

Astronomical League Observing Programs Annual Report 2017

Submitted by the Astronomical League Observing Program Directors:

Aaron Clevenson

Cliff Mygatt

Highlights for the year:

2016-2017 has been a successful year for the Observing Programs. A total of 693 certificates and/or pins were issued during the past year. At the end of this report, there is a detailed analysis of all of the observing programs and awards. In that report, expenses represent actual costs of doing business, but may not be submitted for reimbursement. The Treasurer is the best source for actual costs to the Astronomical League. Total expenses reflect those reported by the coordinators or those by the Treasurer, whichever were higher. Pin purchases through the national office are included. Requested budget for next year reflects the best estimate by the coordinator and includes expected pin purchases.

At the AL-Con in 2016 there were a total of 3 proposals. The 2 adopted are in **bold**:

- **Imaging Program**
- Mars Apparition 2016-2018
- **Total Solar Eclipse 2017**

The proposed Observing Programs for consideration by Council at the AL-Con in 2017 were reviewed by Aaron Clevenson and Cliff Mygatt. A summary of those reviews and recommendations was submitted to the President, John Goss and to the Council via email. The list of known Observing Program Proposals for review at the 2017 AL-Con are:

- Mars
- Binocular Master Observer
- Pins for Beyond Polaris

New Coordinators were appointed for these observing programs in the past year:

- Analemma Observing Program - Douglas Smith
- Double Star Observing Program - Steve Bell
- Galileo Observing Program - Mark Croom
- Sky Puppy Observing Program - Maynard Pittendreigh

These Observing Programs have known issues and are being revised:

- Analemma
- Bright Nebula (Corrected)

These observing programs have coordinator issues/needs:

- Bright Nebula
- Hydrogen-Alpha Solar

Observing Programs by activity level:

- Those programs with an average of over 50 certificates per year:
 - Outreach
- Those programs with an average between 25 and 49 per year:
 - Binocular Messier
 - Lunar
 - Messier
- Those programs with an average between 10 and 24 per year:
 - Binocular Double Star
 - Caldwell
 - Carbon Star
 - Comet Hunter
 - Constellation Hunter Northern Skies
 - Deep Sky Binocular
 - Double Stars
 - Galileo
 - Globular Cluster
 - Herschel 400
 - Hydrogen Alpha Solar
 - Master Observer
 - Meteor
 - Observer
 - Radio Astronomy
 - Sketching
 - Stellar Evolution
 - Urban Observing
- Those programs with an average between 5 and 9 per year:
 - Advanced Binocular Double Star
 - Advanced Observer
 - Asterism
 - Binocular Variable Star
 - Flat Galaxies

- Herschel II
- Lunar II
- Master Observer- Silver
- Near Earth Objects
- Open Clusters
- Planetary Nebulae
- Solar System
- Southern Skies Binocular
- Sunspotter
- Two in the View
- Those programs with an average of 4 or less per year:
 - Active Galactic Nuclei
 - Analemma
 - Arp Northern
 - Arp Southern
 - Bright Nebulae
 - Constellation Hunter Southern Skies
 - Dark Nebulae
 - Dark Sky Advocate
 - Earth Orbiting Satellites
 - Galaxy Groups and Clusters
 - Local Galaxy Group
 - Master Observer - Gold
 - Master Observer - Platinum
 - Sky Puppy
 - Southern Skies Telescope
 - Variable Stars

Accomplishments for the Overall AL Observing Program:

- Some of the requirements have been standardized for the Observing Programs (where appropriate): Seeing and Transparency, Latitude and Longitude. Approvals by a club officer.
- The web pages for the Observing Programs and Awards have been standardized to include: Standard headings, a Quick View grid, an Observation Requirements grid, and a Submission Requirements grid.
- The Quick Glance web pages have been updated: Alphabetical list, List by Equipment Required and List by Experience Level.
- A consistent definition of Go-To and Remote Telescopes was discussed among the Observing Program Coordinators and was decided upon.
- One Coordinator retired from two Observing Programs: Hydrogen Alpha Solar Observing Program and Bright Nebulae Observing Program.

There were some issues brought to the attention of the Observing Program Directors. These were largely informational and were handled by the individual program coordinators. A few required intervention and interaction by the Observing Program Directors. None were escalated to the AL President. All have been resolved.

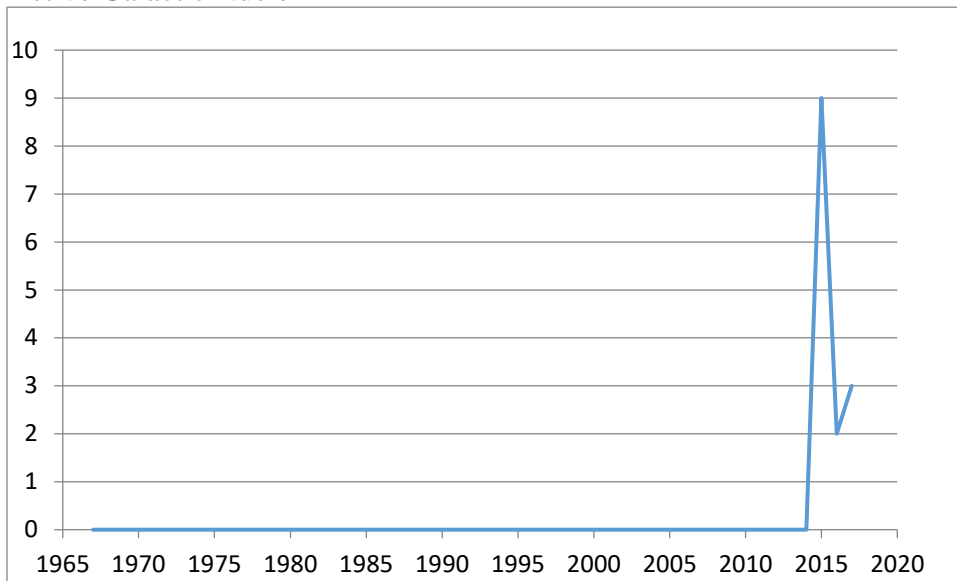
At this time three coordinators have more than three Observing Programs; Aaron Clevenson has 13 (Master Observer Progression and 2 temporary), Cliff Mygatt (1 temporary), Albert Lamperti and Scott Kranz have 4 each. Three is the best practice maximum that we follow. We have a total of 32 different coordinators at this time coordinating 62 Observing Programs and Awards. There are a total of 81 different certificates (by level and program) issued through the Astronomical League.

Respectfully submitted,
Aaron Clevenson
Clifton B. Mygatt, Jr
National Observing Program Directors
June 21, 2017

Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Active Galactic Nuclei
Al Lamperti

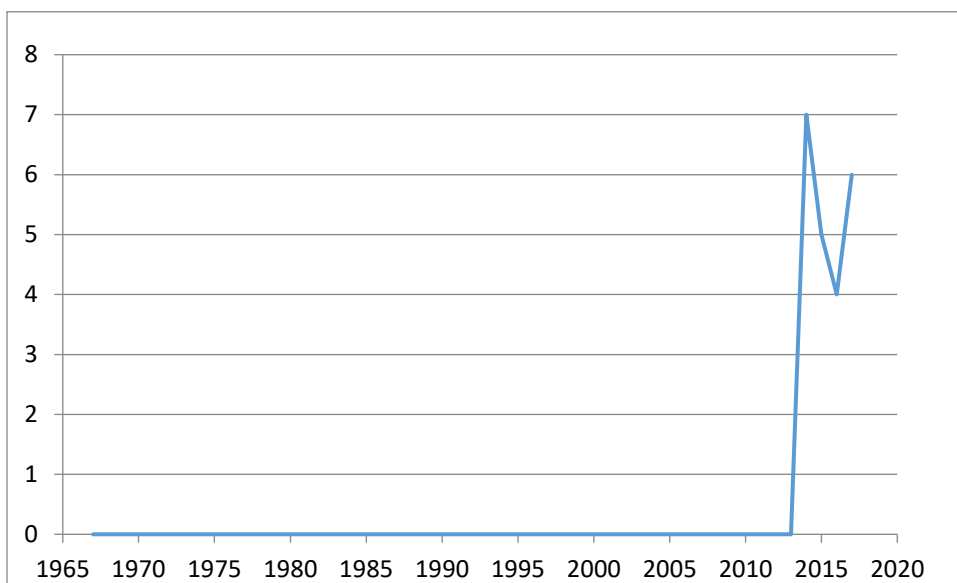
Active Galactic Nuclei



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Advanced Binocular Double Star
Bob Kerr

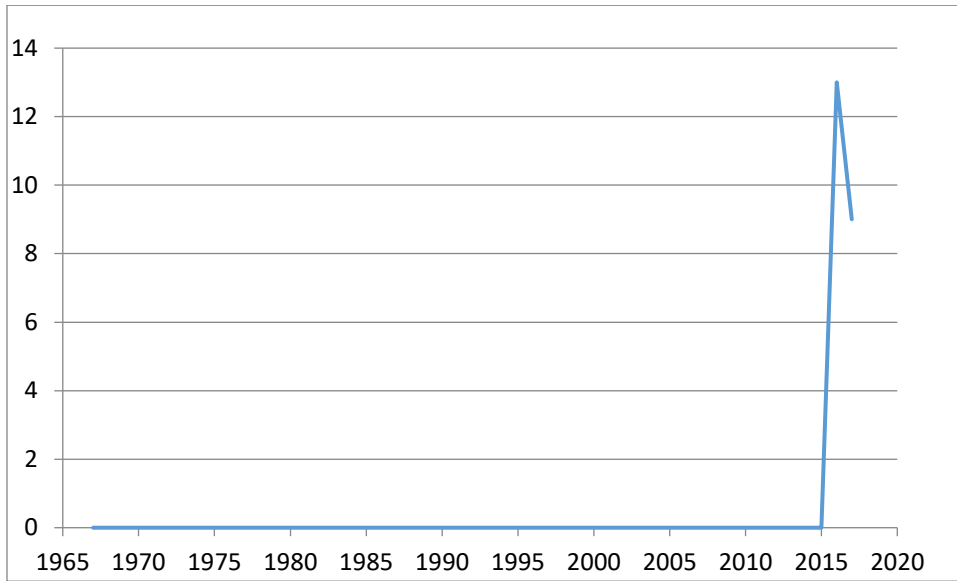
Advanced Binocular Double Star



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Advanced Observer
Aaron Clevenson

