



STAR STUFF

The Newsletter of the Ford Amateur Astronomy Club

Volume 17, Number 2

February 2008

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Invisible Spiral Arms

Patrick L. Barry

At one time or another, we've all stared at beautiful images of spiral galaxies, daydreaming about the billions of stars and countless worlds they contain. What mysteries—and even life forms—must lurk within those vast disks?

Now consider this: many of the galaxies you've seen are actually much larger than they appear. NASA's Galaxy Evolution Explorer, a space telescope that "sees" invisible, ultraviolet light, has revealed that roughly 20 percent of nearby galaxies have spiral arms that extend far beyond the galaxies' apparent edges. Some of these galaxies are more than three times larger than they appear in images taken by ordinary visible-light telescopes.

"Astronomers have been observing some of these galaxies for many, many years, and all that time, there was a whole side to these galaxies that they simply couldn't see," says Patrick Morrissey, an astronomer at Caltech in Pasadena, California, who collaborates at JPL.

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New President's Greetings

President's Corner

Doug Bauer, FAAC President

I want to thank you all for the trust you have given in electing me President of FAAC. It was a tough campaign ;o)

I first want to say thank you to Don Klaser who has done an exceptional job as President the past three years. Don has provided unparalleled leadership and has been involved in all aspects of the club. He will be a hard act to follow!

I also want to thank Gordon Hansen who has done a fantastic job as Treasurer for several years and is now Vice President.

I want to thank Ken Anderson for his meticulous job as club Secretary and for agreeing to stay on in that capacity. I am always amazed at the detailed meeting minutes.

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STAR STUFF

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FORD AMATEUR ASTRONOMY CLUB
P.O. Box 7527
Dearborn MI 48121-7527

PRESIDENT:	Doug Bauer
VICE PRESIDENT:	Gordon Hansen
SECRETARY:	Ken Anderson
TREASURER:	Steve Flessa
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Dale Ochalek

CLUB INFORMATION

The Ford Amateur Astronomy Club (FAAC) meets on the fourth Thursday each month, except for the combined November/December meeting on the first Thursday of December – at Henry Ford Community College, Administrative Services and Conference Center in Dearborn. Refer to our website for a map and directions (www.boonhill.net/faac).

The FAAC observes at Spring Mill Pond within the Island Lake State Recreation Area near Brighton, Michigan. The club maintains an after-hours permit, and observes on Friday and Saturday nights, and nights before holidays, weather permitting. The FAAC also has use Richmond Airport, Unadilla, given prior permission, and Lake Erie MetroPark. See the FAAC Yahoo Group* for more information.

Observing schedules and additional info are available on our website, or via the FAAC Yahoo Group.* Or call the **FAAC Hotline**, for info, and leave a message, or ask questions: **248-207-2075**. Or send email inquiries to fordastronomy@comcast.net.

Membership in the FAAC is open to anyone with an interest in amateur astronomy. The FAAC is an affiliate of the Ford Employees Recreation Association (F.E.R.A.). Membership fees:

Annual – New Member:	\$30	(\$15 after July 1)
Annual – Renewal:	\$25	(\$30 after January 31)

Membership includes the *STAR STUFF* newsletter, discounts on magazines, discounts at selected area equipment retailers, and after-hours access to the Island Lake observing site.

ASTRONOMY or SKY & TELESCOPE MAGAZINE DISCOUNTS

Obtain the required form from the FAAC club treasurer for a \$10 discount. Send the completed form directly to the respective publisher with your subscription request and payment. Do not send any money directly to the FAAC for this.

STAR STUFF NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Your submissions to *STAR STUFF* are more than welcome! Send your story and/or images to the editor at dake00k@yahoo.com. Email text or MS Word is fine. *STAR STUFF* will usually go to press the weekend prior to each general meeting. Submissions received prior to that weekend can be included in that issue.

* FAAC Members are welcome to join our **FordAstronomyClub** Yahoo! Group. Messages, photos, files, online discussions, and more! URL: groups.yahoo.com/group/FordAstronomyClub.

President's Corner... (continued from page 1)

Thanks also to Steve Flessa for assuming the role of Treasurer. I am looking forward to this year and I will work hard with the new board to serve the clubs needs.

