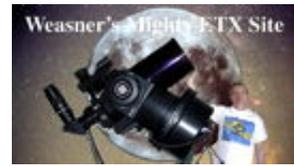




# ETX SITE LIVE FORUM

May 2013



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20 comments 5 people listening



mweasner



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**Greg**

Hi,

He is an avid amateur astronomer and told me that it has all that you mentioned plus more. I think he said he had 4 eye pieces plus a solar filter suitable for looking at sunspots.

I appreciate your help.

13 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

Enjoy!

13 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**Greg**

Hello,

I am a "newbie" and have a quick question. I love looking at the night sky and was recently offered a Meade 125 telescope from a sales associate. he has 6 other scopes and needs to make some room. He stated it is in excellent condition

and wants 400.00 for everything.

Is this a good buy?

He said he would bring it over, set it up and take it for a "test drive". I trust this person but wanted to know your thoughts on this item.

Thanks

13 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

Depending on what is actually included, that is probably a good deal for an ETX-125 with AutoStar, tripod, and a couple of eyepieces. The ETX-125 was discontinued several years ago, so either it has been sitting around (in the original box or set up on a dealer's showroom floor) or it is used.

13 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**Johnny Cornfield** 5 pts

Thanks Mike

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**Johnny Cornfield** 5 pts

Hi Mike, Yeah just checked scale does slide on RA so now see that can't position from that. Does the LNT home start point do anything other than stop cable twisting? When i do a sensor calibration north is 10degrees off to the west, no metal to interfere as in a field. Correct location has been input and reset autostar handset then entered location. Until I get the lock fixed what would you suggest the best position to point the scope if the on switch panel is due west to start? Should the fact it can't find mag north mean LNT is faulty? Cheers John

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@Johnny Cornfield Home position gives a known starting point for the alignment. It also avoids cord wrap. Sensor calibration adjusts for your Local Magnetic Variation.

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

Panel on the west. Rotate OTA CCW to had stop. Will be pointing SW.

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



**JohnCornfield** 5 pts

I think some of the AZ's scales are fixed/glued and some spin going by what I am reading, on my unit the 105ETX the AZ

scale fixed so the hard stop would be the same every time.

I have one person come back to me to confirm that rotating clockwise and anticlockwise the range is 20.7 and 15.7

I guess I will have to dismantle and fix properly which is not an issue.

Only question I need to find out is how to un tighten the disc at the end of the central tube, it has to slits on each side about 10mm long and 2mm high, the cables feed through the middle of this.

Thanks

Again

20 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@JohnCornfield The RA setting circle is just a tape that should slide completely around in its slot. If you don't plan on using the RA & Dec setting circles to manually point the telescope at an object, there is no need to worry if the RA setting circle is stuck. As long as the AutoStar still works, you are probably using that GOTO objects. As to your other question, I'm not certain what you are referring to. However, there are many disassembly articles on the Helpful Information: Telescope Tech Tips page.

20 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**JohnCornfield** 5 pts

Mike, quick question. When the ETX is put into the home position ie clutch unlocked, spun to where it hard locks. what does teh AZ read at the pointer is it 16/8 or something else.

Cheers

JC

21 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@JohnCornfield The number that shows on the Right Ascension setting circle is indeterminate unless you have aligned the telescope, pointed it at a specific RA, and adjusted the RA setting circle to that value.

21 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**JohnCornfield** 5 pts

When the AZ starts to move or when I adjust looking through the eyepiece the engine drive sounds and occasionally there is a small delay in movement.

I didn't realise that replacing the battery in the LNT required a sensor calibration and never thought last night as was

pulling my hair out in the the dark with good viewing conditions. Fortunately I had set the 12" lightbridge up so not a complete waste.

I had spent the day soldering back the battery cables which had detached and tightening up the the disc in the middle as I was getting a rocking side to side front to back between the upper section and base. The locking position has snapped so just push it to 16/8 when I need it in home position.

This was a second hand purchase which has worked ok always had an alignment issue, the 3 degrees off for magnetic at my house. Battery out LNT last night and was 15 degrees out so thought I had major problem. Sensor Cal explains a lot.

As you know this is a great resource and your help is mucho appreciated.

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@JohnCornfield if the slew delay is more than you like after doing the Train Drives, you can adjust the "percentages". See the Helpful Information: AutoStar Info page. As to the RA lock lever, there are tips about that on the Helpful Information: Telescope Tech Tips page. Glad you like the Site. Thanks!

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**JohnCornfield** 5 pts

Thanks guys will do a sensor calibration next clear skies with polaris. This makes most sense to the issues I have had. Think the gears need cleaned and lubed as getting a little bit of slippage on the Az motion also.

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@JohnCornfield Depending on what those "issues" are, doing a Calibrate Motor and Train Drives (both axes) may help.

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**starman 1954** 5 pts

Hi, I have a nice 105etx UHTC. Using it last night after months of downtime I found the primary mirror was loose, basically it flopped a bit back and forth as the tube was tilted up and down. I unscrewed the front cell and found the mirror retaining ring on the baffle was very loose like it had unscrewed itself. So I oriented the scope vertical and reached in with a small pointed tool and retightened the ring sufficient to eliminate the flop, but I did not over-tighten it. Testing afterwards the in-focus stars look extremely sharp, but as I racked inside and outside of focus one side of focus was perfectly centered but the other side looked off center a bit. Is that normal? Frankly I can't remember if that is how it originally behaved before the mirror came loose. I had the star centered in a 9mm ortho eyepiece it was nearly directly overhead. Since the in focus stars looked very sharp I guess not to mess with it anymore. Can what I did in retightening

the baffle ring possibly cause any problems with collimation? Thanks for help. Tom

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@starman 1954 Some image shift is normal with the ETX, however it should not be excessive. There are some tips on "image shift" on the Helpful Information: Telescope Tech Tips page. As to collimation, you can easily test it. See the collimation articles on the Telescope Tech Tips page.

23 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**Johnny Cornfield** 5 pts

How do i compensate for magnetic an true north on etc 105pe?

thanks

24 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



**mweasner** 6 pts

@landlords\_tale Use Calibrate Sensor on the AutoStar. That will ask you up center Polaris. Then the AutoStar will adjust for True North based on your location. If you want to know your Magnetic Variation, there are a couple of Sites on the Astronomy Links page that will calculate it based on your location.

24 DAYS AGO

Like Reply

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