

# Harford County Astronomical Society

Bel Air, Maryland  
www.harfordastro.org



Volume 32 Issue 2

February 2006

*“The Pythagoreans bid us in the morning look to the heavens that we may be reminded of those bodies which continually do the same things and in the same manner perform their work, and also be reminded of their purity and nudity. For there is no veil over a star.*

Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus (A.D. 121-80)  
“*The Meditations*”  
(Book XI, paragraph 27)

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**General Meeting: Saturday, February 11, 2006 7:30pm (19:30)  
Public Star Party (Open House), February 4, 2006 at dusk**

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## Club Calendar for 2006

### Meeting night

March 11, 2006  
April 15, 2006  
May 13, 2006  
June 10, 2006  
July 8, 2006  
August 12, 2006  
September 9, 2006  
October 7, 2006  
November 4, 2006  
December 2, 2006

### Open House/Public Star party

March 4, 2006  
April 8, 2006  
May 6, 2006  
June 3, 2006  
July 1, 2006  
August 5, 2006  
September 2, 2006  
October 28, 2006  
November 25, 2006  
December 30, 2006

Meeting time is 19:30 (7:30pm) unless noted otherwise. Dates and times are taken from the HCAS website.  
Please check the website for possible schedule updates and changes.

<http://www.harfordastro.org>

Check the HCAS website for other club events.

Treasurer's Report: \$5,266.85 in the treasury as of 1/14/06.  
There have been no deposits nor disbursements since 1/14/06.

There was no meeting in February 2006 due to heavy snowfall, so there were are no minutes to approve. The dome motorization project is still in the design phase. There have been discussions of this project on the Yahoo Groups–HCAS page reflecting current thinking about how to accomplish the dome upgrades. Once this is completed it will be presented to the club for approval.

### **New business:**

Grace Wyatt has started to archive club information. Someone was doing a fabulous job in the past and it appears no one has been collecting the information for quite some time. So far Grace has newsletters, information (applications and letters from organizations) about activities the club has supported and the articles from the news paper. If anyone has anything they would like to include or think should be included, please contact Grace at 410-836-7285 or [dgracew@comcast.net](mailto:dgracew@comcast.net)

HCAS will be supporting Earth Day in Aberdeen again this year. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 22 from 11 AM to 4 PM (rain date is April 23). If anyone has the ability to observe the sun and can bring their equipment, that would be great. We can also use people who would like to help give out information. If anyone can volunteer some time, please contact Grace at 410-836-7285 or [dgracew@comcast.net](mailto:dgracew@comcast.net)

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2006.

### **Editor's note:**

Election of HCAS Officers and other HCAS functions is rapidly approaching. Please give some thought to the following positions:

- HCAS Treasurer
- HCAS Newsletter Editor
- HCAS Astronomical League Coordinator

I currently hold all three. However, after the next election cycle, I will not be available for any HCAS candidacy.

### **Worthwhile Books (IMHO)**

#### **Celestial Sampler**

Sue French  
Sky Publishing Corp., 2005

Observational and Informational value

#### **Deep-Sky Wonders**

Walter Scott Houston  
Sky Publishing Corp., 2005

Observational and Historical value

#### **Star Names**

#### **Their Lore and Meaning**

Richard Hinkley Allen  
Dover Publications, Inc., 2000

Star name history and mythology

Bill G

**Astronomical League Club Achievements by HCAS Members**

Coordinator: Bill Geertsen [izar@juno.com](mailto:izar@juno.com)

\*\*\*\*\*This list needs to be updated\*\*\*\*\*

!!!Send your info to the coordinator!!!

**Telescope Messier Club**

Steve Krall	110(5/99)	Doris Reese	12
Woody Lower	110(5/90)	Ernie Davis	60
Ernie Webb	110(6/91)	Wayne French	2
Larry Hubble	110(5/91)	Lucy Albert	46
Bill Geertsen	110(6/98)	Leo Hepner	68
Richard Hagenston	110(2/90)	Warren Hoover	77
Phil Schmitz	#1650 110(3/99)		

**Binocular Messier Club**

Stu Chapman	19	Bruce Wrinkle	79
Cathy Tingler	57	Phil Schmitz	#442(1/01)
Frank Varisco	3		

**Double Star Club**

Bill Geertsen	#79(4/99)	Andrew Williams	100(6/2000)
Phil Schmitz	#74(3/99)		

**Urban Club**

Bill Geertsen	100(4/99)	Phil Schmitz	#21(2/01)
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**Herschel-400 Club**

Bill Geertsen	#267(1/03)	Phil Schmitz	#236(10/01)
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**Deep Sky Bino Club**

Phil Schmitz	#120(3/01)		
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**Lunar Club**

Phil Schmitz	#258(1/01)		
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**Caldwell Club**

Phil Schmitz	#8(12/01)		
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<<< Send in your observations!!>>>

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There are mail restrictions (number of pages) on the snail-mail version. To get the most out of your Astro Views, you are encouraged to subscribe to the e-mail version. This is easily done by contacting Bill Geertsen at [izar21093@verizon.net](mailto:izar21093@verizon.net) and adding your e-mail address to his mailing list.

**Astro Views** is the official publication of the Harford County Astronomical Society, P.O. Box 906, Bel Air, MD 21014. For the year 2005 any items for publication in any issue are due to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Please send all contributions (electronic format is STRONGLY encouraged) to Bill Geertsen at (EMAIL):[izar21093@verizon.net](mailto:izar21093@verizon.net), regular mail at: 36 Northwood Drive, Timonium, MD 21093. Permission is not necessary for non-profit use of this material, although proper acknowledgement is required. Address changes should be brought to the attention of the editor at the address given above.  
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**HARFORD COUNTY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 906  
Bel Air, MD 21014**

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Address Correction Requested**