



ASTROFILES

Auburn Astronomical Society Newsletter

October 2016

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AAS Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the AAS will be Friday, November 11, 2016. This is a week later than our customary meeting date. The Auburn football game will be away this particular weekend so the campus congestion should be less. We will meet at 7:45 PM CT in our usual location which is Room 215 of Davis Hall (Aerospace Engineering) on the AU campus. Additional information about our meeting location and our other activities can be found at our website

<http://www.auburnastro.org>

Upcoming AAS Star Gazes

We have two star gazes coming up in November. The first one has been requested by a home-schooled group in the Prattville, AL area. It is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2016. It will be held at the Alabama Wildlife Federation/Nature Center in Millbrook. A map showing the location of the Center is included in this newsletter. If any AAS members can help with this event, please let me know. My e-mail is at the top of the newsletter.

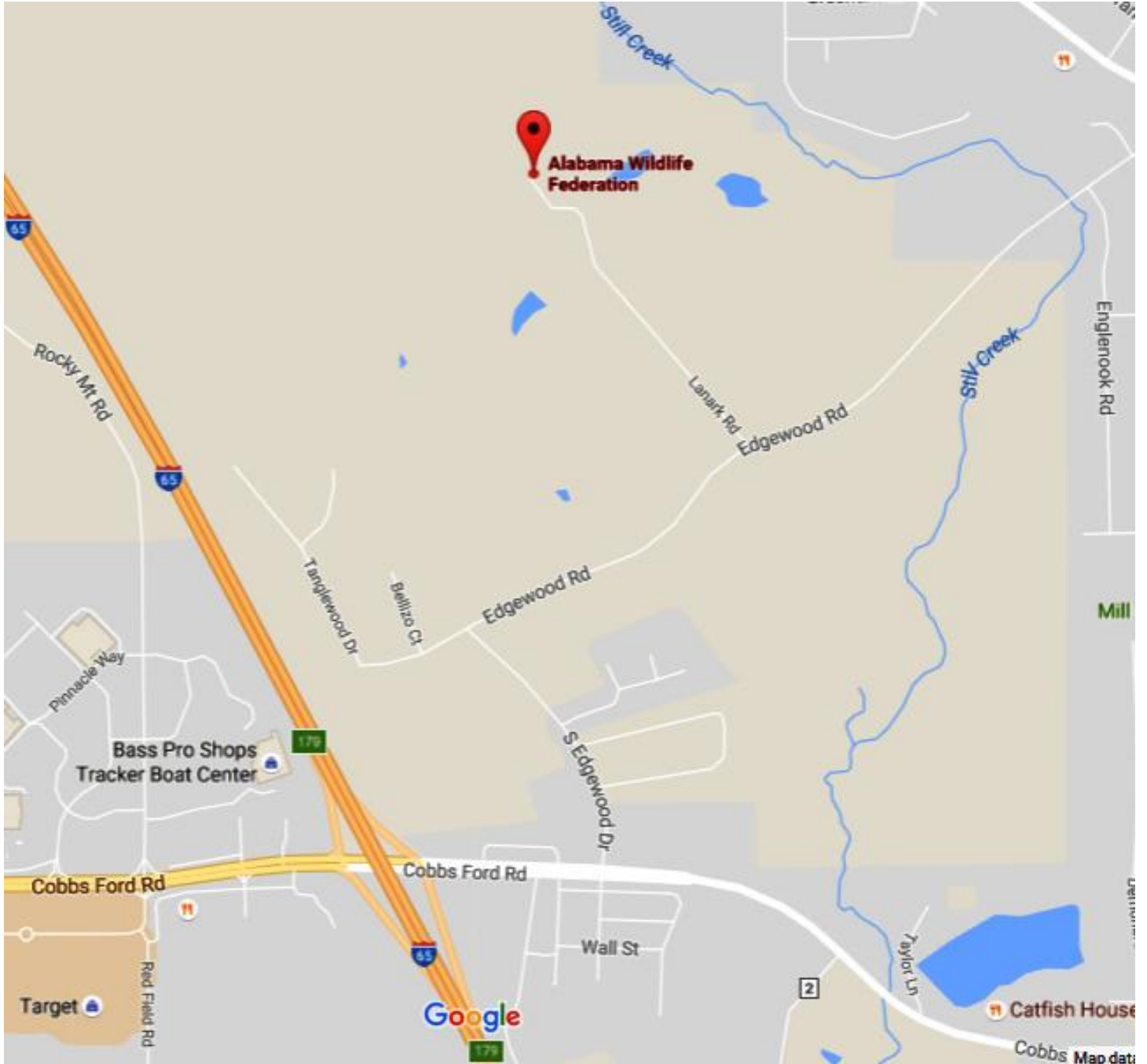
A star gaze has also been requested by the Alabama Wildlife Federation/Nature Center in Millbrook. It is scheduled for Saturday, November 19, 2016. It will also be at the AWF Center. Please let me know if you will be able to assist with this event.

