



Presidents Message – May, 2011

Dr. Walter Lawrence Dillard November 9, 1935 - May 7, 2011

It is with great sadness that I tell you that we have lost our friend Walt. He passed from this world Saturday morning, the 7th of May. He is survived by his wife Cleta and daughters Claudette Dillard of Atlanta, Ga., and Andrea Foster (Clyde) and three grandsons of Snellville, Ga. Dr. Dillard had a long distinguished career as a professor at the University of Oklahoma, and as a research fellow at the Max Planck Institute in Germany.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Jack C. Davis Observatory and a founding member of the Western Nevada Astronomical Society; he also was on the Observatory Board of Directors.

Walt was the lead operator of the Observatory's C14 Celestron telescope. He was an excellent Astrophotographer, processing image data into beautiful pictorials of celestial objects. His work inspired the rest of us to 'pick up our game' and improve our own work. More than that, Walt was our friend. On a personal note; Walt was my mentor when I became involved in the Observatory. He took me under his wing and taught me how to operate the C14 Telescope.

I learned so many things during countless discussions in which we "solved the problems of the world", for I believe that Walt was the smartest guy I have ever known. He will be missed greatly by all of us. Our thoughts are with Cleta and daughters, Claudette and Andrea.

Mike Thomas

April, 2011

April 2011 Meeting Minutes

- A 'Scope Buggy' three wheeled telescope hand truck was displayed to those present. The Observatory has three of them for sale to members. They are brand new and are offered at \$200 each.
- Observatory Director Robert Collier brought the group up to date on the patio expansion project. In summary, he stated that we are on track with this effort and are beginning the permit process.
- Mike gave the PowerPoint lecture "Sir Ernest Shackleton, and the Trans-Antarctic Expedition."

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Speaker info for the ***Tuesday, May 17, 2011 @ 7pm*** membership meeting:

"Astro-Imaging"
John Dykes, WNAS Member & Photographer
Presents his Astrophotography images and demonstrates his camera/telescope.

Events Calendar

~ May 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 New Moon	4	5 Eta Aquarid meteors	6 Eta Aquarid meteors	7 Star Party Dark Skies Astronomy Day
8	9	10 Moon 1 st Qtr	11 Conjunction of Mercury, Venus, and Jupiter	12	13	14 Star Party
15	16	17 <i>WNAS Meeting</i> <i>7pm JCDO</i> Full Moon	18	19	20	21 Star Party
22	23	24 Moon Last Qtr	25	26	27	28 Star Party Dark Skies
29	30	31	Notes:			

~ June 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Partial Solar Eclipse. eastern Asia, Alaska, N. Canada New Moon	2	3	4 Star Party Dark Skies
5	6	7	8 Moon 1 st Quarter	9	10	11 Star Party
12	13	14	15 Total Lunar Eclipse; Africa, Asia, and Australia. Full Moon	16	17	18 Star Party
19	20	21 <i>WNAS</i> <i>Meeting</i> <i>7pm JCDO</i> <i>Summer</i> <i>Solstice</i> 17:16 UTC	22	23 Moon Last Quarter	24	25 Star Party
26	27	28	29	30	Notes:	

