

The Focal Point

The Atlanta Astronomy Club
Established 1947
May 2004

Vol XVI No. 12

Editor: Keith Burns

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May General Membership Meeting

The May meeting is scheduled for Friday May 21st, 2004. Location is White Hall on the Emory University Campus. Directions and suggested places to park are included in the last sections of this article. Start time is 8PM sharp. The topic of this meeting is the election of new officers and board members. The list of candidates includes the following folks. As of May 1st the following people are running for the following positions. Dan Llewellyn President, Chuck Painter President, Nancy Cronin Program Chair, Jim Holley Observing Chair, "Open Position" Recording Secretary, Kat Sarbell Corresponding Secretary, Kelly Melikian Treasurer, Chris Hetlage Board, Tom Faber Board, and Donovan Conrad Board.

Anyone who is interested in running for one of these positions please contact one of the individuals on the nomination committee. The nomination committee consists of Joanne Cirincione (starrynights@mindspring.com), Art Russell (art russell@mindspring.com), and Brigitte Fessele (brigitte_hf@earthlink.net). Several of them have phone numbers listed in the AAC Contact section on page seven of this publication.

There are a total of six officer positions and six board positions. All office positions are for a one year term. The board positions are for a two year term. Only three board positions are open for this year. The following individuals still have one year left on their term of two years: Brigitte Fessele, Mike Boni, and Mark Banks.

Directions to Emory University

From I-20 East or West: Take exit 60-B, the Moreland Av-

enue North exit. Turn right on Moreland and follow it approximately 5 miles. Moreland will change names to Briarcliff Road once it crosses Ponce de Leon Avenue. Continue on it to North Decatur Road. Turn right and follow North Decatur one mile to the Dowman Drive intersection. It's a five way intersection. Emory University will be on your left.

From I-75 North or South: Take exit 248-C, the Freedom Parkway exit. Cross Boulevard; continue on Freedom Parkway; veer right at split. Road will pass by Carter Center. Continue on through next traffic light. Road deadends at next traffic light. Turn left onto Moreland Avenue. Road changes names after crossing over Ponce de Leon Avenue to Briarcliff Road.. Go approximately 2 miles on Briarcliff Road to North Decatur Road. Turn right and follow North Decatur Road one mile to the Dowman Drive intersection. Emory University will be on your left.

From I-285 East: Take I-285 to Stone Mountain Freeway (exit 39). Take the Atlanta/ Decatur exit. Take the Stone Mtn Freeway to the end(1 Mile). Turn left onto Lawrenceville Hwy. Road will change names to Scott Blvd. Take Scott Blvd to North Decatur Road. Note that it is a five way intersection. Turn right onto North Decatur Road. Take road for 1 1/2 to 2 miles to Dowman Road. Note that Dowman Road is a five way intersection. Turn right onto Dowman Road.

From I-85 South or North: Take exit 91, the Clairmont Road exit. Turn (east/south) on Clairmont and follow it approximately 3 miles to North Decatur Road. Turn right and follow North Decatur approximately one mile to Dowman Road. Note Dowman is located at a five way intersection. Turn right onto Dowman Road.

Where to Park on Dowman Drive: Now that you are on Dowman Drive what's next. Parking is available along Dowman Drive on both sides of the roads. There is a large parking lot behind the Admissions Building. When you turn onto Dowman Drive you will see a driveway on the left side with a gate and small building. Turn left onto the drive and proceed past the gates. After 6PM there is no fee to park. There is a small parking lot to the right just past the small building. There are two larger parking lots straight ahead to if the small one to the right is full. At the end of the large parking lot it the new math

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and sciences building. White Hall is located across the street from the new Math and Sciences Building. Ironically the color of White Hall is white.

Charlie Elliott Chapter April Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter (CEC) of the Atlanta Astronomy Club (AAC) was called to order by the Chapter Director at 7:00PM, Saturday, April 17th, 2004.

