



the
WASP



Journal of the Warren Astronomical Society

May 1981



NGC 891 by Rik Hill

Warren Astronomical Society Paper

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The W.A.S.P. is the official publication of the Warren Astronomical Society and is available free to all club members. Requests by other clubs to receive the W.A.S.P. and all other correspondence should be made to the editor at the above address. Articles should be submitted at least one week prior to the general meeting.

W.A.S.

Warren Astronomical Society
P.O. Box 474
East Detroit, MI 48021

President:	Frank McCullough	759-5215
1st V.P.:	Doug Bock	533-0898
2nd V.P.:	Dave Dobrzelewski	979-3273
Treasurer:	Nancy Tomczyk	
Secretary:	Connie Shannon	885-4283

The Warren Astronomical Society is a local, non-profit organization of amateur astronomers. The Society holds meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The two meeting locations are listed below:

1st Thursday - Cranbrook Institute of Science
500 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI

3rd Thursday - Green Acres School
Cousino at Holmes
Warren, MI 48092
264-2509

Membership is open to those interested in astronomy and its related fields. Dues are as follows and include a year's subscription to Sky and Telescope.

Student	\$12.00	College	\$16.00	Senior Citizen	\$16.00
Individual	\$21.00	Family	\$26.00		

Stargate

Observatory Chairman: Dave Dobrzelewski 979-3273

Stargate Observatory is owned and operated by the Warren Astronomical Society in conjunction with Rotary International. Located on the grounds of Camp Rotary, Stargate features a 12½" club-built Cassegrainian telescope under an aluminum dome. The observatory is open to all club members according to the "Stargate Observatory Code of Conduct."

Lectures are given at Stargate Observatory each weekend. The lecture will be either Friday or Saturday night, depending on the weather and the lecturer's personal schedule. If you cannot lecture on your scheduled weekend, please call the Chairman as early as possible or contact an alternative lecturer. Those wishing to use Stargate must call by 9:00 p.m. on the evening of the observing session. The lecturers for the coming month are:

May 29/30	Marty Kunz.....	477-0546	Emergency back-up lecturers:	
June 5/6	Ray Bullock.....	879-9458	Doug Bock	533-0898
June 12/13	John M. Root	464-7908	Alan Rothenberg	355-5844
June 19/20	Lou Faix.....	781-3338	Don Misson	727-9083

The cover.

The ultimate "amateur" astro photo. 30 minute exposure of NGC 891 taken with the 4 meter Mayall telescope on Kitt Peak using IIAO emulsion that was prebaked in 2% forming gas for 2 hours at 65°C and developed in D-19.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 1981 MEETING OF THE WARREN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by President Frank McCullough.

Pete Kwentus brought color copies of the group photo taken at the March meeting. Copies will be available for purchase. Pete also announced details of the Apollo Rendezvous meeting in Dayton, Ohio, June 12 and 13.

Mark Bieniek made an announcement about the election of new officers to take place at the May 21st general meeting.

Other announcements included mention of the spring camp-out May 22, 23 and 24. WAS decals are available for purchase at 50¢.

Ed Dvorak of the Detroit Astronomical Society, made an announcement about Astronomy Day May 9th. DAS will put on a display at the Southfield Public Library to promote amateur astronomy. DAS will be holding their annual dinner at Amato's in Dearborn on April 25th. WAS members were invited to attend. Ed also announced that Larry Applebaum, long time member of DAS, passed away.

Lou Faix announced his course in astrophotography to be held at Cranbrook.

Pete Kwentus announced that there will be telescope equipment available for purchase at Civic Camera. Pete brought some of the small items of equipment for demonstration. WAS members will be eligible for a discount from Civic Camera.

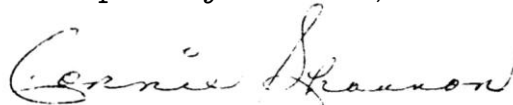
Members who attended the space shuttle launch in Florida on April 12th discussed their thoughts on the launch and all agreed they would be very happy to attend again. The launch delay, cost of trip, etc., were all worth the thrill of seeing the rocket blast off. Their comments made for a very interesting program.

After the break for refreshments, Marty Kunz announced the annual MSU Star Bowl competition on Saturday, April 18.

Brad Vincent discussed his article "Twilight Astronomy". Mark Bieniek discussed his article "The Milky Way." Lou Faix concluded the program with a discussion of his article on astrophotography. Brad, Mark and Lou's interesting articles are in the April WASP. Also included in the April issue were some excellent drawings by Dave Dobrzelewski.

