Spring 2010 Astronomy Public Viewing
at the WKU Observatory

The faculty of Western Kentucky University’s Physics and Astronomy Department offer the public an opportunity to observe the heavens through the telescopes on the roof of the Thompson Complex, Central Wing. A brief indoor program will be presented if weather conditions do not permit observing. Meet in the lobby of Thompson Complex, Central Wing (next door to the Hardin Planetarium). There is no charge for admission. Please dress warmly, standing around outside in the dark can be very chilling. Children twelve years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Upcoming Dates:
- Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 14 at 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 12 at 8:30 p.m.

We will focus on the winter constellations and use the telescopes to view Mars and star clusters in our Galaxy on the evening of Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. attendees will be asked to participate in the GLOBE at Night project, using the visibility of stars in Orion to measure the effect of electric lights on our ability to view the heavens. We will also discuss how to design and control outdoor lighting so more people can appreciate the wonders of the night sky.

At 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14 we will focus the telescopes on the planets Mars and Saturn and on double star systems and clusters of stars around the zodiacal constellations Leo and Virgo.

At 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12 the telescopes will be pointed at the planets Venus, Mars and Saturn as well as star clusters and other deep sky wonders.

No public viewings are scheduled for the months of June and July. The monthly viewings restart on August 11.

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