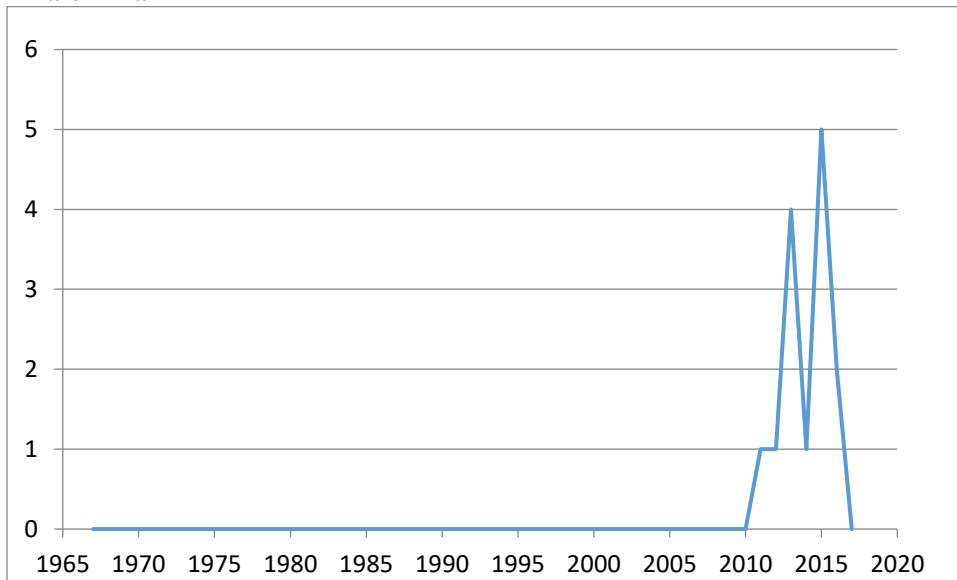
Advanced Observer



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Analemma
Douglas Smith

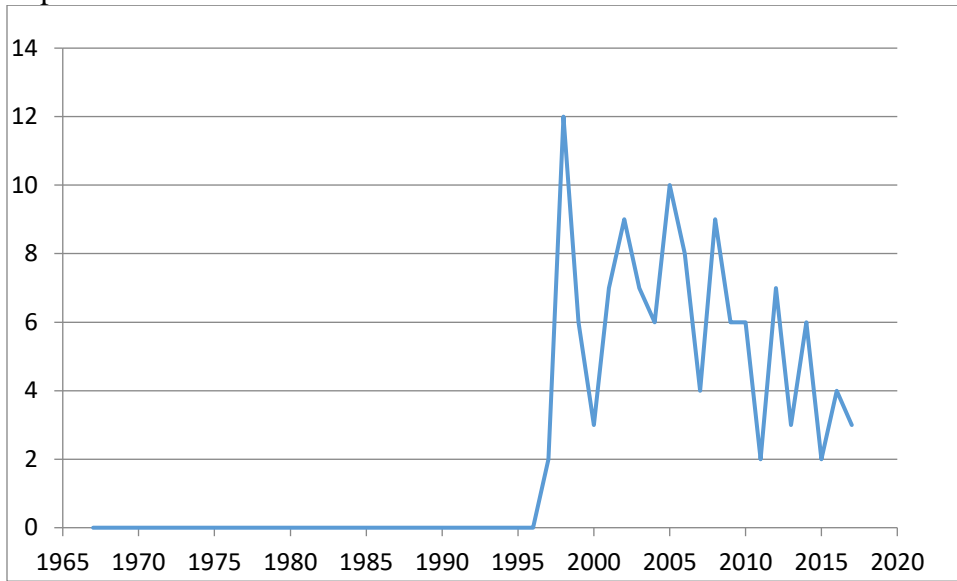
Analemma



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Arp Northern
Al Lamperti

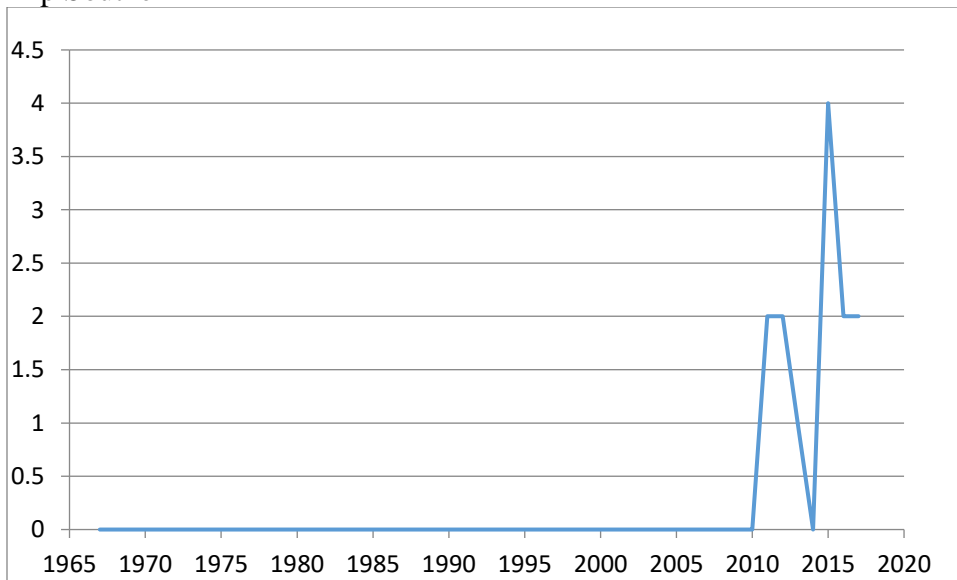
Arp Northern



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Arp Southern
Al Lamperti

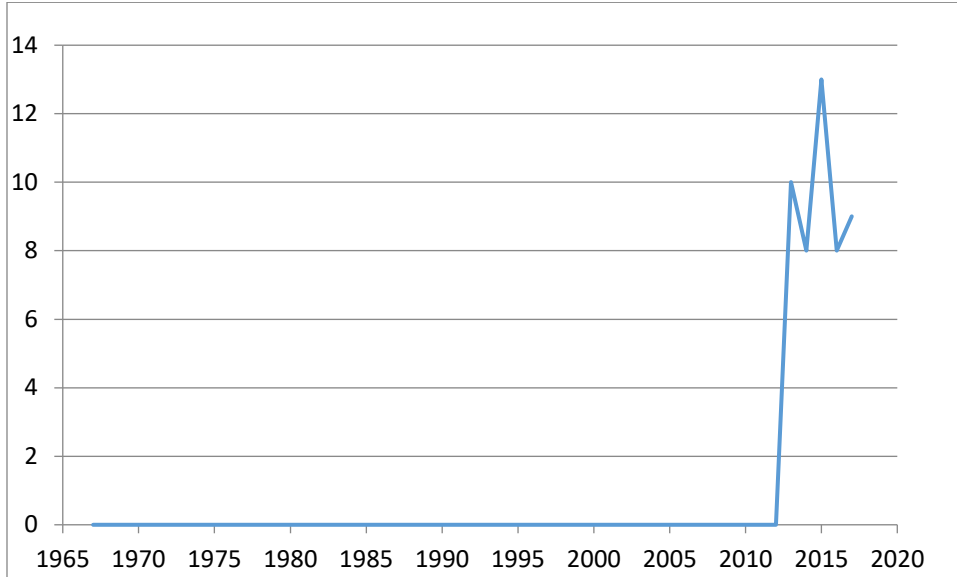
Arp Southern



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Asterism Observing Program
Troy Stratton

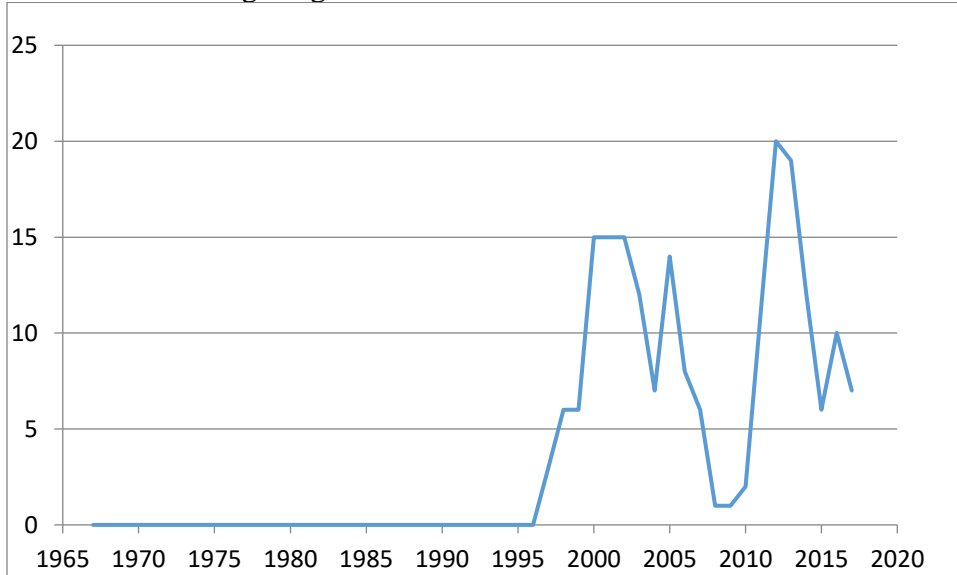
Asterism Observing Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Asteroid Observing Program
John Goar

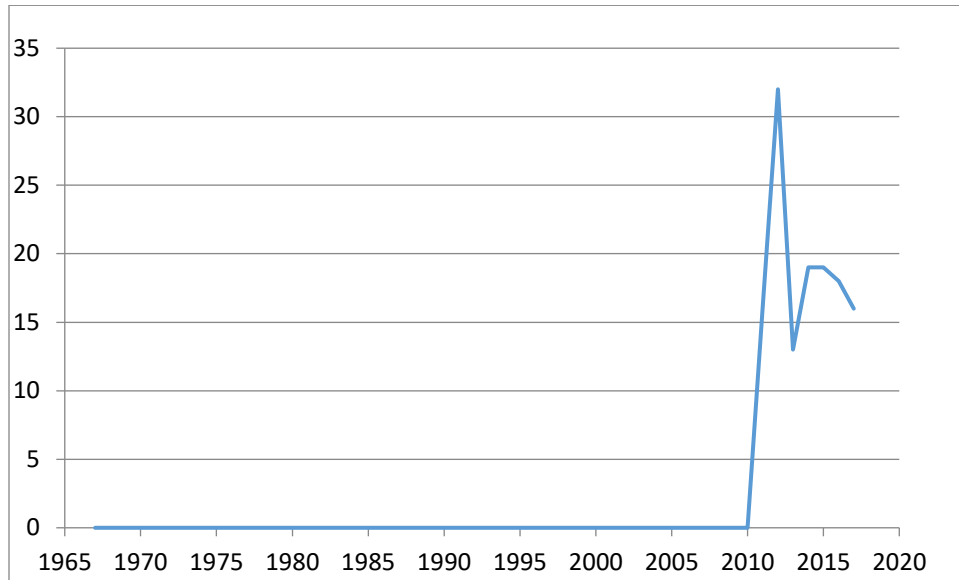
Asteroid Observing Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Binocular Double Star
Bob Kerr

Binocular Double Star



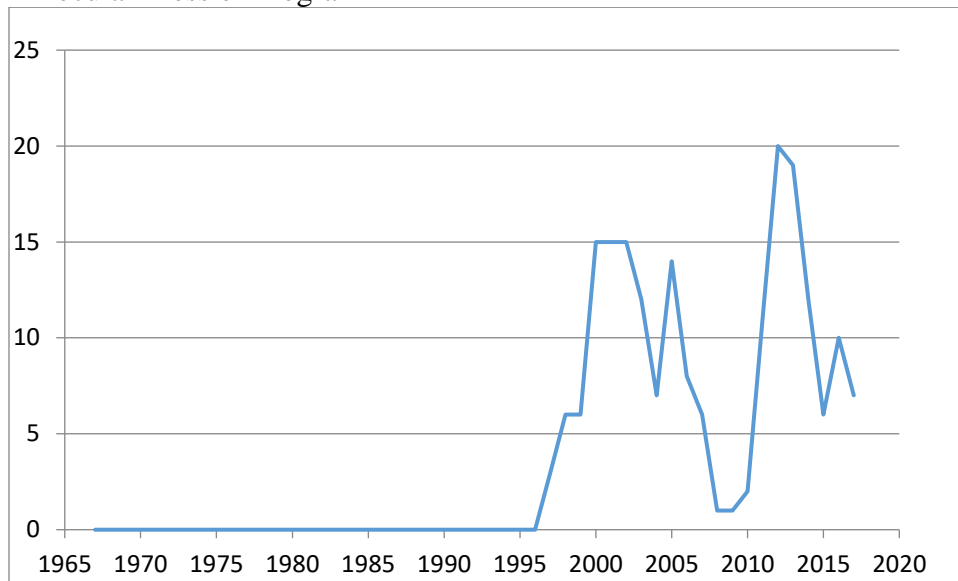
Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Beyond Polaris
Aaron Clevenson

Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Binocular Messier Program
John Goar

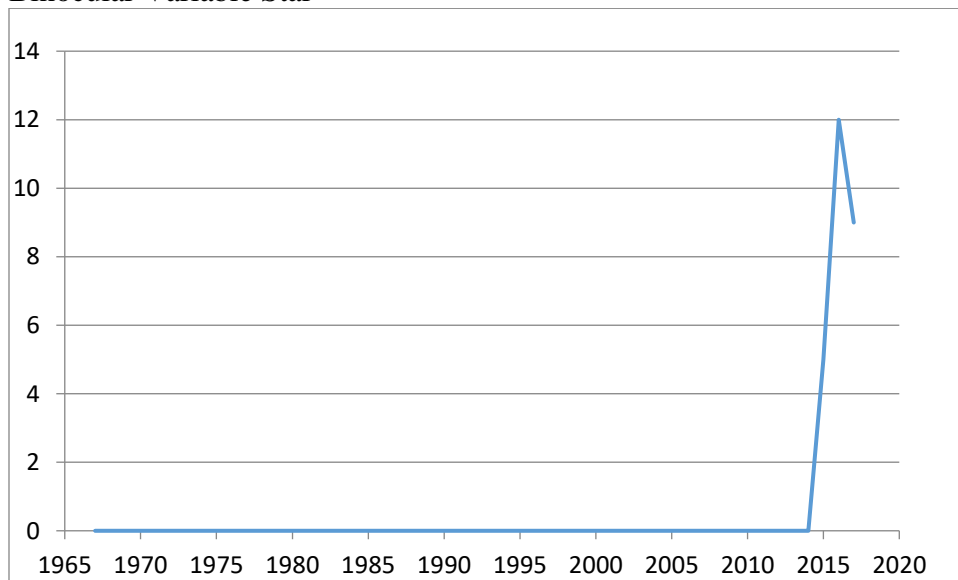
Binocular Messier Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Binocular Variable Star
Robert Togni

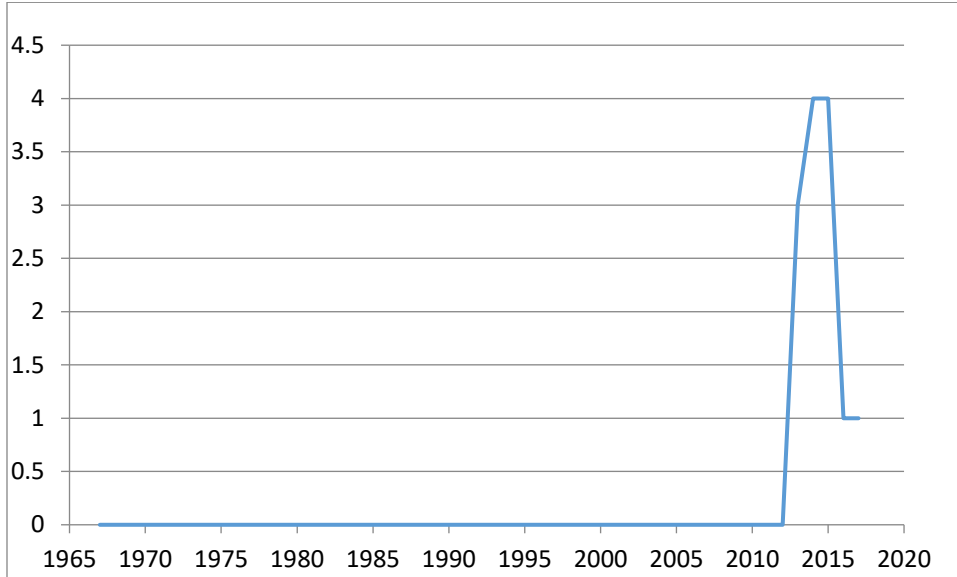
Binocular Variable Star



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Bright Nebulae
Aaron Clevenson

