



The Warren Astronomical Society Paper

P.O. Box 1505
 Warren, Michigan 48090-1505
www.warrenastronomicalsociety.org

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2007 WAS OFFICERS

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President	Norm Dillard	email: norman0827@yahoo.com
1 st VP	Riyad Matti	email: riyadmatti@yahoo.com
2 nd VP	Robert Berta	email: biker123@netzero.com
Secretary	Dale Partin	email: dpartin@comcast.net
Treasurer	Dr. Phil Martin	email: drpdmartin@hotmail.com
Director, Publications	Steve Uitti	email: suitti@uitti.net
Director, Public Relations	Marty Kunz	email: solarmartykz@sbcglobal.net

The WASP (Warren Astronomical Society Paper) is the official monthly publication of the Society. Each new issue of the WASP is e-mailed to each member and/or available online www.warrenastronomicalsociety.org. Requests by other Astronomy clubs to receive the WASP, and all other correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Cliff Jones, email: cliffordj@ameritech.net

Articles for inclusion in the WASP are strongly encouraged and should be submitted to the editor on or before the first of each month. Any format of submission is accepted, however the easiest forms for this editor to use are plain text files. Most popular graphics formats are acceptable. Materials can be submitted either in printed form in person or via US Mail, or preferably, electronically via direct modem connection or email to the editor.

Disclaimer: The articles presented herein represent the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily the opinions of the WAS or the editor. The WASP reserves the right to deny publication of any submission.

Astro Chatter

by Larry Kalinowski

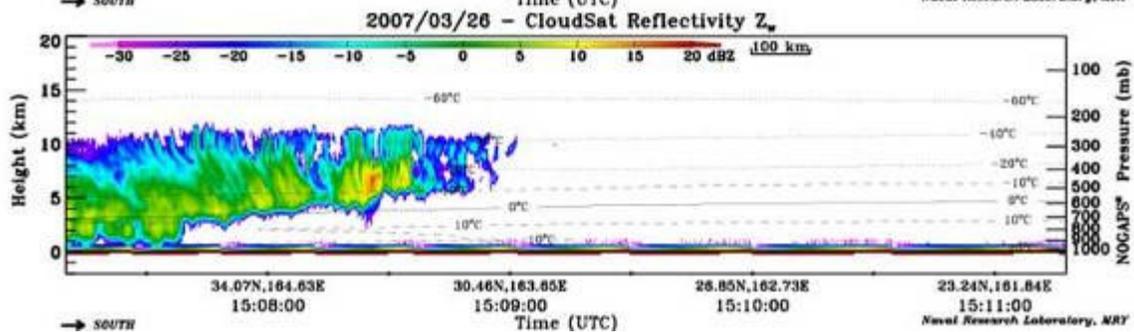
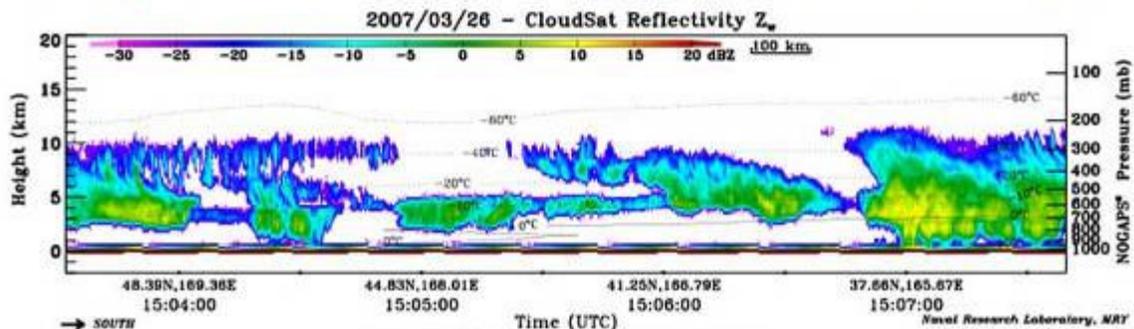
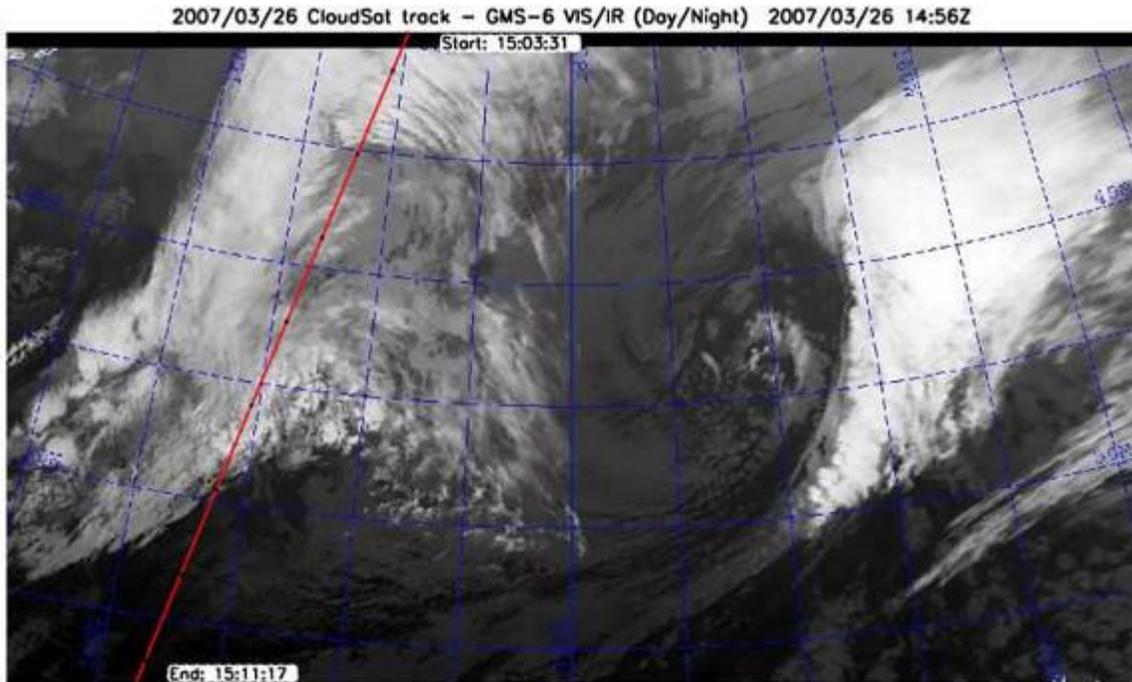


