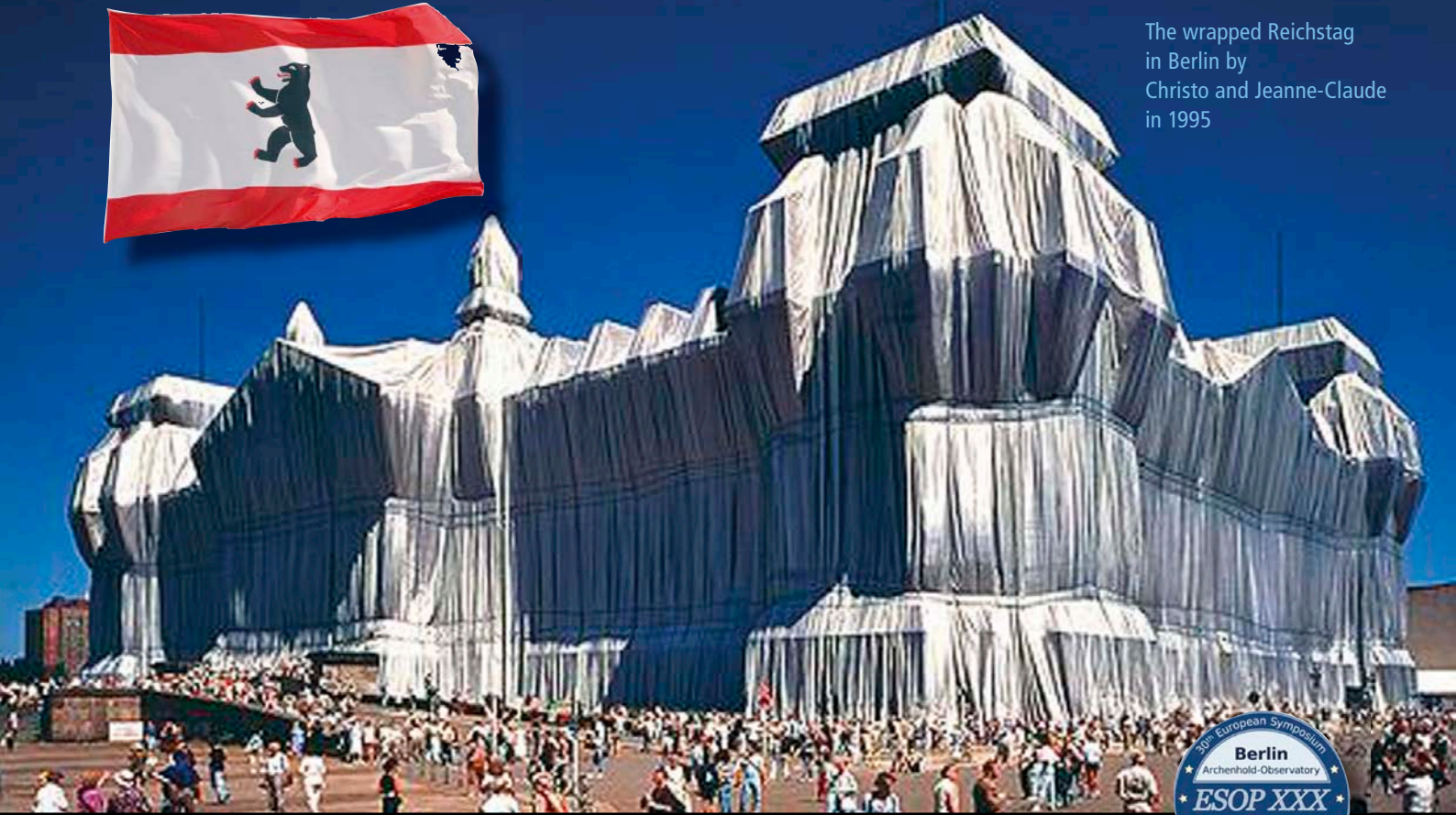


Journal for Occultation Astronomy

FORMERLY OCCULTATION NEWSLETTER



The wrapped Reichstag
in Berlin by
Christo and Jeanne-Claude
in 1995



XXX. ESOP Berlin, August 26th to 31st 2011

Pluto occultations in May and June

*CCD Photometry of Uranian and
Saturnian Mutual Events*

29th Annual Meeting of the IOTA

The scan drift method



Dear Reader,

Thanks for sending us many contributions, but considering the work that has to be done by the editorial team, it would be better to receive it as soon as possible: Do not wait until you have nearly crossed the deadline ...

I remember well the beginning of observing minor planet occultations. Very often it was a "va banque"-play to travel to some distant places for recording such events: No precise astrometry and seldom last-minute-predictions existed! Nowadays it is no risk any longer: a result of better astrometry and very often (e.g. important events) actual data have been used for a last-minute-prediction – if possible. Have a look at the PLANOCULT-list and you will see permanently a lot of positive observation-recordings.