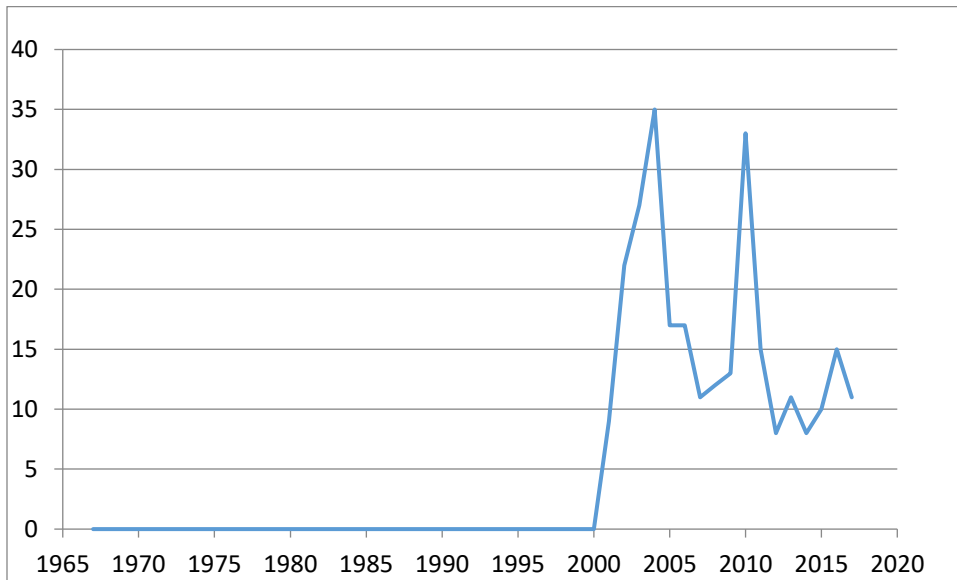
Bright Nebulae



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Caldwell
Sue Rose

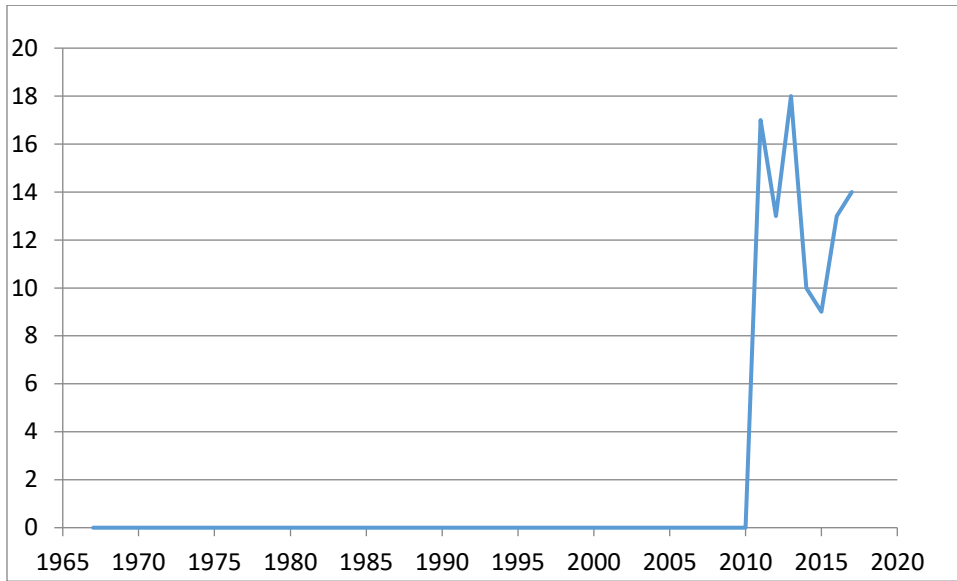
Caldwell Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Carbon Star
Robert Togni

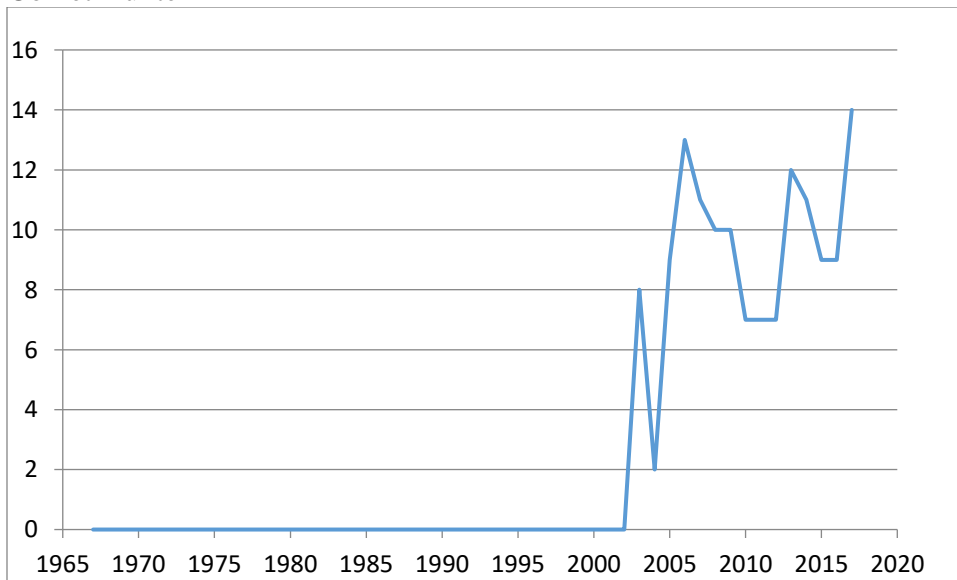
Carbon Star



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Comet
Scott Kranz

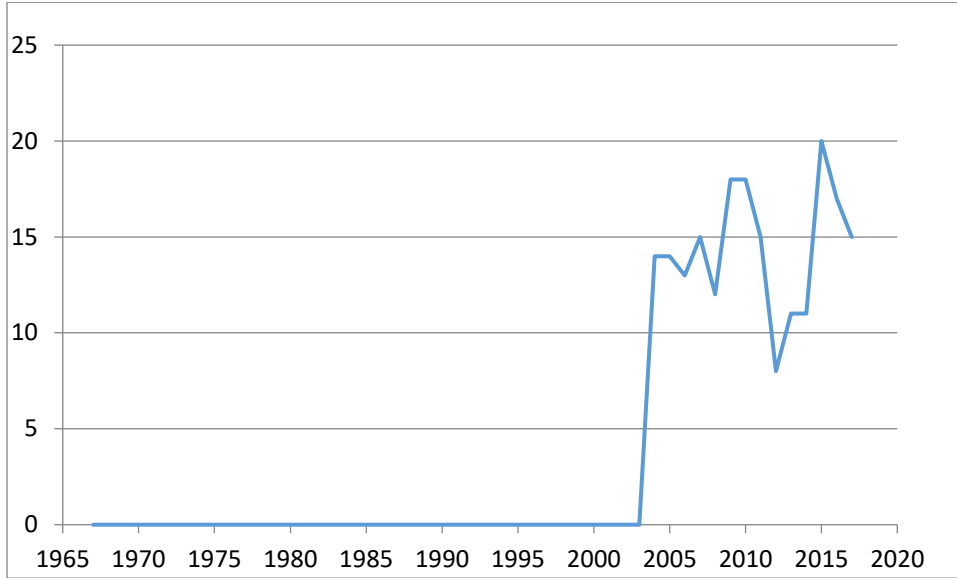
Comet Hunter



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Constellation Hunter
Cliff Mygatt

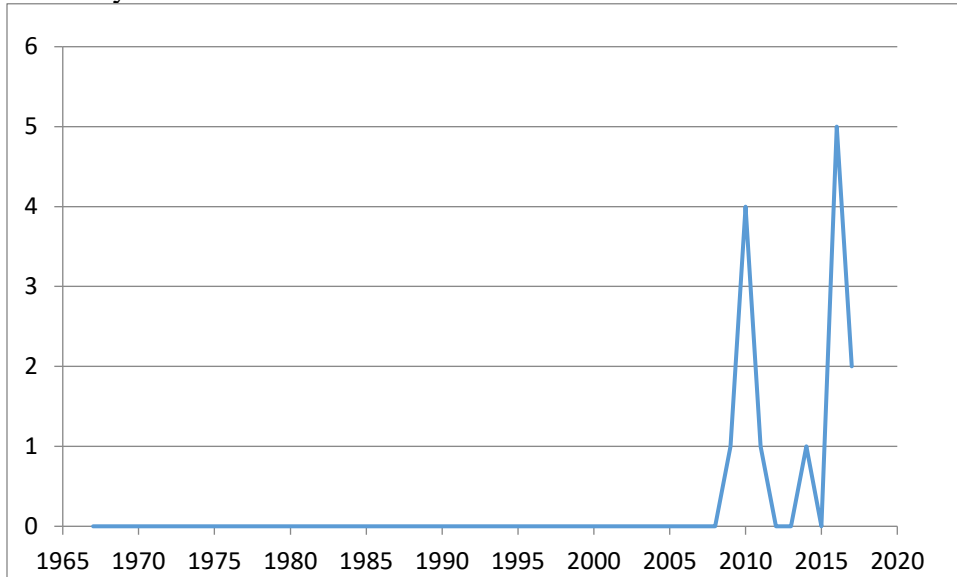
Constellation Hunter



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Dark Sky Advocate
John Goss

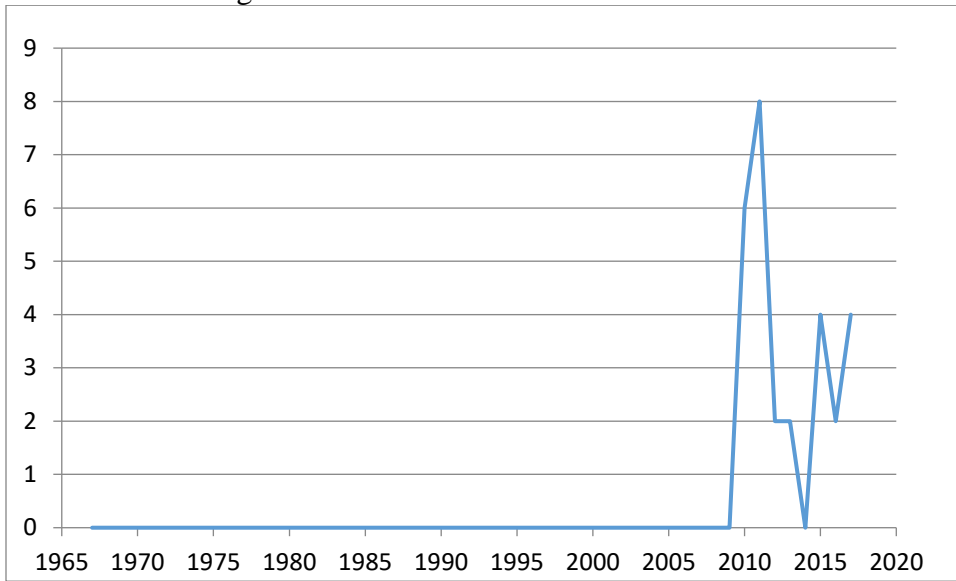
Dark Sky Advocate



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Dark Nebulae Program
Kathy Machin

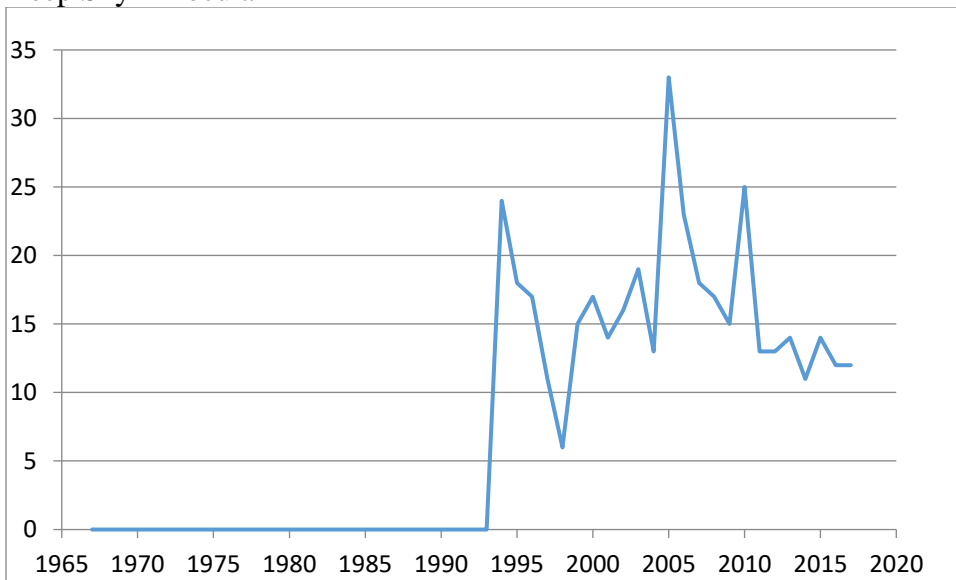
Dark Nebulae Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Deep Sky Binocular Program
Cindy La Russa

