

# The Focal Point

The Atlanta Astronomy Club  
Established 1947  
July 2002

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Editor: Keith Burns

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## July General Membership Meeting

July's meeting will take place on July 19th at White Hall at Emory University Campus. There will be refreshments and socializing taking place between 7:30 pm and 8 pm. The meeting starts at 8pm with some announcements followed by our



speaker. The speaker is Brad Meyer who is a professor at Clemson. Brad's main work is in nuclear astrophysics and nucleosynthesis; stellar evolution; stellar collapse; cosmology; interstellar dust. His talk will be related to the work he has done with stellar evolution.

## Annual Banquet Minutes June 21, 2002

54 members and guests attended the AAC's annual banquet held at the Gwinnett "Dave and Busters." **"Bear" Simmons, President**, opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests to the night's activities. He then handed the meeting over to **out-going President, Sharon Carruthers**, who announced annual awards for service to the Atlanta astronomy community. Tom Crowley was given the President's Award in recognition of his dedication and effort in founding, planning and coordinating the Atlanta Astronomy Expo. Alesia Rast also received a President's award in recognition of her unwavering support and guidance in Founding the Charlie Elliot Wildlife Management Area Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club.

Sharon then presented to Hunt Hodges, in absentia, the Ralph Bowman "Astro Cow Award" for the best story of the funniest and/or most unusual observing story befalling a member during the past year. At the conclusion of Sharon's presentations, Bear Simmons then presented a departing gift to Sharon on the part of the club officers and Board of Directors. Bear closed the business portion of the meeting by holding a drawing for guest speaker Sten Odenwald's autographed book "Patterns in the Void." The drawing was won by member Dan Lewellyn. **Programs Chairman Carol Abernathy** then introduced the evening's guest speaker, Dr. Sten Odenwald who covered the more interesting high points of his book "Patterns in the Void: Why Nothing is Important." His presentation was well received by all. The meeting ended at about 1045 PM.

## Aloha, Mauna Kea !!

### By Sharon Carruthers

The latest issue of *Discover* magazine (August 2002) has a fascinating two page article by Tim Folger about his visit to Mauna Kea, on Hawaii's big island, which inspired this piece.

Mauna Kea is the crater of an extinct volcano that is home to an "astronomical U.N." of the largest observatories and telescopes in the world. It is 13,796 feet above sea level; 19 degrees above the equator; above 40 % of the Earth's atmosphere and 90% of its water vapor, and houses eleven observatories with combined light-gathering capabilities fifty times greater than Hubble's.

**Keck I and Keck II** are two 10 meter (33 foot) segmented mirrors that are housed in separate domes, and working in uni-



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son, are the largest optical and infrared telescopes on Earth



**Subaru** (Japanese for “Pleiades”), has the world’s largest single piece mirror, 8.3 meters (27 feet).

**Gemini** is a pair of mirrors, both 8.1 meters (nearly 26 feet). One is located on Mauna Kea, the other at Cerro Pachon in the Andes in Chile; giving them full

coverage of both hemispheres. It is a joint project of the U.S., the U.K., Canada, Chile, Australia, Argentina, and Brazil. [www.gemini.edu/public/](http://www.gemini.edu/public/)

**The United Kingdom Infrared Telescope** is the world’s largest (3.8 meter) dedicated infrared scope.

Three observatories study the submillimeter wavelengths between infrared and radio waves:

**The Caltech Submillimeter Observatory** is 10.4 meters.

**The Submillimeter Array**, owned by the Smithsonian Observatory and Taiwan, is 8x6 meters; and

**The James Clerk Maxwell Telescope** owned by Canada, the U.K. and the Netherlands, is 1.5 meters

**The Canada-France Telescope** has a 3.6 meter (12 foot) optical/infrared telescope. [www.cfht.hawaii.edu/](http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/)

**NASA’s Infrared Telescope** is 3 meters.

**The University of Hawaii’s** has two optical telescopes; a 0.6 meter and a 2.2 meter.

**The VLBA (Very Long Baseline Array)** also has a radio antenna on Mauna Kea, part of ten spread across the U.S. and its territories.

You can find out more about the Mauna Kea observatories at [www.ifa.hawaii.edu/mko/](http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/mko/).

The Mauna Kea Observatory sets up small scopes every night at the visitor’s center for public viewing. Anyone up for a field trip to Hawaii?? Aloha!!

