



ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

Volume 21 Issue 11

November 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.

Meeting Schedule

November 12th meeting:

A presentation and discussion on Astrophotography given by Phil Zollner.

Social meeting and observing for all that want to stay and weather permitting.

Date: Friday, 11/12/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

December 10th Meeting:

"ASTRA Election of club officers"

Awards, Star Party Roundup and Election of club officers

Date: Friday, 12/10/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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

Lunar Eclipses

By Rich Mack

At the October 8th ASTRA meeting, Richard Mack and his assistants Erin, Ricky, and Zach, presented a program on lunar eclipses.

Lunar eclipses are not as common as solar eclipses, however more people see lunar eclipses because the solar eclipses can only be seen along a thin band as

the shadow of the moon transveres the surface of our earth.

Lunar eclipses can be seen by anyone on the dark side of the earth, weather permitting. A slide show of various lunar eclipses was then presented and a good time was had by all. Thank you again Erin, Ricky, and Zach for your fine presentation.

Don't forget that our next lunar eclipse will occur on early Tuesday morning, December 21th, 2010 .The partial lunar eclipse begins at 1:32 AM., and totality starts at 2:40 AM. DRESS WARM!



ASTRA Hotline

If you do not have online access to our website or message boards, you can call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 for the latest information on star parties and other observing plans. If you have a question about the club or astronomy in general, leave a message and we'll get back to you.

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 National Air and Space Museum**

Second Edition by C.D.B. Bryan

2) **Milestones of Aviation** Smithsonian

Institution National Air and Space Museum

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

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.



The new planetarium theater features the latest projection technology to bring you the universe in innovative and exciting new ways. The planetarium dome is a virtual 3-D video space, allowing us to take you on a journey from the smallest size scales to the edge of the universe, and a new fiber-optic star projector will provide a beautiful, crisp view of the night sky. Public shows begin October 16th. Check back often for the latest information, special events, and how you can become a part of our universe.

For more information:

Recorded information: 732.255.0342

Planetarium Office: 732.255.0343

Planetarium Director: 732.255.0400 ext 2111

Email: planetarium@ocean.edu

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

Whats up this month?

November 2010 Celestial Events

1st-18th Night: The Taurid meteor shower peaks in the first half of November. You will see most meteors when Taurus is high in the sky (from 9 or 10 pm. to dawn).

4th Dawn: Venus is visible low in the East-Southeast with a thin crescent Moon to its upper right.

6th New Moon (12:52 am. EDT)

7th Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 am.

7th Dusk: Antares and Mars flanking a very thin crescent Moon low in the Southwest about 20 minutes after sunset with Mercury off to their lower right.

13th First-Quarter Moon (11:39 am EST).

15th Evening: The waxing gibbous Moon is upper right of Jupiter.

16th Evening: The Moon is upper left of Jupiter.

17th-18th Predawn: The Leonid meteor shower peaks these nights. The best time will be after moonset around 3:00 am. Some Taurids will still be visible.

19th-21st Dusk: Binoculars will show Mars 2 deg. upper right of brighter Mercury very low in the Southwest.

21st Full Moon (12:27 pm. EST)
The Moon rises to the lower left of the Pleiades.

28th Last-Quarter Moon (3:36 pm. EST)

ASTRA Public Outreach & Star Parties Schedule for November

Jake's Branch Star Watch

A star watch for the Ocean County Parks System open to the public. There will be many telescopes to look in.

Date: Friday, 11/5/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

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

Coyle Field Public Star Party

ASTRA Memebers meet to help newbies learn the night sky and how to use their telescopes

Date: Saturday, 11/6/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM

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

Silverton Volunteer Fire House Cub Scout "Outreach"

Cub Scout Pack at the Silverton Fire House next to Charlie Browns Looking to do a 30-minute astronomy talk/demonstration then observing for about 15 kids. This is a private event, ASTRA members volunteering to help must contact John Endreson

Date: Monday, 11/15/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Location: Silverton Volunteer Fire House, 15 Kettle Creek Rd,
Toms River, NJ 08753

Lacey Twp. Cub Scout Pack #35

Lacey Twp. Community Hall Cub Scout Pack. Looking to do a 30-minute astronomy talk/demonstration then observing for about 15 kids. This is a private event, ASTRA members volunteering to help must contact John Endreson

Date: Monday, 11/22/2010

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Lacey Twp. Community Hall, Rt. 9 + Lacey Road,
Forked River, NJ 08734

Call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 or check the online 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,
President@astra-nj.org;

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

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

Newsletter Editor – John Endreson, Newsletter@astra-nj.org;

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

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



The Novins Planetarium reopening on October 16th

Good job Gloria! Everyone enjoyed the shows and was glad to see the Planetarium open again. ASTRA Members had a good time with some display tables, telescopes and binoculars to show guests as they waited for their show. It was a bit windy for solar observing but Randy gave it a good try. Gene ran the first show and it was great to see so many ASTRA members all day and night. John E., Mauro, Mike, Vic, Rick, Rich H, Hilda, Josh , Zack, Erin, Rich W, Carter, Barbra, Emmett, Phil, Rich B. Rich G., Hanna, Adam, And Peggi. I had a great time and was so pleased to be part of such a great moment. GOOD JOB EVERYONE

