

Cape Fear Skies

*The Official Newsletter of the
Cape Fear Astronomical Society
Wilmington, North Carolina*

A Member Society of the Astronomical League

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April 2007

www.capefearastro.org



*This Month's Meeting –
Sunday, April 1, 2007*

Bryan Auditorium in Morton Hall
on the UNCW Campus

The business meeting of
the Cape Fear Astronomical Society
will begin at 7:00 pm.

The general meeting will begin at 7:45 pm.



Gastronomy!

Please join us for dinner before the meeting at
Applebees on New Center Drive at 5:15pm!



CAPE FEAR SKIES

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Cape Fear Astronomical Society

Meeting minutes by Terry Herrin, acting CFAS Secretary

Meeting Minutes for March 4th CFAS Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomical Society was called to order by President Ronnie Hawes at 7:05pm.

Officer's Report

Treasurer Ben Steelman stated the club is "in the black" with over \$2,000 in the checking account. Ben said he also sent a thank you letter to Rusty and Mary Jo Holt for their donation of a 4.5" Jason telescope to the club. Ronnie and Associate Vice-President Alan Hilburn inspected the telescope and found it in good shape. It has a wooden tri-pod, finder and equatorial mount. The telescope is available for any club member who would like to use it. Alan will research the value of the telescope in case the Holts wish to deduct the value from their taxes. Alan said he will be contacting Johnnie Horn regarding a future presentation. Tom Jacobs reminded the members that he will be presenting next month.

Old Business

Since John Guetta was unable to attend the meeting, the-shirt discussion was tabled until next month. Astronomy Day is April 21st, and members debated either going to Ingram Planetarium in Sunset Beach or having a public viewing at Ft. Fisher. A vote was taken, and members decided to have the viewing at Ft. Fisher starting at 7:30pm behind the museum. Finishing up old business, Ronnie said he would contact Clint North about the combination at the Yamacraw site.

New Business

Ronnie received a letter from UNC-W stating that the club may not be able to use the Morton Hall auditorium after May 2007. Ronnie will follow up with UNC-W for details. He will also contact Dr. Brian Davis to discuss options.

Christa Johnson said there is a nice dark sky site near Kerr, NC. Several members expressed interest in going up there one weekend to check it out.

Observing Report

Several members managed to glimpse the lunar eclipse through the clouds. Canopus was observed at the Holly Shelter air field by Mitch Odess and Christa Johnson. Billy Kidney said he observed the new Supernova to the left of Antares.

The meeting broke for fifteen minutes at 8:00pm. After the break, Ronnie gave his presentation on stars titled "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". After the presentation, Rich Williams stated that he will be taking over the club web site from Susan Buccini.

Everyone thanked Susan for all of the hard work she put into the site. The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.



News Cluster

► The next meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomical Society is April 1 starting at 7:00 pm. Following the meeting, Tom Jacobs will present:

"The Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies"

► The Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club (CAAC) will host the 21st annual Southern Star Astronomical Convention in the Blue Ridge Mountains on April 27-29, 2007. For more info visit

www.charlotteastronomers.org/southernstar.

► Mark your calendar on April 21st for Astronomy Day. Come out and support CFAS and promote Astronomy. The free public viewing begins at 7:30 pm on the grounds of the Fort Fisher Civil War Museum. Bring you 'scopes. A special thanks to Tony Cortese for this year's CFAS Astronomy Day announcement flyer. Copy attached. Print it out and post at work, school, church etc.

► Lee Jackson, once a CFAS member in great standing, has passed away. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Event Calendar for April 2007

April 1	CFAS May Meeting 7:00 pm
April 2	Full Moon, the smallest of the year 1:15 pm
April 3	Moon at apogee, 4:38 am, 252,481 miles
April 8	Easter Sunday Moon passes 6 ° south of Jupiter, 5:00 am
April 10	Last quarter Moon, 2:04 pm
Apr 13/14	CFAS Group Viewing Sessions
April 16	Tax Returns Due
April 17	New Moon, 7:36 am Moon at perigee, 1:58 am, 221,914 miles
April 22	Lyrid meteor shower peeks
Apr 20	CFAS Group Viewing Session
Apr 21	Astronomy Day Viewing, Ft Fisher 7:30 pm
April 24	First Quarter Moon, 2:36 am
April 30	Moon at apogee, 4:38 am, 252,407 miles

All times are EDT unless otherwise noted



News from Our Sister
Society Down Under
Astronomical Society of Albury
- Wodonga

For the latest news from down under, check out our sister society's web site at www.asaw.org.au.