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## Upcoming GASP Events

If anyone is interested in joining us for our Georgia Astronomy in State Park events, below is the schedule. Some parks fill up quickly so make reservations ahead of time. We are there rain or shine.

Sharon’s slide presentation starts at sunset then we follow it up with observing. You do have to reserve the campsites for 2 nights minimum on weekends, 3 nights for a holiday weekend.

It is well worth the fun. E-mail me for details on each park. Reservations: (calling from Atlanta) (770) 389-7275 Toll Free: (800) 864-7275

### Schedule

8/3 - West Point Lake Campgrounds

8/30-9/2 - FDR State Park

10/19 - Cloudland Canyon State Park

11/2 - Unicoi State Park

11/16 - Red Top Mountain - Leonid Meteor Shower

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## Charlie Elliott Chapter Meeting Minutes

Meeting-June 8, 2002

Director Mark House called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. There were twelve members present.

Goals for the chapter were discussed. We decided to have a quarterly open house, with the public invited. The programs presented on the night of open house would consist of a formal presentation on a topic of general interest. The public would then be invited to the viewing area in the parking lot outside the Welcome Center. The chapter telescope, a 16" Mead Newtonian reflector on an equatorial mount on loan from Chuck Kibling will be set up for public use. Of course, operation of the scope will be by a trained club member.

We decided to hold regular chapter meetings monthly on the Saturday closest to the 3 week old, 3/4 waning moon. However, this may vary so as not to conflict with AAC events, whenever possible.

The first public event will be on September 28th at the Welcome Center. Topic to be announced at a later date.

A list was created of suggested topics for regular meetings and everyone found them interesting and exciting. The topics include General Observational Skills, SetUp And Use Of Equatorial Telescopes, Universe Sampler Program, Messier Programs, Electronic Aids, CCD Imaging, Star Hopping, Astronomy Software, Meteor Showers and a Mentor Program.

Philip Sacco suggest we consider developing a Chapter Introduction and Information Kit for newcomers, which met with the approval of everyone present.

Alesia Rast, the CE liaison mentioned that people were using the area set aside as a viewing are for club members, but they were not following the protocol agreed upon by the chapter. She was asked to provide a printed protocol list for us. She said she would have it for the next meeting. She reminded us that anyone using the field must sign in. This was the only way CEWMA could document use of the facility. The reason CEWMA wants the chapter on site is so that they can prove use of the facility and get the funding they need for these kinds

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of programs. The protocol will be made available to all Club members at both General and Chapter Meetings, and on the Chapter web site.

We all agreed that meetings would end prior to twilight in order to give observers time to set up equipment before dark. The next meeting will be on July 20, 2002 at 7pm. At the Welcome Center. The topic will be Setting Up And Using Equatorial Mounts. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Zorka, Secretary- Charlie Elliott Chapter.

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## Upcoming Charles Elliott Chapter Meetings

By **Art Zorka**(Secretary Charles Elliott Chapter)

The next meeting of the CE Chapter will be on July 20th. The August meeting will be on the 31st. There will be a meeting for the General Public on September 28th. There will be viewing sessions following all meetings. The meeting for the General Public will be followed by a viewing session in the parking lot outside the Welcome Center. Of Course, the Observing Field is always open to all members. Be sure to wear your name tags and to sign in. There will also be a viewing session on August 11th for the Perseid Meteor Shower.



The program for the July meeting will be "For Lunatics only". It will be a talk and slide show about the moon and highlights of the Astronomical League Lunar Club.

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## The Women on the Moon

By **Sharon Carruthers**

We all know about the "Man in the Moon"; but do you know about the "Women on The Moon"? All the Moon's craters are named after scientists and/or supporters of scientific endeavors. The website [www.starryskies.com/Artshtml/dln/2-99/women.html](http://www.starryskies.com/Artshtml/dln/2-99/women.html) lists some women who have craters named in their honor. Searching through Rukl's "Atlas of the Moon", I found a few they missed, which I have listed below with the Rukl's chart # and page(p).



**Caroline Herschel** (#10, p46) – German/English astronomer, assisted her brother William and discovered 8 comets. Picture to left. Marked with arrow.

