



# ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

June 2013  
Volume 24 Issue 6



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**MAY MEETING:** "Telescope Equipment Show & Tell" Presented by All Members. Some interesting old and new items were shown by the members including a great monopod for binoculars, an assortment of planispheres, and an old 90mm Questar.

**JUN MEETING:** June 14, 2013, Matthew McCue will present an Astronomical Pronunciation Guide, and will hold a "Pronunciation Bee" with a prize for the winner

## Announcements

**DUES ARE DUE:** Annual dues for ASTRA were past due as of the March meeting. Dues will be collected at the next meeting for any new members and any old ones who "forgot." Whether you mail your payment or bring it in person, *please include the registration form*. It's the only way we can keep track of your payment. Membership application form is available online.

**MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE** – is separate and requires an additional dues payment of **\$7.50**. The Astronomical League Membership Form is also available online.

## What's up this month?

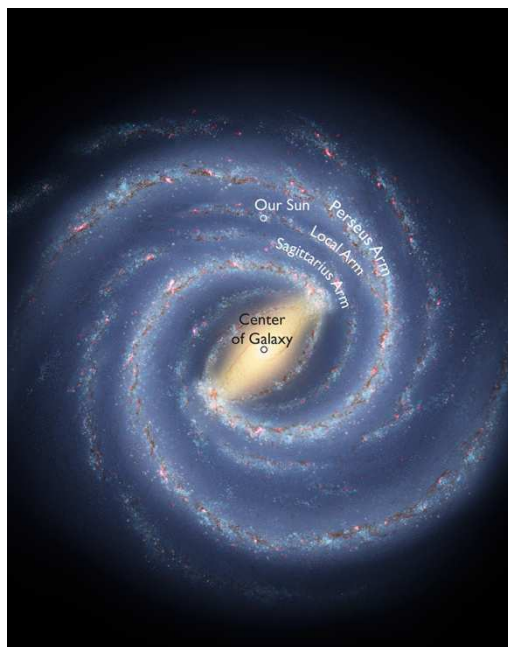
**JAKE'S BRANCH COUNTY PARK:** Come join us under star filled skies to observe the Universe. Saturday, June 15, 2013, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Location: Jakes Branch County Park, Double Trouble Rd, Beachwood, NJ 08722

**SUMMER STAR WATCH:** Public Sat Party at Ocean County College Saturday, June 22, 2013, 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Location: Robert J. Novins Planetarium, College Drive, Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ 08754

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



## Earth's Milky Way Neighborhood Gets More Respect



CREDIT: Robert Hurt, IPAC; Bill Saxton, NRAO/AUI/NSF.



### CELESTIAL EVENTS FOR June:

Mercury continues in the evening sky but becomes dimmer. Venus is in the evening sky in the WNW. Mars is visible low in the dawn sky this month. Jupiter disappears into the twilight. Saturn is now visible during the night. Highlights for the month:

- 4 Venus in M35
- 8 New Moon
- 10 Venus 5° north of Moon
- Mercury 6° north of Moon
- 16 First Quarter
- 19 Saturn 4° north of Moon
- 20 Mercury 1.9° south of Venus
- 21 Summer Solstice
- 23 Full Moon
- 30 Last Quarter Moon



Taken from NRAO press release 3 Jun 2013:

"Our Solar System's Milky Way neighborhood just went upscale. We reside between two major spiral arms of our home galaxy, in a structure called the Local Arm. New research using the ultra-sharp radio vision of the National Science Foundation's [Very Long Baseline Array \(VLBA\)](#) indicates that the Local Arm, previously thought to be only a small spur, instead is much more like the adjacent major arms, and is likely a significant branch of one of them."

"Our new evidence suggests that the Local Arm should appear as a prominent feature of the Milky Way," said Alberto Sanna, of the Max-Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy. Sanna and his colleagues presented their findings to the American Astronomical Society's meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana."

The [National Radio Astronomy Observatory](#) is a facility of the [National Science Foundation](#), operated under cooperative agreement by [Associated Universities, Inc.](#)

For more information go to the press release on <http://www.nrao.edu/pr/2013/localarm/>



### CLUB TELESCOPES:

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

- 6-inch Dobsonian (in need of repairs)
- 8-inch Dobsonian
- 80mm Celestron Refractor
- 120mm EQ AstroView Refractor.
- Lunt 35mm H-Alpha solar scope

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

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## **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 [astra-wear@estitches.com](mailto:astra-wear@estitches.com). Order form is on the ASTRA website.

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**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](mailto:revnovick@verizon.net) or call her at 732-840-3111.

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## **ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE MEMBER SOCIETY**

Astronomical League National Headquarters

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Kansas City, MO 64114

1-816-333-7759 or [www.astroleague.org](http://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](mailto:Treasurer@astra-nj.org))

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**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](mailto:President@astra-nj.org) to announce it at a meeting and send the advertisement to the newsletter (See Newsletter below).

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**FOR SALE:** Tele-vue Radian eyepiece, 14mm. Like new in original packaging. Rarely used. \$120.00 (one half original price). Contact Phil Zollner: pazap at optimum.net or 732-905-0889

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**NEWSLETTER:** E-mail material (meeting reports, observing reports, or other items of interest) to [Newsletter@astra-nj.org](mailto:Newsletter@astra-nj.org).

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## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President – Rich Brady [President@astra-nj.org](mailto:President@astra-nj.org)

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

**ASTRA TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2013**  
(Comments and Suggestions are Welcome)

- Jan 11 Telescope Workshop
- Feb 8 Cancelled
- Mar 8 Top Stories for 2012 – Rich Brady
- Apr 12 Famous Astronomers VIII – Bob Salvatore
- May 10 Telescope Equipment Show & Tell – All Members
- Jun 14 Astronomical Pronunciation Guide – Matthew McCue
- Jul 12 Pluto and Kuiper Belt Objects – Ryan Knipple
- Aug 9 No Meeting
- Aug 10 *Saturday - Perseid Picnic*
- Sep 13 Open
- Oct 11 Open
- Nov 8 Open
- Dec 13 Awards, Open Meeting

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