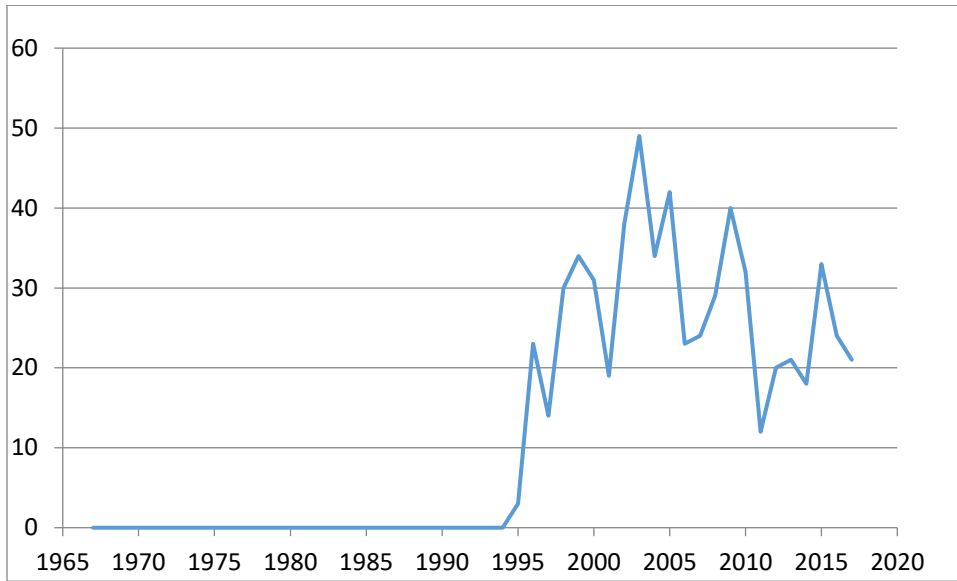
Deep Sky Binocular



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Double Star
Steve Bell

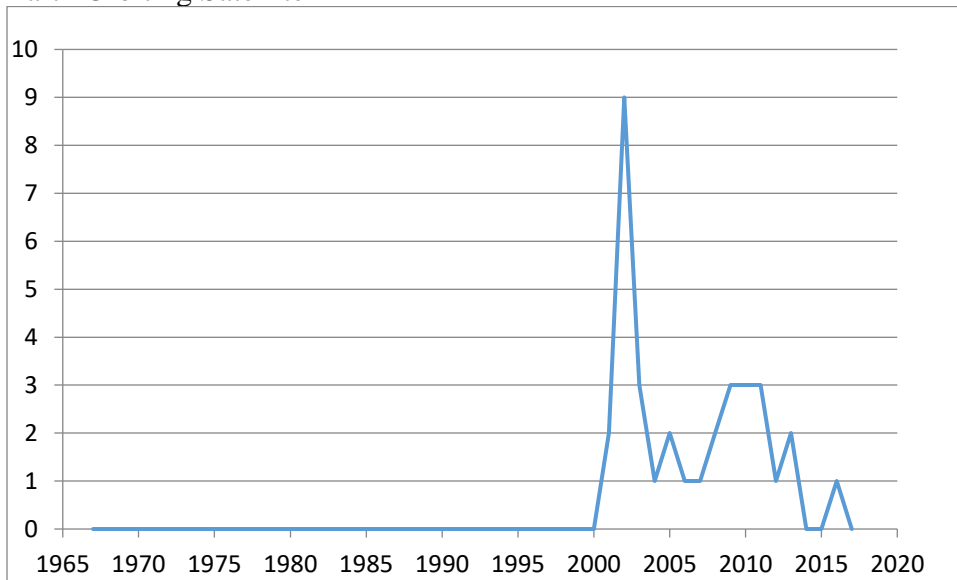
Double Star



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Earth Orbiting Satellite Observing Club
Tom DeClue

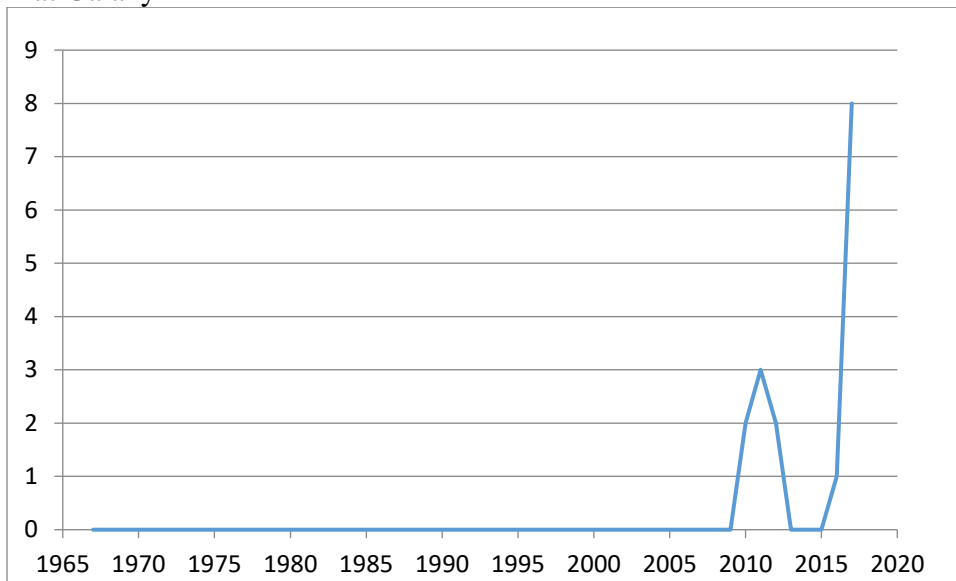
Earth Orbiting Satellite



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Flat Galaxy
Al Lamperti

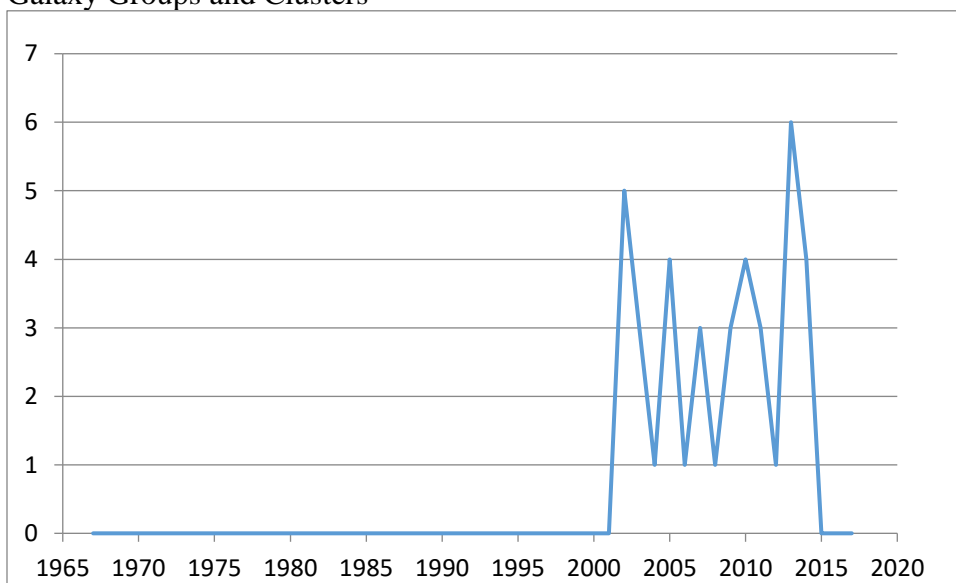
Flat Galaxy



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Galaxy Groups and Clusters
Dareth Murray

