



ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

Volume 21 Issue 7

July 2010

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

Due to the renovation of the planetarium, meetings are in the Solar Lounge beginning at 7:00 PM. The Solar Lounge is located in the Ocean County College Center building #15 across from the Planetarium.

ASTRA Star Parties

Meeting Schedule

July 9th "Famous Astronomers #5" – Bob Salvatore A presentation and discussion on Famous Astronomers. Also a Public Star Party after the presentation.

August 7th ASTRA's Annual Picnic Location -TBA-

NO MEETING August 13th

September 10th "Open General Meeting" & Public Star Party. If anybody has a topic that they would like to talk about contact the club officers.

October 8th Meeting
"Astrophotography" given by Phil Zollner + Public Star Party.



ASTRA members Mike, Ro, and Ed setup telescope equipment on top of the Observing tower at Jakes Branch County Part in Beachwood NJ for a night of astronomy with the public. Below, Bob assists another member with aligning her telescope.



ASTRA Library of Books & DVD's

The following books and DVD's are available to borrow for one month at a time. Request for these items must be made prior to our regular meeting and returned the following meeting. Please e-mail your request for these items to John Endreson webmaster@astra-nj.org or call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493

BOOKS

- 1) **The Far Side of the Moon** by Charles J. Byrne.
- 2) **Night Watch** by Terence Dickinson
- 3) **New Atlas of the Moon** by Serge Brunier (Author), Thierry Legault (Photographer).
- 4) **Encyclopedia of space** by National Geographic
- 5) **The Real Mars** by Michael Hanion
- 6) **Don't Know Much about the Universe** by Kenneth C. Davis's

DVD's

- 1) **Parts 1&2 Understanding the Universe What's New in Astronomy 2003** Taught by: Professor Alex Filippenko. Each part has 8 lectures, 45 minutes per lecture.
- 2) **Parts 1 to 5 Understanding the Universe An Introduction to Astronomy** Taught by: Professor Alex Filippenko each part has 8 lectures, 45 minutes per lecture.
- 3) **COSMOS**
In his "ship of the imagination," Carl Sagan guides us to the farthest reaches of space and takes us back into the history of scientific inquiry in the course of 13 fascinating hours.

For a complete list of books and DVD's, visit our website or Call the ASTRA Hotline at 609-971-8493.



ASTRA members perform some public outreach as part of our partnership with the NASA Night Sky Network.

ASTRA Club Telescopes

A.S.T.R.A. owns two Dobsonian type telescopes of 6 inches and 8 inches in aperture and two refractors one 80mm Celestron w/Altaz mount and one 120mm Orion AstroView w/equatorial mount. After suitable training, club members may borrow these telescopes for a month at a time. Contact John Endreson at: Webmaster@astra-nj.org or call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 if you are interested in using one of our scopes.

Wanted!

No longer used telescopes, parts, and accessories.
Call the ASTRA Hotline at 609-971-8493
We will come and pick-up your used equipment.

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



You can see some samples at ASTRA meetings. To order by mail: Shelter Cove Embroidery Co. 1333 Bay Ave Toms River, NJ 08753 call 732-506-7700 or E-mail astra-wear@estitches.com

July 2010 Celestial Events

4th Last-Quarter Moon (10:35 am EDT). Jupiter is about 10 deg. lower right of the Moon before and during dawn.

8th Predawn: The Pleiades star cluster is 1 to 3 deg. above the thin crescent Moon. Look for them in the East at least 1 hour before sunrise.

9, 10th Dusk: Regulus is about 1 deg. lower left of Venus on the 9th and 1 deg. below Venus on the 10th.

11th New Moon (3:40 pm EDT). A total solar eclipse is visible in the south pacific.

14, 15th Dusk: The thin crescent Moon is about 7deg. lower left of Venus on the 14th. And on the 15th a fatter crescent Moon is visible lower left of Mars.

18th First-Quarter Moon (6:11 am EDT).

21st Evening: Antares is 4 to 6 deg. right of the waxing gibbous Moon.

25th Full Moon (9:37 pm EDT).

27th Dusk: Regulus is less than ½ deg. upper right of Mercury. The pair is very low in the west after sunset.