**Annie Jump Cannon** (#27, p80) – U.S. astronomer who created the stellar spectra

classifications

**Antonia C. de P.P. Maury** (#15, p56) – U.S. astronomer who pioneered stellar spectra classifications

**Agnes Clerke** (#25, p76) – English astronomer, historian and populizer

**Mary Blagg** (#33, p92) – English selenographer, who codified the mapping names on the Moon

**Louise Jenkins** (#38, p102) – astronomer

**Madame Nicole-Riene Lapaute** (#62, p150) – French mathematician

**Mary Proctor** (#65, p156) – astronomer and populizer

**Annie Maunder** (#Libation Zone Vii, p188) – English solar astronomer, who with her husband, determined the "Maunder Minimum" and created the "Butterfly Diagram" of sunspots



**Maria Mitchell** (#5, p36) – U.S. astronomer; first Director and professor of Astronomy at Vassar. Crater pictured to left. Marked with arrow. Large crater next to it is Aristoteles.

**Anne Sheepshanks** (#5, p36) – astronomy patron

**Catherine Bruce** (#33, p92) – astronomy patron

**Hypayia; Hypatia Rimae** (#46, p118) – Roman astronomer & mathematician

**St Catherine** of Alexandria (#57, p140) – patron of Christian philosophers

**Marie Sklowdowska-Curie** (Libation Zone IV, p185) – Polish physicist & chemist

Craters have also been given the female names of **Bela** (#22, p70); **Louise, Natasha, Ruth & Vera** (#19, p64); and **Artemis**

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The **Atlanta Astronomy Club Inc.**, the South's largest and oldest astronomical society, meets at **8:00 p.m.** on the third Friday of each month at Emory University's White Hall or occasionally at other locations. Membership is open to all. Membership fee's are **\$30** for a family or single person membership. College Students membership fee is **\$15**. These fees are for a one year membership.

Magazine subscriptions to Sky & Tel or Astronomy can be purchased through the club for a reduced rate. The fees are **\$30** for Sky & Tel and **\$29** for Astronomy. Renewal forms will be sent to you by the magazines. Send the renewal form along with you check to the Atlanta Astronomy Club treasurer.

**Club address is:**

Atlanta Astronomy Club  
PMB 305  
3595 Canton Road A9  
Marietta, Georgia 3006

**Treasurer's address is:**

Harry Falise AAC  
4300 Jimmy Carter Blvd, Apt #101  
Norcross, Georgia 30093

Atlanta Astronomy Club Hot Line: Timely information on the night sky and astronomy in the Atlanta area. Call **770-621-2661**.

Internet Home Page: <http://www.AtlantaAstronomy.Org>

Send suggestions, comments, or ideas about the website to [webmaster@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:webmaster@AtlantaAstronomy.org). Also send information on upcoming observing events, meetings, and other events to the webmaster.

(#20, p66), the Greek goddess of the Hunt, whose symbol is the Moon.

Henrietta Swan **Leavitt** is not listed in Rukl's but is located in the South Polar region (44.8S, 139.3W) – U.S. astronomer, discovered the period/luminosity relationship in Cepheid variable stars.

### Get the Focal Point Online

The Focal Point is available online in PDF format. The PDF version is also in color. The free Adobe(R) Reader allows you to view, navigate, and print PDF files across all major computing platforms. Download the free reader at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

Visit [www.AtlantaAstronomy.org](http://www.AtlantaAstronomy.org) on the web. The link to Focal Points is located at the top of the front page of the website. If it works for you and you want to get the FP via email, send Peter Macumber an e-mail at [pmacumber@nightsky.org](mailto:pmacumber@nightsky.org). The Focal-Point web can be entered by using the Username of **AAC** and a password of **Crux**. These names are case sensitive! Type **AAC** and **Crux** exactly as you see it here.

## Side effects of being an amateur astronomer

By Hunt Hodgetts

Sunday evening I went to bed very early, around 7pm. Around 4:30 am I woke up and was unable to sleep, so I decided to take my LX-90 out and do a little late nite stargazing. I went outside and the skies were dark and clear so I decided to go for it.

There was some light pollution coming from a spotlight two doors down at a house under construction. I decided to go over there to turn out the light. As I entered the garage, I noticed a strange flickering light through a kitchen window. As soon as I opened the door, I discovered a fire on the kitchen floor!



I called 911, woke the neighbors, grabbed my hose, ran in the kitchen and started to spray water on the fire. About a minute later the fire department arrived and finished putting out the fire.