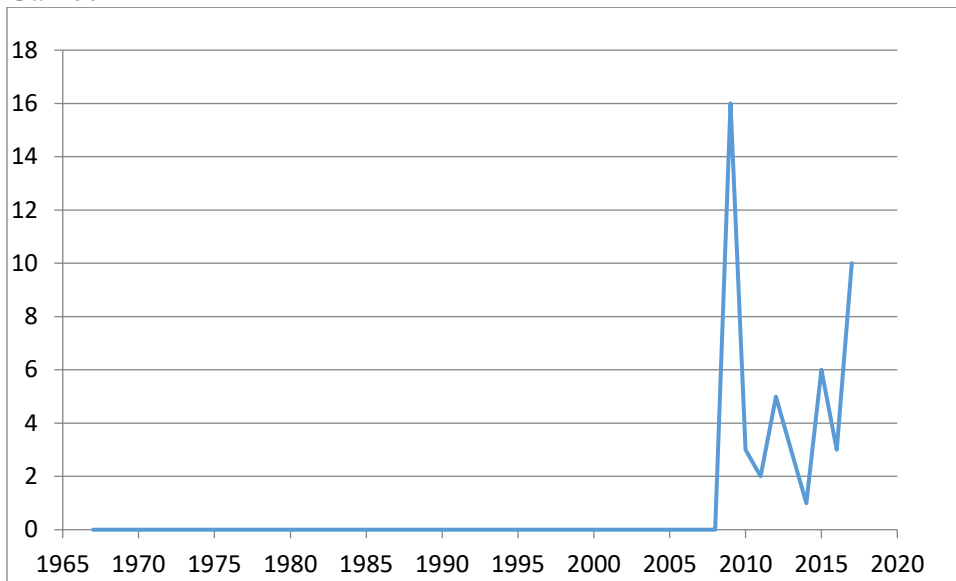
Galaxy Groups and Clusters



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Galileo
Mark Croom

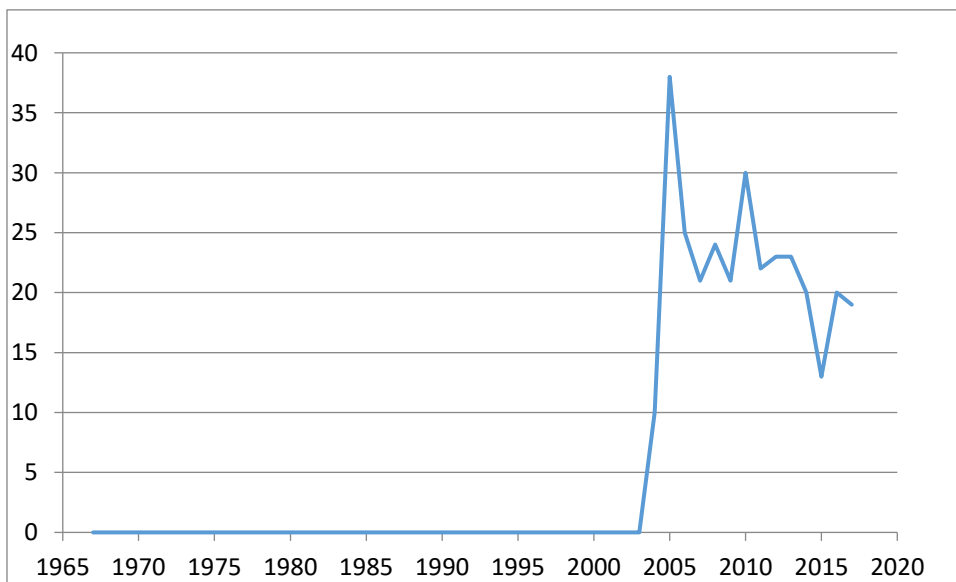
Galileo



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Globular Cluster
Bob Kerr

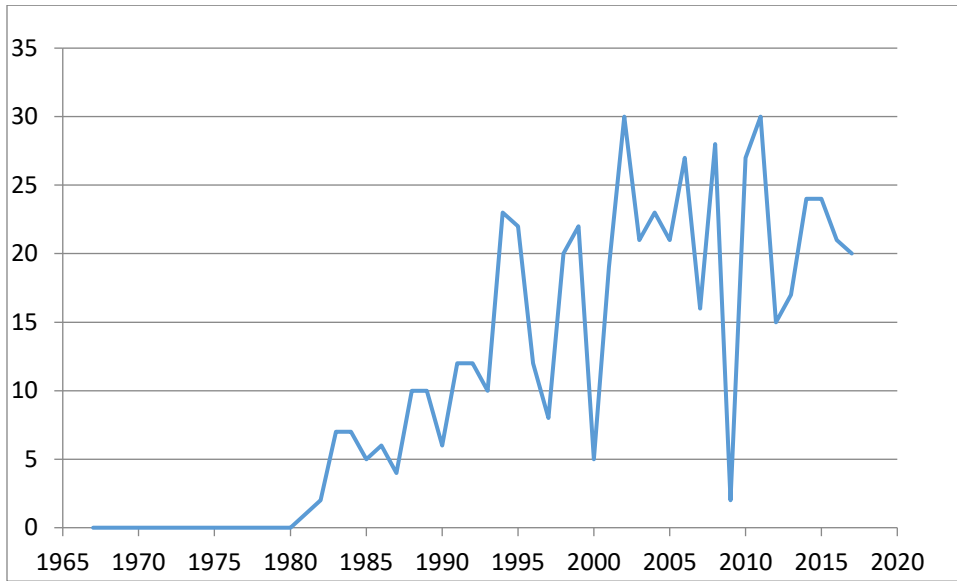
Globular Cluster



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Herschel 400
Jack Estes

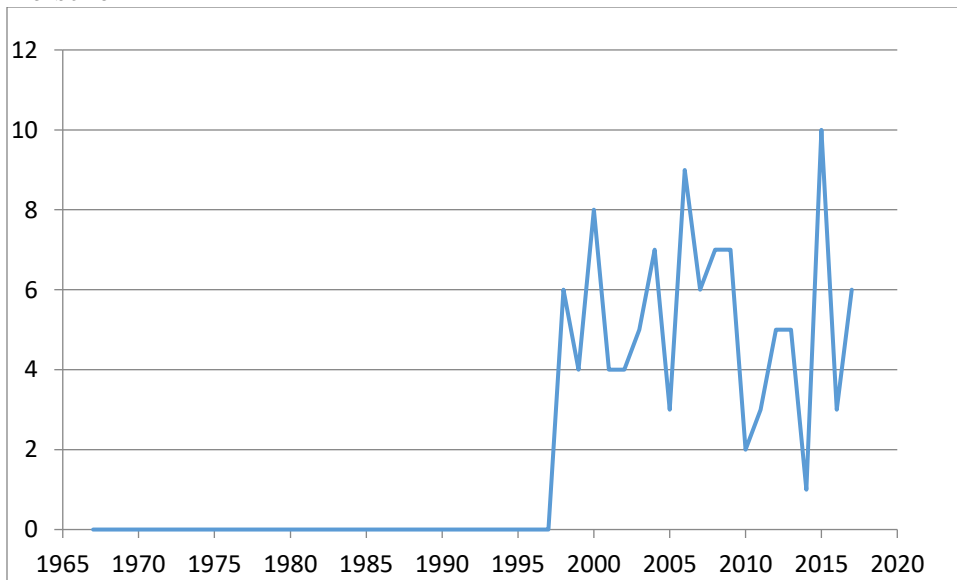
Herschel 400



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Herschel II Observing Program
Candace Pratt

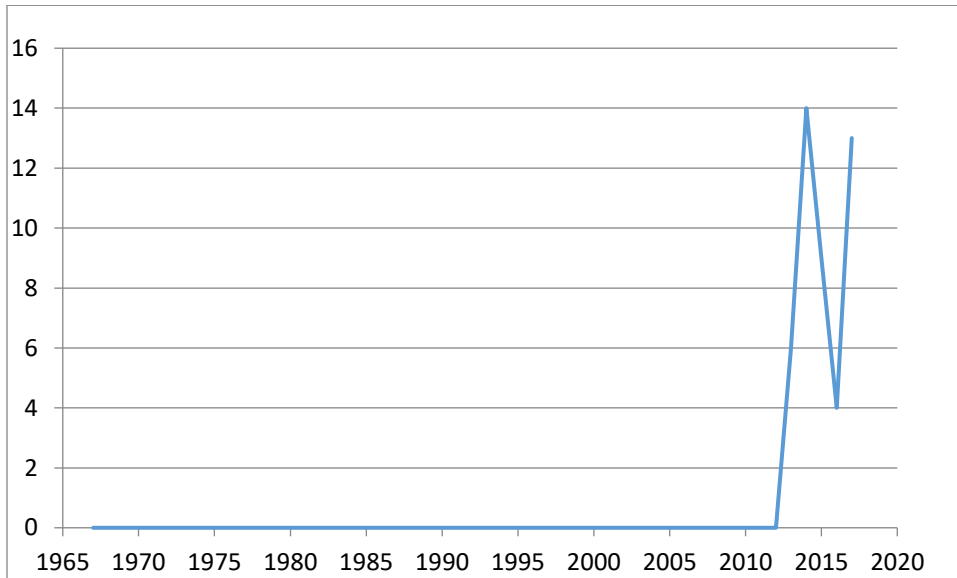
Herschel II



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Hydrogen Alpha Solar Observing
Aaron Clevenson

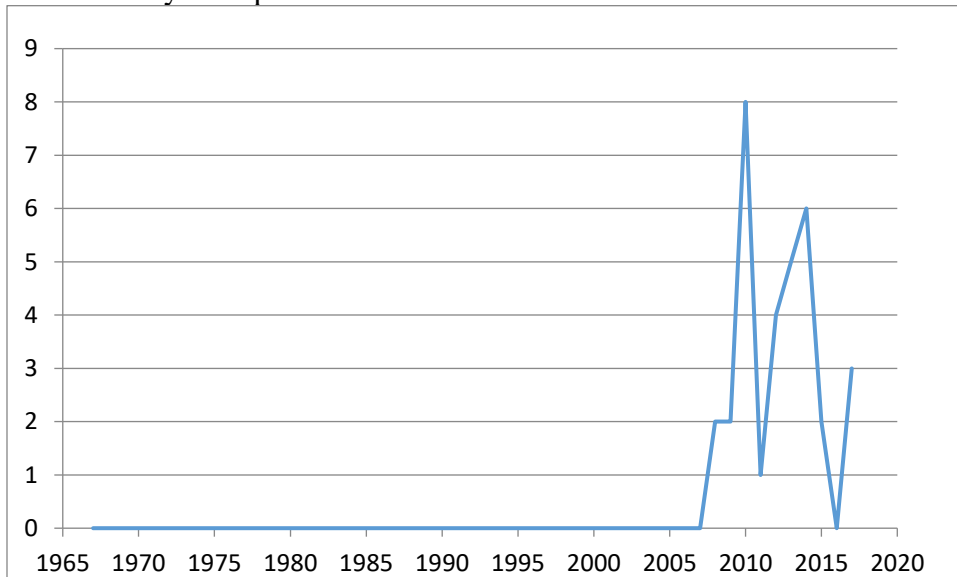
Hydrogen Alpha Solar Observing



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Local Galaxy Groups
Dareth Murray

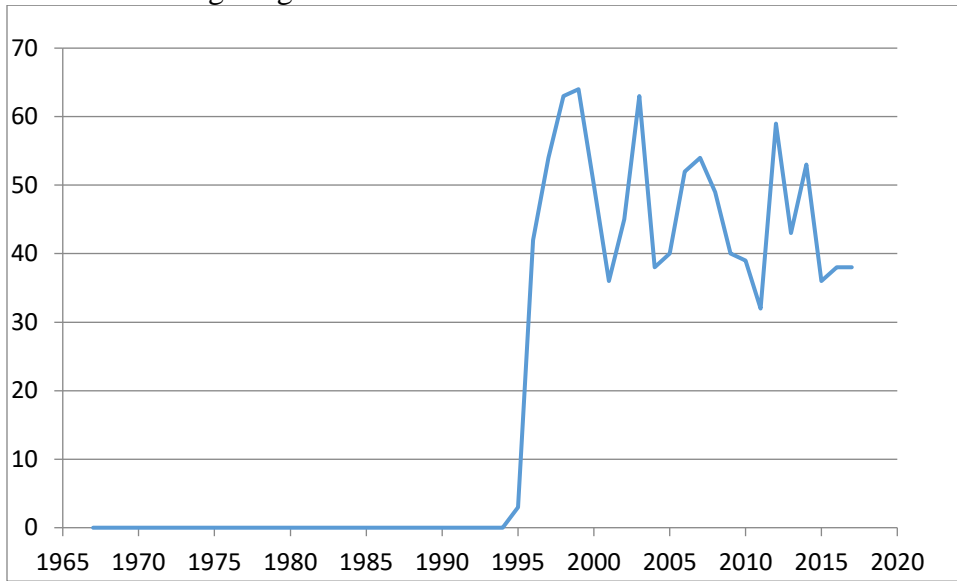
Local Galaxy Groups



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Lunar Observing Program
Steve Nathan

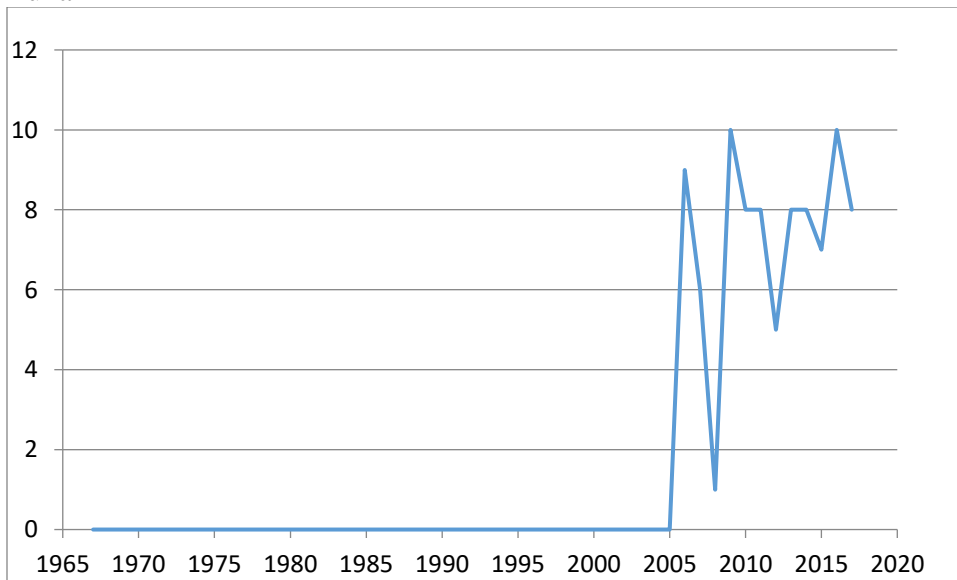
Lunar Observing Program



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Lunar II
Cliff Mygatt

Lunar II



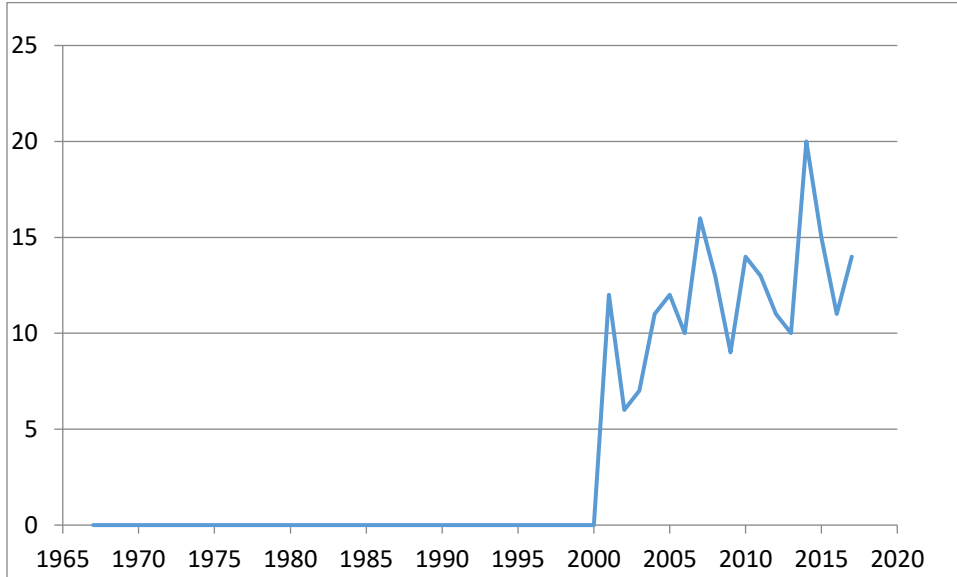
Observing Program Name:

Master Observer Award
Master Observer – Silver
Master Observer – Gold
Master Observer – Platinum

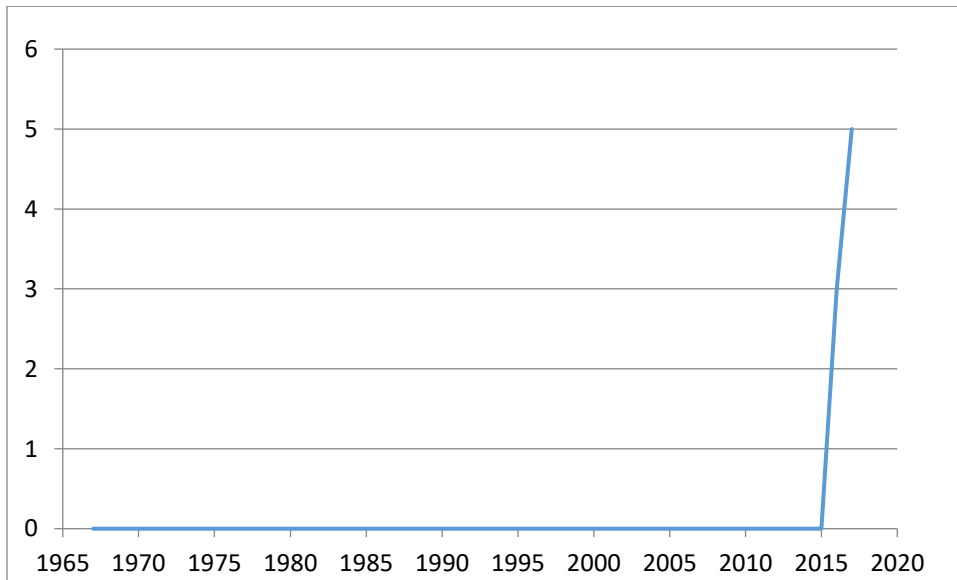
Coordinator Name:

Aaron Clevenson

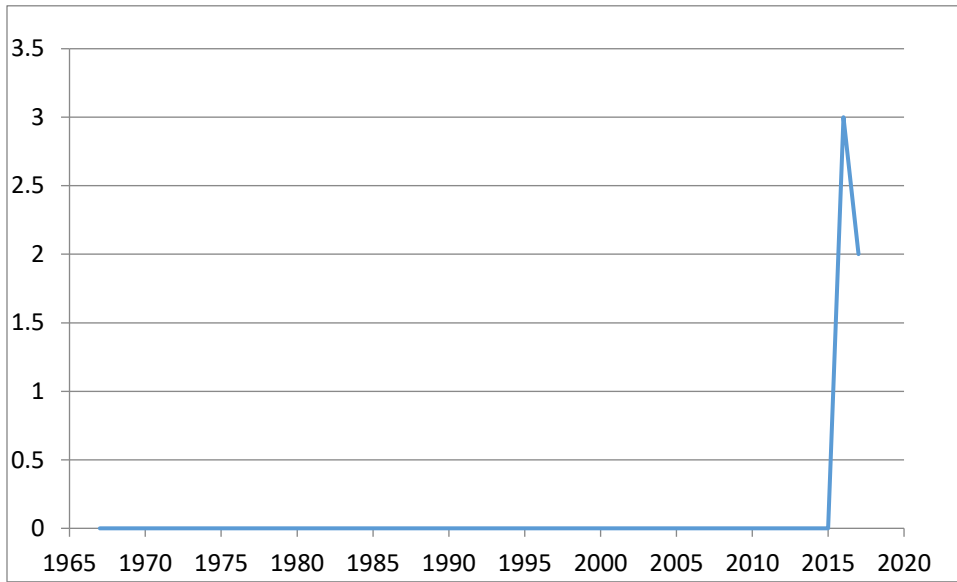
Master Observer



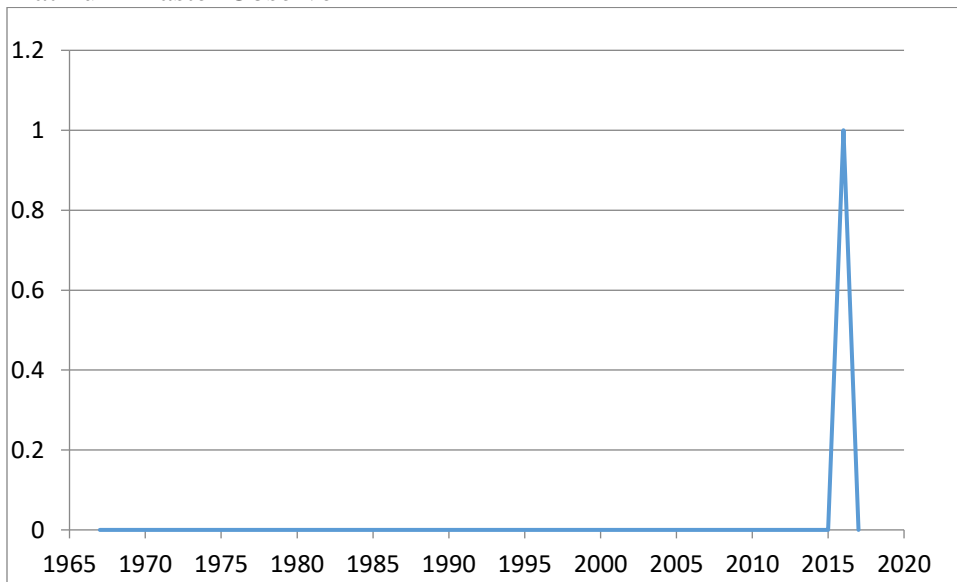
Silver Master Observer



Gold Master Observer



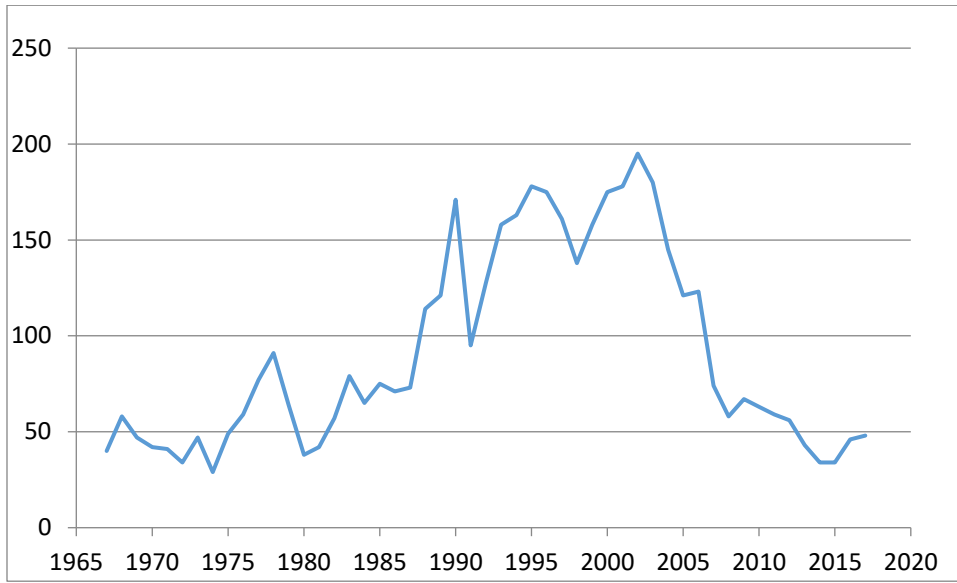
Platinum Master Observer



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Messier
Scott Kranz

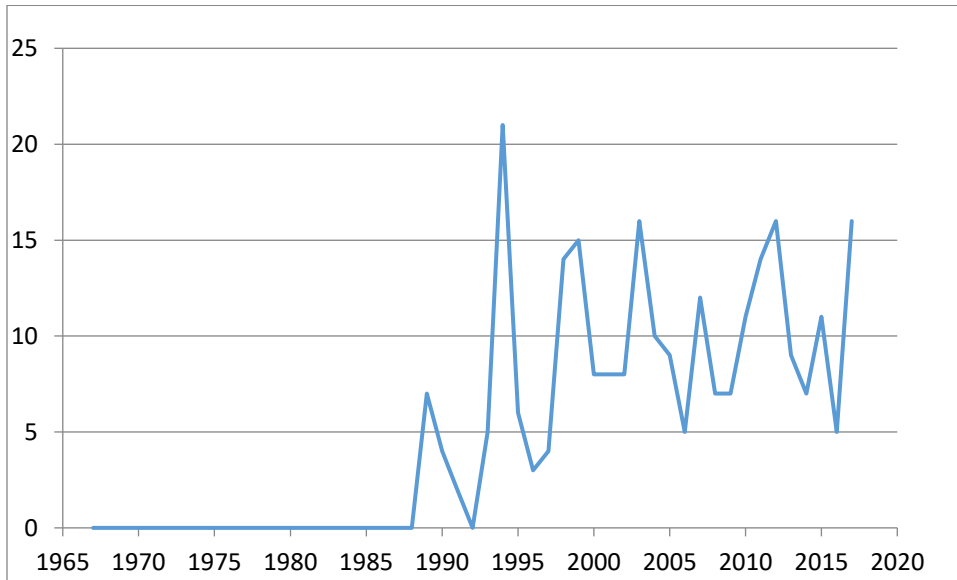
Messier



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Meteor
Scott Kranz

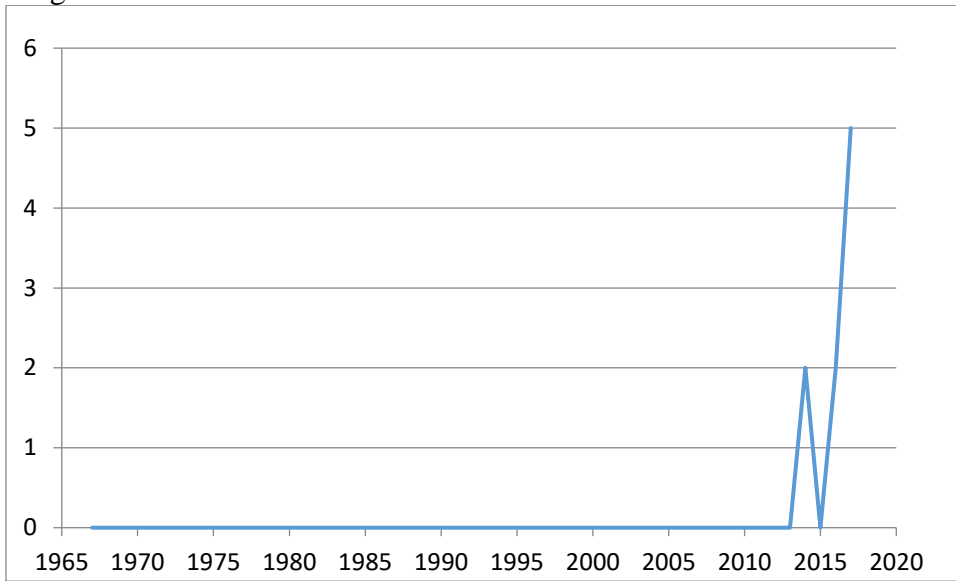
Meteor



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Target NEOs!
Dolores Hill and Carl Hergenrother

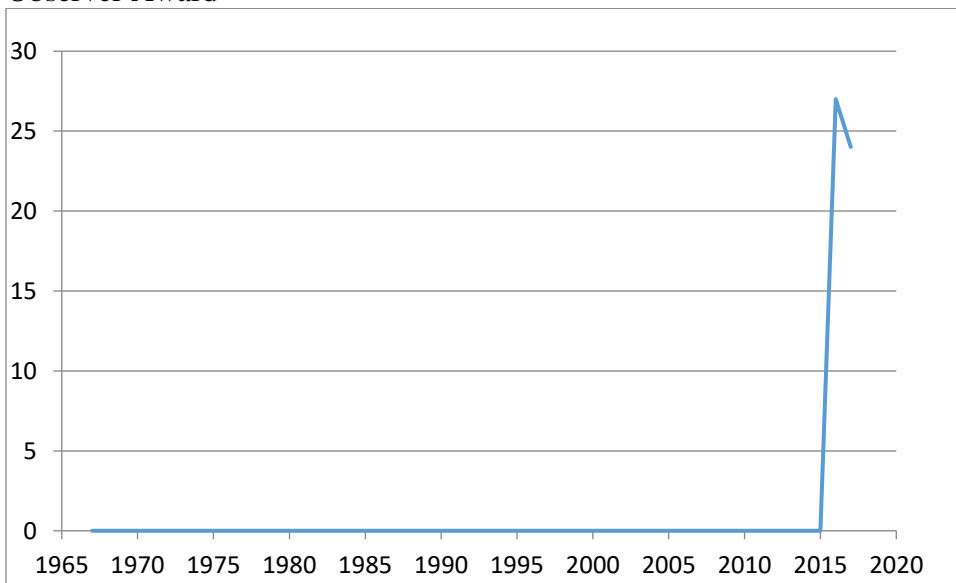
Target NEOs!