ATTENDING:

Mark House (Director), Clevis Jones, Debbie Jones, Angus Owens (guest), Larry Owens (Rec. Secretary), Alesia Rast (CEWC Liaison), and Bill Snyder. Two new members introduced themselves to the group, Jim Honeycutt and Bill McKibben. Both teach astronomy at Oxford College and participate in amateur astronomy. Jim graciously offered the use of Oxford facilities for CEC meetings or events and they were heartily welcomed by the group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Boy Scout Troop request update: Unfortunately members of the CE Chapter were not able to assist the Boy Scouts during their camp out due to scheduling conflicts. The troop was invited to our regular meeting, April 17th for a lecture on the astronomy behind the badge to be conducted by Larry Owens.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mark House opened the meeting with a discussion about proceeding with a plan to encourage members to participate in Astronomical League observing programs. Suggestions from the group included obtaining forms for participants and follow up emails and contact by club officers to encourage completion of each program.

Mark also suggested that the CEC should organize one or more "Zombie Parties" (all night observing parties) to be held in conjunction with astronomical events like meteor showers. The parties would be held at Charlie Elliott over the course of this year. The challenges of this type of event were discussed, including toilet facilities and camping. Jim Honeycutt suggested renting portable toilets for each event and Alesia Rast agreed to check on rental fees. The issue of camping on the observing field was raised, and Alesia reiterated CE's policy that camping is only allowed in designated camping areas at CE. Alesia added though that the Charlie Elliott Lodge would be available by September, for reservations by Zombie Party participants. Mark recommended scheduling these parties on a weekend adjacent to the Perseid meteor shower in August, the Leonid shower in November and possibly the Geminid meteor shower in December.

Larry Owens provided an update on James Kennedy's offer to donate concrete and labor for construction of a permanent structure to house the 16" telescope (donated by Chuck Kibling).

Larry relayed two possible structure designs that had been discussed; a simple concrete pad with pier and a design using concrete columns to support a raised deck, placing the telescope above ground air turbulence for more stable high power viewing. Alesia indicated that Ken Riddleberger, a Senior Wildlife Biologist with the CEWC would be responsible for approving the project. Alesia has agreed to discuss the project with Ken and to let us know the limitations our project must follow.

Mark reminded us that May 22nd is "Jake's Open House Festival Day" at Charlie Elliott. Mark plans to setup his scope for solar observing at the Discovery building. The event starts at 10:00am and ends at 2:00pm. Mark urged other members to bring their scopes to the event.

Mark also reminded us that chapter officer elections will be held at our next meeting, Saturday, May 22nd at 7:00pm. Mark mentioned that unfortunately he would not be seeking reelection because of increased responsibilities at home.

Larry Owens asked for a volunteer from our members to do the May astronomy current events presentation, and Clevis Jones answered the call.

PRESENTATION:

Larry Owens gave this month's current events presentation and presented images of last month's "Two Moons, 3 Shadows" event on Jupiter and several other items of interest. Larry followed this presentation with a spirited discussion on the concepts in astronomy behind the Boy Scout astronomy badge.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

Saturday, May 22nd at 7:00PM - "Current Events in Astronomy" – Clevis Jones, "Astronomical Spectroscopy" – Bill Snyder, and Elections: Director, Observing Chairman and Recording Secretary

Saturday, Jun 19th at 7:00PM - "Current Events in Astronomy" – TBD

Saturday, July 17th at 7:00PM - "Current Events in Astronomy" – TBD

Saturday, August 21st at 7:00PM - "Current Events in Astronomy" – TBD

Additional information on the Chapter including pictures, can be seen at the website. Check the Charlie Elliott Chapter website for info on date and time of meetings. Visit the website at www.AtlantaAstronomy.Org/CEWMA. Information will also be posted on the AAC listserv. Located in the AAC Contact on page seven of this newsletter is the names, email addresses, and phone numbers of the Elliott Chapter officers.

CLOSING:

The meeting was adjourned by the director at 9:00PM after the presentation. Dark Skies, Larry Owens. Interim CAC Recording Secretary.

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 **\$33** 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 30066

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. Also send information on upcoming observing events, meetings, and other events to the webmaster.

Location Scout: Oconee WMA

By Jim Holley, Atlanta Astronomy Club

Some time ago, Dan Llewellyn got wind of a new dark sky possibility to the east of Atlanta: the Oconee Wildlife Management Area. Owned by Georgia Power, the land is managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and made available to the public. The WMA is primarily maintained for small and large game hunters, but the camping areas are open to anyone who wants to use them.

Being the adventurous type and willing to drive a little out of my way for a good stargazing site, I decided to swing by the WMA on the way back from Augusta last month. I had the directions that Dan posted to the listserv group in January (message number 16312 on the AstroAtlanta group), so off I went at exit 130 on I-20.

