



CAPE FEAR Skies

Monthly Newsletter
Cape Fear Astronomical Society
Serving Wilmington, NC and Surrounding Areas



*Cape Fear Astronomical Society is a tax-exempt organization
under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.*

July 2022

President's Report

by Jon Stewart-Taylor

The first week of July is the middle of the year. It's a good time to look back over the year so far, and to look ahead to the rest of the year to come.

The club appears to be growing nicely with a batch of new members. This is perhaps the most important thing, since a club is only as strong as its members. Hopefully we can meet the needs of the members as they help the club grow.

The development of the observatory is continuing, with several members getting some good use out of it (see the article elsewhere in this newsletter). We have received donations of numerous telescopes and club members have repaired and restored some to full usability. The Observatory Committee are planning the development of the observatory to meet the needs of the club increasingly over time. I believe we'll see significant results by the end of the calendar year.

"To each according to their needs, and from each according to their abilities." We've been concentrating on the needs of the members.

But, the club needs members to give of their time and abilities. Write an article for the newsletter. Give a presentation at a meeting, or find someone outside the club who can do so. Critically for 2023, serve as a club officer.

Many of our current officers are wearing too many hats. Karl is both the AVP and the Newsletter editor. Hank is both the AL Coordinator and the Observatory chairman. Skip is both VP and Outreach coordinator. I am currently webmaster, membership coordinator, and SIG chairman on top of President.

If you could help us out by filling one of these roles, it would help the club grow stronger and more responsive to the members needs.

Calendar

July 2022

Date – Event – Time

04 Earth at Aphelion; 05:00 UTC; #Earth is furthest from the sun

07 First Quarter Moon; 02:14 UTC

09 Public Observing, 8:30 PM – starts at sunset; Carolina Beach State Park

**10 ★ Cape Fear Astro Monthly Meeting ★
CFAS Monthly Meeting - 7:00pm – 9:30pm
212 DeLoach Hall; UNCW
Also simulcast via Zoom**

13 Full Moon; 18:37 UTC

19 Pluto at opposition; 17:00 UTC

20 Last Quarter Moon; 14:18 UTC

21 Moon and Mars together; 17:00 UTC; Moon 1 degree from Mars; 77 degrees from Sun; Morning

22 Moon and Uranus together; 07:00 UTC; Moon ¼ degree from Uranus; 71 degrees from sun; Morning

22 Club Observing @ Starfields (the Club Observatory); 7:00 PM; 3rd Quarter Moon

23 Club Observing @ Starfields (the Club Observatory); 7:00 PM; 3rd Quarter Moon

28 New Moon; 17:54 UTC

29 Club Observing @ Starfields (the Club Observatory); 7:00 PM; 3rd Quarter Moon

30 South Delta Aquarids; ZHR 25; 2 days after new moon

30 Club Observing @ Starfields (the Club Observatory); 7:00 PM; 3rd Quarter Moon

30 Club Observing 19:00 Club Observing (Inew moon) Club Observatory

Astro phenomena from:

<https://www.universalworkshop.com/astronomical-calendar-any-year/>

Coming Meeting Planned Programs

July - "Exploring Galaxy Morphology using the Coma Galaxy Cluster", by Jon

August – Astrophotography, Part 2, by George

September – Stars, by Roger

2022 Public Events

Date	Time	Event	Where
Jul 9	30 min before Sunset	Public Observing	CBSP
Aug 6	30 min before Sunset	Public Observing	CBSP
Sep 3	30 min before Sunset	Public Observing	CBSP
Oct 1	30 min before Sunset	Public Observing	CBSP
Oct 1	TBA	International Observe the Moon Night	CFM
Oct 29	30 min before Sunset	Public Observing	CBSP

Where (Locations):

- ★ CBSP: Carolina Beach State Park
- ★ CFM: Cape Fear Museum

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Usual meeting dates – watch emails for exceptions

Phenomena: First Wednesday

Both Eyes: Second Tuesday

Astrophotography: As Requested/Announced

Telescope Usage: Third Tuesday

New Astronomer: Third Wednesday

Outreach: Fourth Tuesday

New Moon Weekend at the Observatory

by Jon Stewart-Taylor

We had two observing sessions scheduled for the 24th and 25th at the end of June.

That was the new moon weekend and the weather forecast was unusually good for both Friday and Saturday.

FRIDAY

On Friday I got to the observatory around 8 o'clock and found new member Roger Blake waiting for me. I used the club's 8 inch Orion, and he brought a reflector he purchased for his grandchildren. He spent quite a bit of time arguing with the mount of the inexpensive scope. He's hoping that he gets it under control for the kids.

