

# ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

**JANUARY 2007**

[www.ASTRA-NJ.org](http://www.ASTRA-NJ.org)

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*\***

ASTRA will start the Telescope Workshop at 7 PM in the College Center Cafeteria across from the Planetarium. After an introduction we will divide the group by telescope type. Some will remain and others will go to the Solar Lounge or to the Book Store building conference rooms A&B. We can use help from all members, regardless of knowledge. Bring some simple tools (straight and phillips screwdrivers, pliers, small wrenches or hex keys) if you can.

## Meeting Schedule for 2006

- Jan. 2006 Telescope Workshop** to help the public use their telescope - all members. Early meeting start 7:00 PM  
**Feb. 2006 Eyepieces** - Rich Brady  
**Mar. 2006 Camp Evans in Wall Township** - Fred Carl  
Information Age Organization ([www.infoage.org](http://www.infoage.org))  
**Apr. 2006 Plans for Astronomy Day**, and possible effect on ASTRA of Planetarium closing – all members.  
**May 2006 Astronomy Equipment and/or Book, Show & Tell.**  
**June 2006 Solar Eclipse** - Phil Zollner.  
**July 2006 Famous Astronomers II** - Bob Salvatore  
**Sep. 2006 Telescopes in Movies** - Bob Salvatore  
**Oct. 2006 Open meeting**  
Talk about being a participant in the Kitt Peak.  
“Advanced Observer’s Program” - Steve Walters (from STAR)  
postponed because the LCD projector did not show up  
**Nov. 2006 Asterisms** – Rich Brady, also an **ASTRO NOVA** presentation.  
**Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Buying a Telescope Workshop** 7:00 pm  
**Dec. 2006 Election results, Awards, and Optical Tube Auction**



## Meeting Schedule for 2007

- Jan. 12, 2007 Telescope Workshop** to help the public use their telescope - all members  
Early meeting start 7:00 PM  
**Feb 2007 Stars of Winter** - Rich Brady.  
**Mar 2007 Astronomy Equipment and/or Book, Show & Tell** - all members.

## Dues are Due for 2007

See Ro Spedaliere at a club meeting – [Treasurer@astra-nj.org](mailto:Treasurer@astra-nj.org)

## **Highlights of the Last Meeting**

We started out playing musical rooms when we could not get into the Solar Lounge because they were waxing the floors in the building. We ended in the Book Store building conference rooms A&B, starting late. We had our normal introduction, election results (Sarah Waters - President, Rich Gamba - Vice President-Secretary, Ro Spedaliere - Treasurer) reports from committees, no action on the Planetarium, and announcements from anyone. Next we stopped for refreshments, during which Ro collected dues for 2007. We then started the main part of the meeting, awards and the telescope optical tube auction. The following awards were given out as we made fun of the people:

The Navigation Award to the Gamba Family for hosting a most unusual Perseid Picnic that included a boat ride.

The Newsletter Editor Award to John Endreson for his years of selfless service to produce a monthly newsletter.

The Beam Award to Ro Spedaliere for arranging so many Star Parties at the Lighthouse Center.

The Focus Award to Sarah Waters for a unique focusing technique. When Sarah focuses a telescope, it is right for her, but wrong for everybody else.

The Best Picture Award to Bob & Lucas Salvatore for their video presentation on how telescopes are misused in some movies.

The Best Actor in a Supporting Role Award to Gene Russo as NASA's "Comet Cook".

The President's Award to J. Randolph Walton for being a fearless leader over the past two years, and leading everyone safely in and out of the Pine Barrens.

A Thank You to all others that helped the club during the past year.

After this we started the auction of the telescope optical tube donated by Phil Zollner. When no one would bid after I made the opening minimum bid of \$30, Bob Salvatore gave a 10 minute sales pitch for the optical tube and all the parts as a good starter telescope. Still no bids so I got it for \$30 to the club. We voted to end the meeting as it was too late to start an hour long video.

By J. Randolph Walton

## **STAR PARTY PLANS**

Check the ASTRA website [www.ASTRA-NJ.org](http://www.ASTRA-NJ.org) on the Message Board

## **Astronomical League**

[www.AstroLeague.org](http://www.AstroLeague.org)

Reflector magazine, discounts on books, and Observing Awards for any ASTRA member. If you are not getting your Reflector magazine or want to apply for an Observing Award contact the club ALCOR, John Endreson.