Astronomical History During the Month of April

Date	Milestone
Apr 3, 1947	The largest sunspot observed. 36 times the surface area of the earth.
Apr 12, 1817	Charles Messier, French comet hunter, dies.
Apr 20, 1972	Apollo 16 Lunar Module Orion lands near crater Descartes, carrying astronauts John Young and Charles Duke.
Apr 24, 1932	Discovery of asteroid Apollo, the first asteroid known to cross the Earth's orbit, by German astronomer Karl Reinmuth.
Apr 26, 1962	First impact on the moon by a US spacecraft, Ranger 4.

Springtime Galaxy List

Name	Cons.	R.A.	Dec.	Mag	Size
NGC 2903	Leo	9h 32m	21° 30'	9.0	12.6' by 6.0'
NGC 3115	Sex	10h 05m	-07° 43'	8.9	7.2' by 2.5'
NGC 3521	Leo	11h 06m	00° 02'	9.0	11.0' by 5.1'
NGC 4244	CVn	12h 17m	37° 48'	10.4	16.6' by 1.9'
NGC 4449	CVn	12h 28m	44° 06'	9.6	6.2' by 4.4'
NGC 4490/85	CVn	12h 31m	41° 38'	9.8	2.3' by 1.6'
NGC 4559	Com	12h 36m	27° 58'	10.0	10.7' by 4.4'
NGC 4605	Uma	12h 40m	61° 37'	10.3	5.8' by 2.2'
NGC 4631	CVn	12h 42m	32° 32'	9.2	15.5' by 2.7'
NGC 4656/57	CVn	12h 44m	32° 10'	10.5	15.1' by 3.0'
NGC 5253	Cen	13h 40m	-31° 38'	10.4	5.0' by 1.9'
NGC 5981	Dra	15h 48m	59° 23'	13.2	3.0' by 0.5'
NGC 5982	Dra	15h 39m	59° 21'	11.1	3.0' by 3.1'
NGC 5985	Dra	15h 40m	59° 20'	11.1	5.5' by 3.0'

19 Colorful Double Stars

Name	Cons.	R.A.	Dec.	Mag	Sep
Struve 3053	Cas	0h 03m	66° 06'	5.9, 7.3	15"
Eta Cas	Cas	0h 49m	57° 49'	3.4, 7.4	13"
Almach	And	2h 04m	42° 20'	2.3, 5.0	10"
Gamma Lep	Lep	5h 44m	-22° 27'	3.6, 6.3	97"
h3945	Can Maj	7h 17m	-23° 19'	5.0, 5.8	27"
Ito Can	Can	8h 47m	28° 46'	4.1, 6.0	31"
24 Com	Com B	12h 35m	18° 32'	5.1, 6.3	21"
Izar	Boo	14h 45m	27° 04'	2.6, 4.8	3"
Xi Boo	Boo	14h 51m	19° 06'	4.8, 7.0	6"
Kappa Her	Her	16h 08m	17° 03'	5.1, 6.2	27"
Antares	Sco	16h 29m	-26° 26'	0.9-1.2, 5.4	3"
Ras Algethi	Her	17h 15m	14° 23'	2.7-3.9, 5.4	5"
Omicron Oph	Oph	17h 18m	-24° 17'	5.2, 6.6	10"
95 Her	Her	18h 02m	21° 36'	4.8, 5.2	6"
70 Oph	Oph	18h 06m	-2° 30'	4.2, 6.2	5"
Albireo	Cyg	19h 31m	27° 58'	3.4, 4.7	35"
Omicron Cyg	Cyg	20h 14m	46° 44'	3.8, 7.0	106"
Gamma Del	Del	20h 47m	16° 07'	4.4, 5.0	9"
Delta Cep	Cep	22h 29m	58° 25'	3.4-4.4, 6.1	41"

Variable Star Maxima

Date	Star	R.A.	Dec.	Mag
Apr 2, 2007	S CMi	7h 32.6m	8° 20'	7.5
Apr 7, 2007	V Cas	23h 11.7m	59° 42'	7.9
Apr 11, 2007	T Eri	3h 55.2m	-24° 02'	8.0
Apr 11, 2007	T Col	5h 19.3m	-33° 42'	7.5
Apr 13, 2007	R Oct	5h 25.8m	-86° 26'	7.9
Apr 22, 2007	T cen	13h 41.8m	-33° 36'	5.5
Apr 25, 2007	V Boo	14h 29.8m	38° 52'	7.9
Apr 26, 2007	R Phe	23h 56.5m	-49° 47'	8.0
Apr 28, 2007	S Peg	23h 20.5m	8° 55'	8.0