The fire captain asked who discovered the fire and how, I'm sure my story sounded very suspicious. "Well I was up at 4:30 and couldn't sleep so

I decided to get my telescope and look at the stars. I came over to this house to turn out a bright spotlight and that's when I discovered the fire." I hope it wasn't arson...

It turns out that some painters were staining a built in cabinet and left a can of thinner covered in rags that were soaked in thinner in a pile in the middle of a hardwood floor. So far they're saying it was probably spontaneous combustion, but arson is a distinct possibility.

Well, you never know what exciting things will happen when you go out late a nite to look at the stars.

As a little side bar to the above story, I want to congratulate Hunt for winning the much cherished Astro Cow Award. It is a rather Mooving experience. This coming from the first astro cow award winner, Keith Burns.



## Board of Directors Meeting June 9, 2002

**General.** AAC President Bear Simmons called the meeting into order at 4:10PM at the Five Seasons Brewpub and Restaurant. **AAC members attending were:** Gil Shilcutt, Tom Crowley, Mark House (Charlie Elliot Wildlife Management Area Chapter Coordinator), Ken Gabrielson, Chuck Hancock, Rich Jakiel, John Lentini, Bear Simmons, Sharon Carruthers, Peter Macumber, Ken Poshedley, Philip Sacco, Harry Falise, and Art Russell. **Actions.** The following actions were decided during the meeting. *Carol Abernathy.* Investigate alternative membership badge outsourcing possibilities and costs, and report at the next board of directors meeting. *Harry Falise.* Provide annual membership list to the corresponding secretary for publication in the fall. *Ken Poshedley.* Post policy for generator use at the PSSG on the PSSG listserv. *Rich Jakiel.* Update the membership packet. *Membership Committee.* Meet before the next board of directors meeting to clarify its mission and responsibilities. **Agenda Items: Election of the chairman of the board.** Painter was elected and asked the Bear Simmons continue running the meeting and follow the agenda that he had already published to the board of directors.

**Treasurer's Transition Reports.** Transition between outgoing treasurer, Peter Macumber, and incoming treasurer, Harry Falise, is to be completed by June 30, 2002. *Issues – Peter Macumber:* Club membership. The club currently has 310 paid memberships and lost 149 members over the past year (Jan  
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01-02), with an average loss of 12 members per month. Focal Point mailing is to 192 members. *Astronomical League*. Club membership dues cost \$10.50 per year for the club plus \$3.50 per club member (total \$1095). *Certificates of Deposit (CDs)*. One CD was automatically reinvested at 2.8% interest. A second CD is due to “roll-over” on June 24, 2002. The outgoing treasurer will be looking for a better rate. *Club website*. The Internet Service Provider (ISP) hosting the club website has proven to be unreliable. The outgoing treasurer is in the process of locating a more reliable, but economical ISP. Earthlink (Mindspring) was mentioned as a possibility, but its \$40 per month hosting fee is believed to be expensive and the search for a better rate is underway. *Issues – Harry Falise*: Incoming treasurer asked the board for an idea of what products he should provide. Mentioned were statistics providing a general and detailed view of the club’s financial condition and membership statistics including an updated membership list to be available on a monthly basis.

**Membership Issues.** Services provided by the club for its members were discussed and it was noted that in the past the club has failed to provide all required and implied services. It was also noted that failure to provide required services can lead to loss of membership. It was generally agreed by those present that the club leadership must provide its required services. *Membership packet*. The last membership handbook was distributed in January 2001. Rich Jakiel agreed to undertake revision of the membership packet. *Membership list*. AAC bylaws state that the treasurer is responsible for preparing the annual membership list and that the corresponding secretary is responsible for distributing annual membership list in the fall of each year. Timeliness of distribution and cost of production were mentioned. Also discussed was the possibility of placing the annual membership list on a secured portion of the club website and distribution of paper copies of the annual membership list to those members who do not have computers.

