center and meets the spiral

www.hacastronomy.com -- A great place to visit!

2012—ARIZONA's Astronomically Handy Sky Calendar from Doug Snyder—2012
ARIZONA SKY PHENOMENA Calendar—
All Times shown are MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME*

January 2012
HIGHLITE: Shadow Transits on Jup.
01 Su New Year's Day; HNY2012 !
03 Tu Dbl. Shadow Tr., 2327hrs.,G&Eu
Quadrantid Meteors Pk@2400h.
view a.m. of 4th**; an 80%
moon sets just after 0300 hrs.
09 Mo ? Full Moon 0031 hrs.
10 Tu Dbl.Shadow Tr., 2326hrs., Eu&G
11 We Comet P/2006 T1(Levy); mag.7?;
perihelion@2343 hrs, 1.0074AU
16 Mo Spica 2°N. of Moon, 0100 hrs.
? Last Quarter Moon 0209 hrs.
21 Sa Mars at mag.-0.3, size 10.7"
23 Mo ? **NEW MOON** 0040 hrs.
30 Mo ? First Quarter Moon 2110 hrs.

February 2012
HIGHLITE: C/2009 P1 Garradd
03 Fr **Comet Garradd,** 0.5° from
M92 Globular in Hercules, 3am
07 Tu ? Full Moon 1454 hrs.
09 Th Venus 0.3° N. of Uranus, pm;
mag. –4.1 & +5.9; size: 16",
3.4"; eyepiece recommended
10 Fr Zodiacal Lt. in W., pm, next
2 weeks; after twilight.
14 Tu ? Last Quarter Moon 1005 hrs.
21 Tu ? **NEW MOON** 1535 hrs.
25 Sa Venus 3° S. of waxing Moon
26 Su Jup. 4° S. of Moon, pm
29 We ? First Quarter Moon 1822 hrs.
Leap-day: 2012 has 366 days

March 2012
HIGHLITE: Planetary Arrangements
03 Sa Mars @**opposition**, 1335 hrs.,
size at 13.9", mag. –1.2
05 Mo Mars closest to Earth, 1000hrs
Merc. evening planet in W., 7"
08 Th ? Full Moon 0239 hrs.
10 Sa Zodiacal Lt. in W., pm, next
2 weeks; after twilight
14 We ? Last Quarter Moon 1826 hrs.
19 Mo Vernal **Equinox**, 2214 hrs.
22 Th ? **NEW MOON** 0738 hrs.
Dbl. Shadow Tr., 1935hrs., I&G
27 Tu Venus G_Elong. E., 46°, in
western sky after sunset
30 Fr ? First Quarter Moon 1241 hrs.

April 2012
HIGHLITES: Saturn, Lyrid Meteors
03 Tu **Venus** 0.5° S. of M45 (Pleiades)
in early evening, western skies
06 Fr ? Full Moon 1219 hrs.
13 Fr ? Last Quarter Moon 0350 hrs.
15 Su **Saturn@ opposition**, 1100hrs
18 We Merc. morning planet in E., 8"
21 Sa ? **NEW MOON** 0019 hrs.
Lyrid Meteors, Pk 2200hrs.
28 Sa **Astronomy Day #1 2012**
29 Su ? First Quarter Moon 0259 hrs
30 Mo Venus at brightest mag., –4.7

May 2012
HIGHLITE: Annular Solar Eclipse
05 Sa ?-Aquarid Meteors; unfavorable
year due to moon; pk.1200hrs.
? Full Moon 2036 hrs.; largest
in 2012
12 Sa ? Last Quarter Moon 1447 hrs.
20 Su ? **NEW MOON** 1648 hrs.
Annular Solar Eclipse; best
Arizona site: near city of Page;
low altitude Sun; starts at
1724 hrs., max. at 1834 hrs.
28 Mo ? First Quarter Moon 1317 hrs.

June 2012
HIGHLITE: Solar Transit of Venus
04 Mo Partial Lunar Eclipse; penumbra
starts 0148 hrs.; partial at
0259 hrs; partial ends 0506 hrs
? Full Moon 0412 hrs.
05 Tu **Transit of Venus**; start at
1510 hrs.; still in progress at
sunset at 1916 hrs.
11 Mo ? Last Quarter Moon 0342 hrs.
19 Tu ? **NEW MOON** 0803 hrs.
20 We Summer Solstice, 1607 hrs.
26 Tu ? First Quarter Moon 2031 hrs.