Twenty minutes later, I arrived at the Oconee WMA check station, which came complete with a nifty information center. There is a very large field immediately behind the check station designated as a campground, but there's a catch. The check station has its very own security light which is shielded somewhat by trees from parts of the field, but it would still present a nuisance at best. Consulting a map that I picked up from the information center, I found another possibility: a campground across the road from a dove field I had passed on the way to the check station. I hopped back in the van and headed back up the road.

The second campground (hereafter referred to as the dove field campground) turns out to be much better suited for astronomy than the one behind the check station. The dove field campground is a little smaller, but still provides ample space to set up telescopes and tents. The field is fairly flat with a slight

slope from north to south, and well maintained. More importantly, there are no lights of any sort within line of sight of the field. I picked a high spot roughly in the center of the north half of the field and had a look around. The horizon isn't bad, but trees along the eastern and northern edges of the field extend roughly 15 to 20 degrees above the horizon.

As darkness fell, I grabbed my trusty 10x50 binoculars that stay in the van for occasions such as this; Venus popped out like a searchlight, with Jupiter across the sky a few moments later. Once nautical twilight ended, I looked up and saw a beautiful Milky Way stretched across the sky. I immediately picked out M44 with the naked eye, as well as Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884) in Perseus, M45, and a host of other clusters; I stopped counting at 15.

The view through the binoculars was breathtaking. I'm used to Villa Rica and Douglasville skies, where there's enough light pollution to thin out the naked eye stars such that it's easy to pick out constellations, and big, bright open clusters are easy to pick out from the surrounding grayness. I took a look at Double Cluster through the binoculars and nearly dropped them: both clusters were spectacular, with easily twice the number of stars visible than I'm used to. In fact, it was difficult to distinguish where NGC 869 stopped and NGC 884 started; they seemed to run together, where I'm used to seeing a clear separation in my normal, light polluted skies.

Even navigating the brighter constellations took a little getting used to; there were just too many stars visible. Naked eye, I'd estimate the limiting magnitude at between 5 and 5.5, and that was only a few hours after a solid overcast cleared off, and only an hour or so after sunset. Was it worth the trip? You bet. Wish I had the telescope in the van with me that trip? My shins hurt all the way to Douglasville from kicking myself.

There are a few things to keep in mind about the WMA. First, it exists primarily as a controlled area for hunters to pursue their game, which means you may find yourself sharing the field with gun totin' good ol' boys at certain times of the year. Loaded firearms are prohibited in the campgrounds, but you may want to keep track of the hunting seasons so there aren't any surprises. Expect early morning gunfire in the distance during hunting season. If you need a schedule, check out the DNR website at <http://www.gohuntgeorgia.com/>. Click on the Hunting link to find various publications, including the hunting seasons for the current year.

Second, it's not a state park campground. The campgrounds are simply open areas provided for hunters to bivouac at night; there are no facilities of any sort, and it's quite a haul to the nearest convenience store. There is a small grocery store and bait shop in the town of Veazey, but the next nearest place to get food and drink is at the Chevron by the interstate. If you're planning to stay overnight or for a weekend, plan accordingly.

Continued on next page.

Bring plenty of food and water, any camping gear you might need (always including the foul weather gear, just in case), cooking apparatus, plenty of gas to get back to the interstate, donuts, coffee, or whatever else you might need. If you have an RV, there is a sanitary dump station at the Morgan County rest area about an hour away, between Atlanta and exit 130. As always, pack out anything you pack in, and always leave the site better than you found it.

In case you can't find the listserv message with the directions, here they are again: Travel on I-20 East to the Greensboro Exit, Hwy 44. Turn to the right or South. Make an immediate left just before the BP Station. Author's note: it's actually a Chevron. Turns to dirt road soon after the turn. Go to first stop sign and turn left on to paved road. Travel paved road to first stop sign and turn right on Veazey Road. Travel on Veazey Rd, through Veazey (small community with one store) to Liberty Church Rd, Turn right on Liberty Church Rd. and travel to Oconee WMA Check Station. Authors Note: you'll pass the dove field and campground on the way to the check station; unless you need to go by the information center for maps or a hunting season schedule, just make a left into the camping field across from the dove field sign and you're there.