*New member recognition*. Discussed was recognition of new members at all AAC events (meetings and observing sessions) and in the Focal Point. It was noted that membership badges were needed in order to help identify members. *Membership badges*. Membership badges have not been produced in two years. Previous efforts to outsource production of membership badges were unproductive. Peter Macumber offered to outsource production of member badges at a cost of \$2 per badge. Carol Abernathy will investigate alternative outsourcing possibilities and will report the results of her inquiry at the next board meeting. *Membership committee*. The previous membership committee no longer functions. Discussed was the possibility of adding a “Membership Chairman” as an elected position with responsibility for all aspects of recruitment and retention of membership. It was noted that adding the position would require a vote to change the bylaws. Carol Abernathy and Art Russell have volunteered to head a membership committee,

Ken Gabrielson (as CEWMA point of contact) and Gil Shilcutt volunteered to serve on the committee. The committee will hold an organizational meeting before the next Board of Directors meeting. The committee asked that the treasurer provide a copy of the current membership whenever new members are added in order that the committee can contact the new member. *Member contact of club officers*. It was recommended that the website be modified to simplify member contact of club officers.

**New Business.** *Use of generators at the Peach State Star Gaze (PSSG)*. It was noted that the policy regarding use of generators at the Peach State Star Gaze was unclear. PSSG chairman Ken Poshedley stated that generators would be allowed at the PSSG and that it would not be an issue. He will post a policy for use of generators on the PSSG listserv. *AstroAtlanta@yahoo listserv rules of use*. Discussed was the conduct and nature of discourse on the AstroAtlanta@yahoo listserv. It was noted that a number of members have complained about the way in which the list is run. Other members have unsubscribed due to the sometimes-acrimonious nature of discourse on the list and the prevalence of non-astronomy related postings on the list. Proposed was establishment of ground rules for use of the list. Unresolved was the nature of the ground rules, how the ground rules would be enforced, and by whom. **Next Board Meeting**. Tentatively scheduled for July 21, 2002, at the Five Seasons Brewpub and Restaurant.

#### Newsletter Deadline and Info

Please send articles, pictures, and drawings on anything astronomy related. All formats are acceptable. Pictures can be sent as either JPEGs, GIFs, or other formats. I can also scan hard copies of pictures. Articles can either be sent to Keith Burns 3740 Burnt Hickory Road Marietta, Georgia 30064 or email at [Keith\\_B@bellsouth.net](mailto:Keith_B@bellsouth.net). You can submit articles anytime up and including the deadline date. The **deadline** for the **August issue** is **July 31st**.

#### Boy Scouts Present Award of Merit to John Lentini

AAC Scout liaison John Lentini recently received the Award of Merit from the Boy Scouts for his work in developing the relationship between the Scouts and the Club, and for getting astronomical observatories constructed at both Atlanta Area Council Scout Camps.

At the Foothills District Banquet, held on May 17, John was one of five adult volunteers honored by the Scouts with the award, which consists of a certificate, a pewter medallion and a special “knot” patch that is worn on the Scout uniform.

The relationship between the Club and the Scouts continues to

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develop. This is the third summer that Club members have volunteered to teach astronomy to Scouts attending Summer Camp either at Woodruff, or at the Bert Adams Scout Camp south of Covington. *The Promise*, the Atlanta Area Council's quarterly newsletter, is planning to run an article on the observatories in its fall issue. Also, there are plans underway to feature Scouts learning astronomy, and the unique relationship between our Club and the Scouts in an upcoming issue of *Boy's Life*.

AAC Board Member and Scout Liaison John Lentini receives the Award of Merit from Troop advisor Al Friel at the Foothills District Banquet on May 17.

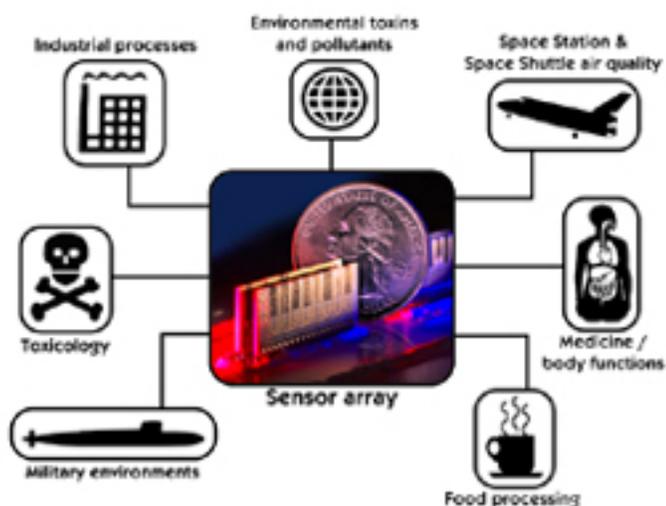


## E-Nose is E-Nose is E-Nose

It is very important to keep a “nose” on the air during space missions. Odors from dangerous chemicals in the air must be detected early and fast. One possible danger is hydrazine, the rocket fuel carried on board spaceships. If it leaked into the cabin area, it could do a lot of damage before anyone knew it was there. The job calls for a “super nose” that can detect faint smells far beyond the ability of human beings.

