



ASTROFILES

Auburn Astronomical Society Newsletter

June 2016

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

IMPORTANT - Please Read... There will NOT be an AAS meeting on Friday, July 1. It was felt that it was so close to the July 4th weekend that it might interfere with plans that some might have for the holiday. Our regular meeting schedule will resume with the August 5, 2016 meeting.

And speaking of the August meeting, we have a planned presentation by Jim Lauridson on his recent trip to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Greenbank, WV. Jim actually got some observing time on one of the dishes and will report on some of his findings as well as any other interesting things he experienced along the way.

Apologies for being so late with the newsletter this month. Some other activities have conspired to keep me from getting it out earlier. Also, I have not been very active of late, what with the heat, humidity and extended daylight that we have this time of year. I find myself already looking forward to fall!

Proposed AAS stargazes at Wind Creek State Park

AAS member Mike Lewis has been working with the staff at Wind Creek State Park, near Alexander City, AL, to come up with some dates for stargazes for the park guests. One such event was just recently held on Saturday, June 25, 2016. (More about that one later.) Here are the rest of the dates:

- Saturday, July 30, 2016
- Saturday, August 27, 2016
- Saturday, October 22, 2016

As we get closer to each event, specific instructions and details will be e-mailed out to all AAS members.

Wind Creek State Park Stargaze - June 25, 2016

A stargaze was held at Wind Creek State Park on Saturday, June 25, 2016. AAS member Mike Lewis headed up the event with support from several other AAS members. The event was held at the very end of the main park road at a point on the lake called the "Silo." Mike said that the park staff estimated that there were approximately 60 members of the public that attended. Despite intermittent clouds and haze, they were still able to get some good views of Jupiter, Mars and Saturn. The event began around nightfall and wrapped up by 9:15 PM CT. Mike said that he was too busy to take many photos, but here is one that he took showing his two refractors set up next to the shore of the lake before nightfall.



Thanks to Mike for taking the lead on this event for us!

Alternative for the AAS September meeting

The September AAS meeting would normally be held at our usual location on the AU campus. However, since this falls right in the middle of the AU football season, and seeing as Auburn has three at-home games that month, we needed to find an alternate meeting site. The Friday evenings prior to home games make it almost impossible to find suitable parking anywhere. We have tentatively decided to have a stargaze at Wind Creek State Park on Friday, September 10, 2016. The park staff has indicated that this will not be a problem. As always, additional information will be sent out to all AAS members in advance of this event.

That's about it for now. Hopefully I will be a little earlier with the newsletter next month and also with a little more content. As always, if you have anything to share with the members, whether it be photos or articles, please forward it to me at my e-mail address at the beginning of the newsletter and check out our Facebook page "Auburn Astronomical Society" and our web page <http://www.auburnastro.org>

Until then, clear skies!



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, payable in January. *Full-Time* student membership is half the Regular rate.

* If you're 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: jwin2485@bellsouth.net

Thank you for supporting the Auburn Astronomical Society!