**ASTRONOMY DAY
PUBLIC VIEWING
7:30 PM
FORT FISHER**

The Cape Fear Astronomical Society will host a **PUBLIC VIEWING** on Astronomy Day, Saturday, April 21, 2007, on the grounds of the **FORT FISHER CIVIL WAR MUSEUM**, starting at 7:30 pm and continuing until 11 pm. The public is invited to join us in observing the wonders of the heavens.

The Cape Fear Astronomical Societies members will help viewers to identify the stars, followed by observing the constellations and planets through a variety of telescopes provided by CFAS members.

Come join us!

Weather Permitting!

Sudoku 9, 59, 149, 339, 529, 9

More Sudoku from easy to nearly impossible.

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Stars indicate level of difficulty. Answers on page 7.

		8		9	1	6	3	
	9		6	5	7		2	8
5			8		2	7	9	
							6	4
8	6						1	7
1	5							
	3	5	9		8			2
2	8		5	1	4		7	
	1	7	3	2		8		

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1			8			3	4	2
	2	8	1					
				2			5	8
	1					7		6
			6		3			
2		6					8	
4	7			9				
					1	5	9	
3	5	9			8			4

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		5				8	9	
1			2					
			7			5	6	
4	3		8			1		
		2	3		6	7		
		6			1		3	9
	7	3			8			
					7			3
	5	9				4		

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8		7		5				6
	1	2			8		5	
	6		2		9			
					3			
4		1				3		8
			5					
			9		7		8	
	7		1			2	4	
6				3		1		9

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3				2				
		8		7				
1	7		6			4		
4		6			5	2	9	
	5	9	2			1		8
		3			9		5	4
				4		7		
				8				1

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Supper Sudoku. Complete the grid so every row, column and 4 x 4 box contains every digit from 0 to 9 and letters from A to F inclusively. Good luck!

			3	F	0	D	A		8	5			E	6	
B	8	9		4			7				2		F		
2		E			3	9	6	0		A				4	
			4				B		6	E	C		1	D	7
7		D	F		A	8	4		9	0		6		1	C
1	6		E		9	B							0		
	3	C	5	0			2		7			E	9		D
9			0		D				1		E	4	7	8	
			C	2		1	8	F		3				0	4
				C			9			6		D	B	2	
6	D				E	5		7	0		9	F			
F	2	0	8		4	6		5	E		1	A	3		9
	E	1				7	F	A	5	4			2	B	
			2	3	5				C	7			D		6
8	C		7			4	E	D	3						5
D		5	A		B			1		9	6	7		E	3

Solutions:

7	2	8	4	9	1	6	3	5
3	9	1	6	5	7	4	2	8
5	4	6	8	3	2	7	9	1
9	7	2	1	8	3	5	6	4
8	6	3	2	4	5	9	1	7
1	5	4	7	6	9	2	8	3
6	3	5	9	7	8	1	4	2
2	8	9	5	1	4	3	7	6
4	1	7	3	2	6	8	5	9

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1	9	7	8	5	6	3	4	2
5	2	8	1	3	4	6	7	9
6	4	3	9	2	7	1	5	8
9	1	5	4	8	2	7	3	6
7	8	4	6	1	3	9	2	5
2	3	6	5	7	9	4	8	1
4	7	1	2	9	5	8	6	3
8	6	2	3	4	1	5	9	7
3	5	9	7	6	8	2	1	4

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7	6	5	1	3	4	8	9	2
1	9	8	2	6	5	3	7	4
3	2	4	7	8	9	5	6	1
4	3	7	8	9	2	1	5	6
9	1	2	3	5	6	7	4	8
5	8	6	4	7	1	2	3	9
2	7	3	9	4	8	6	1	5
6	4	1	5	2	7	9	8	3
8	5	9	6	1	3	4	2	7

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8	9	7	3	5	1	4	2	6
3	1	2	6	4	8	9	5	7
5	6	4	2	7	9	8	3	1
7	8	6	4	1	3	5	9	2
4	5	1	7	9	2	3	6	8
2	3	9	5	8	6	7	1	4
1	4	3	9	2	7	6	8	5
9	7	8	1	6	5	2	4	3
6	2	5	8	3	4	1	7	9