Scientists at Caltech studied the way human and animal noses worked. They thought it might be possible to make a super-nose. NASA thought this was a good idea, so scientists and engineers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena developed an electronic nose, or “E-Nose.” This nose can sniff using a pump, smell using polymer sensors, and decide what’s in the air using a mini-computer. E-Nose was developed to monitor the air that the crew in the International Space Station will breathe. It was tried out on the Space Shuttle, and it worked just fine.

E-Nose will also have many uses here on Earth. It can monitor



the air inside submarines and in factories to warn people very early if something is making the air unsafe to breathe. It can be used in processing food to tell if food is beginning to spoil. And someday it may be used on another planet or moon to sniff out what’s “cooking” up there.

You can find out more about E-Nose and have fun testing your own nose at the Space Place Web site, [spaceplace.nasa.gov/enose\\_do1.htm](http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/enose_do1.htm). The Space Place has fun and educational activities for parents, children, and teachers — and lots of facts related to many of NASA’s space missions.

This article was provided by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, managed by Caltech in Pasadena.

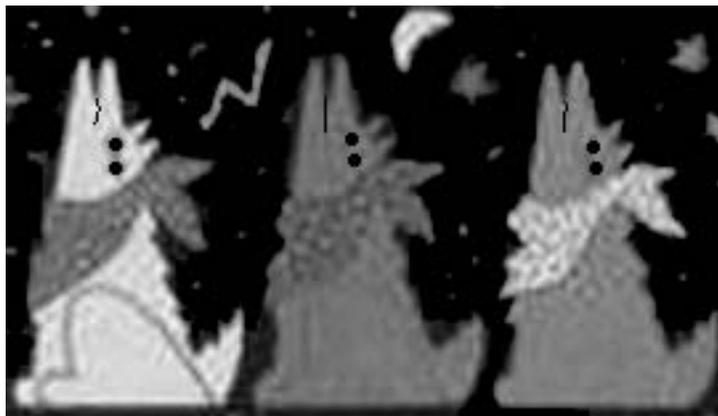
## Coyote and Mother Nature - From the Cheyenne Indians

The Great chief created the Sun, Moon, and all the Animals. One night when the Great Chief looked up at the sky, he did not like what he saw. It was all DARK. He said to himself, *I want something in the sky. Something SPARKLEY - SHINNY - BRIGHT. But. What?* Then he said. *I know I'll ask Mother Nature, she'll know what to do.* So in the morning he went to see Mother Nature and told her what he would like. She said, *I know just what you want to make the sky sparkly. I have this bag of crystals, some big, some small, some red, some yellow, some blue and some white. I'll place them in the sky in the shape of animals. They will be bright and shinny. So she spread her blanket out and placed all the crystals on it. She started to place them in the sky.*

When along came Coyote. Mother Nature stopped and said. *Coyote don't touch this blanket.* Coyote backed up a little and again Mother Nature started to place the crystals in the sky. Again Coyote crept up to the blanket and once again Mother Nature said Coyote. *Don't you dare touch this blanket* and Coyote backed up. Mother Nature again started placing the crystals in the sky. She became so busy she did not notice that Coyote was once again creeping up toward the blanket. SUDDENLY, he grabbed the corner of the blanket and took off. All the crystals flew up into the sky. Just then Coyote ran right into the Great Chief. The Chief looked down and said. *Coyote isn't that Mothers Nature blanket? You get that right back to her.* When he brought it back, Mother Nature said *Look what you did, I have no more crystals to make a picture of you in the sky,* and she started to spread out the blanket.

