IC 410 – Joe Ziha – Animas, New Mexico

https://www.flickr.com/photos/160242920@N04/49653734922/
April Calendar

Social

All public ASEM gatherings are suspended in April, this includes any indoor and outdoor parks programs including FNOH.

The Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Center is closed and all associated programming is cancelled until further notice.

Updates will be posted to the DOE LM website: https://www.energy.gov/lm/office-legacy-management.

Do note that the Digital SIG and DIY SIGs will hold virtual meetings over Zoom. Jim will send out invites once finalized. Check out the ASEM website for more information on the topics - http://www.asemonline.org/.

April St. Charles County Parks, including Broemmelsiek Park Public viewing, 1593 Schwede Road, Defiance, MO 63341, gatherings can’t exceed 10 people in any setting. Police will break up any public gathering exceeding 10 and may ticket and/or fine the parties. Social distancing remains in effect, 6’ minimum.
Contributors To The April Newsletter

Dan Crowson – Associate Editor

Jim Twellman
Scott Iver
Gregg Ruppel
Chuck Simms
Joe Ziha

A newsletter is only as interesting as the material sent in by contributors.

Would you like earn the eternal gratitude of your fellow club members and intergalactic recognition in our newsletter? Send a note to your friendly editor on any astronomy related subject at newsletter@asemonline.org I’ll get it posted in the monthly newsletter.

Your editor at large (not large editor),

Jim Curry
Notes From Our Executive Director

By Jim Twellman

Greetings!

The Covid-19 situation has most all of us in house-arrest these days! I am cognizant of the average age of our members and the risk that this virus poses to our group. As of this moment in time (March 26), we are completely shut-down (or shut-out) until April 3rd. Beyond that, I have already pre-canceled our April 11 general ASEM meeting as well. I am anticipating that the St Charles County Parks department will cancel thru the end of April, and that Weldon Springs Interpretive Center probably will also. Wentzville School District has pushed out from April 3rd to April 24. While I am getting a bit crazy spending too much time behind 4-walls, I know that it is safe and smart to stay away from other people at this time. For our club, I am relying on the current recommendations of our local school districts, the St Charles County Parks and the Weldon Springs Interpretive Center. I urge all of our members to stay safe and hang on and things will get better hopefully when the weather gets nice.

At this time, the 2020 MSRAL is still "on" for June. It is time for some of us to start making reservations for this year’s MSRAL. The Mid States Region of the Astronomical League is having the annual meeting in Jenks/Tulsa Oklahoma this year, on June 12 - 14. The main meeting is all day on Saturday, June 13. Several ASEM members (and SLAS members, or both) are pretty dedicated at attending these MSRALs. For those of you who are on the fence, I encourage you to join us. Some nice give-aways from vendors, good topics discussed, a short business meeting on what other clubs are doing (different, better, etc.) and the camaraderie of fellow astronomers. Over a few years at MSRAL
meetings I have had the pleasure of not only meeting and talking to talented amateurs, but also notables such as John Dobson, David Levy, and Scott Roberts, among others. See more info later in this newsletter.

The 32” was somewhat ready by March 20. We need at least one more work session to get the last few little bugs out. Right now we have permanent springs with tension on each drive to each bearing. We want to install "clutches" (in the form of binders to release the spring tension) mounted, and we have yet to place them in line. The system can track, but we also need to work on adding the Go-to computer yet. This and several other add-on's are planned, and other modifications are being considered for the longer term.

I sincerely hope that when we next meet again, that we all together and we are not missing anyone. Take care and be safe please!

Jim Twellman

Executive Director

Alliance for Astronomy (dba Astronomical Society of Eastern MO)
Broemmelsiek, Danville (and other) Reports!

Submitted by our Star Party Animals
The Mid-States Regional Astronomical League Conference 2020

Date: Friday, 6/12/2020 - Sunday, 6/14/2020
Time: 12:00 PM Friday - 11:30 AM Sunday
Location: Jenks Planetarium, 205 East "B" Street, Jenks, OK 74037

Registration for the 2020 Mid-States Regional Convention (MSRAL) is open!
At the current time the link to the Crown Plaza Tulsa-Southern Hills is not active.

