

Patrick Moore (Ed.)

THE MODERN AMATEUR ASTRONOMER



Modern Amateur Astronomer

Tim Voigt



Modern Amateur Astronomer:

The Modern Amateur Astronomer Patrick Moore, 2012-12-06 Here is a comprehensive guide for every amateur astronomer who hopes to do more than just star gaze If you already own an astronomical telescope and want to know how to use it to the best effect or if you are thinking about buying one and are wondering where to start then this is the book for you Each chapter deals with a different topic and each has been written by a professional or amateur astronomer who has been chosen by Patrick Moore as an expert in his speciality Topics range from buying a telescope or making your own through electronic equipment and accessories to more technical aspects such as spectroscopy and astrophotography A companion book *The Observational Amateur Astronomer* explains how to use a modest astronomical telescope for serious observing of the Moon planets stars and extragalactic objects

The Observational Amateur Astronomer Patrick Moore, 2012-12-06 Patrick Moore has pulled together a group of professional and amateur astronomers each an expert in a particular field to describe how to observe every category of object that is within reach of an astronomical telescope of modest size Each chapter deals with a different class of object covering the whole range of possibilities from the Moon planets and stars to more specialised observations of comets novae and meteors If you own or are thinking of buying an astronomical telescope here is the book that will help you get the most enjoyment out of it It also explains how best to use your telescope for proper scientific observations for astronomy is one of the few remaining areas of science where a lot of useful work can be carried out by non professionals A companion book *The Modern Amateur Astronomer* deals with the non observational aspects of astronomy from buying a telescope or making your own through electronic equipment and accessories to more technical aspects such as spectroscopy and astrophotography

Observing the Solar System Gerald North, 2012-10-25 Written by a well known and experienced amateur astronomer this is a practical primer for all aspiring observers of the planets and other Solar System objects Whether you are a beginner or more advanced astronomer you will find all you need in this book to help develop your knowledge and skills and move on to the next level of observing This up to date self contained guide provides a detailed and wide ranging background to Solar System astronomy along with extensive practical advice and resources Topics covered include traditional visual observing techniques using telescopes and ancillary equipment how to go about imaging astronomical bodies how to conduct measurements and research of scientifically useful quality the latest observing and imaging techniques Whether your interests lie in observing aurorae meteors the Sun the Moon asteroids comets or any of the major planets you will find all you need here to help you get started

The Sky is Your Laboratory Robert Buchheim, 2007-10-04 For the experienced amateur astronomer who is wondering if there is something useful valuable and permanent that can be done with his or her observational skills the answer is Yes you can This is the book for the experienced amateur astronomer who is ready to take a new step in his or her astronomical journey Unfortunately there is no modern text that points curious amateur astronomers to the research possibilities that are open to them At the 2006 meeting

of the Society for Astronomical Sciences quite a few participants agreed that the lack of such a text was a serious gap in the astronomical book market and that this gap is impeding their efforts to encourage more amateur astronomers to get involved in research collaborations This book will fill that gap and enable more amateur astronomers to add research type studies to their pursuit of the hobby Written by an astronomer who is well known amongst the amateur and professional community for the skill and quality of his work this book describes a wide range of research areas where amateurs are gathering new scientific data that is utilized by professional astronomers For each research area the book provides a concise explanation of the purpose and value of the amateurs observations a description of the equipment that is needed specific observing procedures complete data reduction instructions and an explanation of how and where to submit results so that they will be available to the professional users

Celestial Objects for Modern Telescopes Michael A. Covington, 2002-09-26 Based on field notes made by the author during his own career as an amateur astronomer this unique guide covers both the traditional and novel approaches to studying the night sky In addition to the more standard techniques it discusses the latest modern resources available to today's astronomer such as personal computers the Internet and computerized telescopes It includes practical advice on aspects such as site selection and weather provides the reader with detailed instructions for observing the Sun Moon planets and all types of deep sky objects and it introduces newer specialties such as satellite observing and the use of astronomical databases The book concludes with detailed information about 200 stars clusters nebulae and galaxies suitable for viewing with modest sized telescopes under suburban conditions Written to complement How to Use a Computerized Telescope this book will also appeal to astronomers with more traditional equipment

The Amateur Astronomer's Guide to the Deep-Sky Catalogs Jerry D. Cavin, 2011-10-27 Every amateur astronomer has at least heard of the many different catalogs of deep sky objects the most well known are the Messier the Caldwell the Herschel and the NGC All of these catalogs are in general readily available but very few amateur observers are in a position to choose the best catalog for their particular deep sky observing program know how to use the catalog or even realize just how many there are out there The Amateur Astronomer's Guide to the Deep sky Catalogs is a single compilation of the historical and modern astronomical deep sky catalogs It discusses their origins compares what's in them explains how to interpret the data they contain and even outlines how readers can create suitable custom catalogs for their own use The last section provides a set of three deep sky catalogs created by the author for observers of different levels of experience from newcomer to expert