Georgia Sky View 2004 Star Party

The Flint River Astronomy Club will be hosting it's first annual Star Party. Date: May 21 - 23, 2004. Location: Camp McIntosh (Indian Springs State Park), Jackson, GA. Schedule of Fees: Each Adult and Child, 10 and over the fee is \$26.00 (covers entire event)**. Each Child under ten years old is \$10.00 (covers entire event)**. Dormitory Lodging fee is \$5.00 per night/per person. State Parking Pass \$2.00 per vehicle (fee charged by the park - if you have a current "Georgia Park pass" season pass this fee is waived. The event T-Shirt is a Grey shirt with logo on front (full front) \$18.00 each. **There is a \$10 add on fee per person attending event for those who register after May 1st, 2004.** **Note: The event attendance fee is the same for a single day/night or the entire event. The attendance fee must be paid to enter the property whether observing or 'visiting'.

No Electrical hookups are provided on the observing field. Limited electricity is available in the Dorms and other buildings on site, but is not close to the observing field. Modern quiet generators will be allowed within reason and subject to the policies of the planning committee. Construction generators will not be allowed at any time. Any ruling prohibiting the use of a specific generator made by the planning committee is final and not subject to appeal.

**The "Release & Hold Harmless Agreement" which is part of the registration packet *MUST* be returned and be signed

by all persons registering. Entry into the site will not be permitted unless this document is complete, properly signed and in the possession of the planning committee.

This event is a "rain or shine" event and all fees are non-refundable. Fees are transferable to another person, subject to properly documenting the transfer with the planning committee and the substitute attendee(s) delivering a complete registration form and "Release & Hold Harmless Agreement" to the planning committee.

MIDNIGHT MUNCHIES We are planning to have fresh baked & hot cinnamon rolls and sausage biscuits delivered to the observing field during the night for a nominal fee (baked on site).

Note: Attendee's should make plans to bring their own food (other than above).

Folks can also go to our website for info and registration forms.. <http://www.flintriverastronomy.org>

GASP (Georgia Astronomy in State Parks

May 29 – Cloudland Canyon State Park

September 4 – FDR State Park

October 2 – Florence Marina State Park

November 20 – Unicoi State Park

If you have any questions about any of our events please let me know. Joanne - Starrynights@AtlantaAstronomy.org. Our events are also posted on the Website.

PSSG'04 Design the T-Shirt Contest

By Peter Macumber

Put your artistic talents to the test. Submit your design for this years PSSG. There are a couple of simple rules and design elements that must be incorporated.

Your design must be submitted to the PSSG Committee on or before August 20th. The PSSG Committee will present selected designs to the membership meeting in September. The PSSG Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any design. The decision of the PSSG Committee is final.

Keep in mind the following items when designing. Limit colors to four. Include the PSSG Peach. Include "Atlanta Astronomy Club" in the design. Design must be suitable for screen printing on T-Shirt. Preference is for a light colored shirt. Design on shirt will be approximately 11x17 inches.

For more info please visit [website at http://atlantaastronomy.org/PSSG2004](http://atlantaastronomy.org/PSSG2004).

PSSG'04

By Peter Macumber

Are you planning to attend the PSSG in October? We are considering changing the meal plan, for those who wish to purchase meals. If you are interested in the meal plan for the PSSG, answer the question in the current survey to choose whether or not you would prefer: A Breakfast and Lunch. A late Breakfast/Brunch. Your feedback will help the committee decide! Visit AtlantaAstronomy.Org and vote in the poll.



Voyage to a Double Planet

By Patrick L. Barry and Dr. Tony Phillips

Download a "nine planets" screensaver for your computer with spectacular photos of our solar system, and you'll notice that one planet is conspicuously missing: Pluto. Icy and mysterious, Pluto is the only planet never visited and photographed by NASA space probes.

In fact, the clearest image we have of Pluto is a tiny, pixelated blob of light and dark patches taken by the Hubble Space Telescope in 1994. It's tantalizing but not much more. Earth-based telescopes have succeeded, however, in discovering one amazing fact: Pluto is not a lone world, but a double-planet system. Its companion, measuring about half the size of Pluto itself, is named Charon.

Work is underway to launch a robotic probe to visit and photograph Pluto and Charon. The project, called New Horizons, will map both worlds. Sensors will chart surface minerals and ices, and catalog the gases that make up Pluto's wispy atmosphere.