Link for Registration: https://msral2020.wixsite.com/register4msral2020
Use the PayPal link to register online!
NOTE: you do NOT need a PayPal account to register online.
A credit card will do.

The MSRAL Convention is being hosted by Astronomy Club of Tulsa and Broken Arrow Sidewalk Astronomers.
The 2020 MSRAL will be held on the third floor of the Jenks High School Planetarium in the Math and Science Building located at 205 East "B" Street, Jenks, OK 74037.

Registration and conferences will be held here on the third floor along with the Friday night meal.
After dinner on Friday, the attendees are invited to the ACT Observatory in Mounds, OK for a star party and observing scavenger hunt for the youth.
This is about 35 to 40 minutes from the conference location. (see VENUE tab on website for map)

This year, there will be a Student MSRAL Conference held in the Jenks High School Planetarium that is open to high school students 9th - 12th grades only. The peer run conference will be accessible to all students - blind/legally blind, deaf/hearing impaired and non-ambulatory. Because of a special project the youth are working on, adults are asked to attend their conference to allow students to have an element of surprise and for the peer run conference to be a great experience.

Across the hall from the planetarium is the large conference room where the adult program will be held.
In between these two conference sites is the lobby, vendor, reception area with seating for networking and vendor visits.

The Saturday night banquet is a full service, plated meal held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel
Oklahoma Rooms I - III.
This hotel is across from Oral Roberts University at 7902 S. Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74136. (see VENUE tab for map)

Room discounts have been offered here with block room rates. For The Crowne Plaza booking portal and room rates go to VENUE tab.

Link for the 2020 MSRAL Convention official website: 
Photos of the 32" complete with shroud (all dressed up !) and the E.D. at the eyepiece.
2020 ASEM Beginner Meetings

"It's black, and it looks like a hole. I'd say it's a black hole."

First light w/Twellmans new Teeter scope

All Beginner Meetings are suspended until the Weldon Spring Center reopens.

Alfred Schovanez is the mentor for the ASEM Beginner Meetings. These are scheduled for the first Thursday evening of every month in the meeting room of the Weldon Spring Center.

You don’t have to be a beginner to come to the meetings. Many an old pro will admit that there is always more to learn. There is always time to address issues and questions.
The IDA board meets on a bi-monthly bases with the last meeting on 3/19.

Please join us on our Facebook page

Key actives are:

• SQM Program. This is a Missouri wide program ran by IDA board member Vayujeet Gokhale. We have a number of Sky Quality Meters located around the state, with one at Broemmelsiek Park. I will give more information on this in the next newsletter or at the next meeting, whichever comes first.

• Citizen Science Programs. 6 program that we are working with the library systems to implement. Here is the IDA Website for them. More information in future meetings.

• We are working with governments, including cities, counties and at a state level to show the economical, health, and environmental benefits of using the correct type of light and model of lighting system.

• MO IDA is hosting a webinar on Tuesday 4/7 on “Missouri’s Vanishing Night”. Please join us by registering here.

• We’d love for you to be part of IDA with us. You can join at www.darksky.org.
MEMBER RECOGNITIONS
No meeting was held in March. A Zoom meeting will be established for April.
Digital SIG Meeting Notes

By Dan Crowson

March’s meeting was canceled. Since it looks like we’ll be ‘social distancing’ for the foreseeable future, we will start using Zoom for virtual meetings this month. This is actually an opportunity for us to bring in some outside the club ideas and presenters. Please post on the ASEMDigitalSIG list or email me suggestions and I’ll try to find a presenter.

April’s meeting will consist of presentations by Bill Neubert and Gregg Ruppel. Bill will give us an update on his SQM data logging. Gregg Ruppel will talk about comets and how he processes them. Gregg has a couple Astronomy Pictures of the Day for comets and I would consider him an expert. It will be nice to ‘see’ Gregg again from his Tucson suburb home.