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3	9	4	1	2	8	6	7	5
5	6	8	9	7	4	3	1	2
1	7	2	6	5	3	4	8	9
4	3	6	8	1	5	2	9	7
8	2	1	4	9	7	5	6	3
7	5	9	2	3	6	1	4	8
2	1	3	7	6	9	8	5	4
9	8	5	3	4	1	7	2	6
6	4	7	5	8	2	9	3	1

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C	1	7	3	F	0	D	A	B	8	5	4	9	E	6	2
B	8	9	6	4	C	E	7	3	D	1	2	0	F	5	A
2	5	E	D	1	3	9	6	0	F	A	7	B	C	4	8
A	0	F	4	5	8	2	B	9	6	E	C	3	1	D	7
7	B	D	F	E	A	8	4	2	9	0	3	6	5	1	C
1	6	8	E	7	9	B	C	4	A	D	5	2	0	3	F
4	3	C	5	0	1	F	2	6	7	8	B	E	9	A	D
9	A	2	0	6	D	3	5	C	1	F	E	4	7	8	B
E	9	A	C	2	7	1	8	F	B	3	D	5	6	0	4
5	7	3	1	C	F	0	9	8	4	6	A	D	B	2	E
6	D	4	B	A	E	5	3	7	0	2	9	F	8	C	1
F	2	0	8	B	4	6	D	5	E	C	1	A	3	7	9
3	E	1	9	D	6	7	F	A	5	4	8	C	2	B	0
0	4	B	2	3	5	A	1	E	C	7	F	8	D	9	6
8	C	6	7	9	2	4	E	D	3	B	0	1	A	F	5
D	F	5	A	8	B	C	0	1	2	9	6	7	4	E	3

*Meetings of the CFAS are held on the first Sunday of
The month (if holiday weekend or special event, second Sunday)*

at

7:00pm – Bryan Auditorium, Morton Hall, UNCW

Group Viewing Sessions 5194

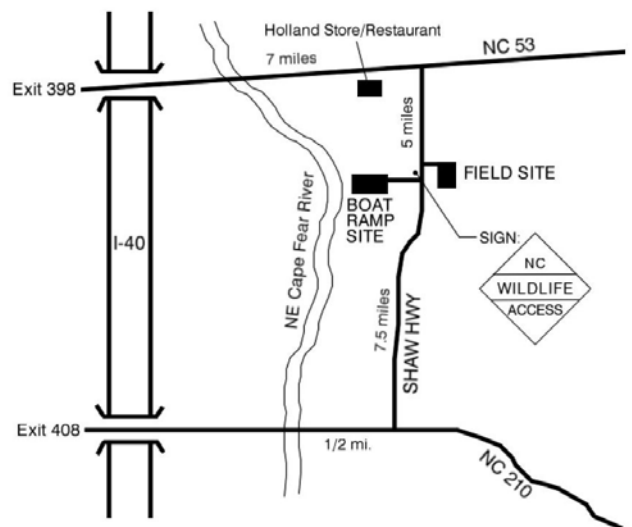
Call Ron Hawes at 762-1033 or check our email list to confirm a formal viewing session. Listed below are moonless nights so you can schedule a good viewing. All group viewing sessions will be at the Holly Shelter boat ramp site, unless otherwise specified. Time: Dusk until ?

