

Eugene Astronomical Society



Io

November, 2020



PO Box 591 Lowell, OR 97452

www.eugeneastro.org



M33 [1]

Andy Nowlen

President: Andrew Edelen 618-457-3331

Secretary: Randy Beiderwell 541-342-4686

Board Members:

Oggie Golub - Randy Beiderwell - Ken Martin -
Jerry Olton**- Our PO Box has changed!****PO Box 591****Lowell, OR 97452**

Annual Club Dues \$25

EAS is a proud member of The
Astronomical League.

November Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 19 7pm

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY VIRTUAL

TO BE ANNOUNCED.

We have had some terrific virtual meetings the last few months, thanks to all who have worked to make it happen!

October Meeting

Brian Stephens, an Optics/Design Engineer at Lunt Solar Systems, discusses the intricacies and production of the Fabry P  rot Etalon style Solar Telescope from design implementation to a tested complete system, as well as tips on how to use your scope, what you should expect to see from proper viewing with yourself and other ideas to help you to enjoy our closest and ever changing spectacular star.

You can view this meeting at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9WzUO-bqT4>

Thank you to everyone that has put together these terrific meetings!

Do you have something for the newsletter?

If you have an article, photo, meeting notes, stories, etc. that you would like to share with the members, please contact me, I'd be happy to add them to the newsletter. If you have photos you would like to submit, I'm trying to include more information about the process and equipment used.

Bruce Sackett

bruce@busymind.net

From the Secretary's Desk

By Randy Beiderwell

First off I'd like to welcome our new members and say thank you for joining the Eugene Astronomical Society (EAS)! We have new members Andy Nowlen, Mike Davis, Michael Marziale, Wes Service, Christopher White, Azlan Miley, Annette Forrer, Stephanie Collins and Dale Fish - welcome all!

For new and longtime members \$5 of your \$25 EAS dues goes to the Astronomical League (AL). This is the largest amateur astronomy organization in the world. Your money also makes YOU a member of the Astronomical League. You may ask what does the AL do and what are the benefit of being a member?

There is power in numbers. The Astronomical League is composed of over two hundred and forty local amateur astronomical societies (clubs) from all across the United States. With over 17,000 members the AL defends astronomy by fighting light pollution. They meet with government, local officials and organizations, informing them of the benefits of reduced reflected light in our night sky.

They protect funding for planetariums. The AL produces the quarterly Reflector magazine which is both educational and informative. If you are a new or renewed EAS member you do not have to do anything, we take care of this for you! You will automatically receive your copy as published in March, June, September and December. The most important thing is that we have your current address to give the AL. If you have a change of address please let me know so I can keep you updated.

The Astronomical League presents awards to deserving people who have advanced the goals of the Astronomical League. These include promoting astronomy, contributing to the League, and advancing the science of astronomy. There are many awards that are presented for both adults and youth. The Astronomical League funds and administers 3 major youth awards including the National Young Astronomer Award. In total they award over \$10K in prizes.

The AL also offers the low cost and popular "Astronomical Handbook" via the League Sales Office. Members also receive 10% discount on any Astronomy books ordered thru the League and they cover the shipping and handling charges! Could be a great idea for a special astronomer this coming holiday season!

The Astronomical League also provides many different Observing Programs. These Observing Programs are designed to provide a direction for your observations and to provide a goal. The Observing Programs have certificates and pins to recognize the observers' accomplishments and for demonstrating their observing skills with a variety of instruments and objects.

There are a lot more helpful resources offered by the Astronomical League. I encourage you to check out their website at:

<https://www.astroleague.org>

See what the Astronomical League has to offer. Have an awesome November!

M42 - Orion Nebula [1]



M81 - Bode and Cigar Galaxy [1]



Both Images By
Andy Nowlen



Kalamazoo Astronomical Society

Looking Up Since 1936

Greetings from the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society!

These have been difficult times for everyone, including astronomical organizations such as ours. However, there has been one silver lining. As noted recently [in an article](#) on *Sky & Telescope's* website, telescope sales have been *booming* during the pandemic. Indeed, the KAS itself has experienced a surge in membership. And it comes at a time when we can't hold in-person activities! One day, soon I hope, the pandemic will end and things will gradually return to normal. When that time *finally* comes, the trick for us will be to maintain those new members. To that end, the KAS is offering three special online activities and I'd like to extend an invitation to your members to attend:

Online Viewing Sessions

[These unique sessions](#) will be on Zoom and feature the [KAS Remote Telescope](#), a 20-inch PlaneWave CDK and Takahashi FSQ-106 on a Paramount MEII mount. It is located under the dark desert skies of Arizona Sky Village. While attendees enjoy fresh images from the two telescopes, we'll provide background information and interesting scientific tidbits on each target. We also hope to enjoy some comradery with other amateur astronomers – basically turn it into an online star party! Some of you previously received an invitation, but since then we've decided to allow Zoom reservations through our website. You can also register using the links below:

[November 7th](#) | [December 5th](#) | [January 9th](#) | [February 6th](#)

If weather conditions necessitate a cancellation there will be a second "cloud date" scheduled the following Saturday. These will be posted on our website, but we encourage people to join our [OVS email list](#) for notifications of postponements, cancellations, and reminders. We also plan to live-stream the sessions on our [YouTube channel](#) in case we reach our Zoom limit.

Introduction to Amateur Astronomy

This five-part lecture series covers all the basics of getting started in amateur astronomy. For the first time ever, it's being offered online and meets every two weeks starting **January 23rd**. Those interested are encouraged to visit the series' [webpage and register today](#). Many of you no doubt already offer similar introductory programs, but if not, then your members are welcome to attend ours. There's nothing better to retain members and encourage new ones.

Introduction to Astronomy Course

For those looking for something more challenging than an introduction to amateur astronomy, I offer this 12-week course on the basics of the science of astronomy. It begins on **January 12th** and meets twice a week. This is a class of personal enrichment being offered by an amateur astronomer, for amateur astronomers. As with any course there will be assignments to complete and exams to be taken, but no grades or credits will be given. This is a great way for people to be challenged and better themselves while self-quarantining this winter during the pandemic. There is a fee, but it's only a fraction of the cost of taking a similar course at a community college. [Check out the course syllabus](#) to learn more and [contact me](#) to register.

Thank you for taking the time to read this invitation. We hope you do us the courtesy of passing it along to your membership. If you have any unique online events coming up as well, please let me know and I'd be happy to notify the KAS membership. At times like this we need to band together! Clear skies and stay healthy.

— Richard S. Bell, KAS President

Member Astrophotography in this issue

[1] M33, M42, Bode & Cigar Galaxy by Andy Nowlen

I have been on my astrophotography journey since April 2020. I have been into photography since 2002. But have just discovered astro. Certainly, I am just getting started but overall I am enjoying the effort while I climb the learning curve. I have been imaging with my Dslr and Canon lenses - 100-400 L, 70-200 L, 7Dii, and 5Diii astro modified. They have provided me a good way to get acquainted with imaging and post-processing. I am looking forward to entering into the telescope world!

To go with my camera equipment I have the iOptron CEM40 mount, the Asiair Pro and the ZWO electronic focuser. I am using Astro Pixel Processor for stacking etc and Photoshop etc. So far so good, I think. I attached a couple of my recent images. I know they aren't really high quality in the astronomy world, but they certainly impress my family and friends - I guess that is what we are after in this hobby after all.