"It's the second epoch in the exploration of the planets," says Alan Stern, the principal investigator for New Horizons at the Southwest Research Institute in Colorado. "We're going to the very edge of the solar system."

The probe is scheduled to launch in January 2006. Its journey will be a long one. Pluto is more than 30 times further away from the Sun than Earth is! Even with a speed boost from a flyby of Jupiter, the probe won't arrive at Pluto until July 2015. Afterward, the probe will venture on to explore the Kuiper Belt, a distant "halo" of small, frozen objects surrounding the solar system, from which comets originate.

Aside from sheer curiosity about these distant worlds, scientists are motivated by questions about the formation of the solar system. Orbiting in the deep freeze far from the sun, Pluto and Charon have undergone less change than the inner planets during the solar system's 4.5 billion year history. These two worlds will provide a glimpse into the past.

Pluto could also shed light on the origin of our own Moon. Earth, with its single, large moon, is unusual. The Pluto-Charon system is the only other pair like it in the solar system. In fact, some astronomers consider Earth and the Moon to be a double planet, too. So knowing more about Pluto and Charon could give clues about how the Earth-Moon system formed. And, of course, the spectacular, up-close photos of Pluto and Charon are going to look great as a screensaver!

This article was provided by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



Pictured above is Artist's idea of the New Horizons spacecraft flying by Pluto and its moon, Charon. (Credit: Dan Durda.)

Atlanta Astronomy Club Website

While this newsletter is the official information source for the Atlanta Astronomy Club, it is only up to date the day it is printed. So if you want more up to date information, go to our club's website. The website contains pictures, directions, mem-

bership applications, events updates (when available) and other information. <http://www.atlantaastronomy.org>

Abbeville Telescope Company

Gordon Studstill, a member from Abbeville Ga. has opened a telescope store. Abbeville Telescope Co. is open for business as a Tele Vue dealer with some stock on hand and the full line of Tele Vue telescopes, eyepieces and mounts available.

I have also made an agreement with Coronado Technologies to become a dealer for their line of solar telescopes. Also talking with Scott Losmandy about his line of mounts.

I plan to attend as many events as I can in the southeast part of the country to demonstrate the products I carry. The advantages of being located in a small rural town like Abbeville are the dark skies away from any large cities. I can offer my customers the opportunity to "test drive" a new scope before purchase. I look forward to building my business and hope the AAC will support me when they can.

Thanks, Gordon Studstill Abbeville Telescope Co. 351 West College St. Abbeville, Ga. 31001 phone 229-467-2878 email gphoto1@alltel.net

Farewell from the Focal Point Editor Dude

Here sits the last issue of a journey that started back in June 2000 and now ends in May 2004. I've been doing this now for four years. Many changes and numerous improvements later, here is the issue. I'm so excited, I can't contain myself. No more fights with the computer software. No more taking the name of Bill Gates in vain. No more 3 AM finishing times.

There is one thing about being an editor. I usually can pick up an issue that has been printed for a few days and spot various typos/ grammar mistakes. The biggest mistake was the year we had three January issues and no February/ March issues. I forgot to change the month on the front page twice. Oops. On the other hand, everyone else in the club picks up the issue and reads. They say it was good. Not a word is said about mistakes. Makes one feel good.

Creating an issue of the Focal Point is the fun part. I've enjoyed it to. Met some interesting folks along the way. I want to thank all the folks who helped me along the way. The name corresponding secretary is one person but others make the job easier to handle. Thanks to the Entire Macumber (Peter, Sharon, Matthew, David, and Leslie) family. Everyone helped fold, mutilate, stamp, and mail the newsletters in years past. A real big thank you to Julie Moore and the Moore family for picking up the newsletter from the printer, labeling them, and mailing them for me this past year. Final thank you to all those who have sent me stuff over the years to be printed in the newsletter.

I leave this office knowing that my replacement has great artistic skills and many great ideas. So look for wonderful things from Kat and be nice to her. The soon to be retired editor will beat you up if you are not nice to Kat. The Kosmic Kow is hitting the trails. I (Larry) will be hanging out with Moe and Curly out at Stooges field. I will also be doing the ALCOR job more actively. Guys! I need a new club member badge. How many names can you put on one badge? 50?

Signing off, your AAC Corresponding Secretary, Keith Burns aka Nameless editor aka Kosmic Guy aka Focal Point Dude aka Kosmic Kow and aka one of The Three Stooges.....Larry.



