

Re: The Dumbing Down of Astronomers

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- *From:* "RMOLLISE" <rmollise@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Förster vom Silberwald wrote:

RMOLLISE wrote:

Do you belong to your local club and support projects such as these?

Hi Rod:

The problem: they won't let you introduce you new techniques and methods. Every club is run by some few old pig-headed members.

Hi:

Maybe your club does...I know mine doesn't. In fact, I don't believe this describes any of the many clubs I've belonged to over the last 40+ years. Clubs are made up of people; some like one thing some like another, all are human. I'm not necessarily talking about you, but when I see statements like this, it usually means the person in question has not been able to get her/his own way at a club and is in a snit because of it. Because the typical club is composed of many folks with different attitudes and interest, compromise is a must. I will tell you what will rub most people the wrong way...waltzing in and offering to show them how WRONG they've been about everything. Best advice in these situations? "You catch more flies with honey than you will with vinegar." ;-)

When I was young 10 years ago at age around 20 I was responsible for the world wide network of the "Pettis number" (sun observing). The Pettis number is related to the "Wolf number". I also had to make a circulated journal (my English is still mangled but at that time it was a lot harder for me) and always gave the observers the feeling that

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their observations with small scopes are valuable.

At our astrophysics department at the university we often conduct meetings and we also invited amateur astronomers. From all the talks and members of that community I know: they have one problem: will my refractor show false color. Not to speak of all the amateurs who believe they are better and much more experienced than the professionals.

Well, I commend you on your fine efforts, but I don't see what this has to do with clubs or Sky and Telescope....

Peace,

Rod Mollise

Author of: _Choosing and Using an SCT_, and _The Urban Astronomers's Guide_.

<http://members.aol.com/rmollise/index.html>

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