July 2012
HIGHLITE: Jupiter's Morning Light
01 Su Merc., west sky, pm twilight, mag.
+0.4, size 8.1"
03 Tu ? Full Moon 1152 hrs.
10 Tu ? Last Quarter Moon 1849 hrs.
12 Th Venus, am, brightest mag., -4.7
14 Sa Comet 96P/Machholz, Perihelion
18 We ? **NEW MOON** 2125 hrs.
21 Sa Dbl.Shadow Tr., 0354hrs, Eu & I
26 Th ? First Quarter Moon 0157 hrs.
28 Sa Dbl.Shadow Tr., 0446hrs, Eu & I
29 Su S. d– Aquarid meteors Pk. in am,
unfavorable year, 78%Moon
30 Mo Jupiter, am, size 36", mag. –2.1

August 2012
HIGHLITE: Perseid Meteor Shower
01 We ? Full Moon 2028 hrs. 09 Th ?
Last Quarter Moon 1156 hrs.
12 Su **PERSEID** Meteors: **favorable!**
View pm 11th & am 12th
13 Mo Dbl.Shadow Tr., 0348hrs., I & G
Occultation of Venus by
the Moon; near 1340 hrs.
16 Th Merc. morning planet in E., 8"
17 Fr ? **NEW MOON** 0855 hrs.
24 Fr Neptune @ Opposition,0600h.
mag.+7.8, size 2.3", 29AU
? First Quarter Moon 0654 hrs.
31 Fr ? Full Moon (**2nd**) 0659 hrs.

September 2012
HIGHLITE: Northern Lights in AZ ?
08 Sa ? Last Quarter Moon 0616 hrs.
12 We Epsilon (e) Eridanids Meteors
peak near 0600hrs; favorable
14 Fr Zodiacal Lt. in E., am, next 2
weeks before twilight
15 Sa ? **NEW MOON** 1911 hrs
Alert For aurora activity
before, during & after Equinox
22 Sa **Autumn Equinox** 0749 hrs.
? First Quarter Moon 1241 hrs.
29 Sa Uranus @ opposition, 0000hrs.
mag. +5.7, size 3.7", distance
19.1 AU from Earth
? Full Moon 1241 hrs.

October 2012
HIGHLITE: Meteor Showers (3)
03 We Venus/Regulus Appulse—one
of the best for 2012; E., 0500hrs
08 Mo ? Last Quarter Moon 0034hrs
Draconids Meteors: 0300 to dawn
10 We **S. Taurids** Meteors: favorable!
13 Sa Zodiacal Lt., E., am, next 2 wks.
15 Mo ? **NEW MOON** 0503 hrs.
21 Su **Orionids** Meteors: v. favorable!
? First Quarter Moon 2033 hrs.
29 Mo ? Full Moon 1250 hrs.

November 2012
HIGHLITE: LEONID Meteor Shower
06 Tu ? Last Quarter Moon,1736hrs.
12 Mo **N. Taurids** Meteors, 0400h.
13 Tu ? **NEW MOON** 1509 hrs.
17 Sa **Leonid Meteors!** First of 2
Pks., 0200hrs.; v. favorable
19 Mo 2nd **Leonid** pk. possible 2400h.
20 Tu ? First Quarter Moon 0732 hrs.
27 Tu Venus/Saturn Conjunction! E.,
am, 0630hrs., 0.6° separation
28 We ? Full Moon 0747 hrs.

December 2012
HIGHLITE: GEMINID Meteor Shower
02 Su JUPITER @ Opposition, 1900 h.
04 Tu Merc. morning planet in E., 7.4"
06 Th ? Last Quarter Moon 0832 hrs.
13 Th ? **NEW MOON** 0142 hrs.
GEMINIDS Pk: 0500 hrs.;
Very Favorable for 2012
19 We ? First Quarter Moon 2220 hrs.
21 Th Solstice (Winter) 0412 hrs.
22 Fr **Ursid** Meteors Pk., 0100 hrs.
28 Fr ? Full Moon 0322 hrs.

House Bill 2757:

Included here is more information on the bill to repeal the prohibition against electronic billboards in Arizona. Bob Gent has provided a copy of his correspondence with Arizona legislators in opposition to the proposed legislation Arizona HB 2757. It is reprinted here:

Dear Representative Gowan,

I am writing you in strong opposition to HB 2757 which would allow billboards to have bright flashing lights along Arizona highways. I am also writing on behalf of the members of the Huachuca Astronomy Club based in Sierra Vista, Arizona.

This bill is a serious problem for several reasons. First, if illuminated billboards were allowed to proliferate in Cochise County and elsewhere in Arizona, it would destroy the beauty of our night skies. It would be a serious impediment to astronomical research, and it would ruin the public's ability to enjoy the beauty of our night skies.

Second, I have seen illuminated billboards like these in Phoenix, and I consider them a safety hazard to drivers. They are very distracting. At night, they are even more distracting, and that is the time drivers need to pay special attention to the road.

The third reason these are problems is that they would destroy the scenic beauty of rural Arizona. In December 2008, a billboard company applied for permits to install new billboards along highway 90 between Whetstone and Benson. Our club voted unanimously to petition the Cochise County Planning and Zoning Department to oppose these new billboards along our scenic highways. Fortunately, the planning and zoning department agreed with us, and later, the Cochise County Board of Supervisors agreed unanimously to disapprove these new billboard requests.

Finally, I ask if you would like to live next to a bright and flashing electronic billboard. I know I definitely would not. I suspect many others would react the same way, and I fear that allowing billboards would ruin property values at a time we can't afford to risk any further depression in prices.

On behalf of our members, I urge you to please reject HB 2757. We don't need more illuminated and electronic billboards in Arizona. If you have any questions, I would be pleased to discuss this subject with you in greater detail. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Very respectfully**, /Signed/ RL Gent**

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