



ASTROFILES

Auburn Astronomical Society Newsletter

May 2017

John Wingard - Secretary/Treasurer - Auburn Astronomical Society - jwin1048@gmail.com

June Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Auburn Astronomical Society will be Friday, June 2, 2017. We will meet at 7:45 PM CDT in Room 215 of Davis Hall (Aerospace Engineering) on the AU campus. More specific information on the location of the building and room can be found on the AAS web page at <http://www.auburnastro.org>

Wind Creek State Park Star Gazes

Thanks to AAS member Mike Lewis for working with the park staff and setting up a few star gazes at the park during the summer and fall of this year. Our first outing was planned for Saturday, May 20th but was cancelled due to clouds and heavy rain in that area during the evening hours. Here are the planned outings for the rest of 2017:

Saturday, June 17, 2017 – 7:00 PM CT

Saturday, July 22, 2017 – 7:00 PM CT

Saturday, August 26, 2017 – 6:00 PM CT

Saturday, September 23, 2017 – 6:00 PM CT

Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 5:00 PM CT

AAS member arrival times are suggested for an hour before sunset. The location is the same as last year (Hospice Point to the left of the Observation Tower) and check-in protocol is also the same as last year. AAS members should identify themselves at the gate as participating in the public astronomy program and they will not have to pay the Park entrance fee.

Astronomy Day – Saturday, April 29, 2017

Astronomy Day is a national event that provides astronomy clubs and other related organizations an opportunity to showcase the wonders of the night sky to the general public. This year, as in years past, AAS members traveled to the W.A. Gayle Planetarium in Montgomery, AL to assist in this effort. At first, the weather forecast didn't look very promising for clear skies, but it did clear up enough to permit some good views of the crescent moon and the planet Jupiter and its moons. AAS member Russell Whigham submitted the following write-up of the evening's activities:

Given such a marginal weather forecast, we actually had one of the best Astronomy Days in recent memory. The consensus was that the 15-20 MPH breeze may have been a first, mitigating the temperatures in the mid-80s and making for an unusually pleasant evening. As usual, Rick Evans had taken care of publicity and news coverage from WSFA-12 TV.

While AAS members were busy setting up the telescopes and shooing away clouds, Rick entertained and educated the planetarium visitors with show on "Two Small Pieces of Glass" about telescopes and their history and "The Great American Eclipse 2017", on what to expect and how to prepare for the August 21, total eclipse. These were followed by a "Tour of the Night Sky" in the planetarium, giving an overview of what the guests would see when they stepped outside.

Representing AAS were:

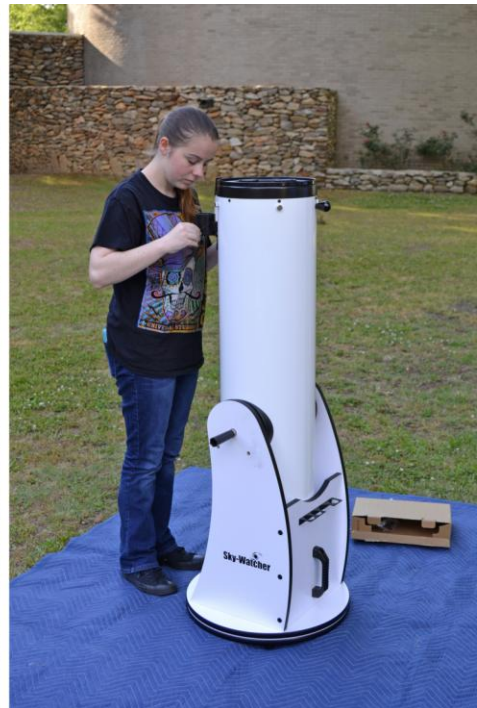
*Melanie & Camryn; 10-inch Dobsonian
Frank; 12-inch LightBridge Dobsonian
Ray; the AAS 12.5-inch. Cave-Astrola Dobsonian
John; 3.5-inch Questar Maksutov
Russell; 11-inch Celestron SCT
Gail Smitherman; Orion Starmax 127 Maksutov
Mike Lewis; Meade 127ED f/9 Apo refractor
David Lewis; Meade f/9 Apo refractor*

Thanks to our volunteers for their time, and the sharing of their telescopes and knowledge of the night sky. Thanks too to the members who traveled for up to an hour and a half each way to help with this event.

And finally, special thanks to Rick, Tricia, and Jessica for being there on their "day off" to help promote astronomy in our area.

Russell

We appreciate all of the AAS members that came and as you can see from the above list, we had a nice representation of the different types and sizes of scopes for the public to use. The turnout from the public was great, with one of the largest crowds in recent memory for Astronomy Day. I think that I can speak for all that were in attendance that a good time was had by everyone. On the following pages are some of the photos taken at the event. *Photos by Mike Lewis and John Wingard.*







2017

January

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

February

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |

March

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

April

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

May

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

June

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

July

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

August

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

September

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

October





| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

November

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

December

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

-  **AU Home Football Games (includes "A Day" on April 8)**
-  **Proposed AAS Meeting Nights**
-  **Astronomy Day (April 29, 2017)**
-  **Total Solar Eclipse (August 21, 2017)**



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