



LDRAIN, OHIO

GUIDESCOPE

<http://junior.apk.net/~arstar50/BlackRiver.index.html>

B.R.A.S. Officers: President: Mike Harkey
Vice President: Dave Lengyel
Treasurer: John Reising
Secretary: Dave Gulyas

June 2004

Meeting Dates

- Regular Monthly Meeting at the Carlisle Visitor's Center June 2, 2004 7:00 PM
- Monthly Board Meeting at the Blue Sky Restaurant June 10, 2004 7:00 PM

Observing Dates

- Nielsen Observatory " Summer Sky Primer " June 11, 2004 9:30 - 11:30 PM
- Nielsen Observatory " Short Night Stars " June 25, 2004 9:30 - 11:30 PM
- Nielsen Observatory Solar Observing June 27, 2004 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Locations

Nielsen Observatory is located at the Lorain Metro Parks Equestrian Center on Nickel-Plate Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township.

Carlisle Visitor's Center is located at 12882 Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township.

Blue Sky Restaurant is located on RT 58 just north of Rt 2 / 90 on the east side of the street in Amherst.

Birmingham Methodist Church Hall is located in Birmingham, Ohio. Heading west on RT 113, turn left on South ST. This is the first street over the bridge as you enter Birmingham. Continue on South St as it curves to the right. The hall will be on the left.

OTAA

Remember, the club's get-together will be September 18, 2004 at the Birmingham Methodist Church Hall, in Birmingham, Ohio. Doors will open at 4:30 Pm, Dinner at 5:30, and Doorprizes at 6:30. See the club's web site for more details and pictures of last year's event.

Also, the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society will be hosting their OTAA event on June 19, 2004 at Indian Hill. They will be dedicating their new observatory.

Sale and Trade

Meade LX200 12" in excellent condition, heavy duty tripod with 416 / 20 XT Astroguider / Imager. Price: \$2000.00 You may examine it in Avon, Ohio. Tel: 440-667-8799

Note: Please include a brief description of the item you wish to sell or trade along with its condition and any accessories that come with it. Also include the price and your telephone number and/or email address. If you have something you wish to give away to someone in the club, please let me know. It will be included in this news letter. Send the appropriate information to me at the Guidescope via email or telephone.

What's Happenin'

The Venus Transit Tuesday, June 8, 2004 starting an hour before sunrise, or , just before 6 AM. Remember, although this will be a rapid transit, no tickets are necessary :-)

At the last regular meeting, held at the Boy Scout Camp, club supplies were moved from the old clubhouse to the new barn aka ' little house on the prairie ' . The old clubhouse now belongs to the boy scouts, and the new barn now belongs to the club.

A new member to the Black River Astronomical Society was voted in at the last board meeting. The club welcomes Arlene Lengyel who manages our web site.

Our club was represented at the Outdoor Weekend put on by the Metroparks at Sandy Ridge Reservation in N Ridgeville on May 1. Setting up a solar viewing station and manning the information table were Jim Cunningham, Mike Harke, Dave Lengyel, Jim Lengyel and John Reising. Two scopes were put into operation. The Meade EXT 90 mm with auto-tracking used a glass solar filter and was used by the public to see sunspots. The 'Blue Lady' , the club's 5“ refractor was set up with the Hydrogen-Alpha filter and used to see the solar prominences.

The French Connection

I had received a picture from club member Kathryn French of an 'impossible telescope' drawn by Govert Schilling. Although I could not find a way to include it in this month's Guidescope , it did inspire me to search out other bits of trivia for this edition. So, just picture an impossible telescope in your mind as you figure out this trivia question, or do a search on Govert Schilling for some interesting facts.....ed

Question: Your daughter is an astronaut on the moon. She is looking straight up and sees a full Earth. What phase of the moon are you seeing ?

Double Stars

It's spring and there are some nice double stars to look at. Here's a group taken from the Orion Learning Center and submitted by club member Jim Cunningham.

Star Constellation R.A. Dec Mag Sep Colors

Xi Bootis Bootes 14 +19 5,7 7“ Yellow, Red Cor Caroli Canes Venatici 12 +38 3,6 20“ White, White Alcor & Mizar Ursa Major 13 +54 2,4 12“ White, White Some summer doubles. Albireo Cygnus 19 +27 3,5 35“ Yellow, Blue Nu Draconis Draco 17 +55 5,5 62“ White, White Rasalgethi Hercules 17 +14 3,6 4“ Orange, Green Epsilon Lyra 18 +39 5,5 208“ (Double, Double) 5,6 26“ 5,6 23“

Just how close will your telescope be able to resolve a double star ? In the 19th century, a British astronomer named William Dawes experimented to find how close he could resolve a pair of 6th magnitude stars with different apertures. This value, called the Dawes' Limit , can be estimated by dividing 4.54 by the aperture of a telescope in inches.

In other words, a 6-inch scope should be able to resolve a pair of 6th magnitude stars separated by 0.8 arc-seconds, while an 8-inch scope can resolve stars to 0.6 arc-seconds.

Anniversary

This month the Black River Astronomical Society proudly celebrates the 50th anniversary of June, 1954.

Did you know

- If you were to drive a car at 100 kilometers an hour, 24 hours a day then you could reach the sun in about 3 years.
- To remember the types of star classifications, commit the phrase "Oh, Be A Fine Girl Kiss Me" to memory. The first letter of each word is a star classification:
O, B, A, F, G, K, M.
- The umbra, or dark center, of a sunspot varies from just a few hundred to over 50,000 miles across!
- The sun rotates on its axis about once a month
- The gasses in a sunspot average 3000F cooler than the rest of the sun
- A pulsar is a neutron star that emits pulsed radio signals. The first pulsar was discovered in 1967.
- A protostar is a portion of a nebula that is about to form into a new star
- A faculae is an area on the surface of a star that appears brighter by comparison to surrounding regions. ◦ A nova is a sudden increase in luminosity of a star, usually in the magnitude of thousands of times its original brightness. Stars that nova usually return to their original luminosity

These facts are courtesy of: <http://users.aol.com/usgoju/nifty.html>

[back to home page](#)