



Squirrel Valley Observatory

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www.svo.space

May 17, 2021

Dr. Tim Spahr
IAWN Manager

Dear Tim,

We are contacting you in request of becoming a participating member of the IAWN. Squirrel Valley Observatory (SVO), is an amateur observatory located in Columbus, North Carolina USA. In September of 2016 we were assigned the observatory code W34. Shortly after, we began our NEO astrometric program with the intent of supporting the work conducted by the large sky surveys and others. Our NEO program currently utilizes a 0.36 meter Aplanatic Schmidt Cassegrain telescope operating at f/1.9 with a cooled cmos astronomical camera. This setup allows us to reach approximately magnitude 20.3 under ideal conditions.

Our primary objective is the confirmation and follow up of objects that are placed on the NEO confirmation page. Our secondary objective is providing astrometric data for returning NEOs in need of orbital refinement. Additionally we monitor our images for any new objects as well as submitting data on any background asteroids that appear in those images.

SVO was one of six recipients of The Planetary Society's 2019 "Shoemaker NEO Grant" which supports the planetary defense efforts of individuals and organizations around the world. We also provide local public outreach concerning solar system objects and astronomy in general.

It is our intention to join IAWN and to contribute to its efforts.

We have read the IAWN Charter and understand the obligations of IAWN members.

Regards,

Randy Flynn

Randy L Flynn

Atif Farid Mohammad
Atif Farid Mohammad (May 17, 2021 13:19 CDT)

Dr. Atif Farid Mohammad PhD

Squirrel Valley Observatory W34