In 1995, my wife DeeAnn, I took a trip to New Zealand and Australia. While in Australia at Uluru, also known as Ayers Rock, we were amazed by the very dark skies and signed up to do some observing with an amateur astronomer. This was the first time I had looked through a telescope. It was a moonless sky and as clear as any I have ever seen. The Milky Way actually cast a shadow of your hand on the ground. After a night out with this amateur astronomer, I was hooked.

A couple of years later, I purchased a Meade ETX 125 scope from the now closed Nature Company store in the Somerset Collection. It was not a GOTO scope and I was trying to use it at my home in Troy. After using it for several weeks and not finding anything except the Moon. I went back to the Nature Company and traded it in for a Meade 10 inch LX200 GOTO scope and asked if there was any group that I could join to learn more about astronomy. The salesperson mentioned that there were several astronomy clubs in the area and asked where I worked. I said, "Ford"; he said, "There is Ford Amateur Astronomy Club, one of the best in the area."

I joined FAAC the following week, about ten years ago. The club has been a real blessing to me. I have learned so much from the members and have grown to really enjoy astronomy. I am overwhelmed by the collective knowledge of our members and their love of the hobby. The club is a great source knowledge and camaraderie.

When I retired from Ford at the beginning of 2007, I wanted to get more involved in FAAC and hopefully give back something to the club, in appreciation for all I have gotten from its members. At that time I became Vice-President and began attending the board meetings and more outreach events. This year, as President, I will be even more involved. I am looking forward to your continuing support of the club and another fantastic year of learning and outreach.

Thank you all for your efforts!

Doug Bauer

Invisible Arms ... (from page 2)

The extended arms of these galaxies are too dim in visible light for most telescopes to detect, but they emit a greater amount of UV light. Also, the cosmic background is much darker at UV wavelengths than it is for visible light. "Because the sky is essentially black in the UV, far-UV enables you to see these very faint arms around the outsides of galaxies," Morrissey explains.

These "invisible arms" are made of mostly young stars shining brightly at UV wavelengths. Why UV? Because the stars are so hot. Young stars burn their nuclear fuel with impetuous speed, making them hotter and bluer than older, cooler stars such as the sun. (Think of a candle: blue flames are hotter than red ones.) Ultraviolet is a sort of "ultra-blue" that reveals the youngest, hottest stars of all.

"That's the basic idea behind the Galaxy Evolution Explorer in the first place. By observing the UV glow of young stars, we can see where star formation is active," Morrissey says.

The discovery of these extended arms provides fresh clues for scientists about how some galaxies form and evolve, a hot question right now in astronomy. For example, a burst of star formation so far from the galaxies' denser centers may have started because of the gravity of neighboring galaxies that passed too close. But in many cases, the neighboring galaxies have not themselves sprouted extended arms, an observation that remains to be explained. The Galaxy Evolution Explorer reveals one mystery after another!

"How much else is out there that we don't know about?" Morrissey asks. "It makes you wonder."

Spread the wonder by seeing some of these UV images at www.galex.caltech.edu. Also, Chris Martin, principle scientist for Galaxy Evolution Explorer—or rather his cartoon alter-ego—gives kids a great introduction to ultraviolet astronomy at spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/live#martin.

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



In this image of galaxy NGC 1512, red represents its visible light appearance, the glow coming from older stars, while the bluish-white ring and the long, blue spiral arms show the galaxy as the Galaxy Evolution Explorer sees it in ultraviolet, tracing primarily younger stars. (Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/DSS/GALEX).

January 24 Meeting Minutes

Ken Anderson

Attendance: 36+

Don Klaser started the joint FAAC meeting at 5:30 in the HFCC Rossenau conference room with introductions, and pizza and pop. We welcomed new members Chris Behler and Jim Kapron, and our guests Ben Cline and David Pardy.

Chris Behler observed 3 times overlooking Lake St. Clair with his new telescope, seeing M42 and the Trapezium for the first time. Tony Licata observed from George's observatory. Tony says his Williams Optics 110mm f5.9 is "OK" and ED doublet may need to be collimated. He imaged with and without field flattener, and is still attempting to resolve color issues.

Clay Kessler commented his Williams Optics 90mm longer focal length ED doublet has less color issues. Doug Bauer remarks about Lake Erie Ice Daze are in the club events portion near the end of the minutes. In the clearing they could see M42 Orion nebula, the double cluster, Mars, and the moon. 24 people attended Gordon's presentation of Astronomy 101. John Shroer reported there is a magnitude 10 NEO asteroid at 3AM, and details can be found on the minor planet center website, or John's link on our club message board. Clay Kessler reported that Virgis Optical sold 100 backpack telescopes without focusers really cheap due to a collimation issue. This is a 65mm ED and requires a \$25 fix plus focuser. FAAC members bought six, and the University Lowbrows bought 12.

