



# GUIDESCOPE

<http://junior.apk.net/~arstar50/BlackRiver.index.html>

editor: jim lengyel email: homegrown@eriecoast.com tel: 440-988-7332 publisher: jim cunningham email: cuncham@aol.com tel: 440-365-0902

B.R.A.S. Officers: President: Mike Harkey  
Vice President: Dave Lengyel  
Treasurer: John Reising  
Secretary: Dave Gulyas

July 2004

## Meeting Dates

- Regular Monthly Meeting at the Carlisle Visitor's Center July 7, 2004 7:00 PM
- Monthly Board Meeting at Lorenzo's Restaurant in Oberlin July 15, 2004 7:00 PM

## Observing Dates

- Nielsen Observatory "Jupiter's Moons" July 9, 2004 9:30 - 11:30 PM · Nielsen Observatory "Mid Summer Night's Sky" July 23, 2004 9:30 - 11:30 PM · Nielsen Observatory Solar Viewing July 25, 2004 1:00 - 4:00 PM

## Locations

Nielsen Observatory is located at the Lorain Metro Parks Equestrian Center on Nickel - Plate Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township.

Carlisle Visitor's Center is located at 12882 Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township.

Lorenzo's Restaurant is located in Oberlin in the SW quadrant of Rt 58 and College St behind the storefronts. There is a large parking lot and access can be made from both RT 58 and College St.

Birmingham Methodist Church Hall is located in Birmingham, Ohio. Heading west on RT 113, turn left on South St. This is the first street over the bridge as you enter Birmingham. Continue on South St as it curves to the right. The hall will be on the left.

### Venus Transit

Quite a few members along with some non members, took advantage of the Venus transit on Tuesday, June 8, 2004. A good sized contingent made it to the Arizona St pier in Lorain, near the Jackalope restaurant. Quoting John Reising: " We were there from before 5:30 AM till past 7:30 AM. We caught the transit in progress right at sunrise, approximately 5:55 AM as the sun cleared a small haze bank well out over the lake and well north of Avon Point. Snapshots of the transit through my 80mm F5 refractor with a Fuji digital camera yielded some impressive images. Better weather could not have been asked for. "

In attendance at the pier were Mike Harkey, Dave Gulyas, Mike Plas, John Reising, Ryan Cox, Greg Cox, Greg Smith, Susan Smith, Anna Smith, Steve Rehoreg, David Lumpkin, Lee Lumpkin, and Tim Kreja.

Many of the observers took pictures. Mike Harkey has a nice sequence of the transit, and Dave Gulyas had one of his pics go world when it was included on the spaceweather.com website.

Another club member, Dave Lengyel, set up at Amherst Steele High School. This is his report:

" I observed the transit from 6:15 to 7:25 AM from Amherst Steele HS. I used an Edmund Astroscan with a Tuthill solar filter. What impressed me most about the transit was how round Venus looked compared to sunspots, and how really black it was. Although I tried, I wasn't able to see the black drop effect. Maybe I needed a bigger scope. Two students showed up along with four teachers. Everyone thought the event was really cool, especially since no one alive today had ever seen a transit of Venus. I look forward to June of 2012. "

One club member, Larry Janowicz, showed what a dedicated astronomer is willing to go through with his report of the transit:

" No way to get off work or even arrive late on the 8th but I managed to get two glimpses of the transit. Since almost the whole event was going to happen while I was commuting into Cleveland on I-90 I was really worried I would miss the entire thing. I considered driving in wearing my eclipse shades but there was a possible flaw in that plan so I passed on that idea.

I stopped off I-90 in Avon and got a quick naked eye view ( the 'insurance plan' ) and then resumed my trip to Metro. I had my small UO refractor in the back seat and was planning to set up on the top of the parking deck when I arrived. I nervously watched the car clock because it was going to be real tight ( between third and fourth contact ). Since my car clock has been set by U.S. Naval Observatory time reports, I knew darn well how much time I might have and was really getting agitated every time traffic slowed. The biggest fear of course was occurrence of an accident anywhere on 90....that would have been the end of any chance.

I got onto the deck at 7:15 and was set up in about 30 seconds. The image was boiling ( thanks to the deck itself and a scenic view over the former LTV steel plant ) but it was not severe, so a great view was had. I did manage to see at least 2 - 3 minutes of the event at about 23X and that made my day. I hope ( and suspect ) that you all fared at least as well as I did. “

As you all know, the next Venus transit will be in June, 2012. After that, it won't be seen again from this planet until the 22nd century.

#### OTAA

Remember, the club's get-together will be September 18, 2004 at the Birmingham Methodist Church Hall, in Birmingham, Ohio. Doors will open at 4:30 PM , dinner at 5:30 PM, and doorprizes at 6:30 PM. See the club's website for more details and pictures of last year's event.

#### Sale and Trade

° Meade LX200 12“ in excellent condition, heavy duty tripod with 416 / 20 XT Astroguider / Imager. Price: \$2000.00 You may examine it in Avon, Ohio Tel: 440-667-8799

° Apogee 15mm 70 deg wide field eyepiece in near new condition Price: \$40.00 John Reising Tel: 440-327-3301 email: jcrstarguy57@yahoo.com

° Meade 4.5“ reflector, 900mm fl, German Equatorial Mount w/motor drive, 2 eyepieces, in used but good to very good condition. Price: \$75.00 or trade. John Reising Tel: 440-327-3301 email: jcrstarguy57@yahoo.com

Last Month's Question Your daughter is an astronaut on the moon. She is looking straight up and sees a full Earth. What phase of the moon are you seeing ? answer: a new moon.

What's Happenin'

The club could use an overhead projector, the kind where transparencies are projected on a screen. If you know of a used one that can be gotten at a reasonable price, please contact one of the board members.

Books will be brought to the July Regular meeting from the club's library. These books will be given free to any good home. This is a good opportunity to pick up that astronomy tome you can't live without, and the price is right.

Did you know ?

Names of asteroids were originally taken from God's and Goddesses, but these ran out long ago. There are asteroids called Lennon, McCartney, Edna, Bertha, Geranium, Petunia, Chicago, Granule, Gogol, Laputa, Mark Twain, Karl Marx, NORC, Libya, Atlantis, Utopia, Transylvania, Paradise, Rumpelstilz, Evita, Fanatica, Fanny, Piccolo, Requiem, Lucifer, Tolkein, Echo, Dali, Retsina, Zulu, Limpopo, Bach, Chaucher, Nemo, Smiley, and Mr Spock. Source: (mainly) First Light, Richard Preston by way of [www.starbase1.co.uk](http://www.starbase1.co.uk)

While most asteroids orbit between Mars and Jupiter, 1983 TB gets as close as 9 million miles from the Sun. Source: Patrick Moore's Armchair Astronomy by way of [www.starbase1.co.uk](http://www.starbase1.co.uk)

[back to home page](#)