



CCD Views: September 2002

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C C D V I E W S

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1. INTRODUCTION

It's been many moons since our last issue of CCD Views. We published fast and furiously in the Winter and Spring of last year. We took the gift of relatively calm skies in the summer to get caught up on other projects, including the AAVSO Spring Meeting in July. Now we should return to our schedule of bimonthly publication along with special editions when events warrant.

In our last special issue we were soliciting data on SN 2002ap. We prepared a draft of an IBVS article on it but before it was finalized someone beat us to the punch. So instead we turned our attention to V838 Mon and we got that data published! (see below) The SN2002ap data is still fantastic and has more coverage than any other organization. We are currently looking for professionals to collaborate with to turn it into a full paper.

So now we've all had a summer to relax right? So now we all can get down to business! :) We look forward to many more observing campaigns in the near future.

Aaron Price
 AAVSO Headquarters

2. WW CET RXTE SATELLITE CAMPAIGN NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please do not forget about the 3-month optical and X-ray campaign for WW Cet. Dr. Darren Baskill is observing WW Cet once a day for 3 months with RXTE. Optical correlation is very important for his project. A light curve of the first month's optical observations along with his X-ray data has been placed on his web site (see below).

**** CCDV observations as often as possible are greatly needed! ****

Please observe at least once a night through the end of October. During times of XTE observations, please observe as often as possible. Below is the latest list of upcoming slew times. This list is updated at Baskill's web site. All times are UT.

SEP 25 13:40:00 to 14:31:00
SEP 26 13:23:00 to 14:19:00
SEP 27 11:31:00 to 12:20:00
SEP 28 19:16:00 to 19:58:00
SEP 29 15:49:00 to 16:39:00
SEP 30 10:41:00 to 11:27:00
OCT 1 12:00:00 to 12:50:00
OCT 2 11:43:00 to 12:28:00
OCT 3 09:51:00 to 10:35:00

Special thanks to Peter Nelson (NLX), Thomas Richards (RIX), and Chuck Pullen (PCH) for already sending in significant CCD observations!

Dr. Baskill's web page covers the project in depth along with what he is trying to learn.

<http://www.star.le.ac.uk/~dbl/xtewwcet.html>

AAVSO charts for WW Cet are available at:

http://www.aavso.org/charts/CET/WW_CET/

Please observe and report your data to the AAVSO as soon as possible.

3. CCD OBSERVING MANUAL FOR VARIABLE STARS

One of the many big projects we worked on during the summer was the creation of the "CCD Observing Manual". This is more or less meant to be the CCD companion to the "AAVSO Manual for Visual Observing of Variable Stars". It is available at the URL below in HTML and PDF format:

<http://www.aavso.org/ccd/manual/>

It is broken up into 7 sections: Introduction, Equipment, CCD Camera Skills, Photometry, Observing Programs, Observing Techniques, More Information & Administrivia. We intend this to be a living document that is constantly updated to stay up with the latest technology and technique, hence its existence online rather than as a printed publication.

4. V838 MON DATA PUBLISHED

As mentioned in the introduction, we submitted all of our visual and CCD data for V838 Mon to the Information Bulletin of Variable Stars (IBVS). The data was accepted and published as IBVS #5315. The paper can be viewed through the URL below:

<http://www.konkoly.hu/cgi-bin/IBVS?5315>

We listed as coauthors all those who submitted a significant number of filtered CCD observations. Everyone who was not a coauthor yet submitted at least one observation was thanked personally in the "Acknowledgements" section.

Thanks to all who observed this unique object. Many professional studies are underway and your data is sure to be in great demand. The true nature of V838 Mon is still not yet known. In a few months, when more data is available, we will write an article summarizing all we know - and don't know - about this enigmatic star.

Also, we hope to continue publish more CCD data in this manner. The goal is to get the data published quickly and then use that data to collaborate with some professional astronomers to write more detailed papers. So keep that data coming!

5. SEND US YOUR IBVS ARTICLES

Many AAVSO members get published in the IBVS every month. We would like to acknowledge your contributions to the world of astronomical research. If you have recently been part of a paper published by AAVSO members or using AAVSO data please drop me a line at aaronp@aavso.org. In future issues of CCD Views we will include links to these papers along with their abstracts and/or summaries.