Jim Frisbie gave the "Sky Quality Meter Update" tech talk sequel, in response to all the questions and interest from last month's presentation. He calls it the "De facto Standard for measuring sky quality," using a sensitive light meter that measures how dark the sky is in an 80 degree cone (40-degree half cone). Note Rider's now has a new/different version with a smaller cone and readings on the side. You hold it vertically up and push the button till you get a tone, or keep button pressed in for deg F. It displays both magnitude and temp. It will not read in a perfectly dark room/closet. Uses include selecting observing locations, and quantitative historical documentation of site deterioration/improvement. Higher readings are better with 22-23 being best.

Jim created a log sheet for Sky Quality Meter database (date, time, location, three readings, and remarks such as clouds and moon). New readings since last meeting include:

Island Lake Dec. 16 with clouds/overcast 13-15 (light pollution reflection off clouds); Island Lake Dec. 16 Crescent Moon, no clouds 18.33-18.45, 0 to 1 deg C; Island Lake Jan. 2, No Moon, 18.73-18.81, -6 to -8 deg F; Oxford, 18.55.

In a place without light pollution, the darkest reading will be under clouds. For our other club sites please refer to last month's minutes.

There is a website which converts to limiting sky magnitude; for example a Sky Quality Meter reading of 23 equates to limiting sky magnitude of 6.3, or the dimmest star you can see naked eye is magnitude 6.3 (ref. sky charts).

Since last month our club purchased one, and you can sign it out from Harold Thomason, our club equipment manager. Riders' also have them for sale at \$119.95 for individual purchase.

Jim Frisbie also led the main presentation, "Ask the Astronomer" where club members ask and answer questions. John Shroer asked, "How do you check out optics with an IFED test bed?"

George has a Foucault Tester at his house, and you can read about the process on the web; however, he cautions analyzing it takes longer. Edmonds Optics has 300 lines/inch Rainchy grating which you place in the light path at the focal point, and you see the vertical lines (or curvature). Many club members use laser collimators initially, and do a final collimation on near "stationary" Polaris (eye and star method) for non-tracking systems. Some use Cheshire collimators where they line up crosshairs and pinhole of both primary and secondary mirrors in the daytime. The cheapest way is to punch a pinhole in the center of a 35mm film canister, which fits perfectly inside 1.25" focuser slot, and if you look through this hole in daylight, and you can see your eye in the center of the "loose-leaf style hole reinforcer" in the center of the primary mirror you are O.K.

The next question was "How do you find (aim telescope) at objects?" Assuming you don't have computer go-to or push-to, manually finding objects on your own requires good charts (preferably with Telrad circles printed on them), maps, and a Telrad finder. You can star hop from brighter to dimmer stars till you get to the object, or mentally star hop, aim where the object is (using the 3 Telrad circles to assist in aim), and hunt and search from there (first start by moving one star to all four sides of view, and expand outward; repeat as necessary till you find or give

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Minutes ... (from page 4)

up and move to next object). Depending on telescope size and sky conditions you may not be able to see this object, so it is always best to assess magnitude if known before you search. If you find the object dimmer/higher magnitude objects may be possible; otherwise you may want to seek brighter/lower magnitude objects as your next object. Also note objects at the zenith appear brighter (easier to see) since you are looking through less atmosphere. If you don't already have an agenda, look near the zenith, to determine constellation, select an object near zenith or to the South (since you can only see these southerly objects that season). For bright planets Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn learn where the Ecliptic is (mentally draw an arc from East to West through a planet or moon, and all the planets will be near this Earth-Sun orbital plane. Finally, if you attend beginner nights or go out with a club member you can learn from them too.

The last question was about upgrading to a Williams Optics 2" Diagonal. Greg Ozimek and Doug Bauer recently upgraded their SCT with a Denkmeir power switch 2" William Optics Diagonal, allowing them to get three different powers quickly out of the same eyepiece. On Greg's system he gets 0.6/1.0/2.0 times the normal eyepiece power. Another person talked about a screw on vs. Televue two-piece sliding diagonal.