The New Amateur Astronomer Martin Mobberley, 2012-12-06 Amateur astronomy has changed beyond recognition in less than two decades The reason is of course technology Affordable high quality telescopes computer controlled go to mountings autoguiders CCD cameras video and as always computers and the Internet are just a few of the advances that have revolutionized astronomy for the twenty first century Martin Mobberley first looks at the basics before going into an in depth study of what's available commercially He then moves on to the revolutionary possibilities that are open to amateurs

from imaging through spectroscopy and photometry to patrolling for near earth objects the search for comets and asteroids that may come close to or even hit the earth The New Amateur Astronomer is a road map of the new astronomy equally suitable for newcomers who want an introduction or old hands who need to keep abreast of innovations From the reviews This is one of several dozen books in Patrick Moore s Practical Astronomy series Amid this large family Mobberley finds his niche the beginning high tech amateur The book s first half discusses equipment computer driven telescopes CCD cameras imaging processing software etc This market is changing every bit as rapidly as the computer world so these details will be current for only a year or two The rest of the book offers an overview of scientific projects that serious amateurs are carrying out these days Throughout basic formulas and technical terms are provided as needed without formal derivations An appendix with useful references and Web sites is also included Readers will need more than this book if they are considering a plunge into high tech amateur astronomy but it certainly will whet their appetites Mobberley s most valuable advice will save the book s owner many times its cover price buy a quality telescope from a reputable dealer and install it in a simple shelter so it can be used with as little set up time as possible A poor purchase choice and the hassle of setting up are why most fancy telescopes gather dust in their owners dens Summing Up Highly recommended General readers lower and upper division undergraduates T D Oswalt CHOICE March 2005 *The Amateur Astronomer's Introduction to the Celestial Sphere* William Millar, William Charles Millar, 2006-06-08 Introduction to the night sky and the principles of naked eye astronomy using only elementary mathematics **Waxing and Waning a Memoir of an Amateur Astronomer** James Hannon, 2014-06-23 The true story of my life as an amateur astronomer I tell of all the start and stops in the hobby as I pass through different stages of my life always returning to astronomy The love of the night sky has remained with me ever since I discovered the stars at the age of five **Visual Lunar and Planetary Astronomy** Paul G. Abel, 2013-08-21 With the advent of CCDs and webcams the focus of amateur astronomy has to some extent shifted from science to art Visual work in astronomy has a rich history Today imaging is now more prominent However there is still much for the visual amateur astronomer to do and visual work is still a valid component of amateur astronomy Paul Abel has been addressing this issue by promoting visual astronomy wherever possible at talks to astronomical societies in articles for popular science magazines and on BBC TV s The Sky at Night Visual Lunar and Planetary Astronomy is a comprehensive modern treatment of visual lunar and planetary astronomy showing that even in the age of space telescopes and interplanetary probes it is still possible to contribute scientifically with no more than a moderately priced commercially made astronomical telescope It is believed that imaging and photography is somehow more objective and more accurate than the eye and this has led to a peculiar crisis of faith in the human visual system and its amazing processing power But by analyzing observations from the past we can see how accurate visual astronomy really is Measuring the rotational period of Mars and making accurate lunar charts for American astronauts were all done by eye The book includes sections on how the human visual system works how to view an

object through an eyepiece and how to record observations and keep a scientific notebook The book also looks at how to make an astronomical rather than an artistic drawing Finally everything here will also be of interest to those imagers who wish to make their images more scientifically applicable by combining the methods and practices of visual astronomy with imaging

Advanced Amateur Astronomy Gerald North,1997-08-21 This book first published in 1997 is for telescope owners wanting to improve their skills and make observations of real and lasting scientific value

Hunting and Imaging Comets Martin Mobberley,2010-10-08 For many astronomers the holy grail of observation is to discover a comet not least because comets always bear the name of their discoverer Hunting and Imaging Comets was written for comet hunters and digital imagers who want to discover rediscover monitor and make pictures of comets using astronomical CCD cameras and DSLRs The old days of the purely visual comet hunter are pretty much over but this is not to say that amateurs have lost interest in finding comets The books also covers the discovery of comet fragments in the SOHO image data CCD monitoring of older comets prone to violent outbursts the imaging of new NEOs Near Earth Objects that have quite often been revealed as comets not asteroids by amateur astronomers and the finding of recent comets impacting Jupiter