The meeting concluded at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Connie Shannon
Secretary

Reprint from August 1975 WASP

"One Lousy Night"

or

Another Page From The
Apprentice Astronomers Notebook

By
Louis J. Faix

What a lousy night! Thin, highly scattered clouds; fairly heavy high altitude haze puts a large halo around the moon. Scattered moonlight is so bright I can't see more than second magnitude. And I wanted to test the CdS cell on starlight again and finish that roll of Fuji on M51. (Expletive deleted) moon! Well, I'll get the scope out anyway and fix that clutch. Nothing else to do.

Hmm: Venus is pretty tonight -- just about a half illumination. Take a few pics at $f/32$, $1/250$, $1/125$ and $1/60$. What the (deleted!). Finished the roll on the moon since the cameras all set away. $f/22$, $1/400$, $1/200$, $1/100$.

Gee that's odd: For the three quarter moon, the glare on the ground glass isn't too bad and craters seem quite sharp. I'll stick in an eyepiece. Now that is strange -- the whole surface is well defined and it isn't hurting my eyes at $f/5.6$ -- haze must really be obscuring. Sky is unusually steady; moon is sitting there steady as a rock (bad pun). Terminator must be about -62° east longitude. Never really looked at that terminator before. Sure is a lot of detail in the south. I'll take a closer look (12mm eyepiece).

Son-of-a-gun! There's a neat pair of craters. Book says the big one is "Gassendi" (-41°E , -17°S). Wonder who he was? I know he can't be an Arab they'd have named a star for him -- yuk. The little crater isn't named. They form a miniature figure eight with the rims just tangent. Gassendi seems odd -- perfect -- too perfect -- too perfectly round. Also looks shallow but floor is too course to be lava filled. Central peak seems strange too! Try the Barlow and 12mm eyepiece.

Hey, it's a double peak. The little crater must be younger. It's torn down the north edge of Gassendi's wall. It's cleaner, fresher looking. Seems deeper and more bowl shaped.

Well, let's shove it up to the South Pole and then do a slow declination traverse down the terminator. Man that is tough looking real estate up there. Craters everywhere. You sure get a feeling that they're just stacked on top of each other. Area between -40° to -60° E latitude and -40° to -80°S longitude is really battered. Judging from the overlaps, I can see at least four generations of craters. All very jagged and very rough rims. No mare at all up here. Not many central cones. There's another odd pair overlapped. Let's see -- the name is "Hainzel". Looks like a big footprint! That's the one the kids were giggling about at Stargate last night. One of these days I'm going to get that Peter Kwentus! He skips town and leaves me with "just a few scouts -- a special group", 247 wild brownie scouts! "A few" -- some day Peter -- some day.

There's something neat -- a long ridge line just at the terminator -- or is it a mountain chain? Neither; the chart says it's a biijg crater. "schickard" a walled plain, 134 miles across. That is a big hole. I just can't conceive what the devastation would be like when those things were formed. Can you imagine a

