

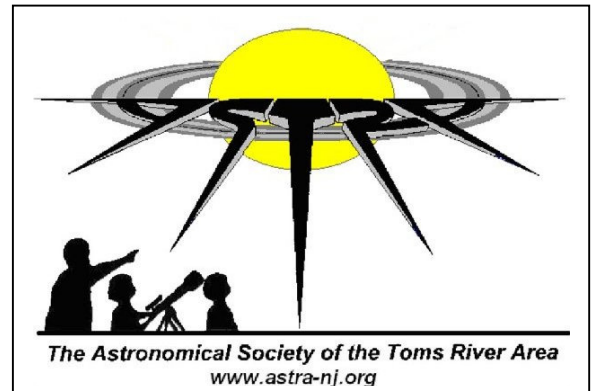
ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

February 2008

www.ASTRA-NJ.org

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

Beginning in February and until further notice, the monthly ASTRA meetings will be held in the Solar Lounge beginning at 8:00 PM. The Solar Lounge is located in the College Center building across from the Planetarium. The relocation of the meeting is due to the impending renovation of the planetarium building to begin in 2008.



As a paid-up member for 2008, when you attend a monthly meeting, you may enter your name into a free random drawing for a door prize to be given away during the meeting.

Meeting Schedule 2008

Feb. – Cinema Scopes II; Presented by Bob Salvatore.

Dues; The Treasurer will collect dues for this year's membership.

Mar. – Astronomy Equipment and/or Book, Show & Tell; all members.

Dues; The Treasurer will collect dues for this year's membership.

Apr. – Astronomy Day Preparation; Review of the Night Sky Network topics and ideas for Astronomy Day presentations.

May – Astronomy Day Final Preparation; Final preparation for Astronomy Day on May 10th, also open discussion.

Jun. – Astronomers in History; Presentation by Bob Salvatore.

Jul. – Open for suggestions; No topic planned at this time.

Aug. – ASTRA Picnic; No meeting.

Our Next Meeting – 8 PM – February 8, 2008

Contributed by Bob Salvatore.

Cinema Scopes II; - Last years presentation was lots of fun so I'm trying again this year. I don't have as many movies as last year or the help of my son Lucas who is at the University of Maryland. What I do have is a fun presentation with some surprises planned for both the young and old Astronomers. Don't miss it. See you all there.

Dues are Due for 2008

See Ro Spedalieri at a club meeting or mail the attached form to the address listed on the form. – Treasurer@astra-nj.org

Highlights of the Last Meeting

Contributed by Sarah Waters

January's meeting was the yearly Telescope Workshop. We had a large turnout of ASTRA members that were able to help those in need. There were less people coming for help than other years but we still filled up the cafeteria with families and their astronomy equipment. We were surprised not to see any GoTo telescopes this year.

After a general talk most newcomers received one-on-one help from an ASTRA member. The sky was clear enough to allow for some viewing near the end of the night. We had about 5 scopes set up and happy astronomers leaving that night with their new knowledge. Hopefully we will see many of them return in the future. Thank you to all that were able to help. The night was a big success.

We are looking forward to a MOON Party on February 20th for the Lunar Eclipse. Please join us as we gather in front of the Student Center at 8:00 pm for a night of observing.

As I watch the message board I see a few people getting out to observe during these cold months to enjoy the crisp clear nights. It is fun to see the posts of things observed and a reminder to enjoy the viewing without the haze and humidity of the summer. I need to get my act together myself and pull out that snow suit. Keep up the posting all you faithful Astronomers it is good incentive.

See you on the 8th at 8:00 for Bob's presentation.

Star Party Plans

For members who enjoy observing the skies, checkout the following list. ASTRA hosts several *public* and *private* star parties, coordinated by Ro Spedalieri. Many members also attend star parties put on by *other* groups held at other locations.

Ocean County College (*Public*) Lunar Eclipse – February 20, 8:00 pm at the Student Center

Coyle Field (*private*)

[See Message Board for dates and times](#)

2008 Feb. Celestial Events: supplied by J. Randolph Walton (Randy)

Day	Date	Time (EST)	Event
Sat	2	04:01	Moon Rise
		04:30	Mars Sets
		05:15	Jupiter Rises
		05:17	Venus Rises
		07:08	Sunrise
		17:20	Sunset
		18:05	Mercury Sets
		19:05	Saturn Rises
Wed	6	17:02	Moon Set
		22:44	New Moon
			Annular Solar Eclipse visible in parts of Antarctica
Sat	9	04:05	Mars Sets
		04:55	Jupiter Rises
		05:25	Venus Rises
		06:30	Mercury Rises
		07:01	Sunrise
		17:28	Sunset
		18:40	Saturn Rises
		20:31	Moon Set
Wed	13	10:03	Moon Rise
		22:33	First Quarter Moon
Sat	16	03:40	Mars Sets
		04:35	Jupiter Rises
		05:30	Venus Rises
		05:45	Mercury Rises
		06:52	Sunrise
		12:38	Moon Rise
		17:36	Sunset
		18:10	Saturn Rises
Wed	20	17:24	Moon Rise
		20:43	Partial Lunar Eclipse begins
		22:01	Total Lunar Eclipse begins
		22:30	Full Moon
		22:51	Total Lunar Eclipse ends
Thu	21	00:08	Partial Lunar Eclipse ends
Sat	23	03:20	Mars Sets
		04:10	Jupiter Rises
		05:30	Venus Rises
		05:30	Mercury Rises
		06:43	Sunrise
		17:45	Sunset
		17:45	Saturn Rises
		19:15	Zodiacal Light visible in W after twilight for next two weeks
		20:40	Moon Rise
Thu	28	09:56	Moon Set
		21:18	Last Quarter Moon

