



Lake Afton Public Observatory

FOR: Immediate Release

FROM: Lake Afton Public Observatory
WSU Fairmount Center for Science and Mathematics Education
Robert Henry, 316.978.3991 or Greg Novacek, 316.978.3191

DATE: September 30, 2013

RE: International Observe the Moon Night

Celebrate the Moon

The Lake Afton Public Observatory in conjunction with the Kansas Astronomical Observers (KAO) is celebrating International Observe the Moon Night on Saturday, October 12. So pack up the family and come out to the Lake Afton Public Observatory to get acquainted with our nearest celestial neighbor. As a bonus, if you can give us an interesting fact or event related to the Moon, you get half off your admission (examples can be found on our website at webs.wichita.edu/lapo).

On International Observe the Moon Night the Observatory will be open from 7:30 pm until 10:00 pm and present the program, *Celebrity Craters*. Craters on the Moon are, for the most part, named after famous scientists. As you look through the big 16-inch telescope at selected craters, the Observatory staff will discuss the scientists after which the craters were named and talk about some of their achievements.

In addition to the program inside the Observatory, members of the KAO will have some of their telescopes set up on the observing pad outside, to the North of the observatory building from 7:00 pm until 11:00 pm. You are encouraged to visit with them and look through their telescopes to learn even more about the Moon. Regular admission charges apply only if you wish to come inside the Observatory building to take advantages of our exhibits and observing programs.

Opening Times and Admission

From October 1st through December 22nd, the Lake Afton Public Observatory is open to the public every Friday and Saturday evening from 7:30 until 10:00 p.m. Admission to the Observatory is just \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12, and children under 6 get in for free. Program information is available by calling 316-978-7827 or online at webs.wichita.edu/lapo.

*** MORE ***

Office:
1845 Fairmount
Wichita, KS 67260-0032
(316) 978-3191

Program Information:
(316) WSU-STAR
Internet:
webs.wichita.edu/lapo

Observatory:
20 mi. SW of downtown Wichita
on MacArthur Rd. at 247th St. W.
(316) 794-8995

Location

The Observatory is located about 20 miles southwest of downtown Wichita on MacArthur Road at 247th Street West in Lake Afton County Park.

The Lake Afton Public Observatory is operated by the Fairmount Center for Science and Mathematics Education, a part of the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Science at Wichita State University. Additional support is provided by Sedgwick County.

- XXX -