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Observer Award
Aaron Clevenson

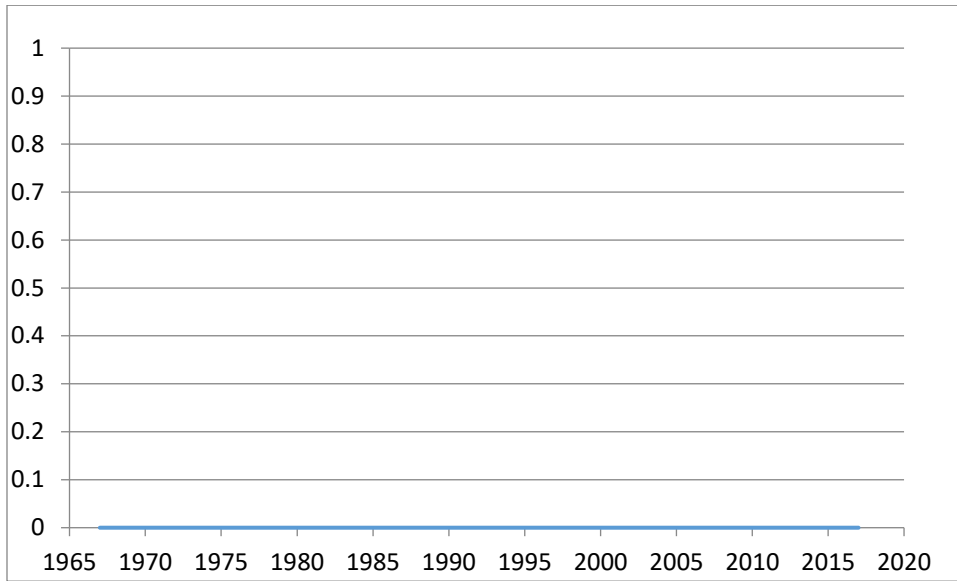
Observer Award



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Occultation
Steve Conard

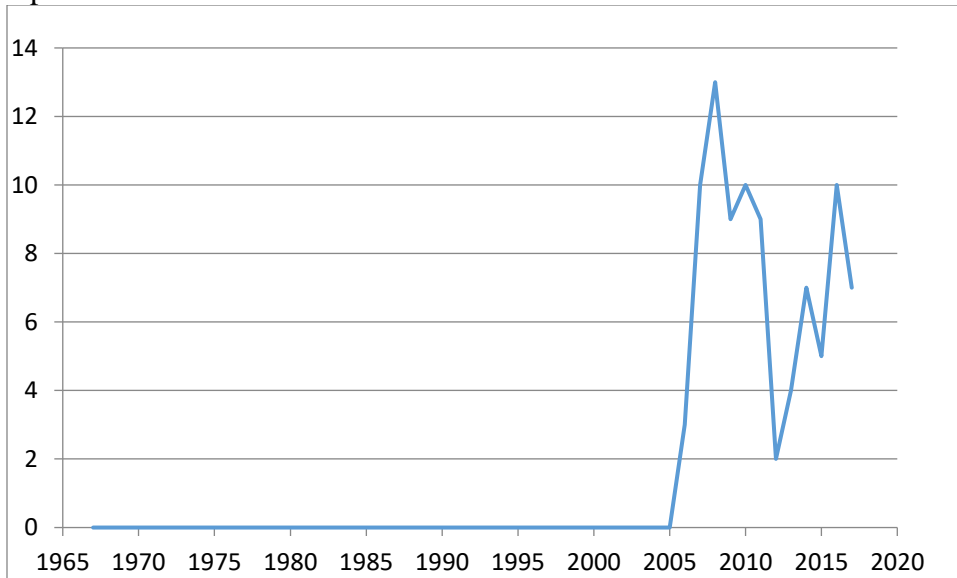
Occultation



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

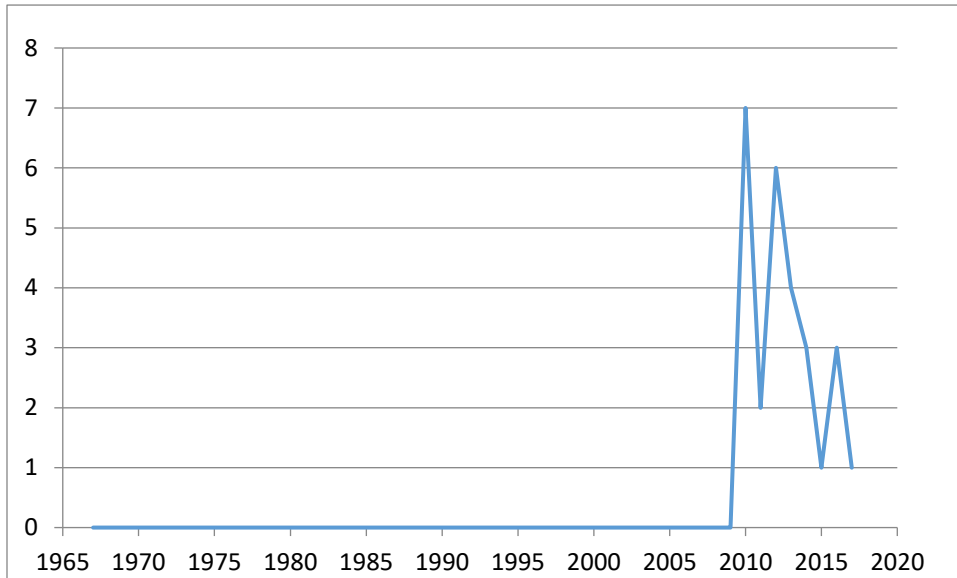
Open Cluster
Cliff Mygatt

Open Cluster



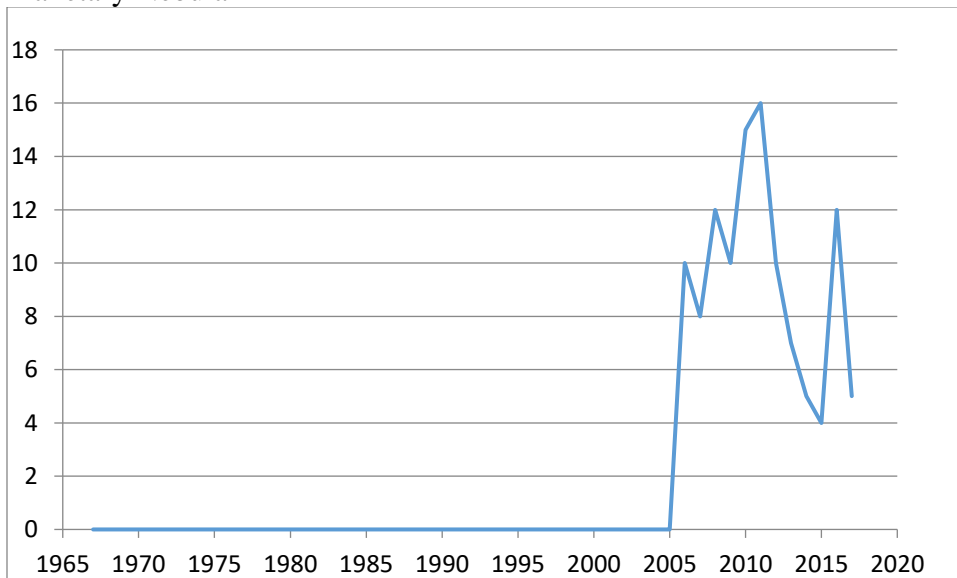
Observing Program Name: Outreach
Coordinator Name: Dr. W. Maynard Pittendreigh

Outreach



Observing Program Name: Planetary Nebula Observing Program
Coordinator Name: Ted Forte

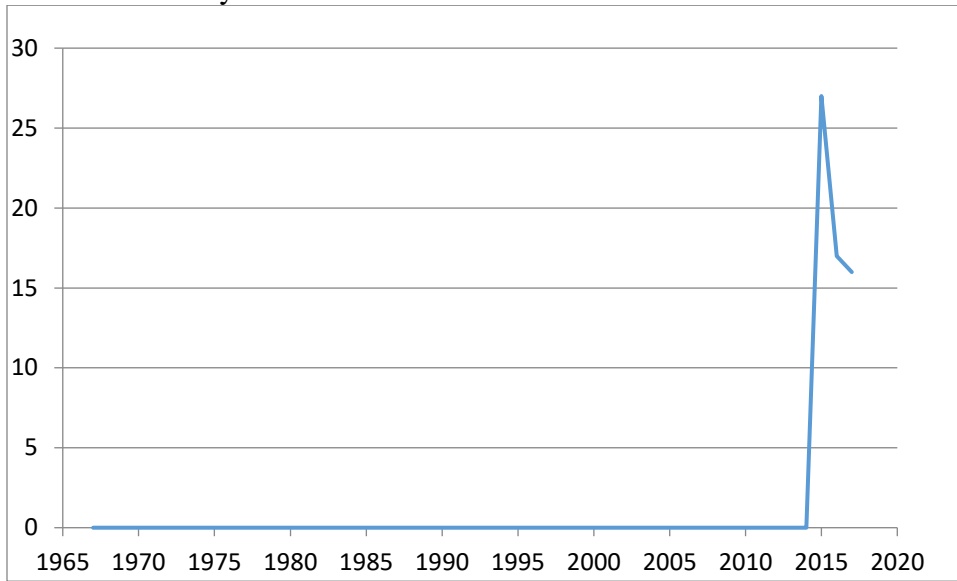
Planetary Nebula



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Radio Astronomy
William Bogardus

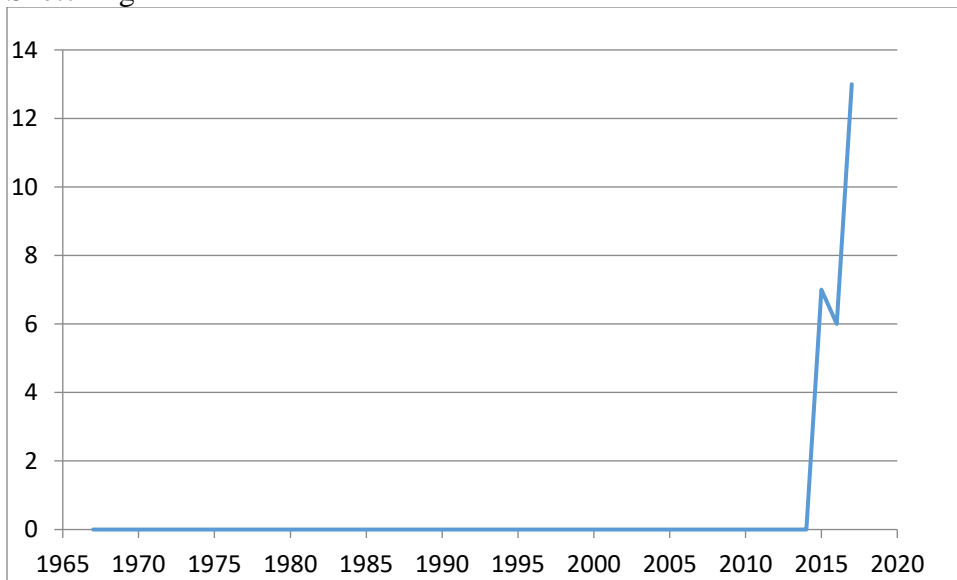
Radio Astronomy



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Sketching Observing Award
Cindy L. Krach

Sketching



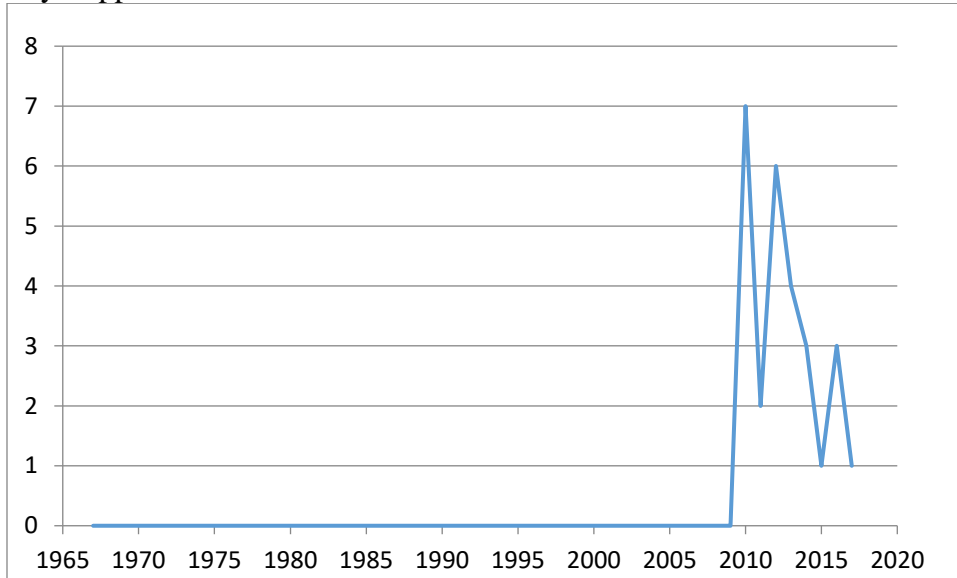
Observing Program Name:

Sky Puppies

Coordinator Name:

Dr. W. Maynard Pittendreigh

Sky Puppies



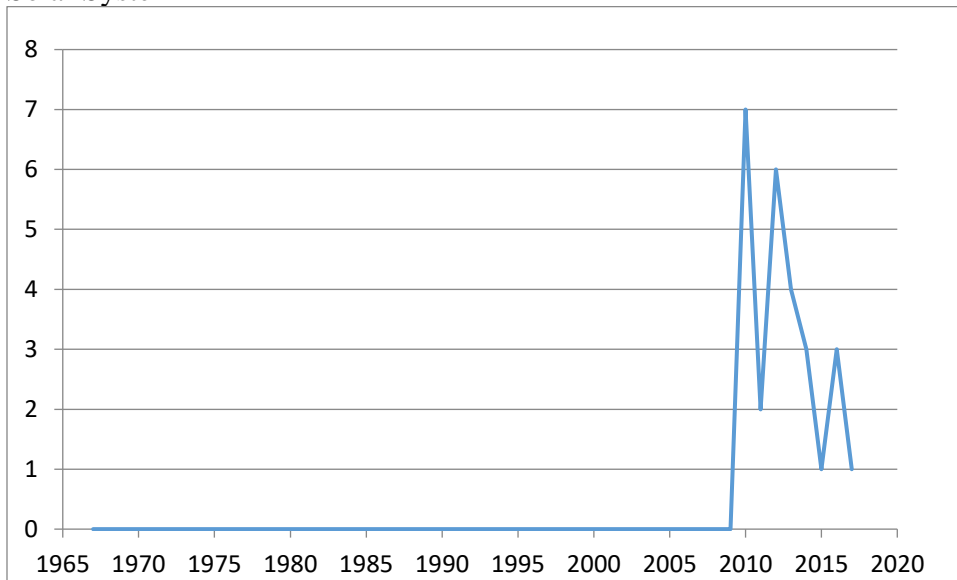
Observing Program Name:

