



Volume 24, Number 10

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## President's Article

By Tim Campbell

### AATB Recap & Partial Solar Eclipse

The biggest event of the year is now behind us. George Korody informs me that the count for this year's number of guests was about 3,500 — according to Kensington Metropark. That's quite a number of visitors.

I spent most of the time at my telescope getting reactions from the public as they looked through the eyepiece. We did bring out the night vision image intensifier for M13, M27, and M57. M27 renders quite nicely through an Ha narrowband filter using the intensifier — revealing far more detail than would otherwise be visible while still managing to knock back the light pollution.

A big Thank You goes out to all who participated to put on this amazing show for the public!

We also had our annual Eerie Skies "Beginner's Night" this month at Lake Erie Metropark. Unfortunately the

clouds were not yielding the skies to our telescopes although we did present Astronomy 101 inside to a very active audience which had many great questions. This was the final "Beginner's Night" of the year.

### Partial Solar Eclipse

The next big event occurs at our club meeting... where the featured presentation will be a partial solar eclipse (live). The October club meeting on the 23rd coincides with the beginning of a partial solar eclipse visible from Michigan. The eclipse begins at approximately 5:40pm local time. Sunset occurs about one hour later.

Realizing that the club meeting isn't going to compete with an eclipse, I looked for locations nearby with good visibility to the western horizon. The new south wing on the science building (this is the building immediately west of our normal meeting room in the Administration and Conference Center building) has a rooftop observation terrace.

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# STAR STUFF

## October 2014 - Vol. 24 No 10

STAR STUFF is published eleven times each year by:

**FORD AMATEUR ASTRONOMY CLUB**  
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SECRETARY: Ellen Duncan  
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### 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 Administration Services and Conference Center in Dearborn. Refer to our website for a map and directions ([www.fordastronomyclub.com](http://www.fordastronomyclub.com)).

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 a private observing site near Gregory Michigan and Lake Erie Metro Park. 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: 313-757-2582. or send email inquiries to [info@fordastronomyclub.com](mailto:info@fordastronomyclub.com).

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 Members: \$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 subscriptions request and payment. Do not send any money directly to the FAAC for this.

### Star Stuff Newsletter Submissions

Your submissions to STAR STUFF are welcome! Send your story and/or images to the editor: [StarStuff@fordastronomyclub.com](mailto:StarStuff@fordastronomyclub.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 the 15th can be included in that issue.

\* FAAC Members are welcome to join our Ford Astronomy Club Yahoo!Group. Messages photos, files, online discussions, and

*This month's background photos of the moon Page 1 courtesy of John Kirchhoff. See more of John's photos at:*

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/33926475@N06/with/4311533997/>

Other locations were considered, but this location appears to have a view down to 1.7° above the horizon and has the advantage of providing a backup option.

The eclipse begins with the Sun located about 9.5° above the horizon which means we'll see most of the event before it begins to dip behind the trees. The Sun drops to 1.7° above horizon at 6:23pm — meaning we'll have unobstructed visibility for 45 minutes worth of the eclipse.

We will request access to the observation terrace early so that we can set up solar telescopes long before the meeting begins. To access the observation terrace, enter the south wing of the science building and take the elevator to the top floor. The elevator doors open facing the door onto the terrace. The stairway adjacent to the elevator also goes to the same location.

The physics departments at HFC and UMD have been invited as well — we will likely have a number of students and guests up there with us. The top floor of the UMD parking garage was also considered... and while substantially larger, it's view to the horizon isn't quite as good (though it was close.)

