Circular No. 8932

Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Mailstop 18, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A. IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions) CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU (science)

URL http://www.cfa.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html ISSN 0081-0304 Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

COMET C/2008 F1 (SOHO)

Further to IAUC 8926, an additional apparent Meyer-group comet has been found on SOHO website images; first appearing in images as fairly bright (mag ~ 6) but fading fast, it was elongated in the direction of motion (but not diffuse at all) — typical for Meyer-group objects.

Comet	2008 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	\mathbf{F}	MPEC
$C/2008 \ F1$	Mar. 19.938	$0^{h}03.9$	+ 1°22'	C2	RK	2008-F32

COMET C/2008 G1 (GIBBS)

A. R. Gibbs reports his discovery of a comet (discovery observation tabulated below) on images taken with the Mt. Lemmon 1.5-m reflector, noting that four co-added 30-s unfiltered CCD exposures show a very compact coma of diameter 4" and a narrow 65" tail in p.a. 225°. Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, other astrometric observers have also noted the object's cometary appearance, including L. Buzzi (Varese, Italy, 0.60-m reflector, Apr. 7.92-7.96 UT; slightly diffuse with a possible 10'' tail in p.a. 225°), L. Donato and M. Gonano (Reman-zacco, Italy, 0.45-m reflector, Apr. 7.95–7.96; 100 stacked unfiltered 60-s exposures show a coma diameter of nearly 10'' and a 20'' tail in p.a. 230°), E. Guido and G. Sostero (Castellammare di Stabia, Italy, remotely using a 0.25-m reflector near Mayhill, NM, U.S.A., Apr. 8.33–8.35; 50 co-added 60-s unfiltered exposures show a short tail nearly 15" long toward p.a. 190° and a coma of diameter 8"), J. G. Ries (McDonald Observatory, 0.76-m reflector, Apr. 8.41–8.42; narrow tail $\approx 20'$ long toward the southwest). J. E. McGaĥa (Tucson, AZ, U.S.A., 0.36-m reflector, Apr. 9.32-9.34; eight co-added 60-s exposures show a 7" coma and a 22" tail in p.a. 220°), and A. C. Gilmore and P. M. Kilmartin (Mt. John 1.0-m reflector, Apr. 9.63-9.64; asteroidal head with narrow 15'' tail in p.a. ~ 200°).

2008 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Apr. 7.35552	$15^{ m h}29^{ m m}45^{ m s}.12$	+4°54'32.''1	19.4

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on MPEC 2008-G58.

T = 2009 Feb. 7.311 TT	$\omega = 71^{\circ}.159$
	$\Omega = 215.550$ 2000.0
q = 3.72077 AU	i = 72.036 J

2008 April 9

© Copyright 2008 CBAT Daniel W. E. Green