Because it's June it took a while for sunset to actually happen. Twilight was slow after sunset but eventually we had a sky full of stars. I was going through some of the spring galaxies before they got away. After that I moved onto the late spring/early summer globular clusters. As it got past 10 o'clock, the summer constellations Scorpius Sagittarius and Ophiuchus were available and I spent some time in the open clusters and nebulae in the summer Milky Way.

As it's not uncommon for this part of Southeast North Carolina, dew began to fall around 1030 or 11 and we were basically done. The club's 8 inch has no dew control yet. We might want to consider adding some.

SATURDAY

On Saturday, when I got to the observatory Skip had already arrived and set up as I believe had newish members the Tuckers (Thomas, not Buzz). New member Brendan O'Byrne also arrived a little later.

Skip had his newly updated IOptron mount with 8 inch SC. Thomas had his 5 inch Celestron and Brendan bought a pair of binoculars. The club's "zero gravity" chair from the shed gave him a good base for his binocular observing. I pulled out the club 8 inch again. It is extraordinarily convenient to have a decent size scope with less than five minutes set up right at the observatory site.

Skip was testing his mount to see if a significant pointing deviation had been corrected. It appears to have been fixed. Thomas was hunting down stuff he hadn't seen before. Brendan used his binoculars in the Cygnus, Sagitta and Vulpecula region to find summer binocular tourist traps. It was his first time to see the "Coat Hanger".

It's good to see people getting together at the observatory and observing the beauty of the dark skies and deep sky objects.

Hope to see some of you there at the next club observing sessions.

Why Post-Process?

by Karl Adlon

Straight out of the camera:



Post-Processed:



Any Questions?



Get to Know YOUR Astronomical League

www.astroleague.org



The Astronomical League (Astroleague or AL) is one of the largest amateur astronomical organizations in the world. The organization serves to encourage an interest in astronomy (especially amateur astronomy) and promote the science of astronomy by:

- ✓ fostering astronomical education;
- ✓ providing incentives for astronomical observation and research;
- ✓ assisting communication among amateur astronomical societies.

CFAS is one of over 300 member societies affiliated with the Astroleague. Your membership in CFAS allows you take full advantage of this relationship so periodically review the information below to see how the Astroleague can support your astronomical interests and endeavors.

AL Home Page	www.astroleague.org
Observing Programs	https://www.astroleague.org/observing.html
NEW! June Night Sky Guide	https://www.astroleague.org/files/u220/2022/20July/2015.pdf
Galaxy Season Observing Challenge	https://www.astroleague.org/content/al-observing-challenge-special-observing-award
ALCon 2022 Information	https://alcon2022.org/
NEW! Speaker Line Up for ALCon 2022	https://alcon2022.org/speakers/
NEW! Past Issues of <i>Reflector Magazine</i>	https://www.astroleague.org/reflector/april-2022-reflector-magazine
CFAS ALCor	Hank Lyon, hlyon8448@gmail.com
Reminders and AL News Bites	Welcome new CFAS members! Your quarterly <i>Reflector</i> magazine will arrive via US Mail unless you specify the digital/email version. Please let your ALCor know your preference. Cutoff for ALCon 2022 mail-in registration is June 27 th and July 6 th for online registration. <i>There is no word yet if any of the July 28-30 event will be offered online.</i>

The Astroleague Correspondent (or ALCor) is your link between CFAS and the Astroleague. Don't hesitate to contact your ALCor if you need assistance with anything Astroleague related whether its general information or detailed coordination of observing program completions for certification. Check back here each month to see any new links, postings or reminders.

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CFAS Correspondence:

Please contact the society at: CFAS, P.O. Box 7685, Wilmington, NC 28406

Members are welcome and encouraged to submit articles or other input for "CAPE FEAR SKIES". Submit any and all interesting items for publication to Karl Adlon, Editor (email kmja79@yahoo.com).

Cape Fear Astronomical Society is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

CFAS Officers:

President:	Jon Stewart-Taylor
Vice-Pres:	Skip Hagers
Associate VP	Karl Adlon
Secretary:	George Pappayliou
Treasurer:	Ben Steelman
ALCor	Hank Lyon

Dues: Dues for 2022 are \$25 for Individual and \$32 for Family Membership. Students dues are \$5 per year.

Mail to :CFAS, P.O. Box 7685, Wilmington, NC 28406

Contact Us:

You can contact CFAS at info@capefearastro.org

Our website is <http://www.capefearastro.org/>