For TNOs it is an equivalent situation: The "RIO-team" is still producing high quality astrometry for these objects and the star that will be occulted. In the meantime several of these far distant dwarf- / minor-planets were successfully recorded when occulting the predicted star. Occultations by TNOs to get more insight in these far distant bodies will be the main challenge for the next decade in occultation astronomy.

There is one thing I am still wondering about: Are there any measurements of the asteroid's lightcurve being done during (or close to) the time of the occultation (in case the occulting body is bright enough)? In this case it could be possible to get an impression of the "3-dimensional-shape" of this object. At least we should know, whether we recorded the maximum-, minimum or in-between –diameter during the occultation – regardless of the actual orientation of the rotation-axis at that time (remember Kleopatra).

When we realize that an asteroidal occultation has been reasonably well-observed, we inform Brian Warner, brian@minorplanetobserver.com, and he notifies other observers of asteroid lightcurves that observations are desirable soon. It's also useful to inform Raoul Behrend, raoul.behrend@unige.ch, since like Brian, he makes, and keeps track of, well-observed asteroid lightcurves. In some cases, for important events where many observers are expected, and especially in the case of asteroids like Kleopatra with large-amplitude lightcurves, we seek lightcurve observations in advance, to ascertain the phase that is predicted during the occultation. We also go farther, checking with the DAMIT database of asteroid shapes determined from inversion of lightcurve data, to see what the outline of the asteroid might be at the predicted time of an upcoming occultation. Hans-J. Bode ■

■ JOA Vol.1, No.2 ■ For IOTA subscription purposes ON Vol.14, No. 3
APRIL 2011 · \$ 5.00 · \$ 6.25 OTHER · (ISSN 0737-6766)

In this issue:

How to measure occultation timings by scan drift	3
Positive Observations	5
Pluto occults three stars in May and June	7
CCD Photometry of Uranian and Saturnian Mutual Events.	10
Farewell Andrew.	12
Lunar Graze Occultation of Aldebaran in Scotland Obtained from Cine Film.	13
Portable Meter-Class Astronomy	14
29 th Annual Meeting of the IOTA	15
IOTA External Publications.	16
XXX. ESOP 18.	18
Impressum	20

Writing articles for JOA:

The rules below should be regarded while writing an article; using them will greatly facilitate the production and layout of ON!

If your article does not conform to these rules, please correct it.

There are 3 different possibilities for submitting articles:

- pdf-articles (must be editable – these can be converted)
- unformatted Word *.doc-files containing pictures/graphs or their names (marked red: <figure_01>) at the desired position(s)
- *.txt-files must contain at the desired position the name of each graph/picture

The simplest way to write an article is just use Word as usual and after you have finished writing it, delete all your format-commands by selecting within the push-down-list "STYLE" (in general it's to the left of FONT & FONTSIZE) the command "CLEAR FORMATTING". After having done this you can insert your pictures/graphs or mark the positions of them (marked red: <figure_01>) within the text.

txt-files: Details, that should be regarded

- Format-commands are forbidden
- In case of pictures, mark them within the text like <picture001> where they should be positioned

Name of the author should be written in the 2nd line of the article, right after the title of the article; a contact e-mail address (even if just of the national coordinator) should be given after the author's name.

IMPORTANT: Use only the end-of-line command (press ENTER) if it's really necessary (new paragraph, etc.) and not when you see it's the end of the line!

Sending articles to JOA:

Each country / state has a coordinator who will translate your article to English – if necessary.

In case there is no one (new country) please send a mail to the editorial staff at: info@occultations.info

Africa:	NN
America:	David Dunham - dunham@starpower.net
Australia / New Zealand:	Graham Blow - Graham.Blow@actrix.nz
Czech Republic:	Jan Manek - janmanek@volny.cz
Europe:	Pawel Maksym - p.maksym@astronomia.pl + Alfons Gabel - alfons.gabel@t-online.de
England:	Alex Pratt - alexander.pratt@btinternet.com
Finland:	Matti Suhonen - suhonen@ursa.fi
Germany:	Alfons Gabel - alfons.gabel@t-online.de
Greece:	Vagelis Tsamis - vtsamis@aegean.gr
Ibero-America:	Claudio Martinez - cmjm91@hotmail.com
Iran:	Atila Poro - iotamiddleeast@yahoo.com
Italy:	NN
Japan:	Mitsuru Soma - mitsuru.soma@gmail.com
Poland:	Pawel Maksym - p.maksym@astronomia.pl
Spain:	Carles Schnabel - cschnabel@foradorbita.com