Pictured above is the unsuspecting Corresponding Secretary being photographed by forces unknown. The furniture is not fancy as you can see but it is practical. You don't have to be dressed in fancy clothes to do this job.

Mentoring Program Here!

Membership in the AL(Astronomical League) gives you access to all the wonderful observing programs they offer to help you learn certain aspects of the sky. Every club member of the AAC is also a member of the Astronomical League. Anyone who is a regular reader of this small tidbit about the AL has noticed how little it has changed in months. Finally I have something new to report this month.

Myself and Philip Sacco want to start a new program called the mentor program. Now it's nothing complicated. Basically we want to connect those who have completed certain AL observing programs with those who want to do one of those programs. Simple get together with the mentor and students. There's no regularly scheduled events for they will be scheduled as needed by the mentor and students. All will bring their telescopes with and work on the programs together. This gives you a chance to get started on a program. This also gets you unstuck if you are working on one and need some questions answered.

I am volunteering to lead the Mentoring programs for the Messier Club, Lunar Club, and the Double Star Clubs. I live on the northwest/west side of town. If you have any questions about the Mentoring program, please contact me. Phone evenings (770-427-1475) or email (Keith_B@Bellsouth.net).

Phil Sacco is volunteering to run the mentoring programs for the Lunar Club, Double Star Club and the Planetary Club. He lives on the east side of town. Phil will also handle any inquiries into the other Astronomical League programs. Contact him via phone at 404-296-6332 or email at (ppsacco@comcast.com).

All of the leagues observing programs are available at the AL website. You can either download a copy of the list for a program or purchase the helpful workbooks available. There are 22 programs now. The better known ones include Messier Binocular, Messier, Lunar, Double Star, Urban, Sampler, Sunspotter, Planetary, Meteor Shower, and Herschel. Check out the website at www.astroleague.org

Atlanta Astronomy Club Listserv

If you have email access with a computer, then you can subscribe to the Atlanta Astronomy Club Listserv. This is a source for up to the minute info on observing events. You can also post questions about astronomy.

Subscribe to the Atlanta Astronomy Club Mailing List: The name of the 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 or to 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.

AAC Contacts

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Villa Rica Observ. Coordinator: Vacant at this time

Woodruff Observ. Coordinator: John Lentini 7-984-0175

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Webmaster Charlie Elliott: Lyle Fischer

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The Focal Point

Newsletter of The Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc.

FROM:

Keith Burns

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

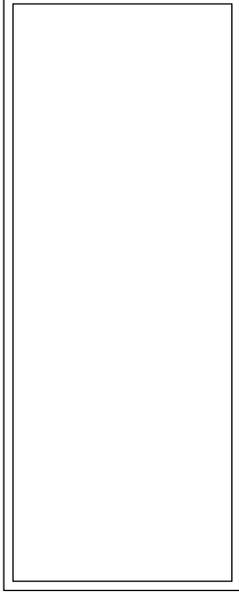
Atlanta Astronomy Club

PMB 305

3595 Canton Road A9

Marietta, GA 30066

FIRST CLASS



Calendar.

May 5th: Moonlight Walk. Cancelled!!!!!!

May 15th: Deep Sky Observing. Location: Woodruff BSC between Blue Ridge and Blairsville.

May 21st: General Membership Meeting. Emory University. Elections of officers and board positions.

May 29th: GASP sidewalk astronomy and camping. Location Cloudland Canyon State Park. Some folks will be camping from the 28th- 31st. Talk given on Saturday May 29th at dusk and sidewalk astronomy to follow.

May 29th: Open House at Villa Rica. Our Walter F. Barber Jr observatory. Start time 6PM.

June 1st: Focal Point Article Deadline.

June 18th: General Membership Meeting. Emory University at White Hall. Topic and Speaker TBA. Starts at 8PM.

Newsletter Deadline and Info

Even tho the job will be changing hands this month. Please send articles, pictures, and drawings on anything astronomy related to Keith Burns at the following address. Send it to Keith Burns 3740 Burnt Hickory Road Marietta, Georgia 30064 or send it via email to **Keith_B@bellsouth.net**. You can submit articles anytime up and including the deadline date. **The deadline for June is 11:59 PM June 1st. Submissions will no longer be accepted after the deadline.** All materials sent to me will be forwarded to the **new editor, Kat Sarbell.**