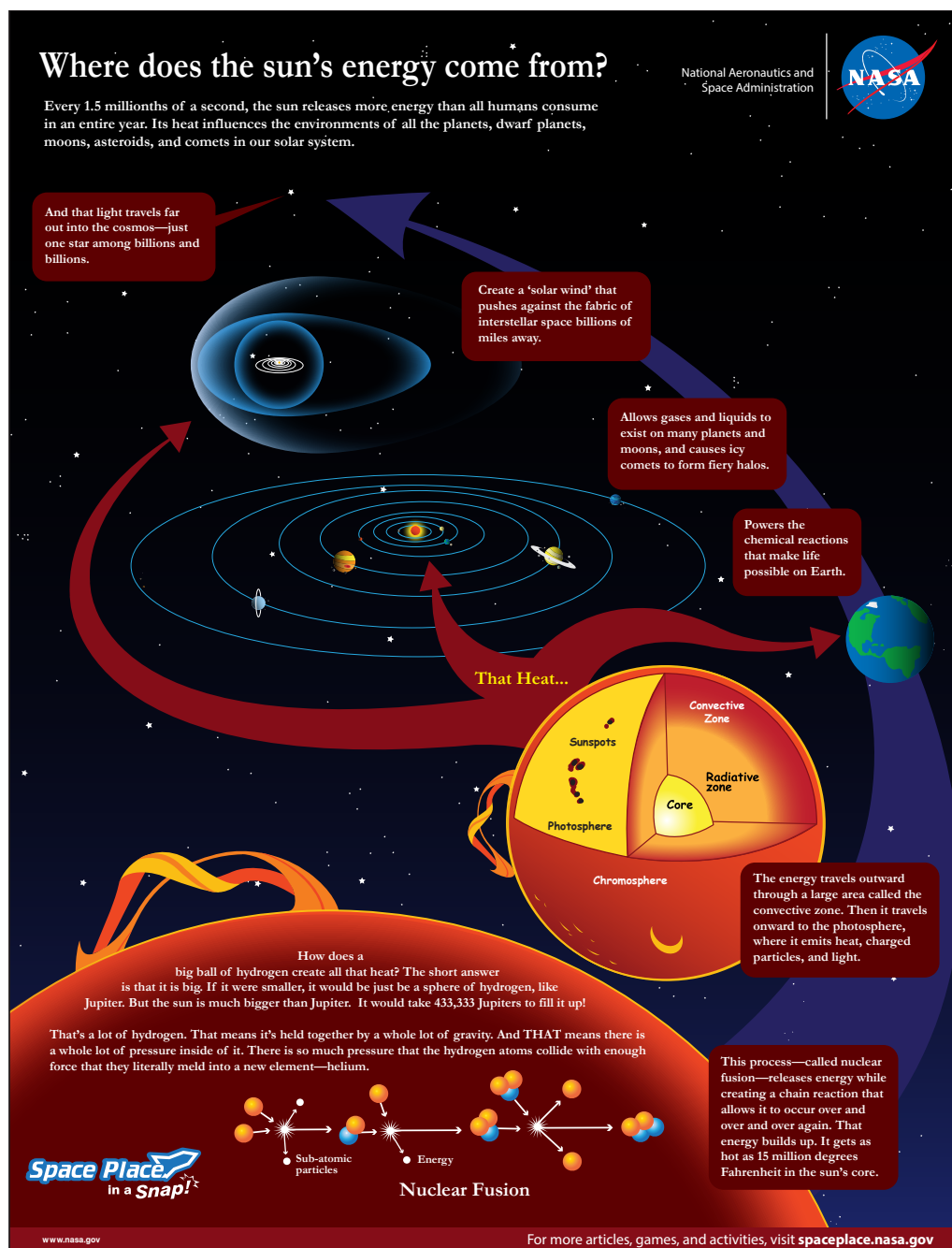
In addition to our club members' solar scopes, we also have 100 sets of Solar Viewers (cardboard rectangle with the solar filter for visual observing.)

And then there's the backup plan...

In the extremely unlikely event that we have clouds (I realize this hardly ever happens in Michigan) we'd like to have our normal meeting inside the room and will connect via the Internet to an online telescope to watch the eclipse.

As if the partial solar eclipse isn't enough of a "main event", we also have a planetarium show for the autumn sky. We will not have a "Tech Talk" this month.

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### Space Place in a Snap: Where Does the Sun's Energy Come From?

This month, the Space Place is doing something a little bit different for our monthly column—providing you with a beautifully informative and educational poster about the mechanics of our sun. This poster accompanies our latest "Space Place in a Snap" animation. This "Snap" series is a set of narrated videos and posters that, together, explain basic scientific concepts in a dynamic new medium. Entertaining in their own right, we also wish to bring this new resource to your attention as an educational tool. In this edition, we address the important question of why our sun is so hot.

To see the video that goes along with this poster, visit: <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/sun-heat>.

