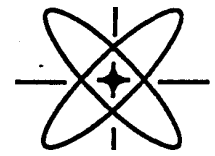


METEOR WRITE



NEWSLETTER OF THE MEMPHIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
A NON-PROFIT, PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION PROMOTING INTEREST
AND EDUCATION IN ASTRONOMY AND RELATED SCIENCES. FOUNDED IN 1953.

AUGUST, 2009

VOL.43 NO.8

AUGUST MEETING

The Memphis Astronomical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting at 8:00 P.M. on Friday, August 7th 2009, in the Science Auditorium on the campus of Christian Brothers University at Parkway and Central. Members are urged to attend and to bring guests; the public is welcome.

PROGRAM

WELCOME * * President Moore will greet the members and guests and outline the evening's program.

BUSINESS * * The Treasurer's Report will be given by Treasurer Bill Wilson and the Minutes of the July Board of Directors Meeting will be read by Secretary Carrie Armus.

ASTRONOMY AND EDUCATION * * by Tom Emens

Tom will bring us up-to-date about what we are doing for astronomy education in our schools.

PERSEID METEOR WATCH * * We intend to hold a Perseid Meteor Shower Watch at our observing site near LaGrange, Tennessee on Wednesday Night-Thursday Morning. August 12th/13th. If interested, contact Brenda Harris at 755-6535; bharris-1@comcast.net

AUGUST OBSERVING SESSION * * The August Observing Session will be held on Saturday, August 15th at 8:30 P.M. at our observing site near Lagrange, Tennessee. Maps and directions will be readily available at the General Meeting.

MAS E-MAIL ADDRESS: info @ MemphisAstro.Org

MAS WEB SITE URL: <http://www.MEMPHISASTRO.ORG>

THE GALLOPING AMATUER * * by Richard Moore.

...*The Denderah Stone*... The name of the Denderah Stone is taken from the name of a village on the Nile in Northern Egypt. At the Temple of Hathor in Denderah there is a carved stone showing the sky as it was known to the Egyptians at about the beginning of the Christian Era. The Zodiac is recognizable, as are many of the other constellation figures, but they differ from the modern interpretations. Ursa Minor is a small dog, which may account for the name of Cynosaura. Sirius is shown as a star between the horns of a cow which is riding in a boat. The stone now resides in the Louvre, in Paris.

THE PLANETS FOR AUGUST, 2009 * * by Richard Moore.

PLANET	DATE	R. A.		DEC		MAG.	RISE		SET	
		h	m	o	'		h	m	h	m
Mercury	08/01	10	04	13	05	-1.7	07	50 AM	09	03 PM
	08/05	10	28	10	20	-1.6	08	06	09	03
	08/10	10	56	06	54	-1.5	08	23	09	00
	0815	11	19	03	25	-1.5	08	37	08	55
	08/20	11	39	00	29	-1.5	08	46	08	47
	08/25	11	57	-02	15	-1.6	08	52	08	37
	08/30	12	09	-04	28	-1.6	08	51	08	23
Jupiter	08/01	21	45	-14	36	-2.8	08	49 PM	07	26 AM
	08/05	21	43	-14	47	-2.9	08	32	07	08
	08/10	21	41	-15	00	-2.9	08	10	06	45
	0815	21	38	-15	34	-2.9	07	49	06	22
	08/20	21	36	-15	27	-2.9	07	27 PM	06	00
	08/25	21	33	-15	39	-2.9	07	06	05	37
	08/30	21	31	-15	51	-2.8	06	44	05	14
Saturn	08/01	11	24	06	00	1.0	09	30 AM	10	02 PM
	08/05	11	26	05	50	1.0	09	17	09	47
	08/10	11	28	05	36	1.1	09	00	09	29
	0815	11	30	05	23	1.1	08	43	09	11
	08/20	11	32	05	09	1.1	08	26 PM	08	53
	08/25	11	34	04	54	1.1	08	09	08	35
	08/30	11	36	04	40	1.1	07	52	08	17

WHAT'S UP * * by Richard Moore.

AUGUST, 2009

Visible Constellations

Sagittarius Scorpius Lyra Cygnus
 Vulpecula Aquila Draco

Good Objects to Observe

C3 spiral galaxy in Draco
 H73-7planetary nebula in Cygnus

C6 Cat's Eye Nebula in Draco
 H743-3 planetary nebula in Aquila

Miscellaneous Notes

Maybe Not at LaGrange:

Lie on your back with your feet pointing east, and stare at Deneb, toward which the solar system is traveling in the thickness of the galactic disc.

The north ecliptic pole, leftward from this, inside the curl of the Dragon's neck.

The north celestial pole, leftward from this.

MINUTES OF THE JULY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING * *

July's Board meeting was held at the home of Mark Matthews on July 17, 2009. President Richard Moore opened the meeting at 8:12 P.M. Present were Richard Moore, Bill Busler, Bill Wilson, Carrie Armus, Freddy Diaz, Tom Emens, Ric Honey, and Mark Matthews. Brenda Harris and Lee Cole were absent.

June's minutes were read and approved.

Bill Wilson gave the treasurer's report. The previous reported balance was \$1634.36. There were three deposits totaling \$313.85 and five disbursements totaling \$268.34, leaving a new balance of \$1679.87.

MeteorWrite circulation will be 94.

In Old Business, Bill Wilson gave a sidewalk observing report. Members showed sunspots to groups at the Olive Branch and Horn Lake Public Libraries this month, with very good turnouts at both. There is another event scheduled for the Batesville Public Library for July 23.

In New Business, the board discussed having a Perseid watch this year. The board also discussed the upcoming Short Course in Astronomy and publicity needs.

The program was set for the August general meeting.

President Moore adjourned the meeting at 8:48 P.M.

~Respectfully Submitted, Carrie Armus, Secretary