



Charlie Elliott
CHAPTER
Atlanta Astronomy Club

Meeting August 6, 2005

Feature Presentation:

"MARS 2005!"

Dr. Richard Schmude

Executive Director of ALPO

(Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers)



Dr Schmude presented a very entertaining, informative and interactive 'pre-game show' of the close approach of MARS, occurring October 30, 2005 (UTC) with the "opposition" occurring in November.



Dr. Schmude continued with information on the South Polar Cap (SPC), the darkening of Olympus Mons – when and how best to photograph them, how to determine the seasons of Mars, and which filters should be used to show various features of the planet.



He also encouraged further digital photography AND DRAWINGS made using a telescope with at least 8 inches of aperture (10 inches or more preferred). His suggestion was to concentrate drawing the detail of one area of Mars rather than the whole globe. He said this is a very important way the amateur astronomer with a modest telescope can contribute.

If you wish to contribute Mars observations this year, please become a member of ALPO (the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers). To find out more, please [visit the ALPO website](#).

Thanks Dr. Schmude for an excellent presentation!

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