Friday, April 13 Saturday, April 14

Friday, April 20 Saturday, April 21

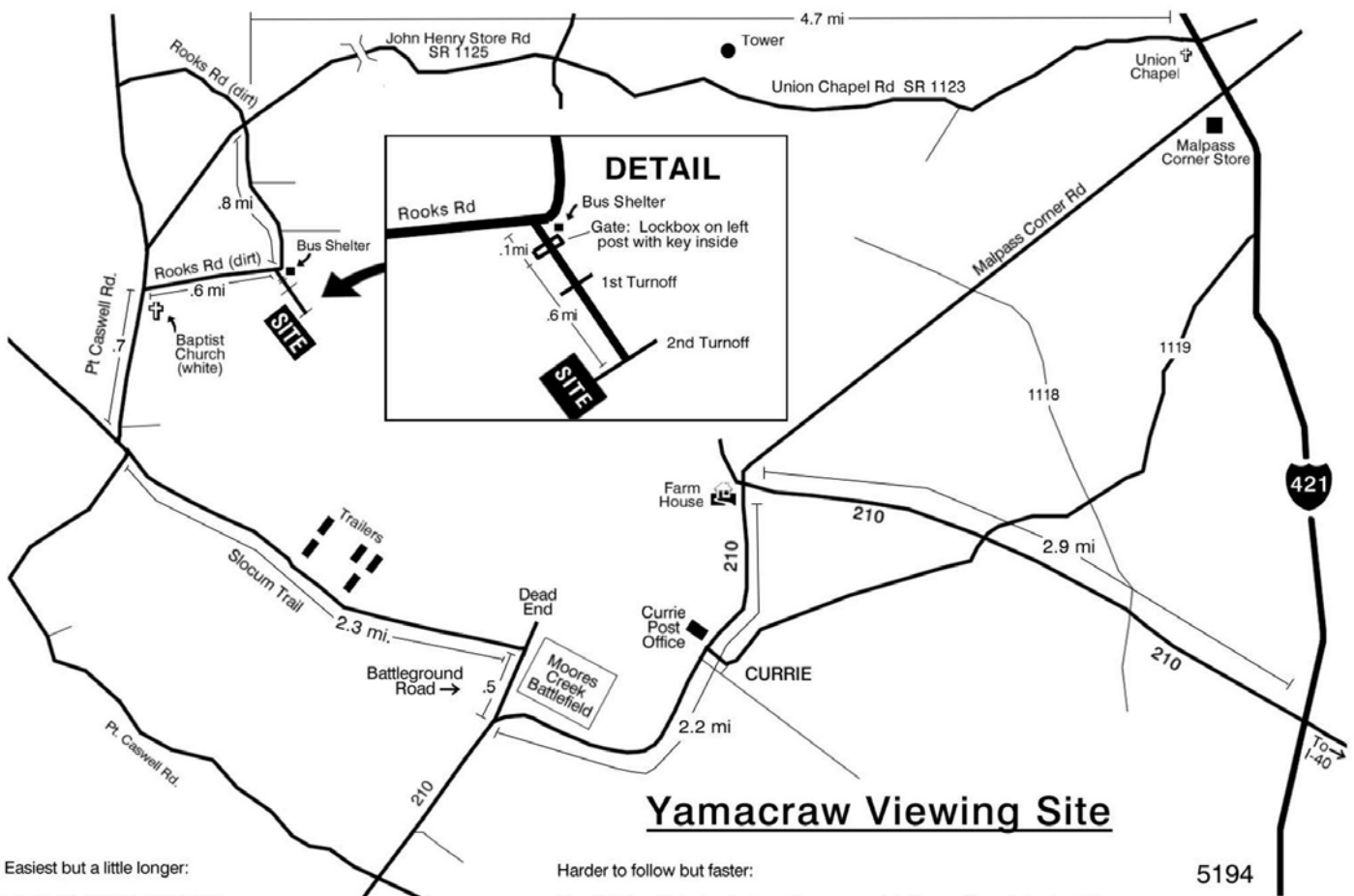
Please be cautious of unusual wildlife behavior while observing. A golf club or stick could be useful to keep nearby.

Holly Shelter Viewing Sites



Field Site Gate Open:
September 1 - February 29 and April 7 - May 14.

Please have your Holly Shelter Permit with you at the site.



Yamacraw Viewing Site

Easiest but a little longer:

Travel 421 north to truck stop.
Go approx. 20.5 miles and turn left onto Union Chapel Road.
Follow for 4.7 miles (becomes John Henry Store Road) and take left onto Rooks Road (dirt).
Follow Rooks Road .8 miles around curve, pass bus shelter and take left onto our site's road.
Travel .1 mile, unlock/relock gate, travel .6 miles, take 2nd right.

Harder to follow but faster:

Travel 421 north to truck stop. Go approx. 17 miles and turn left onto 210.
Follow 210 for 2.9 miles to intersection (stop sign and big white farm house), turn left onto 210 W.
Follow 210 W past Currie Post Office and Battlefield, turn right onto Battleground Rd.
Follow Battleground Rd .5 miles, take sharp left onto Slocum Rd, follow for 2.3 miles.
Take a right onto Pt. Caswell Rd, follow .7 miles past Church, take right onto Rooks Road (dirt).
Follow Rooks Rd .6 miles, turn right onto our site's road. (If you see the bus shelter, you've gone too far.)
Travel .1 miles, unlock/relock gate, travel .6 miles, take the 2nd road on the right to our site.

5194