We’ll send out a link soon for a short demo/training session and then a link for the meeting. Feel free to send the meeting link to non-ASEM members but don’t post it on a public forum to prevent unwanted attention.

Comet Garradd and Messier 15 – Gregg Ruppel – APOD – August 6th, 2011
# Equipment Check Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 inch scope</td>
<td>Nolan's 12:</td>
<td>Jim Twellman [8/5/2016]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Binoculars-2 5x100 Barska</td>
<td>2x100 Barska binoculars</td>
<td>David Lloyd [11/27/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canon T1i camera</td>
<td>Canon T1i camera</td>
<td>Chuck Simms [7/1/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celestron StarHopper 8&quot; dob</td>
<td>Celestron StarHopper 8&quot; dob [Telrad, 25, 16 &amp; 9.7mm ep]</td>
<td>Justin Thompson [7/13/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronado PST</td>
<td>Personal Solar Telescope</td>
<td>Don Ladwig [8/1/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denkmeier Bino-Viewer</td>
<td>Denkmeier Bino-Viewer</td>
<td>Stacey Thater [8/9/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denkmeier Bino-Viewer 2</td>
<td>1.25&quot; Denkmeier Binoviewer</td>
<td>Amy White [12/9/2017]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;STAR SWEEPER&quot; - 2 pcs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2x MULTIPLIER - 2 pcs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye-piece/Filter kit</td>
<td>various 1.25 inch eyepieces &amp; filters (O III, H Beta, UHC)</td>
<td>Fred Schovaesen [10/14/2017]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunt - Stack Filter</td>
<td>Stack filter used on Lunt Solar telescope</td>
<td>Chuck Simms [8/2/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunt Solar Telescope and mount</td>
<td>L550Ha filter - 60mm</td>
<td>Chuck Simms [8/2/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orion SkyQuest XT6</td>
<td>6&quot; dob with 10mm &amp; 25mm eyepiece.</td>
<td>Mary Anderson [6/11/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBIG ST1-1001 camera</td>
<td>SBIG ST1-1001 camera</td>
<td>Kirk Steinbruegge [5/12/2018]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starmaster 14.5&quot; telescope</td>
<td>Starmaster 14.4 inch telescope</td>
<td>Stacey Thater [8/7/2019]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC2-Meade Ultra Wide Angle 4.7mm</td>
<td>WC2-1.25&quot; Meade Ultra Wide Angle 4.7mm Multi-Coated eyepiece</td>
<td>Kirk Steinbruegge [10/14/2017]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18&quot; Dob - Obsession</td>
<td>18&quot; Dob - Obsession</td>
<td>Fred Schovaesen [4/5/2019]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library Events
By Chuck Simms

Upcoming Library Events
All events start at 7am and end at 8:30pm
Library Telescope Facebook page

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 15, 2020</td>
<td>Middendorf-Kredell</td>
<td>Constellations and Folklore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 17, 2020</td>
<td>Spencer Road</td>
<td>Constellations and Folklore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 23, 2020</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 24, 2020</td>
<td>Deer Run</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 29, 2020</td>
<td>Winghaven</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 1, 2020</td>
<td>Kisker Road</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 28, 2020</td>
<td>Boone's Trail</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 29, 2020</td>
<td>Middendorf-Kredell</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 24, 2020</td>
<td>Deer Run</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, August 25, 2020</td>
<td>Spencer Road</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 22, 2020</td>
<td>Kathryn Linnemann</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 24, 2020</td>
<td>Corporate Parkway</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 21, 2020</td>
<td>Middendorf-Kredell</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 28, 2020</td>
<td>Kathryn Linnemann</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 23, 2020</td>
<td>McClay</td>
<td>Star Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
These are a series of advertisements via email:

Folks

Jerry Kelley’s daughter donated his 10” LX50 scope to our club about a year ago, but we have no hand controller for it. As you might expect, these are hard to find. For those of you who peruse classifieds (CN, AstroMart, etc) please be on the lookout and buy one “on sight if seen” and under $80. I will reimburse thru ASEM.

