

The Objective Lens

University Lowbrow Astronomers Monthly Newsletter Supplement

June 2022

OBSERVING

From
TJ GRZESKOWIAK:
There are few things I enjoy more than sharing the sky with my kids. Although the temps still aren't the best [written May 7] my 8yo and I gazed at the moon for a while tonight.

Added bonus to our night was him asking if he was seeing a star move really slow. Turns out he spotted the International Space Station and we had a solid 2 minutes watching it pass over us.

His excitement tonight gave me goosebumps and I can't wait until the weather warms so we can spend more nights outside looking up!



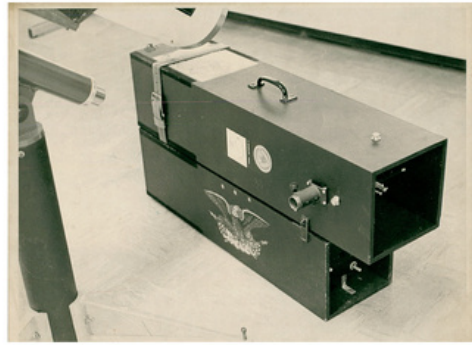


From **DOUG BOCK**: Set up at Boon Hill, above, Observatory cover, below.





From DOUG BOCK



From **DOUG BOCK**: Doug's telescopes from 1968 through today.



From **JACK BRISBIN**, taken on Monday, May 23, before the members-only night, the first time the club opened Peach Mountain for observing since 2019.



From **JACK BRISBIN**: McMath Telescope inside the Observatory.



From **ALEX SWARTZINSKI**: As a new member, I'm happy to be here in time for the visual feature!

The first image shows me next to my 15" f/4.5 Obsession Dobsonian telescope. This particular unit was built in 2006, and I fulfilled my dream of owning this wonderful scope last Halloween when I purchased it used in Northern Wisconsin. As you can see, This scope is slightly taller than my short 5 foot 2 height, but a simple step stool does the job when pointed at the zenith. Taller observers will be flatfooted even at the zenith. It has a wonderfully stiff structure that moves very smoothly with the touch of a finger. Hand tracking is very easy at high powers.

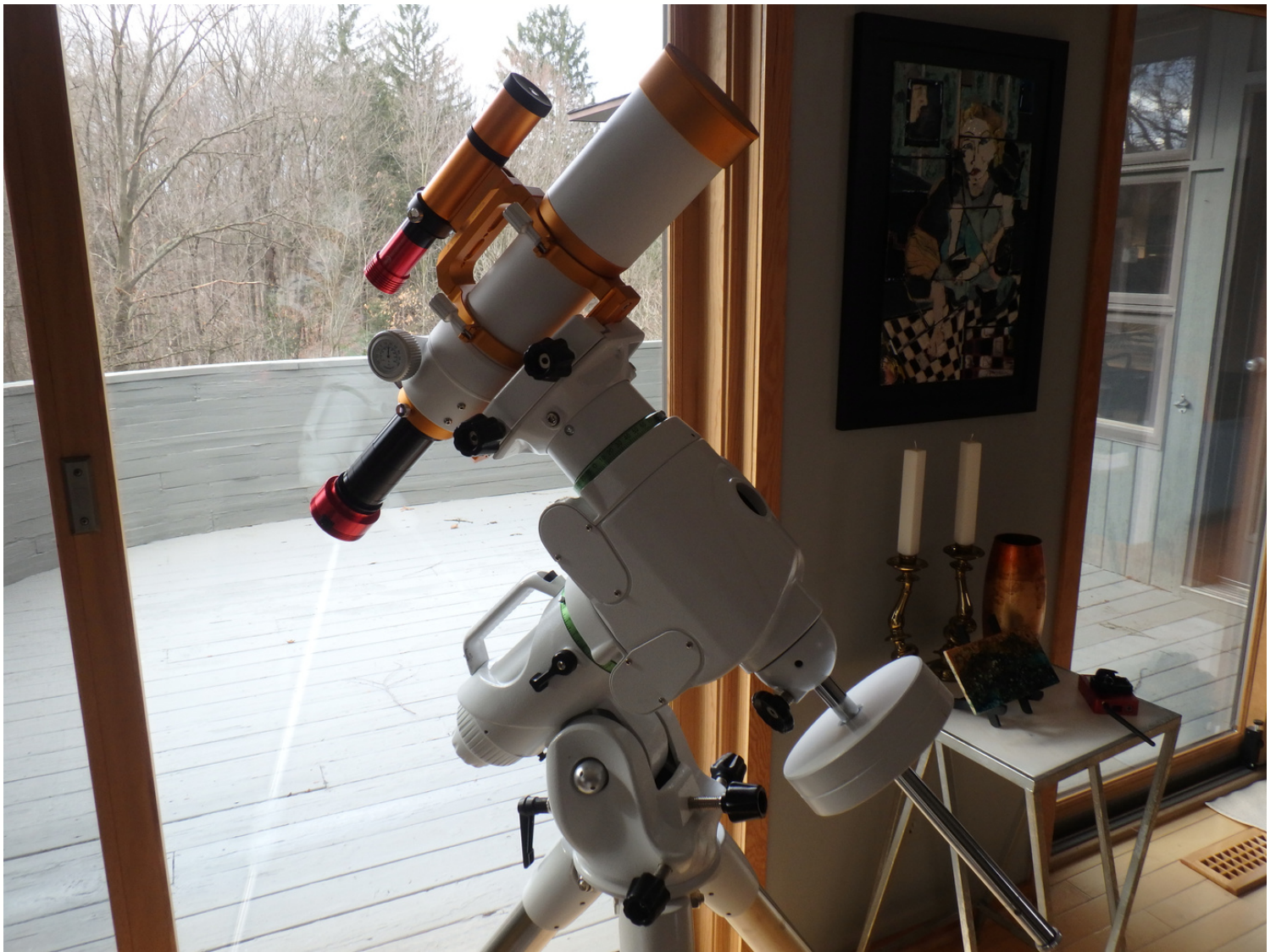
This scope is just small enough for someone of my size to manage, and I enjoy transporting it to dark sites such as shown in the second image taken Monday morning at my grandparent's field in Alpena County under magnitude 6 skies. This image was taken after a full night of DSO observing from twilight to moonrise!