Doug Bock led the election process. The election committee recommended Doug Bauer as President, Gordon Hansen as V.P., Ken Anderson as Secretary, and Steve Flessa as Treasurer. All four confirmed they still accepted their nominations. Two additional nominations were made but declined. Club members were offered the opportunity to nominate themselves if they desired a position. With the nomination processed closed, and only one nomination accepted for each position, Doug asked the members to approve the slate of four officers, which was approved unanimously. The club welcomed their new officers.

Outgoing club president, Don Klaser led the business portion. Ken Anderson gave the Secretary's Report, and November/December minutes were accepted and approved. After the meeting John Blum wrote to inform of a minor error which has been corrected and posted on the club website. Gordon Hanson gave the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$6367 before

the meeting. There has been a lot of financial activity with dues, plus the upcoming swap meet and diner party. Gordon initiated a second \$1000 CD so we can get one to mature every 3 months. GLAAC has \$2015.62. Gordon encouraged everyone to make their dinner reservations before they get sold out.

Ken Anderson read the proposed amendment Article 2 Membership, Section 3.5 "Deliberate misuse of a hand-held laser pointer" verbatim from the newsletter. He will re-read this again verbatim at February's meeting, before the club votes on it. For this vote wording is not subject to change and we need to have a quorum of at least half the average attendance of the last three meetings ($>17 = 0.5 \times (31+34+36)/3$).

Harold Thomason gave the Equipment Manager's Report. He made a Mylar solar filter for our clubs' 4.5" dobsonian. Our club also owns a 10x10 ft² canopy, laptop, projector, screen, sound system, bullhorn, and sky quality meter. From the last meeting per Frank Ancona, we may also have an 8" Blue SCT (Diva Mac) and eyepiece. Club members are reminded to read the new Process and Rules, found in the July 2007 Star Stuff and on our Yahoo website, if they want to sign out equipment.

The FAAC Scholarship Committee consists of Ed Halash, Gordon Hansen, John Schroer, and Bob Fitzgerald. We currently have about \$400 in the FAAC Scholarship fund. Please see October minutes for draft FAAC HFCC Scholarship procedures.

Ken Anderson is seeking volunteers to help with the FAAC club telescope committee.

John Schroer and Greg Ozimek have already accepted, and we would also like someone with experience with dob(s) 22" or greater. We are potentially seeking a large (30" or greater) semi permanent but transportable dobsonian, which could be relocated for star parties. This is in response to club interest when a posting that a 36" Obsession was available for \$20,000 and sold the same day. John Schroer suggested me may be able to get one donated to us. This committee would also seek land to house/store the telescope and the primary observing site. The goal would be club members would only need to bring eyepieces and key, to open up, and start observing. Gordon Hanson advised us our club only has \$5000, some of which is allocated to GLAAC, etc. Our Richmond fee is only \$300 to

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Minutes ... (from page 5)

donate to their club picnic, since we do not have anything permanent at their airfield.

In club events:

About thirty club and family members attended the Detroit Science Center "Behind the Scenes" FAAC Family event on December 8, as a way for DCS and John Schroer to show their thanks for our support. We saw the IMAX projectionist questions, and saw the IMAX projector and movie reels. We also were treated to a free planetarium show "Seven Wonders of the Universe". Some guests stayed afterwards for normal DSC exhibits, including "Grossology" and "Electricity". Some also attended Body/Sea Monsters IMAX and/or Human Body exhibit at cost. John informed the club, for the next three months they will have a new shipwreck exhibit.

Lake Erie Metropark Ice Daze January 19 at Marshlands Museum - Bob MacFarland and Doug Bauer reported George Korody, John Schroer, Gordon Hansen, Don Klaser, and Dennis Salliotte attended in addition to themselves. In the clearing they could see M42 Orion nebula, the double cluster, Mars, and the moon. 24 people attended Gordon's presentation of Astronomy 101 Junior with a 100 foot tape measure simulation of the solar systems planet scaled distances. Ice Daze is a fun family event with winter/nature activities, plus solar and night observing. FAAC members enjoyed dinner at Three Hermanos Restaurant prior to night time observing.