Astronomical League

www.AstroLeague.org

As an ASTRA member you have a membership in the Astronomical League, which gets you the Reflector magazine, discounts on books, and Observing Awards. If you are not getting your Reflector magazine or want to apply for an Observing Award contact the club **ALCOR**: Ro Spedaliere.

Items for Sale

ASTRA-WEAR: For Embroidered and/or Printed items with the ASTRA Logo

You can see some samples at ASTRA meetings and ordering information for all items on our website, <http://www.astra-nj.org/ASTRA-WEAR.pdf>.

Canon 50mm f/1.8 Camera Lens with FD mount. Contact: *Wally Hager III.* at an ASTRA meeting.

Stellarvue 4" f/6.9 Achromatic Refractor Optical Tube Assembly, Model # 102D. Focal length 704mm. The objective is partially attenuated, meaning visible color is very minimal. I've seen traces of color only on the Moon and brightest planets and stars. Contrast is unusually high. Includes a nesting dew cap and a fully rotating JMI Crayford 2" type tailpiece. Also with a 1¼" adaptor, Stellarvue tube rings, and a soft padded Stellarvue carry case. Combined original cost over \$1075. ~~Sell for \$850~~, Now reduced to \$550.

TeleVue 32mm Plossl Eyepiece; Like new in original packaging with spec. sheet. New \$110. Sell for \$60.

Contact: *Phil Zollner* at 732-905-0889 or pazap@juno.com

Astronomic Group Purchase, Items for Sale, or Help Wanted Advertisements: If you want to handle a Group Purchase, have Sale items, or need Help contact the President President@astra-nj.org to announce it at a meeting and send the advertisement to the newsletter (See *Newsletter* below).

Education Article: If you have written a general interest astronomy article, please submit it to the newsletter (See *Newsletter* below). Try to keep it less than one page or it may need to be split over several months. It would be helpful if it were sent as an MS Word document attachment to an e-mail.

Newsletter: E-mail material to Newsletter@astra-nj.org or mail to: Novins Planetarium, ASTRA Newsletter, Ocean County College, P.O. Box 2001, Toms River, NJ 08754-2001. If you do send something please call Randy Walton, phone 732-458-3465 as I may only check for e-mail at my local library weekly or the Planetarium only on the night of an ASTRA meeting. ***Deadline:*** Material for *ASTRAL PROJECTIONS* must be received 21 days before the next meeting.

Astronomy Courses: Planetarium staff offers a number of mini-courses on astronomy. Call the OCC Department of Continuing and Professional Education, 732/255-0404, for information or to register.

Planetarium office: 732/255-0343 weekdays 9 AM - 4 PM. **Hot line:** 732/255-0342. Select 6 for ASTRA. Visit the Planetarium web page at <http://ocean.edu/planet.htm> or visit our web page at <http://astra-nj.org>

Executive Board: **President** - Sarah Waters, President@astra-nj.org; **Vice President-Secretary** - Rich Gamba, VP@astra-nj.org; **Treasurer** - Ro Spedaliere, Treasurer@astra-nj.org; **Newsletter Editor** - Randy Walton, phone 732-458-3465, Newsletter@astra-nj.org, checked weekly; **Webmaster** - John Endreson, Webmaster@astra-nj.org.

A.S.T.R.A. Dues

To renew your membership, all you need to do is fill out this form and send it with your dues to:

Robert J. Novins Planetarium
ATTN: ASTRA
Ocean County College
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ASTRA.

You can also pay at a meeting. If you do, please complete this form and bring it with you.

Annual dues, per family:	\$15.00
Refreshment fee — \$1.00 for <i>each additional family member who comes to ASTRA meetings:</i>	_____
Telescope Fund assessment (Mandatory first year , Optional for continuing members):	5.00
TOTAL (minimum \$15.00):	_____

Privileges of membership include ASTRA's newsletter (*Astral Projections*), use of a Club telescope (*after suitable training*), student discount on admission to Planetarium shows, membership in the Astronomical League, the Astronomical League's newsletter (*Reflector*), and use of the Night Sky Network kits (*after suitable training*). Dues are payable January 1 each year, and past due as of the end of the March meeting.

NAME _____ PHONE () _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NAMES OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS JOINING (Include \$1.00 Refreshment fee for Each):
(Please indicate if member is over 18 - for voting purposes)

	18+	18+	18+	18+
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I grant permission to publish the following to ASTRA members only (check any that apply):

phone number e-mail address put me on the star party phone list