AAS 2017 Dues

Annual 2017 dues to the AAS are coming up at the end of the year. Dues are \$20 and can be mailed to me at the address on the application form at the end of this newsletter. You can also pay your dues at any AAS club meeting. As a paid member, you are also automatically enrolled

in the Astronomical League, the national organization that represents astronomy clubs. As an AL member, you will receive a quarterly edition of the AL Reflector which contains interesting articles and news about other astronomy clubs across the country.

Map Showing Location of Alabama Wildlife Federation/Nature Center



AAS Star Gaze at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

On Saturday, October 8, 2016, the AAS conducted a star gaze for the staff and visitors of Horseshoe Bend National Military Park near Dadeville, AL. The weather was clear with a first quarter moon. Many thanks to the five AAS members who were able to come and set up their scopes for viewing. First, the park staff held an indoor orientation program for the visitors before coming outside later to view the sky. Some of the objects viewed were the Moon, Mars, Saturn, M31, M57 and the double cluster in Perseus.

We also learned that the park has purchased five new telescopes to be used in future astronomy outreach programs. There might be another possible star gaze here in February of 2017. At some point, they might also want to schedule a private star gaze with AAS members so that the park personnel can learn more about the scopes and how to use them. Many thanks to AAS member Mike Lewis for the report and also for these photos below that he took at the event.



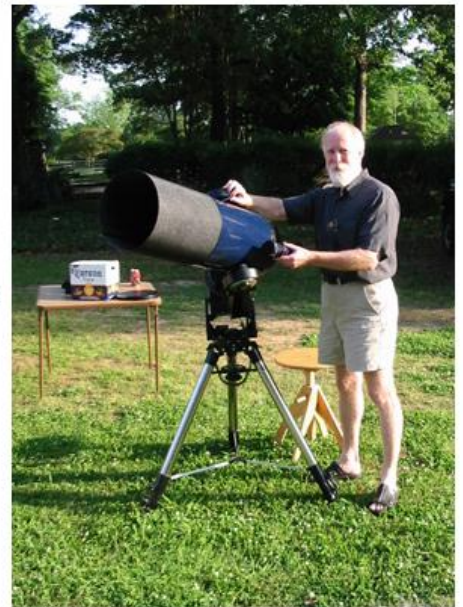


Item for Sale

AAS member Alan Cook has the following item for sale

For Sale: Meade LX90 / 10" SCT (Schmidt-Cassegrain) with accessories
\$1000.00
Includes:

- Meade adjustable tripod (about 30 lbs.)
- 10" objective Optical tube with lens cover, adjustable altitude wedge, & clock drive azimuth motor; excellent optics (about 45 lbs.)
- handbox for two-axis slewing with four different speeds and connecting cords
- large after-market Centech portable power pack 12v battery with two plugins, work light; may also be used to jump start auto (could also power dew suppression devices)
- Meade after-market counter-weight system
- after-market focuser which accepts both 1 1/4" & 2" eyepieces & field flattener lens attachment – these fit the back of the optical tube and are not necessary for telescope functioning but add convenience and viewing features
- large Orion dew shield
- solar filter for front of the objective tube (perfect for the coming solar eclipse in August of 2017)
- reflective mylar full scope cover
- original packing box with foam inserts



contact: Alan Cook
334-444-0055 (mobile); 334-887-7143 (home)
cookala@auburn.edu



Auburn Astronomical Society
Membership Application Form

Name:

Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date of Application* ____/____/____

E-mail:

Telescope(s):

Area(s) of special interest:

Enclose: \$20.00 for regular membership, effective January 1*. *Full-Time* student membership is half the Regular rate.

* If you are a *new* member joining after January, refer to the prorated dues table below:

Jan \$20.00	Feb \$18.33	Mar \$16.66	Apr \$14.99	May \$13.33	Jun \$11.66
Jul \$10.00	Aug \$8.33	Sep \$6.66	Oct \$4.99	Nov \$2.33	Dec \$1.66

Make checks payable to: Auburn Astronomical Society and return this application to:

Auburn Astronomical Society
c/o John Wingard, Secretary/Treasurer
#5 Wexton Court
Columbus, GA 31907

For questions about your dues or membership status contact: jwin1048@gmail.com