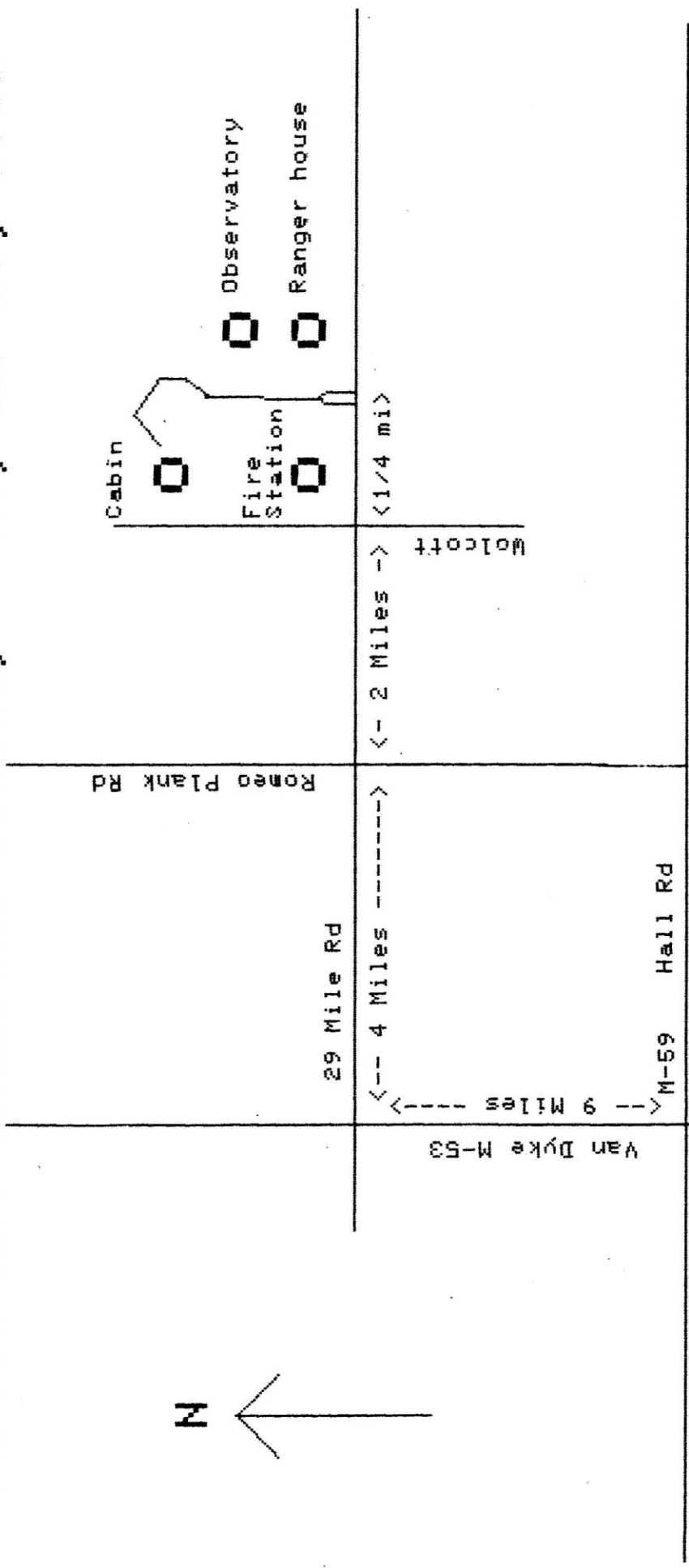
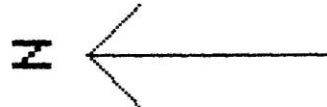
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jun 1981

day	sunrise	azim	sunset	azim	r.a.	dec.
1	4.22	59.75	19.10	300.58	4.59	22.01
2	4.20	59.47	19.12	300.83	4.66	22.15
3	4.20	59.36	19.13	301.07	4.72	22.28
4	4.18	59.09	19.13	301.14	4.79	22.40
5	4.18	58.99	19.15	301.37	4.86	22.51
6	4.17	58.73	19.17	301.60	4.93	22.62
7	4.17	58.64	19.17	301.65	5.00	22.72
8	4.17	58.55	19.18	301.86	5.07	22.82
9	4.15	58.30	19.18	301.91	5.14	22.91
10	4.15	58.22	19.20	302.11	5.21	22.99
11	4.15	58.14	19.20	302.14	5.27	23.06
12	4.15	58.07	19.22	302.34	5.34	23.13
13	4.13	57.83	19.22	302.36	5.41	23.19
14	4.13	57.77	19.23	302.54	5.48	23.25
15	4.13	57.71	19.23	302.55	5.55	23.30
16	4.13	57.65	19.23	302.55	5.62	23.34
17	4.13	57.60	19.25	302.72	5.69	23.37
18	4.13	57.55	19.25	302.71	5.76	23.40
19	4.13	57.51	19.25	302.70	5.83	23.42
20	4.13	57.47	19.27	302.86	5.90	23.43
21	4.13	57.44	19.27	302.84	5.97	23.44
22	4.13	57.41	19.27	302.81	6.04	23.44
23	4.15	57.55	19.27	302.79	6.11	23.43
24	4.15	57.54	19.27	302.75	6.17	23.42
25	4.15	57.52	19.27	302.72	6.24	23.40
26	4.15	57.51	19.27	302.67	6.31	23.37
27	4.15	57.51	19.27	302.63	6.38	23.34
28	4.17	57.68	19.27	302.58	6.45	23.30
29	4.17	57.68	19.27	302.52	6.52	23.25
30	4.18	57.86	19.27	302.46	6.59	23.19

Submitted by D. Bock

Warren Astronomical Society May 22-25, 1981



Here is a map of the spring campout location - Stargate Observatory at Camp Rotary. There will be activities as follows:

*** OBSERVING EVERY NIGHT *** ** MESSIER CONTEST *** Friday night if clear! Otherwise Saturday
 *** A SPECIAL EVENING PRESENTATION *** ** RESOLUTION CONTEST ***
 *** NEW OBJECT OBSERVING SESSION *** ** SOFTBALL DURING THE DAY OF COURSE ***
 *** GAMES AND FISHING *** ** FUN FOR ALL *** ** SEE YOU THERE ***

Submitted by D. Bock