A few of my favorite views on Sunday night: M51 which shows a marvelous spiral structure, M13 which looks almost 3d with averted vision, and M104 which looked like a photograph. Dark skies and larger dobsonians are a perfect match!

I'm very lucky to own this instrument at a young age, and I hope to spend a lifetime observing everything from planets to galaxy clusters with it!



From **ALEX SWARTZINSKI**.



From **JACK SPRAGUE**: My standard set-up: a William Optics z73 mounted on an EQ6-R pro mount. The picture is from the April-May period of "days of clouds."



From **AMY CANTU**: Looking toward the Milky Way core through a cheap pair of binoculars. Taken at Lake Hudson Dark Sky Preserve, May 30-31, 2022.



From **AMY CANTU**: An artsy-ghostly photo of Lowbrow Adrian Bradley with a green laser. Taken at Lake Hudson Dark Sky Preserve May 30-31, 2022.



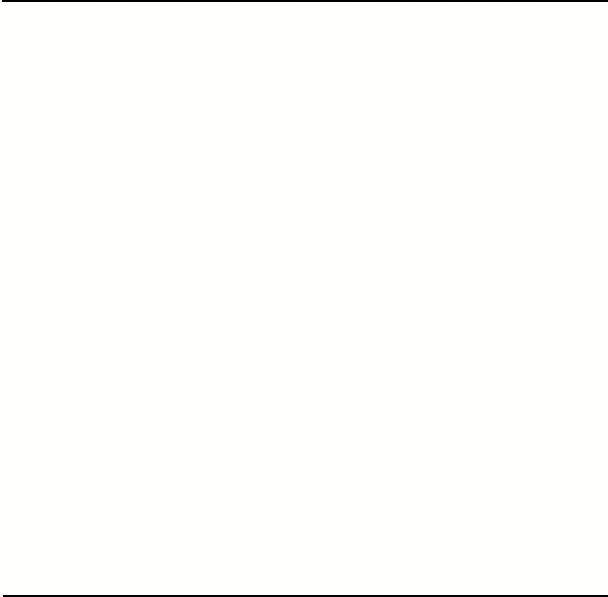
From **AMY CANTU**: Lowbrow Don Foey sets up his Blue DOB 14-1/4 inch f/4.1 thin quartz mirror telescope. Taken at Lake Hudson Dark Sky Preserve, Monday, May 30.



From **AMY CANTU**: All photos taken at Brian Ottum's program, "Observing the Universe, From Near to Far" on June 1, at the Ann Arbor District Library's 265 Parkland Plaza location.

ROUNDUP OF ECLIPSE PHOTOS

From **BRIAN CLOSE**: Taken in Montreal.





From **BRIAN WALKOWSKI**.



From **ADRIAN BRADLEY**: Taken in Las Vegas, Nevada.