



### Presidents Message – June, 2012

First let me say that there will be **NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING** this month. There will be so many of us out of town that for the first time in five years the meeting is canceled. We will resume our meetings on **Tuesday, July 17th at 7:00 PM.**

The past few weeks have been momentous for astronomers in our region. We observed the Annular Eclipse on May 20th. Members of our group staffed the Observatory and we hosted over 400 visitors. There were several telescopes, with solar filters mounted, set up outside, each with long lines of people anxious to view the event. We also had our solar scope/dome up and running, providing real time video to the digital projectors in the classroom. It was a memorable day for the Observatory, and we all enjoyed sharing it with the public.

On June 5th, the transit of Venus across the Sun brought another couple hundred people to the Observatory. Astronomical Society members once again set up for solar viewing, in the same way they did for the eclipse. The Venus transit was a rare event. These transits occur in pairs. The other transit in this pair was in 2004. The pairs happen eight years apart, every 115 years! The next pairing will begin in the year 2117, see you then.

Our webmaster, Doug George, has been doing a terrific job keeping our website <http://WWW.wnas-astronomy.org/> up to date. He has put videos and pictures of the Venus Transit and the Eclipse on the site, so go check that out.

The Saturday evening star parties continue and you can find the schedule and programs for them on the website. If you have guests from out of town, these Saturday events are a great opportunity for a night out.

*Mike Thomas*

May, 2012

#### May 2012 Meeting Minutes

- No Minutes
- Anniversary Meeting

#### *WNAS Officers*

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**Announcement:**  
**No membership meeting this month.**  
**Meetings resume on Tuesday, July 17th, at the Observatory.**

# Events Calendar

~ June 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 5/6 Transit of Venus, <a href="http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/transit/venus/Map2012-2.GIF">http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/transit/venus/Map2012-2.GIF</a> Next Transit 2117						<b>2</b> Star Party
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Full Moon- Partial Lunar Eclipse	<b>5</b> Transit of <b>Venus</b> JCDO viewing until sunset	<b>6</b> Transit of <b>Venus</b> Not viewable in North America	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Star Party
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Moon Last Qtr 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Dark Skies Star Party
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <i><b>NO WNAS                      Meeting</b></i> New Moon	<b>20</b> <i>Summer                      Solstice</i> (23:09 UTC)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Star Party
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Moon 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Star Party

~ July 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Full Moon 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Star Party
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Moon Last Qtr 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Star Party
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <i><b>WNAS Meeting                      7pm JCDO</b></i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> New Moon 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Dark Skies Star Party
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Moon 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 	<b>27</b> *Southern Delta Aquarids meteors	<b>28</b> Star Party *Southern Delta Aquarids meteors
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Notes:</b> *The Delta Aquarids can produce about 20 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower peaks on July 28 & 29, The radiant point for this shower will be in the constellation Aquarius. Best viewing is usually to the east after midnight.			