

Steve Siedentop started the meeting promptly at 4 p.m. Observing Supervisor John Towne gave the monthly What's Up presentation, covered a handful of interesting occultations, and presented an intriguing challenge object, NGC 2438 — a planetary nebula in Messier 46! Jack Fitzmier extolled the virtues of the Astronomical League's observing plans and presented awards. Valerie Whalen gave an update on the outreach efforts of the chapter and presented Night Sky Network outreach awards. In 2014, the chapter held 76 outreach events, with 22 members participating, with a total of 974 volunteer hours and 11,509 miles driven. Sam Quinn gave a great talk on his research as a PhD candidate at Georgia State University on finding exoplanets in open clusters, which is a relatively new area of research, although the existence of these exoplanets was predicted as far back as 1952. Steve Siedentop announced that the next meeting would be March 21, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. This meeting is our quarterly potluck and will be held in the Campbell Building. Twenty-six members and guests were in attendance.