Normal Operating Instructions for the Schulman 0.8m Telescope

In this case "normal" basically means using the telescope for visual observing (SkyNights programs).

Everything that follows assumes the following:

- Telescope Controller is operational and in the normal state. (Telescope servos are on and the telescope has been homed. The telescope is in the ready state to observe.)
- Dome is operational and in the normal state.
- Computer does not have other running software, scripts or connections that would interfere with normal operations.

Starting things up

1. Open ACP (see desktop Layout) Under Telescope menu select Connect.

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De	Unpark	ACK GUIDE ENP	Click Browse to select the script to ru Most often this will be AcquireImages
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Alt	Set Location	Display J2000	_
UT	Load Model	-Nov-16 Consoler	si trout-
	Save Model As	Sidereal Tracking	
[Ro	Setup	b Access	
Mean Sky P	osition Angle:	Uset	
S	et Angle 000.0	Status: Available	
		Owner:	
Slev	w or Sync (catalog)	Use Web Browser	,
N	unders Telescope	Dame Control	Abort Alert Flur

- 2. Upon connecting the heads up screen will show the coordinates of the telescope. Please verify LST and coordinates make sense.
- 3. If ACP complains the COM port is not available, it is likely another program is talking to the DOME or Telescope controllers. (e.g. ASCOM Dome software)
- 4. Also ACP is set up to command the dome to find **HOME** when first connecting. If ACP was already connected to the telescope and the dome is slaved the dome will not move.
- 2. Press the "Dome Control" button to reveal the dome state. It will only allow this once the dome is homed and not moving.

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Seeing *Slaved* and reporting the correct Azimuth is a success.

- 3. Open the dome by pressing the "Open" button.
- 4. After the shutter is open move the telescope to the Zenith position (in order to open the mirror covers). Once there the telescope is now tracking.
 - 1. Press the *Slew or Synch (Catalog)* button to command the telescope to move.
 - 2. Select to radio button for *Coordinates* and input LST values for the RA coordinates and 32 for Declination.



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3. Press the Go To button to slew to Zenith.

5. Open the RCOS TIM software and *Connect*.

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- 6. OPEN the Mirror Covers.
- 7. Press the *FOCUSER* icon to be certain the secondary mirror is at the Eyepiece focus position.

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1	Auto Name Eyepiece (31mm) STX 16803 CCD	 Manual Position 16500 5250 	Δ: – Date 2016-09-18T05:14:23 2016-02-16T22:30:44	`

If not at eyepiece value, select this position and press the blue check mark.

8. Using ACP *Slew or Synch*, command the the telescope to point at a first object. This is typically a bright star to verify pointing.

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(See "Can not find bright star" wiki page for troubleshooting information)

The telescope is now ready to start observing. Below are more important things to know:

 In ACP Slew or Synch → Deep Sky Object you must put a space between the catalog and its number. For example, "M77" will not work but "M 77" is correct.



• When necessary use the telescope Hand Paddle to center objects.