In it she found stuck one tiny little red crystal. She told Coyote she could place it in the sky. But he would have to know that that crystal was his. Even though the crystal was very small, Coyote was really very happy. BUT, when there was a full moon, poor Coyote could not see his tiny little crystal and he *Continued on the next page.*

would howl and cry. And to this very day when there is a full moon the Coyotes howl because they can not see that tiny little red star. It is not Beetlejuice. This star is only out in the summer time. And can only be seen when there is no moon. (It's in Scorpius)



## Amatuer Telescope Makers Group

Interested in building your own telescope? Want to enhance your current scope with some features or fix problems with it? Do you want to grind your own mirror or learn how it is done? This is the group for you. The ATM group meets every couple of weeks at Skip Cook's house. He has generously offer this location for this purpose. Contact him via phone (404-325-4987) or email (scz9@cdc.gov) for more information and directions. Tracy Wilson runs the group and has much expertise to offer. You can contact him via email (tracy@c2optical.com). Announcements of meetings will be posted on the AAC listserv. You can also find out about upcoming meetings from Skip.

**The ATMer's are looking for a place to hold meetings and work on projects.** If you know of a location or have one to offer, please contact either Skip, Tracy, or Sharon Carruthers.

### Atlanta Area Astronomers Listserv

While the Focal Point is a good source for information among other things, it cannot be undated after it is printed. If you have email access with a computer, then you can subscribe to the Atlanta Astronomers Listserv. This is a great source for up to the minute info on observing events. You can also post questions about astronomy. You can talk to fellow astronomers about the hobby or other things related to it.

Subscribe to the Atlanta Area Astronomers Mailing List: The name of the new list is: AstroAtlanta. The address for messages is: [AstroAtlanta@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta@yahoogroups.com). To add a subscription, send a message to: [AstroAtlanta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). To cancel your membership, send a message to [AstroAtlanta-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com). Messages for the list-owner (me) go to: [AstroAtlanta-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta-owner@yahoogroups.com) or to [LAbbey@mindspring.com](mailto:LAbbey@mindspring.com). The "home page" for the list, from which you can change your account defaults is: <http://www.yahoogroups.com/group/AstroAtlanta>. This list is owned by Lenny Abbey.

Note that material you see in the Focal Point has been sent to me is for use in our newsletter only. If anyone wants to use the material else-

where, please contact the author of the article or photographer who has taken the picture. With rare exceptions, most people will grant you permission.

## AAC Contacts



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## *The Focal Point*

Newsletter of The Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc.

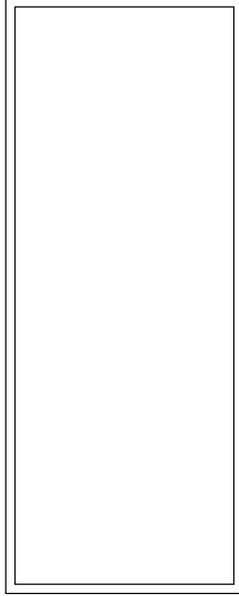
FROM:

Keith Burns  
3740 Burnt Hickory Road  
Marietta, Georgia 30064

*We're here to help! Here's how to reach us:*

Atlanta Astronomy Club  
PMB 305  
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**FIRST CLASS**



## Calendar

**July 19th- General Membership Meeting.** Location White Hall on the Emory University Campus. Starts at 8PM. Speaker Brad Meyer of Clemson University. Topic: Stellar Evolution.

**July 20th- Elliott Chapter Meeting.** Time 7PM. The program for the July meeting will be "For Lunatics only". It will be a talk and slide show about the moon and highlights of the Astronomical League Lunar Club.

**July 21st- Board Meeting...**(tentatively @ 56 Seasons 3:00 PM)

**July 27th- Orientation (& Open House)** at Villa Rica. Designed with new members in mind. Come new members. Of course, the more experienced members always welcome. Starts at 6pm.

**August 3rd- GASP** talk and sidewalk astronomy at West Point Lake

**August 10th- Dark Sky** Observing at Woodruff located near Blue Ridge, Georgia.

**August 10th- Perseid Open House,** CEWMA Chapter @ Marben Farms Field ?? Public to be sent to Marben Farms Field and not club site.

**August 11th & 12th- Perseid Meteor Shower** viewing at CEWMA club observing field.

**August 16th- General Meeting...**White Hall on the Emory University Campus. Refreshments 7:30PM. Meeting starts at 8PM.

**August (17th)- (Rain date for July VR Orientation)**

**August 31st- GASP** talk and sidewalk astronomy at FDR state park.

**August 31st- CEWMA** Chapter Meeting. The topic will be Setting Up And Using Equatorial Mounts. Deep sky observing after the meeting.

Visit the new Charlie Elliott Chapter Website for more information on upcoming meetings and happenings. <http://touchmoon.com/ce/index.shtml>