



The Meridian

Newsletter of the Quad Cities Astronomical Society • August 2014

Upcoming QCAS Events

August 30, QCAS Open House, Jens-Wendt Observatory, Sherman Park.

October 11, QCAS assist to the Boy Scout Camporee at Wapsi.

October 24, QCAS assisted observation night at Bettendorf High School football field, in connection with the Iowa-Illinois American Association of Physics Teachers.

Upcoming Meetings

Due to some scheduling misunderstandings by Bettendorf Library, a couple of our meeting dates have been dropped. Our next meeting is September 8th at 6:30pm.

Meeting Notes

From August 4. Meeting called to order by Dale Hendricks at 6:35pm. The meeting was attended by 13 members including: Sam Snow, Craig Cox, Karl Adlon, Dale Hendricks, Deake Schneider, Al Cattoir, Jim Rutenbach, John Robbins, Gary Sissel, Matt Neilssen, Dana Taylor, Mitch White and Steve VanHyfte.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of August 16 was \$1875.45. This was after receiving a \$480 donation from Mid America's Global Days of Service program (Jeff Struve connection). Thanks, Jeff for pursuing this!

Agenda

The meeting was, generally, a non-business meeting. Dana wanted to announce that the **Eastern Iowa Star Party will take place on September 26-28 at Menke Observatory.** This

coincides with the final 2014 QCAS Open House on Saturday, September 27.

Karl Adlon gave a great two-part presentation that included: (1) valuable instructions and tips for astrophotography and (2) a tutorial on the inner workings of image processing using the Deep Sky Stacker system. Both parts of Karl's presentation can be found on the club web site in the presentations menu item (member login required).

Observing Report. Report from the Observing Session held in conjunction with the Davenport Parks & Recreation Department on August 4th. By Dale Hendricks.

The skies cleared, the humidity was a bit high, the good bathrooms were open for our use and people showed up. We had a great turnout from our group and they all brought great instruments. Thanks to all who did this.

One of the issues we'll need to deal with in the future as we do these (hopefully) is to ensure we have everyone sign in. Most guestimates were that we had 50 people attend. Whether this included our own members or not, I can't quite be certain but we did have a lot of guest "viewers."

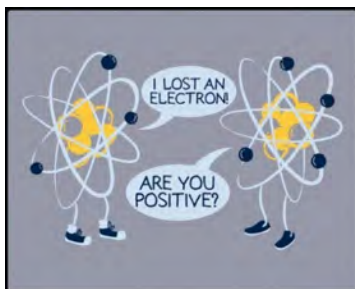
Saturn and one moon, the Moon and some other viewing objects were available and the airport proved to be not much of a problem. One runway is shut down and there was minimal traffic into and out of DAV. Lots of sky shine everywhere but for our purposes this didn't seem to matter very much to



Scope set-up at the Davenport Soccer Complex for an observing session held in conjunction with the Davenport Parks and Recreation Department. Visitors enjoyed fine views of Saturn, Mars and a few easier targets.

anyone. Bugs appeared to be minimal so not much comment on this. I mentioned to Scott in a follow up note that we might be looking at the first Saturday in September for another Davenport area viewing [probably not going to happen - many other events on Labor Day Weekend - ed.]. One person learned of the activity through a WVIK activity board and most of the others seemed to have found the information as a result of a Davenport Parks and Recreation mass email.

QCAS wants to thank Scott Hock and the team at P&R for making this a successful event. We look forward to collaborating on future events.



QCAS Officers and Contacts:

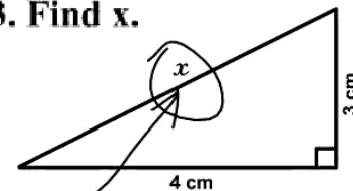
President: Dale Hendricks	Vice-president: Craig Cox
Secretary: John Robbins	Treasurer: John Baker
Director: Dana Taylor	Facilities: John Baker
Web Master: Dana Taylor	Outreach: Matt Nielssen
Programming: Jim Rutenbeck	

Celestial Calendar

Aug 24 01:09 Moon at Apogee: 406523 km
 25 09:13 NEW MOON
 27 00:33 Mercury 3.4°N of Moon
 29 08 Neptune at Opposition
 29 08:14 Moon at Ascending Node
 29 14:08 Spica 2.5°S of Moon
 31 14:21 Saturn 0.4°S of Moon: Occn.
 31 18:43 Mars 4.1°S of Moon
 Sep 02 06:11 FIRST QUARTER MOON
 05 15 Venus at Perihelion
 07 22:29 Moon at Perigee: 358388 km
 08 20:38 FULL MOON
 11 02:32 Moon at Descending Node
 11 17 Mercury at Aphelion
 14 20:01 Aldebaran 1.4°S of Moon
 15 21:05 LAST QUARTER MOON
 20 05:39 Jupiter 5.4°N of Moon
 20 08:56 Mercury 0.5°S of Spica
 20 09:22 Moon at Apogee: 405846 km
 21 13:52 Regulus 4.7°N of Moon
 21 17 Mercury at Greatest Elong: 26.4°E
 22 21:30 Autumnal Equinox
 24 01:14 NEW MOON
 25 12:41 Moon at Ascending Node
 25 19:48 Spica 2.6°S of Moon
 26 04:32 Mercury 4.2°S of Moon
 27 23:46 Saturn 0.8°S of Moon: Occn.
 28 01:26 Mars 3.0°N of Antares
 29 12:01 Mars 5.6°S of Moon All times are CDT.

List from www.astropixels.com

3. Find x.



Here it is

QCAS Meetings: First Monday (workshop) at 6:30pm, and third Monday, (business), at 6:30pm, Bettendorf Library, 2950 Learning Campus Dr., off of 18th Street, Bettendorf.

QCAS Correspondence:

Please send to the society at:
 P.O. Box 3706, Davenport, IA, 52808.
 Members are welcome and encouraged to submit articles for The Meridian.
 Submit Any and all interesting items (via e-mail) to: John Robbins or Dale Hendricks.