

Auto-guider Up on Tagney LX-200

As this picture by Steve Diesso attests, the auto-guider is now operational on the LX-200. Steve's shot is a stack of 10 3-minute exposures. So, if you are interested in learning how to use the equipment we have out on the hill, contact a key holder and make plans to come out some Saturday night (see back page for key holder details.)



Newsletter Editor Sought

On a personal note I'd like to announce my resignation as newsletter editor. My children are now in school and quite active in a number of activities and I need to spend more of my time with them during these years. This written announcement reflects the one made

to the board at the October meeting. The MAS provides the page layout software and we have a special email account used to send it out to everybody. If you are interested in being an editor contact either President Steve Diesso or myself through the contact info on the back of every newsletter.— *the Editor*

November / December Calendar

Nov 17 (Fri) - Board Mtg. in Quonset 7:00 pm;
New Member Forum in Z-Dome 7:30 pm;
General Mtg. in Quonset 8:00 pm. **Guest Speaker:** AJ Heroux, a Physics Major from UW-Whitewater will talk about his internship at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Greenbanks, West Virginia.

Dec 1 (Fri) - Christmas Party at the Observatory 7:00 pm. If bad weather occurs on the first, then the party will be held on the next day Dec 2 (Sat) at 5:00 pm.

Dec 11 (Mon) - Board Mtg. in Quonset 7:00 pm.

Unless otherwise specified meetings are at the Observatory. Check the website for up-to-date information on these meetings and events.

Meeting Roundup

September's speaker, Dr. Amy Barger from UW-Madison talked about her studies in the X-Ray spectrum seeking to understand the evolution of galaxies.

October's speaker was UW-Whitewater's Dr. Bob Berman talking about his work with the Spitzer infra-red telescope on discerning the structure of our own galaxy. See <http://irsa.ipac.caltech.edu/data/SPITZER/GLIMPSE/>

Both talks were well attended and received.

What I Did on My Summer Vacation

I went out to Tucson, AZ on September 18th. I attended the AOP-Advanced Observing Program. This is an all nighter that's worth every dollar!! Kitt Peak is the world's largest collection of research telescopes in southern Arizona. It is on the Tohono O'Odham Reservation. There are twenty-three optical telescopes and two radio telescopes representing dozens of astronomical research institutions. The scope I used for visual viewing was a 16" Cassegrain. The camera was a Canon EOS Rebel 300 digital SLR. The camera was attached to a Televue 76mm apochromat refractor. I will be doing a presentation in February with more pictures and information on this trip. The skies were clear and it was amazing just to be there. Following is a picture we took of M31.— Jill Roberts



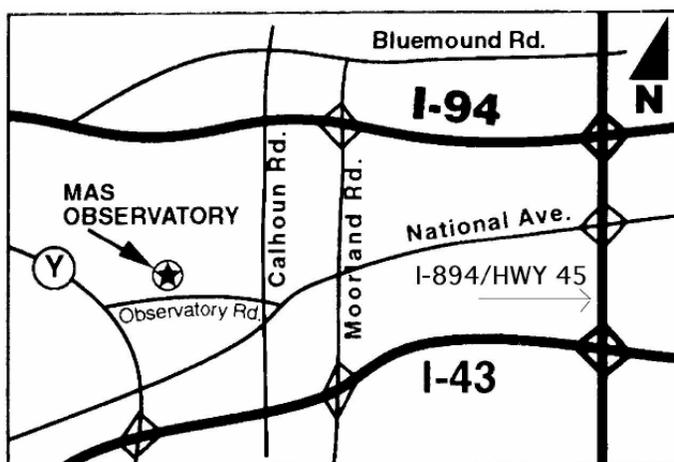
Focal Point Publishing Guidelines

The "Focal Point" is published bi-monthly (Jan, March, May, July, Sept, Nov).

Articles, Announcements, Graphics, Photos, Swap/Sale Ads etc. should be **submitted 10 days prior to the first of the month** of the pending issue.

Article inputs are **strongly** recommended via email in a Text or Word compatible format.

Submit Focal Point inputs to: **MASFocal-Point@yahoo.com**



Star Parties

The Milwaukee Astronomical Society provides tours and viewing for groups of people interested in astronomy. Contact Paul Borchardt at (262) 781-0169 for more information about scheduling and fees.

MAS Officers / Staff

President: Steve Diesso (262) 641-0331
Vice President: Dave Weier (608) 241-1444
Treasurer: Brian Ganiere (414) 961-8745
Secretary: Henry Gerner (414) 774-9194
Observatory Dir: Gerry Samolyk (414) 529-9051
Newsletter Ed: Neil Simmons (262) 889-2039
MAS Observatory: (not working) (262) 542-9071

MAS Membership is open to anyone interested in enriching their knowledge of Astronomy and related topics.

Yearly Membership Dues:

Student (under 18)	\$13		
Resident (Milwaukee and adjacent counties resident)		Non-resident	
Individual	\$31	Individual	\$19
Family	\$37	Family	\$23

Members can get subscriptions to *Sky & Telescope* (©) and *Astronomy* (©) at a club discount.

For more information contact: Bob Manske, 404 Prospect Road, Waunakee, WI 53597. Phone: (608) 849 - 5287. Email: manske@tds.net

Saturday Night Key Holder

On Saturday nights the MAS opens its New Berlin facilities to all its members. If interested in using an observatory on the following nights, the following key holders will be on hand. Please contact them in advance to ensure access.

November

4	Steve Diesso	262-641-0331
11	Brian Ganiere	414-961-8745
18	Carlos Garces	262-786-2623
25	Henry Gerner	414-774-9194

December

2	Chris Hesseltine	414-482-4515
9	Vern Hoag	262-548-9130
16	Tim Hoff	262-662-2212
23	Scott Jamieson	262 592 3049
30	Lee Kieth	414-425-2331

January

6	Dan Koehler	262-662-2987
13	Scott Laskowski	414-421-3517

Loaner Telescopes

These telescopes are available to members for local use.

Scott Jamieson (Waukesha)	(262) 896-0119	8"
Paul Borchardt (MAS site)	(262) 781-0169	6" & 8"

The Milwaukee Astronomical Society
c/o Neil Simmons
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ADDRESS CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