Solar System

Coordinator Name:

Bryan Tobias

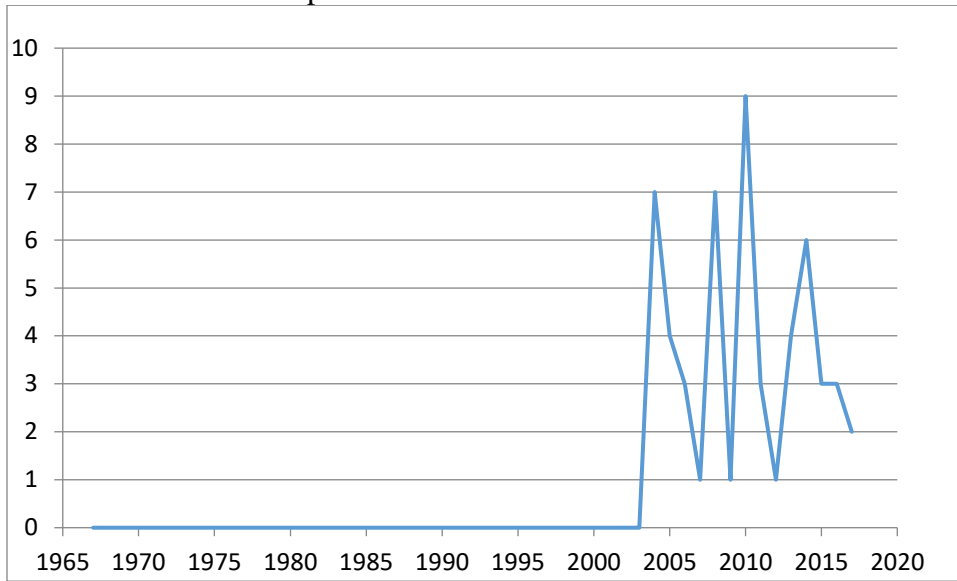
Solar System



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Southern Skies Telescopic Program
Kathy Machin

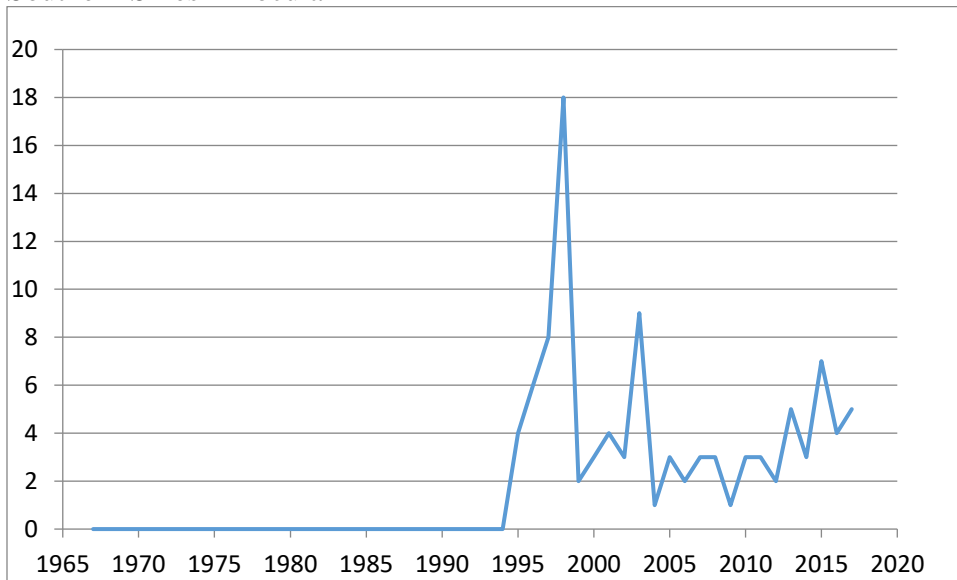
Southern Skies Telescopic



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Southern Skies Binocular
Cindy La Russa

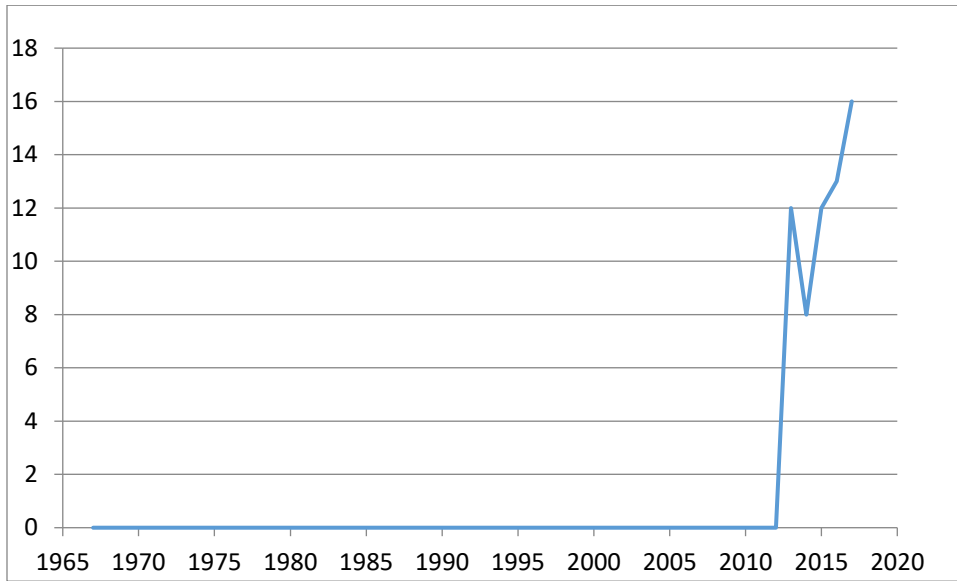
Southern Skies Binocular



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Stellar Evolution
Bill Pellerin

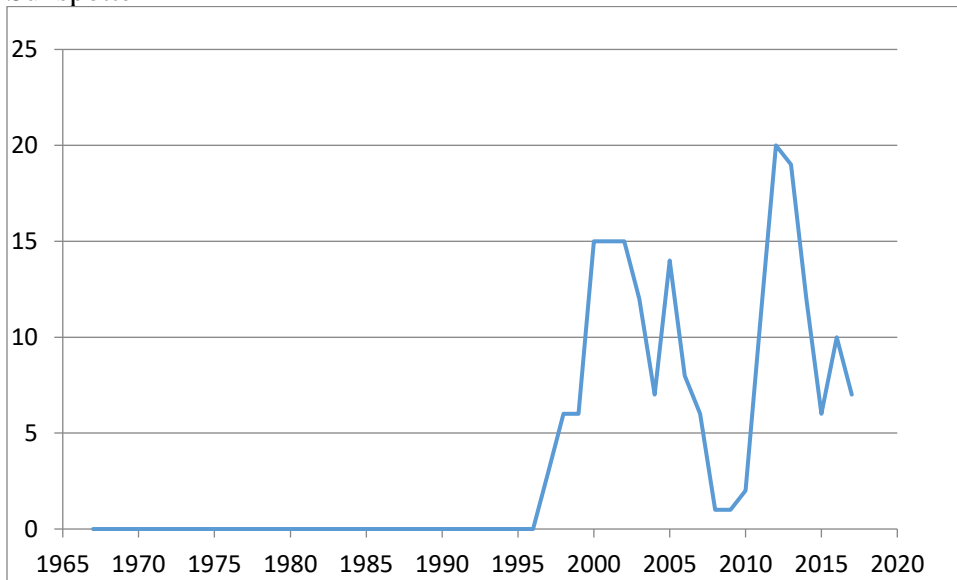
Stellar Evolution



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Sunspotter
Scott Kranz

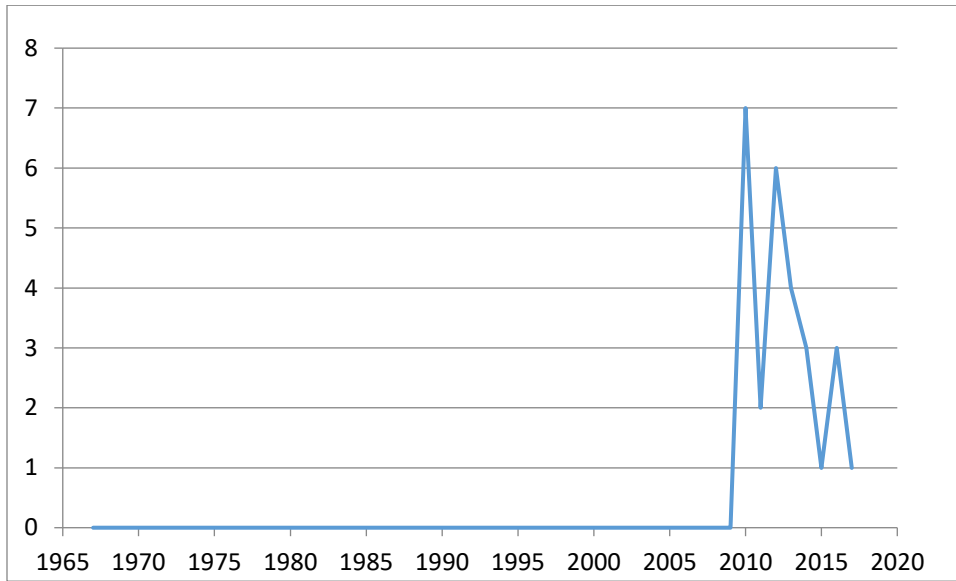
Sunspotter



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Two in the View
Bob Scott

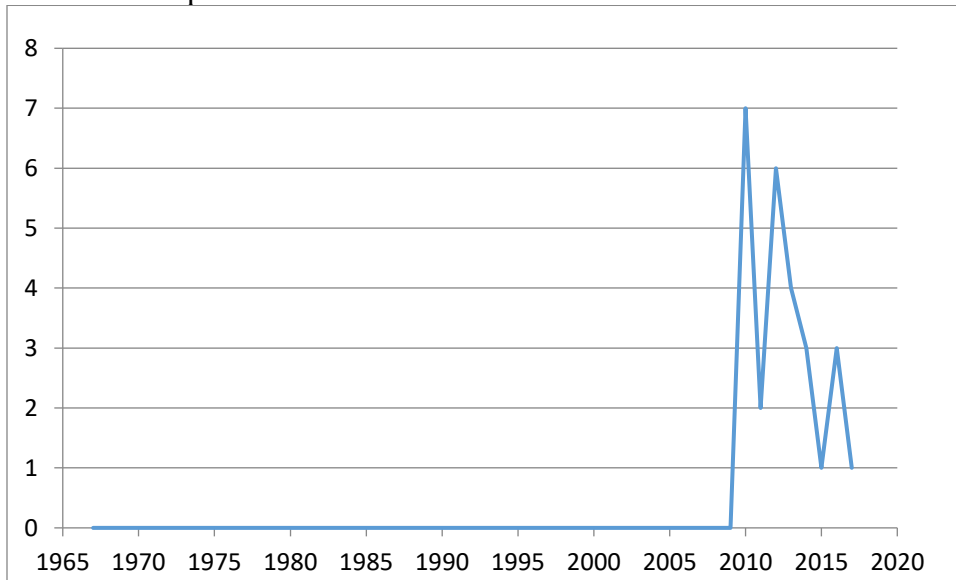
Two in the View



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Universe Sampler
Amelia Goldberg

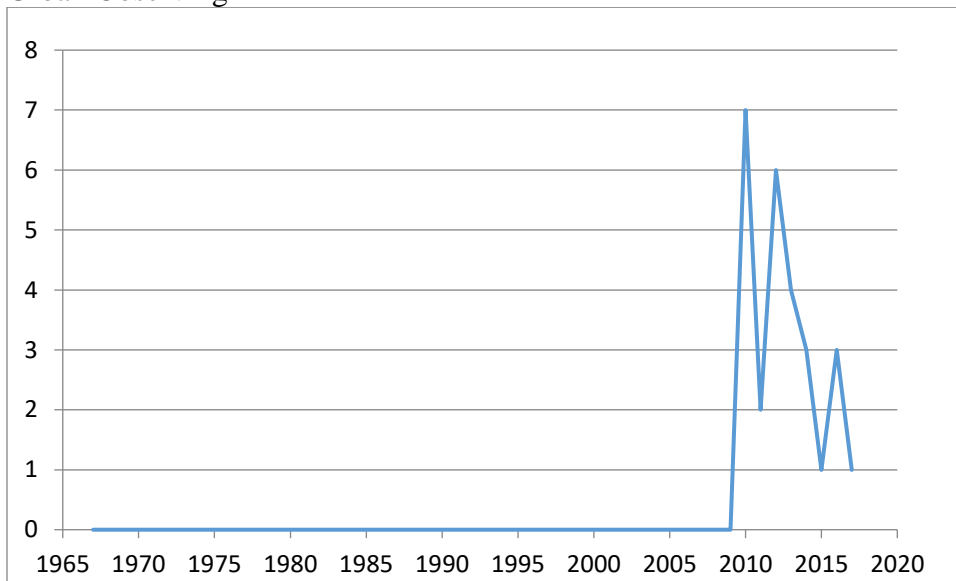
Universe Sampler



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Urban Observing Program
Terry N. Trees

Urban Observing



Observing Program Name:
Coordinator Name:

Variable Star
Robert Togni

Variable Star