Amateur Astronomy: The Fad The Hobby The Pursuit Tim Voigt,2025-04-12 Astronomy has two worlds a professional and amateur The professional world is an academic world of professors space programs telescopes journals and the like It is for the serious scientist The amateur world is for people who like astronomy for fun joy thrilling cosmic sights stargazing star parties and a festive atmosphere over the joys of the sky Here in this book we will discuss and review the amateur side of astronomy

Tales of a Three-legged Newt: Essays and Anecdotes for Amateur Astronomers Thomas Watson,2017-10-02 In his book Mr Olcott's Skies An Old Book and a Youthful Obsession author Thomas Watson explored the origins of his love for the night sky and how after a nearly thirty year hiatus he returned to the pursuit of amateur astronomy Tales of a Three legged Newt is in part the rest of that story recounting the acquisition of the telescope of boyhood dreams and sharing some of the experiences it brought in the years that followed It's also a collection of ideas and opinions written for the entertainment of those who share a love for the night sky This is not a book about how to observe the stars and planets It's a book about why people do so from the perspective one amateur star gazer

Remote Observatories for Amateur Astronomers Gerald R. Hubbell,Richard J. Williams,Linda M. Billard,2015-10-23 Amateur astronomers who want to enhance their capabilities to contribute to science need look no farther than this guide to using remote observatories The contributors cover how to build your own remote observatory as well as the existing infrastructure of commercial networks of remote observatories that are available to the amateur They provide specific advice on which programs to use based on your project objectives and offer practical project suggestions Remotely controlled observatories have many advantages the most obvious that the observer does not have to be physically present to carry out observations Such an observatory can also be used more fully because its time can be scheduled and usefully shared among several astronomers working on different observing projects More and

more professional level observatories are open to use by amateurs in this way via the Internet and more advanced amateur astronomers can even build their own remote observatories for sharing among members of a society or interest group

Endorsements Remote Observatories for Amateur Astronomers Using High Powered Telescopes from Home by Jerry Hubbell Rich Williams and Linda Billard is a unique contribution centering on computer controlled private observatories owned by amateur astronomers and commercialized professional amateur observatories where observing time to collect data can be purchased Before this book trying to piece together all of the necessary elements and processes that make up a remotely operated observatory was daunting The authors and contributors have provided in this single publication a wealth of information gained from years of experience that will save you considerable money and countless hours in trying to develop such an observatory If you follow the methods and processes laid out in this book and choose to build your own remotely operated observatory or decide to become a regular user of one of the commercial networks you will not only join an elite group of advanced astronomers who make regular submissions to science but you will become a member of an ancient fraternity Your high technology observatory will contain a high powered telescope no matter how large it is and from the comfort of home you can actively contribute to the work that started in pre history to help uncover the secrets of the cosmos

Scott Roberts Founder and President Explore Scientific LLC In the past three and a half decades since I first became involved with remote observatories the use of remote unmanned telescopes at fully automated observatories has advanced from a very rare approach for making astronomical observations to an increasingly dominant mode for observation among both professional and amateur astronomers I am very pleased to see this timely book being published on the topic I highly recommend this book to readers because it not only covers the knowledge needed to become an informed user of existing remote observatories but also describes what you need to know to develop your own remote observatory It draws on more than two decades of remote observatory operation and networking by coauthor Rich Williams as he developed the Sierra Stars Observatory Network SSON into the world class network it is today This book is the ideal follow on to coauthor Jerry Hubbell s book Scientific Astrophotography Springer 2012 Remote observatories have a bright future opening up astronomy to a new and much larger generation of professional amateur and student observers Machines and humans can and do work well together I hope you enjoy reading this book as much as I have and will take advantage of the developments over the past several decades by the many pioneers of remote observatories Russ Genet PhD California Polytechnic State University

Observing Saturn for the first time is a memory that stays with us for the rest of our lives and for many it is the start of an odyssey an odyssey into observational astronomy Remote Observatories for Amateur Astronomers is a book written for observers beginners and old hands alike providing detailed advice to those wishing to improve their observing skills Many will want to build and operate a remotely controlled observatory and for those Part I of this book is an invaluable source of information If like me you choose to avoid the capital outlay of owning your own facility Part II describes how you can use