6. AMATEUR SPECTROSCOPY DISCUSSION GROUP

AAVSO member Mike Koppelman has created a discussion group for those interested in amateur spectroscopy (see CCD Views Vol. 3 No. 2). Topics include, but are not limited to, equipment, techniques, calibration, data acquisition and data analysis. To read the archive and join visit the URL below:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/amateur_spectroscopy/

7. AUG-SEP CCD POINTS

As always, remember that CCD Points are for *fun only* and serve no official AAVSO purpose and are not recorded anywhere other than CCD Views. In fact, I spend more time checking the locations of observers in the list than I do checking the point totals! :) Remember our motto: "Please do not take CCD Points seriously - we don't." These totals are for Aug 1 - Sep 24.

Pts	Obs	Who	Where
2721	403	JM JAMES, ROBERT A.	LAS CRUCES, NM, USA
2588	269	WJD WEST, JERRY DOUG	MULVANE, KS, USA
1565	4729	RCW ROBERTSON, CHARLES W.	GODDARD, KS, USA
1103	2399	SDB STARKEY, DONN RAY	AUBURN, IN, USA

743	1399	KMP KOPPELMAN, MICHAEL	GOLDEN VALLEY, MN, USA
723	162	DRG DIETHELM, ROGER CH-4118	RODERSDORF, SWITZERLAND
638	584	RIX RICHARDS, THOMAS JOSEPH	ELTHAM, VICTORIA
520	339	NLX NELSON, PETER ROBERT	VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA
455	81	WGR WALKER, GARY	SHERBORN, MA, USA
392	89	GKA GRAHAM, KEITH A.	MANHATTEN, IL, USA
338	678	OAR OKSANEN, ARTO FIN-40950	MUURAME, FINLAND
329	81	RMQ RESZELSKI, MACIEJ 64500	SZAMOTULY, POLAND
323	341	NMI NICHOLAS, MICHAEL	GLENDALE, AZ, USA
268	36	WRX WILLIAMS, ROGER G.	KALAMAZOO, MI, USA
204	63	MTK MICHALIK, TOM	LYNCHBURG, VA, USA
173	30	ZRE ZISSELL, RONALD E.	SOUTH HADLEY, MA, USA
163	17	RSE ROBINSON, STEPHEN E.	ROCKVILLE, MD, USA
142	42	PCH PULLEN, A. CHARLES	WILTON, CA, USA
109	104	BGW BILLINGS, GARY W.	CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA
103	20	HDU HURDIS, DAVID A.	NARRAGANSETT, RI, USA
102	259	SDB STARKEY, DONN RAY	AUBURN, IN, USA
101	19	DHN DIEDERICH, HANS G.	DARMSTADT, GERMANY
93	15	WJC WOJCIK, JAN	POTSDAM, NY, USA
81	72	SDB STARKEY, DONN RAY	AUBURN, IN, USA
80	25	SNN SANFORD, JOHN	SPRINGVILLE, CA, USA
66	5	AWJ AQUINO, WILLIAM J.	NIAGARA FALLS, NY, USA
57	13	SFK SCHEDER, FRANK L.	LEONARDTOWN, MD, USA
56	138	TPE TIKKANEN, PETRI	JYVASKYLA, FINLAND
55	98	PAH PRICE, AARON	WATERTOWN, MA, USA
53	95	CLF COHEN, LOUIS	CAMBRIDGE, MA, USA
48	10	SHA SMITH, HORACE A.	EAST LANSING, MI, USA
43	4	VWA VAN WERVEN, ARNO	PLANTATION, FL, USA
21	2	TRF TREFZGER, CHARLES F.	BENNINGEN, SWITZERLAND

Observations less than 20 are withheld from view in order to protect our super-duper-secret point formula. A t-shirt still goes out to anyone who can figure it out.

CCD Views is published bimonthly and when circumstances warrant via e-mail. An archive is available at <http://www.aavso.org/ccdviews/>. Please send comments and suggestions to aaronp@aavso.org.

To receive CCD Views via e-mail send a message to majordomo@aavso.org with "subscribe ccdviews" in the body of the e-mail. To unsubscribe, place "unsubscribe ccdviews" in the e-mail.

The AAVSO has many free online publications including "Eyepiece Views", a similar newsletter intended for visual observers. To learn more and subscribe visit: <http://www.aavso.org/maillinglists.stm>

Good observing!

Aaron Price, AAVSO Technical Assistant (PAH)
Gary Walker, Chairman of the AAVSO CCD Committee (WGR)

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