29,30th Dusk: Mars is less than 2 deg. below Saturn.

30th Night: Jupiter is 6 deg. lower right of the waning gibbous Moon around 11 pm.

Whats up this month?

ASTRA Public Outreach & Star Parties Schedule for July

Members only Star Party "Earth-watch/Drexel"

Earth-watch and Drexel students for a night of observing

Dates for July:

Friday, 7/2/2010

Friday, 7/9/2010

Friday, 7/16/2010

Friday, 7/23/2010

Friday, 7/30/2010

Time: 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Location: **The Lighthouse Center**, 7th Street & Navajo Dr,
Waretown, NJ 08758

ASTRA Coyle Field "Star Party"

ASTRA Members meet to help newbie's learn the night sky and how to use their telescopes.

Date: Saturday, 7/10/2010

Time: 8:00 PM - 2:00 AM

Location: Coyle Field, Coyle Field Rt 72 Stevenson Road,
Burlington County, NJ 08019

OCC Summer Public Star Party

Members of ASTRA will setup their telescopes on the campus of Ocean County College and share the wonderful views of the planets and stars with the public.

Date: Friday, 7/16/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Location: College Center Solar Lounge "Ocean County College",
Ocean County College, use parking lot # 2 on College Dr., Toms
River, NJ 08754

Jake's Branch Public Star Party #3

A star watch for the Ocean County Parks System open to the public.

There will be many telescopes to look in.

Date: Saturday, 7/31/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Location: Jakes Branch County Park, Double Trouble Rd,
Beachwood, NJ 08722

Call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 or check the message board on the date of the star party for up to date information on these events.

Astronomical Items for Sale, or Help Wanted Advertisements:

If you have an item to Sell, or need help with an astronomical problem (a question, or Telescope setup) contact the President President@astra-nj.org or the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 to announce it at a meeting and send the advertisement to the newsletter (See Newsletter below).

Newsletter: E-mail material (Meeting reports, Observing reports) to Newsletter@astra-nj.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Bob Salvatore,
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Vice President-Secretary – John Endreson, VP@astra-nj.org;

Treasurer - Ro Spedaliere,
Treasurer@astra-nj.org;

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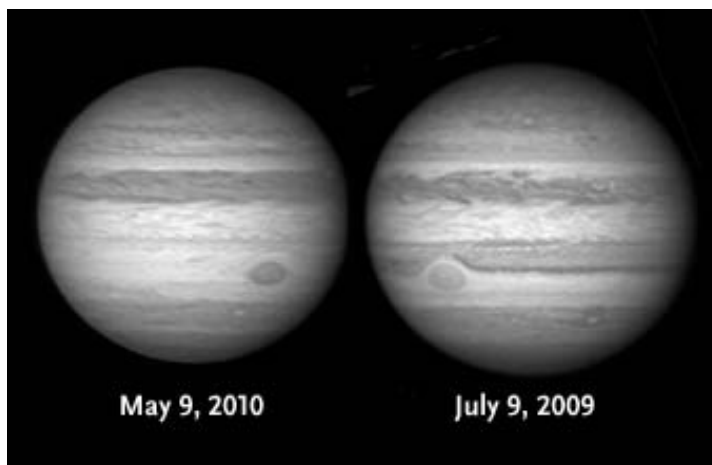
Webmaster - John Endreson,
Webmaster@astra-nj.org.

Check us out on Facebook, search groups for (ASTRA Astronomy) and look for our logo.



Disappearing Act on Jupiter

When you look at Jupiter through even a small telescope, it's easy to spot the parallel pair of "racing stripes" that straddle its equator. These dusky brown ribbons are known as the North and South Equatorial Belts (NEB and SEB), while the bright "filling" between them is the broad Equatorial Zone.



By the way, this would be a great time to observe the Great Red Spot, which bobs along at nearly the same latitude as the SEB. With the surrounding clouds temporarily washed out, the spot's dark coloring stands out especially well.



ASTRA is recognized as having one of the best public outreach programs in the country as recognized by Astronomy magazines "Out of this World" public outreach program. For more information go to <http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov> or contact Ro Spedaliere (Treasurer@astra-nj.org) or the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493



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