Thanks

JimT
A guy named Buddy Hardin contacted the Facebook page wanting to sell some scopes for a friend in the area. [https://stlouis.craigslist.org/pho/d/saint-charles-meade-10inch-lx200/7099410818.html](https://stlouis.craigslist.org/pho/d/saint-charles-meade-10inch-lx200/7099410818.html) He has both a Meade LX-200 10-inch and an ETX-90 for sale. No idea of working condition on either, but the pictures look clean. Sending first the LX-200 photos.
Now the ETX-90 photographs
This is a facebook link to a Criterion Dynamax SCT

https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/item/589826364946026/?ref=messenger_banner

Please shoot me a note if your ad is no longer current

jjc@structureguard.com
ASEM Members Photography

A section for ASEM members to distribute their photographs within the Society. Whether you’re shooting digital, film or working in charcoal (hand sketching), this page(s) is for members to show us what you’ve seen and how you recorded it. Sunsets, supernovas, sundials, Stonehenge. Crepuscular rays, planetary alignments, or Markarian’s Chain. If it’s something we have to look up to see it will probably interest this crowd of inquisitive folks.

UGC 7321 and 7357 – Gregg Ruppel – Animas NM
NGC 2507 – Dan Crowson – Animas NM
https://www.flickr.com/photos/dcrowson/49717942838
C/2017 T2 PanSTARRS – Gregg Ruppel – Animas NM
C/2019 Y4 PanSTARRS – Gregg Ruppel – Animas NM
NGC 3728 – Gregg Rupel – Animas NM
NGC 3169 + 3166 – Gregg Ruppel – Animas NM
Sh1-118 – Dan Crowson – Animas NM
https://www.flickr.com/photos/dcrownson/49661970248
vdB 26 – Dan Crowson – Animas NM

https://www.flickr.com/photos/dcrowson/49653526861
vdB 65 – Dan Crowson – Animas NM
https://www.flickr.com/photos/dcrowson/49646271197
M27 – Scott Iver – Saint Charles MO
https://www.astrobin.com/lx8n3c/0/
UGC 3294 – Dan Crowson – Animas NM
https://www.flickr.com/photos/dcrowson/49625508117
Club Contacts

Membership

Membership issues can be addressed through our executive director Jim Twellman at these addresses:

Email: jtwellman@asemonline.org.
Snail mail:
  Alliance for Astronomy (ASEM)
  8 Rudder Court
  Lake St. Louis, MO 63367

Committees

Comments, questions, suggestions and money (just kidding) may be sent to the following addresses:

program@asemonline.org
  Use this address to communicate with the program committee. If you have something to present at a meeting or wish to contribute and let someone else perform, send it here. Questions and/or suggestions about programming etc. Remember, they are here to help you. This is a user friendly society and we like to see members get up and share.

equipment@asemonline.org
  This address is used to find out about ASEM loaner equipment. If you find something amiss at BPark by all means report it here. If you are curious about borrowing an item, put in a request via this address.

hospitality@asemonline.org
  Got a main dish you’d like to bring to the potluck? We sure could use it AND you will be reimbursed for your expenses.

newsletter@asemonline.org
  Primary contact for the newsletter. Got an article or notice you’d like to see published? Send it here and be famous!

Outreach@asemonline.org
  Special requests for groups at Broemmelsiek Park including:
  • Notice of large party (more than groups of twenty)
  • Request for specific requirements needed (school assignment, merit badge requirements, etc.)
  • Requests for Star Party / Telescope event at another location

webmaster@asemonline.org
  Kirk Steinbruegge is now our webmaster. Shoot him anything you want posted on our Web page

Late breaking news and member adventures (or shenanigans as the case may be) can usually be found at STL Astronomy in yahoo groups. If you aren’t a member, you should join. Go to http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/STLAstronomy/ and click “Join”

Think Clear, dark skies