The sky was beautiful and the wind died down for the night observing. We had a lineup of about 7 scopes and lines at every one of them. People waiting for or coming out of the PM shows again were happy to see everything up and running again and they all loved the shows. Guests were thrilled to see the views of Jupiter and its Moons, our Moon, and other objects like open clusters, Globular clusters, Double stars, and dying stars (Planetary Nebulas). Thank you Gloria for asking ASTRA to participate in this event and for all the hard work everybody put into making it a success. Thanks again, John



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 Spedalieri (Treasurer@astra-nj.org) or the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493



Astronomical League National Headquarters
9201 Ward Parkway; Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64114
1-816-333-7759 or www.astroleague.org

The *REFLECTOR* is published in March, June, September and December. If you do not receive your copy of the REFLECTOR magazine, contact Astronomical League Coordinator (Alcor) Ro Spedalieri (Treasurer@astra-nj.org) or the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-8493 and leave a message.

The Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area A.S.T.R.A.'s 2011 Election Ballot

Please (circle) or **highlight** your ballot selections and return it to A.S.T.R.A. by mailing it to the

A.S.T.R.A. Elections c/o
Robert J. Novins Planetarium
Ocean County College
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

or

E-mail it to: elections@astra-nj.org

Ballot Question: The changes recommended to the A.S.T.R.A. By-Laws and Policy Document as explained in the attached document "Supplement to the A.S.T.R.A. Ballot".

The A.S.T.R.A. By-Laws and Policy Document " **Will** " be changed. "YES" VOTE

The A.S.T.R.A. By-Laws and Policy Document " **Will Not** " be changed. "NO" VOTE

Presidential Nominee:

John Endreson

Self-Nominate_____

The President shall be the primary point of contact for the organization, speak for the organization in all official matters, and preside over all meetings.

Vice President-Secretary Nominee:

Bob Salvatore

Self-Nominate_____

The Vice President-Secretary shall assume the responsibilities of the President in the President's absence 2) make a record of any formal actions taken by the organization 3) coordinate with the Newsletter Editor in mailing appropriate club business 4) perform as the ALCor (Astronomical League Correspondent). The ALCor communicates with the Astronomical League (AL) and periodically furnishes the AL with copies of our membership list. 5) Keep track of telescope equipment loans 6) Keep the official version of the Bylaws and Policy documents.

Treasurer Nominee:

Rosemarie Spedaliere

Self-Nominate_____

The Treasurer shall be the club membership chairperson, shall maintain the club treasury, shall collect club dues, and shall expend funds as directed. Recurring expenditures normal to the operation of the organization are authorized. The Treasurer shall provide a written report of the year's expenditures, which shall be included in the Newsletter, published within the first calendar quarter. Separate accounting will be maintained for the Telescope Fund and it will not be used for general club operations without a vote at a regular meeting.

Supplement to the A.S.T.R.A. Ballot

Because of A.S.T.R.A.'s involvement with the public and their families at our meetings, star parties and other such events, we have to make some changes to the A.S.T.R.A.'s By-Laws and Policy Document so we can better know whom we are allowing to become members, attend our meetings, and participate in A.S.T.R.A. events. This will give the club officers the ability to make it safer for ASTRA members and their families, and the public and their families to attend our events.

Here are the proposed changes to the A.S.T.R.A. By-Laws and Policy Document.

Please read carefully the proposed changes listed below and make your selection on the A.S.T.R.A. 2011 Election Ballot.

This section of the A.S.T.R.A. By-Laws will be amended as shown below:

ARTICLE III - Members

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY

Individuals interested in the objective of A.S.T.R.A. must fill out A.S.T.R.A.'s Membership Application form to be considered for membership.

Individuals who have been convicted, adjudicated delinquent or found not guilty by reason of insanity for a sex offense are not eligible for membership in A.S.T.R.A. or permitted to participate in A.S.T.R.A. events.

Club Officers reserve the right to deny or revoke the admission of individuals into the A.S.T.R.A. organization.

This section will be added to the A.S.T.R.A. Policy Document:

7. Member/Guest Sign-in Book

The Club Officers will maintain a sign-in book and members will sign-in to all meetings and events. Members are permitted to sign-in a non-member guest. (All guests must sign-in and be approved by the Club Officers). The guest book should include the date, name of guest and signature of host member at the very least. The main intent of the guest sign-in is to allow A.S.T.R.A. to recruit new members and show the benefits of club membership to interested individuals and to allow friends and family access to the club activities.

This section will be added to the A.S.T.R.A. Policy Document:

8. Vetting of Members

The Club Officers shall "vet" or examine each individual to the best of their ability to determine the eligibility of the individual in the A.S.T.R.A. organization.

Club Officers reserves the right to deny or revoke membership into the A.S.T.R.A. organization if it is determined at any time that an individual is a threat or a potential danger to its members or the community, or if such refusal/removal is considered to be in the best interest of A.S.T.R.A.

The Club Officers will hold confidential all information reviewed and discussed related to the vetting of individuals.