Every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm, FAAC's Dennis Salliotte, Bob Clubb, and Ken Anderson present "Winter Sky" show in the HFCC planetarium. Shows are free and first come first serve. Doors open around 7:15 pm and close promptly at 7:30 pm. Sometimes, Ken brings his binoculars to treat guest with post show highlights outside in the Science Building parking lot. FAAC members will be treated to this performance at February's club meeting. Bob Clubb has created a FAAC/HFCC Planetarium webpage. Dr. Jacobs and Mike Lapresto have created a Tour of the Solar System on the campus of HFCC.

The SIG meetings are usually the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm at HFCC Rosenau conference room; however, February meeting is cancelled since it is Valentine's Day. Tony Licata announced the next Dark Sky workshop will be September 29-October 5 at River Valley in Gladwin, MI (immediately following the September 25-28 star gaze so we can keep

equipment set up!). This site has restrooms and a shower.

FAAC meetings are every fourth Thursday of each month (next is February 28) normally at HFCC Rossenau conference room. We will be voting on the "Deliberate misuse of a hand-held laser pointer" amendment. Main Presentation will be the "Winter Sky" show in the HFCC Science building planetarium, with either Ken or Dennis doing the show. The FAAC Board meeting is the first Thursday of each month (February 7, 5 pm) at Dimitri's Restaurant in Dearborn, MI. We are requesting help from Doug Bock or someone familiar with MySpace, to link an astronomy MySpace account with our FAAC website, with the intent to attract younger members.

The FAAC Library in HFCC Science Center, conference room 109 may be open one hour before monthly FAAC meeting. Gary Stahl recommends a courtesy e-mail a day before the meeting. The list of 100+ books and brief descriptions is available at the FAAC Yahoo site; books can be signed out for one month, with extensions allowable. There are still 20 or more books to be cataloged. President Doug Bauer and V.P. Gordon Hansen are backup key holders for returning books.

George and Pat Korody plus many others plan to attend Winter Star Party (February 2008). Register or find out more details on the Winter Star Party web site. Cost is about \$75 per person, plus \$48 to camp.

The 5th Astronomy Expo and Swap meet will be February 16, 9 am-4 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on 6 Mile near Merriman, Livonia, is being coordinated by Tom Blaszak, who is seeking volunteers. They will have an indoor planetarium in the gymnasium, solar observing, plus door prizes/raffle. There will be two drawings for each paid admission for prizes from Televue, Edmonds Scientific, Sky & Telescope, and Astronomy magazines. Six presentations are planned, including Fred Adams of University of Michigan, and a professor from University of Toledo. This year we will be expanding to use the chapel. Kids are free. We will be advertising in both broadcast (WDTE, WTVS) and print (Detroit Free Press). Thanks to sponsors Rider's of Livonia and the Great Red Spot.

Total eclipse of the moon occurs February 20, 8:43 pm - 12:09 am, with Umbra/Total Eclipse from 10:01 to 10:51 pm. FAAC will be supporting

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Minutes ... (from page 6)

two sites: Marshlands Museum in Lake Erie Metropark 7:30-11 pm. (free event, but Metropark vehicle permit required); New Detroit Science Center (DSC) will also be observing from their parking lot, plus a big projection on the wall. DSC Planetarium and Cafeteria will remain open.

Hillside Elementary Outreach – Farmington Hills is March 13.

FAAC Club Banquet is at Station 885, 885 Starkweather (3 blocks north of Plymouth Rd, east of downtown), Plymouth, MI March 29, 6 pm. – contact Doug Bauer, \$30 per person. Please pay Treasurer Steve Flessa or contact Doug Bauer (dougbauer@comcast.net, 313-828-7385) in advance. Speaker is Todd Flescher from the DSC. See announcement in this newsletter.

Astro Slide Show, Prizes, Astro Jeopardy. Al Bates may be updating last year's video/slide show. George and Pat are seeking small item contributions for raffle. Limited seating only 50 tickets. Dress Code: Business casual (club shirt optional), Suits O.K.

Lights Out America is March 29 8-9 pm to demonstrate the effect of light pollution (enjoy the Milkyway!), and demonstrate energy waste and potential energy savings.

