



ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

January 2013
Volume 24 Issue 1

Meeting Schedule

January Meeting: "Telescope Workshop"

Date: Friday, 1/11/2013

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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

February Meeting: TBD

Date: Friday, 1/11/2013

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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



A look inside this issue:

Announcements	Page 1
What's up this month?	Page 1
Celestial Events	Page 2
Dr. Zimmermann Award	Page 2
Club Contacts	Page 3
Club Telescopes	Page 3

Announcements

Following a counting of the ballots, the following club officers for 2013 were announced

President: Rich Brady

Vice President-Secretary: Bob Salvatore

Treasurer: Ro Spedaliere

ASTRA Dues are Due

Membership application form is attached.

Membership in the Astronomical League

is separate and requires an additional dues payment of **\$7.50**. The Astronomical League Membership Form is also attached.

What's up this month?

Jake's Branch Star Party

Date: Saturday, 1/19/2013

Time: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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

Check the online message board on the date of the star party for up to date information on these events.



January 2013
Celestial Events

- 3 Quadrantid meteor shower peaks
- 4 Last Quarter Moon (10:58 PM EST)
- 5 Moon passes $0^{\circ}.6$ south of Spica (3 PM EST)
- 6 Moon passes 4° south of Saturn (8 PM EST)
- 10 Moon passes 3° north of Venus (7 AM EST)
- 11 New Moon (2:44 PM EST)
- 13 Moon passes 6° north of Mars (7 AM EST)
- 18 First Quarter Moon (6:45 PM EST)
- 21 Moon passes $0^{\circ}.5$ south of Jupiter (11 PM EST)
- 26 Full Moon (11:38 PM EST)

Recipient of the Dr. Erik Zimmermann Award

Mr. Randy Walton

Congratulations Randy

Written by Bob Salvatore

First I'd like to say that when I look around at the meetings I don't see as many people as I used to who knew Dr. Erik Zimmermann. That's good and bad. Bad because we've lost a few friends over the years including Eric of course. It's good because I do see many new faces who didn't know Erik so the club he founded is thriving after he's gone. Erik was a man who brought astronomy to the public. He was the Founder of ASTRA and for over 25 years he was the Director the Planetarium, President of ASTRA, Treasurer, Star party coordinator, Web Master and Newsletter Editor. But more than that, he was a friend and mentor to all who knew him. We created this award in his memory for deserving members who follow in his footsteps bringing Astronomy to the public and being a mentor and friend to all ASTRA members. This year we bestow this honor, the second recipient of the Dr. Erik Zimmermann Award to Mr. Randy Walton.

I've known Randy Walton for as long as he's been a member or as long as I've been a member, I can't remember who joined first. On a personal note, the thing I love about Randy is he can take a joke with a grain of salt as big as Mount Everest and come back with a snappy answer as good anyone. When I arrive to every ASTRA meeting I look around to see who's here, Randy is one of the people I hope to see. I know when Randy is here we're going to have a few laughs. Randy can play the straight man or the comic, either way I think we've made a lot of people laugh together. Those are good times and I look forward to many more good times with Randy. When someone tells me "Hey Bob, you're a funny guy, you made me laugh" I personally consider it the highest of compliments. So let me say right now, "Randy, you're a funny guy, you made me laugh".

Randy served two consecutive terms as president of ASTRA. During his tenure ASTRA was run like clockwork. We started every meeting on time, snack time was 20 minutes, the presentations started on time and the custodial department was grateful for us leaving on time. Now this may seem a little ridged compared to the more lax environment we have at meetings now. But believe me, at the time it's exactly what the club needed. Membership was down, attendance at meetings was down, enthusiasm among the members was at an all-time low and nobody wanted the job of President. The club might have gone under, dissolved, ran a ground, sunk in the mud, went down the tubes, kaput or worse if Randy hadn't stepped up and taken the helm. There was no way he'd just sit back and let that happen. Randy made sure we kept the club functioning as an organization with rules and regulations to be upheld. It didn't matter how many people showed up, thanks to Randy there was a meeting every month, some sort of presentation, coffee and snacks were there and we had fun. Most of all, the club remained alive and Randy was a huge part of that effort.

See the balance of Bob's write-up at

<http://forum.astra-nj.org/viewtopic.php?f=3&t=258>



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@astranj.org to announce it at a meeting and send the advertisement to the newsletter (See Newsletter below).

Newsletter: E-mail material (meeting reports, observing reports, or other items of interest) to Newsletter@astranj.org.

Executive Board

President – Rich Brady
President@astranj.org

Vice President-Secretary – Bob Salvatore, VP@astranj.org

Treasurer – Ro Spedalieri
Treasurer@astranj.org

Newsletter Editor – Rich Brady
Newsletter@astranj.org

Webmaster – Donald Durett
Webmaster@astranj.org

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



Club Telescopes

A.S.T.R.A. owns four small telescopes:

- 6-inch Dobsonian
- 8-inch Dobsonian
- 80mm Celestron Refractor
- 120mm EQ AstroView Refractor.

These telescopes are available for club members to borrow and use for a month or two at a time.

ASTRA-WEAR

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 astrawear@estitches.com. Order form is on the ASTRA website.

ASTRA Library of Books and DVDs

Many books and DVDs are available for loan from the ASTRA Library for a one month period. A list of these items is available on the ASTRA website. Request for these items must be made prior to our regular meeting and returned by the following meeting. Please e-mail your request for these items to our Librarian Barbara Novick at revnovick@verizon.net or call her at 732-840-3111.

Astronomical League Member Society

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@astranj.org)

Schedule for 2013: If anyone would like to do a presentation or suggest one, please contact the executive board.



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.

New membership Annual dues are \$ 25.00 (January to December): (\$ _____)

Telescope Fund Assessment required for all new members (\$5.00)

“Optional for returning Members”

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

Prorated membership dues are \$ 15.00 from (July to December): (\$ _____)

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

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ASTRA

New Members check box

NAME _____ PHONE () _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please provide your E-mail address so you can receive a copy of our “Astral Projections” Newsletter.

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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:
A.S.T.R.A. Robert J. Novins Planetarium
Ocean County College P.O. Box 2001
Toms River NJ 08754-2001



www.astroleague.org

ASTRA's Astronomical League Membership Form

What does the Astronomical League offer you, as a Member?

- A subscription to the Reflector, our quarterly, full-color newsletter.
- The Book Service through which you can buy astronomy-related books at a 10% discount. (Does not apply to League Sales merchandise)
- Eligibility for all Astronomical League awards, both national and observing.
- Support an organization that promotes education, observing, research and communications.
- But the most important benefit is that you join a national organization of amateur astronomers. You become part of a group that promotes observing, research, and the love of the sky. You have the opportunity to earn awards for your observing skills and learn more about what other amateurs are doing through our national newsletter.

ASTRA's Astronomical League Dues are \$7.50 and must be paid to ASTRA

"Cash or Check is acceptable"

Name: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail: _____

Send this application form with your dues payment to:

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