



ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

April 2011
Volume 22 Issue 4

Meeting Schedule

April 8th Meeting:

"Final Planning for
Astronomy Day" + Public
Star Party "Bring you Scopes"

Date: Friday, 4/8/2011

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Location: Robert J. Novins
Planetarium, College Drive,
Ocean County College, Toms
River, NJ 08754

May 13th Meeting "Open General Meeting" + Public Star Party

Date: Friday, 5/13/2011

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Location: Robert J. Novins
Planetarium, College Drive,
Ocean County College, Toms
River, NJ 08754

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Astronomy Day

Saturday April 30 2011

at the Ocean County College Student Center

10am to 3:30pm Daytime Exhibits
7:30pm to 9:30pm Evening Observing

Admission is FREE

**Come back at night and look
through our telescopes and
explore the Universe!**



A.S.T.R.A., the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area, along with the Novins Planetarium will be hosting a fun-filled day of space education and activities and an awesome night of observing the stars and planets.

Weather permitting, special telescopes will be set up for some amazing views of the Sun. For the evening, beginning at 7:30PM, A.S.T.R.A. club members will have many different telescopes set up for a spectacular evening of star & planet observing.

Activities/exhibits and observing are free.

Gift shop items & refreshments will be available for sale.

Where: The College Center across from the Novins Planetarium
Ocean County College, Toms River

When: 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM, Daytime Program
7:30 – 9:30 PM, Evening Program



April 2011 is Global Astronomy Month

The annual events, organized by "Astronomers Without Borders", celebrates the Universe in the spirit of the International Year of Astronomy 2009 cornerstone project "100 Hours of Astronomy."

"Global" Continued on page 2

“Global” Continued from page 1

Astronomy clubs, science centers, schools, educators, and other astronomy enthusiasts worldwide are reserving dates in April 2011 for public outreach. Everyone is invited either to join the global programs or initiate their own activities during April 2011.

Growing lists of global programs are scheduled for GAM 2011. The month kicks off with the lord of the rings on:

April 2/3, designated as **Saturn Watch**.

With the planet at its closest to Earth, it's a perfect night to admire the unequalled beauty of the ringed planet.

April 9 the **Global Star Party** will unfold as darkness sweeps around the Earth. This is the night to set up your telescopes and share the wonders of the sky with others.

April 10 to 16 it's **Lunar Week** as our gaze turns toward Earth's natural satellite. Just as the Moon has captured our imagination for millennia, it never fails to fascinate with close-up views of its craters and mare. Educational and cultural events dedicated to the Moon are also planned.

April 17 we switch from night to day, dedicating ourselves to our closest star on **Sun Day**.

April 21/22 get comfortable in something warm and spend the night scanning the sky for meteors caused by debris left behind by Comet Thatcher. An incredible show awaits us during **Lyrids Watch**.

If you are still wondering how to get involved, here are a few ideas:

1. Check the list of [GAM global events](#) on their website and see which ones you could participate in. The choices are diverse: from star parties to solar observations, and remote observing.

2. Create an event to go along with one of the global programs, or something of your own. Share your event with the world and those in your area looking for GAM events by [registering your event](#) on the GAM website with a short description.
3. Discover the Universe from the comfort of your own home. GAM offers two ways to enjoy remote observing. Join online, live events with real-time narration. Or take control for personal observing through remotely controlled telescopes or images on demand. See [Remote Observing](#).
4. Organize a night out with your family. We recommend [Lyrids Watch](#) (April 21/22), as you can get comfortable and warm right in front of your porch, and spend some family time together while gazing at the sky in search of falling stars.
5. Spread the word about [Global Astronomy Month](#) among your family, friends, classmates, workmates, and neighbours so that they too can wonder at the beauties of the Universe.

Join the celebration in April 2011 as Global Astronomy Month brings together thousands of passionate individuals and hundreds of organizations worldwide to share their enthusiasm in innovative new ways, connecting people through a great sense of sharing the Universe!

Astronomers Without Borders
<http://www.astronomerswithoutborders.org/>

Also see ASTRA Star Party Schedule for this month's activities. Hope to see ya there!

Whats up this month?

ASTRA Public Outreach & Star Parties Schedule for April

Cub Scout Pack 61 - Camp Citta

“This is a private event” ASTRA members must contact Ro Spedaliere at Compore@aol.com or phone 732-269-6595

Date: Saturday 4/9/2011

Time: 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Location: Joseph A. Citta Scout Camp, 229 Brookville Road, Barnegat, NJ 08005

Jakes Branch County Park Star Party 2

A night under the stars. Come see the wonders of the Universe!

Date: Saturday, 4/23/2011

Time: 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

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

Astronomy Day

ASTRA along with the Novins Planetarium will be hosting a fun-filled day of space education and activities and an awesome night of observing the stars and planets.

Date: Saturday 4/30/2011

Time: 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM, Daytime Program

7:30 – 9:30 PM, Evening Program

Location: The College Center across from the Novins Planetarium
Ocean County College, Toms River

Call the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-3331 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 609-971-3331 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 – John Endreson,
President@astra-nj.org;

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

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

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

Webmaster – Donald Durett,
Webmaster@astra-nj.org.

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



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 609-971-3331



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 Spedaliere (Treasurer@astra-nj.org) or the ASTRA Hotline 609-971-3331 and leave a message.

Astronomy Day Flyer

On the next page.

Member can make copies of the flyer on the next page and post them around town.

Thank You!

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The day begins at 10:00 AM with exhibits, activities and demonstrations. Learn to make a comet, discover how telescopes work, or try your hand at making "craters on the moon." Enjoy a show in our portable planetarium & maybe even say hello to a visiting "space man."

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When: 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM, Daytime Program
7:30 – 9:30 PM, Evening Program



Please call the Planetarium Office
732-255-0343
for full details or directions.
Also, visit ASTRA online at <http://www.astra-nj.org>
or the Novins Planetarium at <http://www.ocean.edu/planet.htm>
for the latest information on this event.

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ASTRA Membership Application Form

Thank you for your interest in the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area. Please read carefully and fill in the appropriate information below.

ASTRA reserve the right to deny admission or revoke the membership of individuals convicted of a sex offense.

Returning members Annual dues- \$ 25.00 from (January to December): (\$_____)

New membership- \$ 30.00 from (January to December):

New membership- \$ 20.00 from (July to December): (\$_____)

Telescope fund assessment of (\$ 5.00) a *one-time* assessment

“required of all new members” optional for returning members) (\$ 5.00)

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID (as determined by the above schedule): (\$_____)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ASTRA.

NAME _____ **PHONE ()** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Check here if you wish to receive a paper copy of our Newsletter.

Check here if you wish to receive an e-mail copy of our Newsletter.

E-MAIL ADDRESS (if applicable) _____

By filing this application with ASTRA, you are indicating that you have not been convicted, adjudicated delinquent or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a sex offense.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge all particulars supplied by me are correct and complete.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____

Send this application form with your dues payment to:

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