Everyone is requested to turn off outside lighting between 8-9 pm. This will be similar to San Francisco where they saved \$millions. Last month Paris turned off their lights for global warming, and observed the benefit of the night sky. Frank Ancona, representing the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) Committee,

Met with both Livonia and Westland City Councils to discuss potential savings. Ann Arbor switched to LED lights on two streets with full LED before 1AM, and half LED after 1 am; this is a step in the right direction for reducing energy consumption (100% savings) and improving naked eye visibility of the night sky, but current light pollution filters may not work with LED. He previously met with our Governor (Jennifer Granholm) and State Congressman (Mr. Lavanche and Mr. Kotter) and informed them of about \$10 million potential cost savings for new rheostat dimming lights, and downward light fixtures. One reference stated Sacramento wasted \$150 million in lighting. He convinced Lansing to turn off lights on the capital in the late evening. We wish him the best luck in encouraging our legislature to purchase efficient lighting, saving taxpayers money, and preserving our night sky.

Messier Marathon March (alternative date April 5) – possibly Lake Hudson.

Beginner's Night will now be at both Lake Erie Metropark (Marshlands Museum) and Island Lake State Park (Spring Mill Pond), Saturday nights, May 10, (Astronomy Day), June 7, July 12, August 9, October 4.

Astronomy Day May 10 features DSC solar observing, and a photo contest for deep sky, and lunar/planetary.

Astronomy At The Beach (AATB) is September 5-6, Kensington MetroPark.

Kensington MetroPark is seeking recommendations for a new pavilion (next year), acknowledging that the GLAAC AATB brings in more people than any other single event at the park. Next GLAAC planning meeting is Sunday TBD at 1 pm at the Nature Center. Contact Bob MacFarland or Bob FitzGerald for details or future meetings.

Great Lake Star Gaze is September 25-28, Gladwin.

2009 is the International Year of Astronomy (IYA 2009) celebrating 400th year of the (Galileo's) telescope. American Astronomy Society and Astronomical League are celebrating "International Year of the Telescope". All year long, expect speakers. Astronomy Day will be advertised greater, and we may get additional support for our AATB. DSC, Cranbrook, FAAC, and GLAC plan to bring more astronomy to the general public. Eric Rasmussen will be planning events at University of Michigan (Dearborn and Ann Arbor) and HFCC. U-M will have Saturday Morning Talks. John Schroer passed out several handouts at the board meeting to show national intentions.

Gordon Hansen has sweatshirts, shirts, hats, and patches available for purchase from Diane Worth's last order. We are considering a new order from Saginaw for sweatshirts, jackets, shirts, hats, and patches and a possible expansion of items from a new catalog. Gordon has new small logo on chest stenciled \$10 T-shirts and \$20 sweatshirts, which were available for the SESMA/FAAC picnic.

The 2008 Astronomy calendars are available for \$7. Royal Canadian Handbooks are in for \$TBD. Please contact Gordon Hansen if interested.

Seeking 2007 speakers for both FAAC 30-60 minute Main Presentations, and 15-20 minute Tech Talks. Contact Doug Bauer at dougbauer@comcast.net or call 313-828-7385.

Meeting Agenda - February 28

Changed Location (for this meeting only)!

HFCC – Technology Building – Ghafari Conf. Room

For map: http://www.hfcc.edu/contact/campus_maps.pdf

5:30 pm Opening/Introduction/Member Observing

Tech Talk/Presentation: Planetarium Show – HFCC Planetarium - Ken Anderson

Club Business/Secretary/Treasurer reports

Club Projects/Committees/Member support

- Lunar Eclipse Event – Recap – Gordon Hansen/John Schroer/Bob MacFarland
- Astro-Imaging SIG - Tony Licata
- 5th Annual Astronomy Expo & Swap – Recap – Tom Blaszak
- By-law Amendment Reading/Vote – Doug Bauer/Ken Anderson
- Club Banquet - Saturday, March 29, 2008 - Doug Bauer
- Winter Star Party - Recap – All participants
- Open - All

Treasurer's Report

Gordon Hansen

Account	1/23/2008 Balance
Bank Accounts	
Checking	\$ 402.55
Savings	\$ 2,646.66
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$ 3,049.21
Cash Accounts	
Cash Account	\$ 89.94
TOTAL Cash Accounts	\$ 89.94
Investment Accounts	
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 2,041.51
Asset Accounts	
Equipment	\$ 359.96
Scholarship	\$ 463.05
TOTAL Asset Accounts	\$ 823.01
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 6,003.67
Memo:	
GLAAC	\$2,015.62

New Members!!!!