one of the many professionally run large scopes where for a few dollars you can capture spectacular color images of nebulae galaxies and comets My own scientific interest in short period eclipsing binaries has been made possible through the availability of remote telescopes such as those operated by the Sierra Stars Observatory Network SSON Whichever route you take this book is essential reading for all who aspire to serious observing David Pulley The Local Group UK [Celestial Objects for Modern Telescopes](#) Michael A. Covington,2002-09-26 Based on field notes made by the author during his own career as an amateur astronomer this unique guide covers both the traditional and novel approaches to studying the night sky In addition to the more standard techniques it discusses the latest modern resources available to today s astronomer such as personal computers the Internet and computerized telescopes It includes practical advice on aspects such as site selection and weather provides the reader with detailed instructions for observing the Sun Moon planets and all types of deep sky objects and it introduces newer specialties such as satellite observing and the use of astronomical databases The book concludes with detailed information about 200 stars clusters nebulae and galaxies suitable for viewing with modest sized telescopes under suburban conditions Written to complement *How to Use a Computerized Telescope* this book will also appeal to astronomers with more traditional equipment *An Amateur Astronomer's Guide to Gravity* William K. Vogeler,2009-08-06 [Using Commercial Amateur Astronomical Spectrographs](#) Jeffrey L. Hopkins,2013-11-19 Amateur astronomers interested in learning more about astronomical spectroscopy now have the guide they need It provides detailed information about how to get started inexpensively with low resolution spectroscopy and then how to move on to more advanced high resolution spectroscopy Uniquely the instructions concentrate very much on the practical aspects of using commercially available spectroscopes rather than simply explaining how spectroscopes work The book includes a clear explanation of the laboratory theory behind astronomical spectrographs and goes on to extensively cover the practical application of astronomical spectroscopy in detail Four popular and reasonably priced commercially available diffraction grating spectrographs are used as examples The first is a low resolution transmission diffraction grating the Star Analyser spectrograph The second is an inexpensive fiber optic coupled bench spectrograph that can be used to learn more about spectroscopy The third is a newcomer the ALPY 600 spectrograph The fourth spectrograph considered is at the other end of the market both in performance and cost the high resolution Lhires III While considerably more expensive this is a popular and excellent scientific instrument that allows more advanced amateur astronomers to produce scientifically valuable data With all of these tools in place the amateur astronomer is well prepared to forger deeper into the night sky using spectroscopy **From Casual Stargazer to Amateur Astronomer** Dave Eagle,2013-10-16 The beginning astronomical observer passes through a series of stages The initial stage is hugely exciting and gives the beginner a real buzz as he discovers some of the faint fuzzy objects markings on the planets rings around Saturn and the craters on the Moon But as the novice observer progresses he or she wants to know what more there is than looking at faint fuzzy blobs or indistinct planet

markings Many jump to the conclusion wrongly that they need to spend lots of money on expensive equipment to progress From Casual Stargazer to Amateur Astronomer has been written specifically to address this group of budding stargazers Astronomy is much more than a quick sightseeing tour Patient observers who can develop their skills will start to appreciate what they are seeing and will know exactly what to look out for on any particular night And equally important they will learn what not to expect to see From Casual Stargazer to Amateur Astronomer is for those who want to develop observing skills beyond mere sightseeing and learn some of the techniques used to carry out enjoyable and scientifically useful observations It will also direct readers to make informed choices about what can be seen and when This book is for anyone keen to develop their skills as an amateur astronomer

The Andromeda Galaxy and the Rise of Modern Astronomy David Schultz, 2012-04-23 The Andromeda Galaxy Messier's M31 has an almost romantic appeal It is the most distant object and the only extragalactic object that is visible to the unaided human eye Now known to be about 21.2 million light years away it appears in the sky to be several times the width of the full Moon under good seeing conditions The Andromeda Galaxy and the Rise of Modern Astronomy examines the astronomical studies of Andromeda and its importance to our developing knowledge of the universe The book discusses how M31 was described both by the Ancients but more importantly by astronomers from the nineteenth century to the present While at the start of the twentieth century the universe was thought of as a finite cosmos dominated by the Milky Way the study of Andromeda galaxy shattered that image leading ultimately to the conception of an infinite universe of countless galaxies and vast distances Even today M31 is a major focal point for new astronomical discoveries and it also remains one of the most popular and rewarding celestial objects for amateur astronomers to observe and study This book reveals the little known history of M31 and the scientists who study it For all who are interested in astronomy the skies and perhaps even the origins of the universe The Andromeda Galaxy and the Rise of Modern Astronomy provides a first of its kind accessible informative and highly readable account of how the study and observation of this celestial object has driven the development of astronomy from ancient times to the present

Reviewing **Modern Amateur Astronomer**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is actually astonishing. Within the pages of "**Modern Amateur Astronomer**," an enthralling opus penned by a very acclaimed wordsmith, readers embark on an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve into the book's central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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