## Treasurer's Report October 13, 2014

By Gordon Hansen

	Oct 13, 14
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Checking	957.98
11000 · FAAC Savings	
11100 · FAAC Club Savings	616.41
11200 · Equipment	1,408.36
11300 · Scholarship	322.26
11400 · GLAAC	5,829.18
Total 11000 · FAAC Savings	8,176.21
12000 · Petty Cash Account	100.24
13000 · CD's	
13100 · CD 200599272	1,060.56
13200 · CD 205196033	1,005.32
13300 · CD 89265268	1,108.35
Total 13000 · CD's	3,174.23
Total Checking/Savings	12,408.66
Total Current Assets	12,408.66

## Meeting Agenda - October 23th

HFCC – Berry Auditorium -Admin. Services & Conference Center [www.fordastronomyclub.com](http://www.fordastronomyclub.com)  
5:30

### Opening/Introduction/Member Observing

#### Main Presentation:

Partial Solar Eclipse

### Club Projects/Committees/Member Support

### Club Business/Secretary/Treasurer/Equipment Reports

## President's Article

(continued from Page 2)

### Other Topics:

**Club Elections:** It's time to nominate candidates for club officer positions. Annual elections are held at the January meeting. Anyone interested in running should please contact Frank Ancona or Greg Ozimek.

**Sirius Award:** It's also time to nominate individuals for the club's annual "Sirius Award". This award is presented annually at the club banquet to our club's "brightest star".

- Please send your nominations to the club president via email: [president@fordastronomyclub.com](mailto:president@fordastronomyclub.com)
- You may nominate more than one person (although only one person can win).
- Please also include a few sentences describing why your nominee(s) should be considered for the award.

Any current member of the club may be nominated with the following exceptions:

1. "Current" club officers are not eligible (however past officers are eligible)
2. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible to receive it again.

Clear Skies!

## Astro Imaging SIG

Gordon Hansen

All are invited to join us in the Astro Imaging SIG meetings, to share and discuss images, experiences, and techniques.

We always have a good time, with lively discussion, and sharing of valuable information.

Next meeting is **November 13th**. The meeting room location – HFCC Admin. Services and Conference Center (same building), Berry Amphitheater Auditorium.

Topics invited. Pizza served.

## FAAC Events 2014

**October 23 - Partial Solar Eclipse at HFC**

**November 13 - Astro SIG meeting at HFC**

**December 4 - General Meeting at HFC**

*Background Photo from Lunt Solar Scope Image taken at the Hector J Robinson Observatory, June 28, 2010*

## One FAAC members blog

<http://hjrobservatory.blogspot.com/>

A few updates on the observatory, quick articles and photos. I'll try to improve my writing on this blog. Also, I try to keep daily updates on this blog. - Greg Knekleian, HJRO volunteer.

## FAAC Equipment Report 9/10/14

Item	Currently Held By:	Date Last Verified
<b>Telescopes</b>		
4" Dobsonian	George Korody	1/18/14
4 ½ " Galileo Alt/Az Reflector	James French	7/12/14
8" Orion 8XTi Dobsonian	Tim Campbell	10/4/14
4" Donated Reflector in need of repair	George Korody	1/18/14
<b>Presentation Tools</b>		
Projector	Jim Frisbie	10/7/14
Projection Screen 8'	Bob MacFarland	2/13/14
Speaker System w/wireless mic	Bob Mac Farland	2/13/14
Bullhorn	George Korody	1/18/14
DVD Player	Jim Frisbie	1/26/14
Projection Screen 6'	Gordon Hansen	7/13/14
Projector, ViewSonic	Gordon Hansen	10/7/14
<b>Demonstration Tools</b>		
Weight On Planets Scale	George Korody	1/18/14
Lunar Phase Kit	Bob MacFarland	2/13/14
100 ft Scale Model Solar System Kit	Bob MacFarland	2/13/14
<b>Display Items</b>		
Astronomy Event Sign (3' X 6')	Gordon Hansen	7/13/14
PVC Display Board - Folding	Tim Campbell	6/5/14
Banner – Large (32" X 16')	Dennis Salliotte	9/30/14
Banner – Medium (24" X 72")	George Korody	9/27/14
Banner – Small (24" X 32")	George Korody	3/15/14
Tri-Fold Presentation Boards	Don Klaser	1/23/14
Tri-Fold Poster Board (Early Club Photos)	George Korody	1/18/14
<b>Other</b>		
Sky Quality Meter	Jon Blum	9/26/14
Canopy (10' X 10')	Tim Campbell	8/10/14
Equipment Etching Tool	Gordon Hansen	4/22/14
Pop Cooler	Michael Dolsen	9/25/14

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