A planet that was discovered by The European Southern Observatory in Chile, has a very good possibility of harboring life. It circles the red dwarf star Gliese 581. Until just a few years ago, red dwarfs weren't even considered for life holding planets. Another case of short sightedness that expects our solar system to be typical. A special spectragraph that has the capability of measuring different spectral shifts at different wavelengths has detected this planet. It's five times heavier than the Earth and has a temperature range that favors the existence of liquid water. At 20.5 light years, it's hardly a hop, skip or jump away from the Earth, but it has the astronomical world raising its eyebrows.

One of the best talks ever given at MCCC last month was one delivered by Dr. Gary Ross. The Ross style of delivery held everyone glued to attention. It wasn't recorded for our archives

but it certainly should have been. If you missed it, too bad, All I can tell you is his road map to intelligent life is a long, rough one, with many pitfalls along the way. He feels SETI is on one of those pitfall roads and shouldn't depend on ordinary radio frequencies for establishing contact, even though the attempts are noble ones. His favorite frequencies for life detection are in the Infrared and supports the new Webb telescope with enthusiasm.

During the last Cranbrook meeting, a brief mention was made about a badge award system. Let me tell you a little more about it. The awards are designed to encourage more observing among WAS members. Similar to the Astronomical League awards, a minimum of documented observations are required for each badge. For instance, 25 Messier observations are required for the first badge, which is much lower than the League's 75. There are minimum requirements for Solar and Lunar eclipses, planets, asteroids, meteors, NGC objects, Caldwell objects, Herschel objects, comets, double stars, variable stars, and astrophotography. Those requirements will be



A CloudSat ground track appears as a red line overlaid upon a GMS-6 (a Japanese weather satellite) infrared image. CloudSat is crossing the north-central Pacific Ocean on a descending orbit (from upper-right to lower-left) near a storm front. The radar data corresponding to this ground track (beginning in the center panel and continuing into the lower panel) shows a vertical cloud profile far more complex than the two-dimensional GMS-6 imagery would suggest. Thicker clouds and larger droplets are shown in yellow/red tones, while thinner clouds are shown in blue.

Clarkston Community Band

www.clarkstonband.org

Warren Astronomical Society

www.warrenastronomicalsociety.org

FOR RELEASE

Contact: Vince Chrisman

586/344.5505

clarkstonband@hotmail.com

**STARS AND MUSIC FILLS THE AIR WITH THE CLARKSTON COMMUNITY BAND AND
WARREN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY CONCERT AND STAR PARTY**

The **Clarkston Community Band (CCB)** joined by members from the Greater Windsor Concert Band, **Warren Astronomical Society (WAS)**, and **Independence Township Parks and Recreation** present “**Stars Over Clarkston II**”. This **FREE** event will take place on Saturday, **May 19, 2007**, at **7:00 pm** in Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Road, Clarkston, MI 48348.

The evening starts off with a dazzling musical concert featuring space music from the movies including “Star Wars”, “Lost in Space” and “Star Trek”. Treasures from the band’s extensive music library will bring you the big band sound with “Star Dust” and “Fly Me to the Moon.” Recently the Chandra X-ray Observatory has detected the deepest musical note ever sounded in the universe - B flat, 57 octaves below middle C - emitted by a black hole. Join the CCB tuba and low brass sections as they attempt to repeat this historic event.

After the concert the WAS will have short astronomy presentations with a Q&A period including how to use your telescope! WAS members will bring their telescopes and Southern Michigan’s largest portable 22” Dobsonian telescope for you to view through. So pack up a picnic dinner, blankets/lawn chairs, your telescope (optional) and shoot on over for the greatest musical star party ever!

Now in its 11th season, the Clarkston Community Band is one of the areas fastest growing and most respected wind bands. Its 52 volunteer musicians dedicate their time and talents to performing free concerts for the greater Clarkston area and presenting various educational and family entertaining themed concerts. The band was selected to perform internationally in 2007 for the “Spectacle of Winds” with the Greater Windsor Concert Band. CCB programs are made possible in part by Independence Township Parks and Recreation and the Clarkston Community Schools.

For more information, contact Independence Township Parks and Recreation at 248.625.8223, email clarkstonband@hotmail.com or visit www.clarkstonband.org.



Clarkston Community Band

Vince Chrisman, Music Director & Conductor

STARS OVER CLARKSTON II

A Concert of Space Music and Star Party

With The

WARREN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Norman Dillard, President

Saturday

May 19, 2007

7:00 PM



FREE ADMISSION

Family & Friends Fun

Bring a picnic, Lawn Chairs, Blankets, and your Telescope

Clintonwood Park

6000 Clarkston Road
Clarkston, MI 48348

Music of stars & space Multimedia presentations Astronomy talks

Telescope viewing – solar, planetary and deep space

Learn about telescopes or bring your telescope and learn how to use it

Independence Township Parks and Recreation

Michael Turk, Director

For more information call 248.625.8223 or email clarkstonband@hotmail.com

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