

A funny thing happened on the way to the moon

I need to thank readers for their feedback and most importantly willingness to challenge a narrative.

Recently I was sent a short video by Bart Sibrel called *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Moon*, which can be viewed on YouTube.

The video essentially disputes the reality of the moon landing. As a big fan of the moon landings, I normally throw such nonsense in the garbage like a multi-level marketing program pamphlet, but the sender promised me it wouldn't be a waste of time.

After watching it, he was right. Sibrel is most convincing. I researched both the filmmaker and topic, and found out this meme known as the "Moon Landing Hoax" has been around since the '70s.

With powerful new telescopes coming on board, we can now have clear views of the lunar surface, which will be able to see the American flag and even the 50-year-old footprints left behind since there's no weather to erode them.

As of today, I'm sticking with the official narrative that we landed in 1969;



Neel Roberts

The Sky's the Limit

however, as a person who is teachable, I'm open to correct facts, in proper context that prove otherwise. I'd love to hear your feedback once you see the movie.

Skywatch

From the evening of Saturday, May 5 until before dawn on Monday, May 7, the Eta Aquarids meteor shower will shoot 15-20 meteors per hour. A waning gibbous moon will be out and blind much of it the constellation Aquarius, in the southeast-east.

On Wednesday, May 9, after dusk, look southeast for the evening as Jupiter is in opposition until dawn.

On Thursday, May 17, after dusk, look west as Venus and a crescent moon set at about 11 p.m. in the northwest.

On Monday, May 21, starting at sunset, you can check out a quarter moon that's near the beehive cluster in the southwest-west.

Public events

The monthly open house at the Rothney Observatory near Priddis takes place Saturday, May 26, starting at 10 p.m. This will be a hands-on experience to help you get started with astronomy. Book ahead and you can bring your telescope. The evening will kick off with an observatory check-in, then a presentation on what's up the sky. You will have the opportunity to look through the telescopes, and astronomers will be on hand to answer questions. The entrance fee is \$30 per vehicle. For further information, contact Jennifer Howse at jhowse@phas.ucalgary.ca or 403-931-2366. The website www.ucalgary.ca/rao is updated regularly.

Neel Roberts welcomes your questions and comments at 403-560-6574 and Neel_Roberts@ptccanada.com.