Gordon Hansen

The FAAC welcomes:

- Christopher Behler
- Kevin Medon
- Eric and Kim Veggian
- Ben Cline
- James Kapron
- Albert Sadellari

Let us know how we can help make your amateur astronomy experience more rewarding.

SIG - Astro Imaging

The next meeting of the Astro Imaging SIG is Thursday, March 13, HFCC in Dearborn, in the Administrative Services and Conference Bldg. (same as the FAAC General Meeting).

If you drive up to the Faculty parking lot gate, it should open allowing you to park close to the building. Topic is TBD.

Items for Sale

Photon 127 5" f9 achromatic refractor for sale. \$300 OBO. Clay Kessler, ckessler@gatecom.com.

Schmidt-Newtonian 10" – F5.35, 1360 mm focal length with 2" focuser, 60 mm guide scope, Thousand Oaks Full aperture solar filter (Mylar). Cooling fan, extra set of "O" rings, Optron Corrector plate. Crestliner mount (on wheels). Available. Scope made by Nelson Lewis of Detroit Astronomical Society in 1962. Purchased 1981. Selling telescope for \$325. Mount for \$200. Contact: Harold Thomason 313-584-7465

Coulter 10" Dobsonian telescope. \$400. Contact Bob Stonik, 313-361-4954.

Orion XT10 Intelliscope for sale/trade. With computerized object locator, Orion soft OTA bag, new 2" crayford focuser and 1.25" adapter, Bob's knobs on secondary, custom baffle/cooling fan for primary, 8X50 RACI finder, Telrad base, custom stalk for COL. Two years old, excellent, nice star test. New focuser just installed. \$650/neg. Or get other focuser (Moonlite) CR2 for \$200 more. Willing to trade (for nice APO refractor). Jim Moscheck 313-386-6944, 313-320-9260 cell



FAAC Dinner Banquet 2008

*Saturday, March 29, 2008
6:00pm until ?*

Astro Slide Show – Prizes – Astro-Jeopardy

LOCATION: Station 885, located at 885 Starkweather, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, 734-459-0885.

Dinner Selections:



10oz. Prime Rib of Beef au Jus with Roasted Potatoes

OR

Salmon with Rice Pilaf

OR

Chicken Piccata with Linguini



Dinner includes bread, fresh mixed vegetable medley, and a mixed green salad

Dessert: Peach Cobbler



Coffee, tea, iced tea, and soft drinks will be available throughout the evening.
A Cash Bar is available. Ask your server for beer, wine, and mixed drinks.

ADMISSION: \$30 per person.

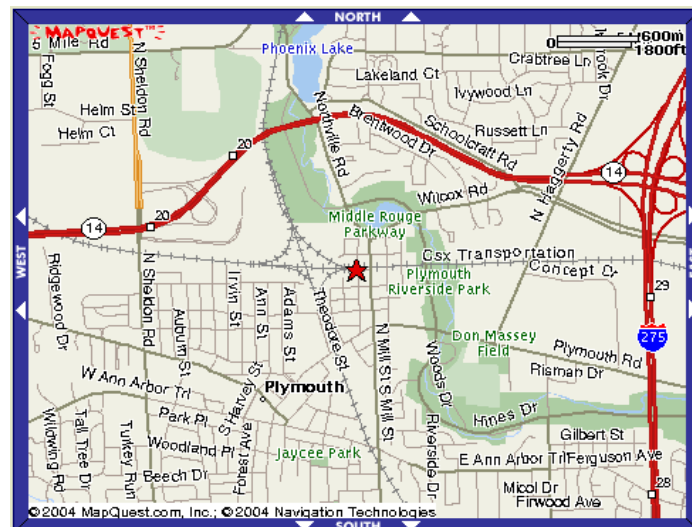
Cocktails 6:00 pm (cash bar), Dinner 7 pm.

Make Checks Payable: Please pay Gordon Hansen at the General Meeting, or send payment to Ford Amateur Astronomy Club, P.O. Box 7527, Dearborn, MI 48121-7527.

"Thank you for another great year. We hope to see you there. Please let us know if you are coming!"

- - FAAC Board.

Location: The restaurant, **Station 885** is located 3 blocks north of Plymouth Road, just east of downtown Plymouth. * See STAR on map*



For More Information: Contact Doug Bauer via email: DougBauer@comcast.net or call (248) 828-7385

Ford Amateur Astronomy Club
Star Stuff Newsletter
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Dearborn MI 48121-7527



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