## **Night Sky Network**

<http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov>

## Celestial Events

**2007 January Celestial Events:** supplied by J. Randolph Walton (Randy)

Day	Date	Time (LMT)	Event
Wed	3	07:46	Moon Set
		08:57	Full Moon
		16:45	Moon Rise
		20:00	Quadrantid meteors peak (ZHR 120)
Sat	6	04:40	Jupiter Rises
		05:47	Mars Rises
		07:22	Sunrise
		16:50	Sunset
		18:10	Venus Sets
		19:50	Saturn Rises
		20:08	Moon Rise
Thu	11	07:45	Last Quarter Moon
		11:16	Moon Set
Sat	13	04:20	Jupiter Rises
		05:42	Mars Rises
		07:21	Sunrise
		12:06	Moon Set
		16:57	Sunset
		17:10	Mercury Sets
		18:26	Venus Sets
		19:20	Saturn Rises
Thu	18	16:25	Moon Set
		23:01	New Moon
Sat	20	04:00	Jupiter Rises
		05:37	Mars Rises
		07:18	Sunrise
		17:05	Sunset
		17:40	Mercury Sets
		18:42	Venus Sets
		18:45	Saturn Rises
		18:57	Moon Set
Thu	25	10:41	Moon Rise
		18:01	First Quarter Moon
Sat	27	03:40	Jupiter Rises
		05:37	Mars Rises
		07:13	Sunrise
		11:48	Moon Rise
		17:13	Sunset
		18:19	Saturn Rises
		18:20	Mercury Sets
		19:00	Venus Sets

## Items for Sale

### **ASTRA-WEAR: For Embroidered and Printed items with ASTRA's Logo**

See some samples at ASTRA meetings and ordering information for all items on our website.

<http://www.astra-nj.org/ASTRA-WEAR.pdf>

**CANON 50mm f/1.8 camera lens with FD mount.** Contact: Wally Hager III. at an ASTRA meeting.

**1) Stellarvue 4" f/6.9 achromatic refractor OTA**, Model # 102D. Focal length 704mm. The objective is partially attenuated meaning visible color is very minimal. I've seen traces of color only on the Moon and brightest planets and stars. Contrast is unusually high. Includes a nesting dewcap and a fully rotating JMI Crayford type tailpiece. Also comes with a 2" mirror diagonal, 1¼" adaptor, Stellarvue tube rings, and a soft padded Stellarvue carry case. Combined original cost over \$1175. Sell for \$850.

**2) Tele-Vue 1¼" mirror diagonal** w/compression ring (original design) Like-new condition  
Original cost: \$90 now \$40

**Contact: Phil Zollner** at 732-905-0889 or [pazap@juno.com](mailto:pazap@juno.com)

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**Group Purchase:** If you want to handle a "Group Purchase" for something astronomical contact the President to announce it at a meeting or E-mail to [Newsletter@astra-nj.org](mailto:Newsletter@astra-nj.org) to place it in the newsletter (See *Newsletter Deadline* below).

**Astronomy Items for Sale or Help Wanted:** If you have "Astronomy Items for Sale or a Help Wanted" advertisement for the newsletter E-mail it to [Newsletter@astra-nj.org](mailto:Newsletter@astra-nj.org) or mail to: ASTRA Newsletter Editor c/o Robert J. Novins Planetarium Ocean County College P.O. Box 2001 Toms River, NJ 08754-2001 (See *Newsletter Deadline* below).

**Newsletter Deadline:** Material for *ASTRAL Projections* must be received 21 days before the next meeting. E-mail to [Newsletter@astra-nj.org](mailto:Newsletter@astra-nj.org) or mail to: ASTRA Newsletter Editor c/o Robert J. Novins Planetarium Ocean County College P.O. Box 2001 Toms River, New Jersey 08754-2001. If you do send something please call J. Randolph Walton (Randy) phone # 732-458-3465 as I may check e-mail every other week or the Planetarium only on the night of an ASTRA meeting.

**Astronomy Courses:** Planetarium staff offers a number of mini-courses on astronomy. Call the OCC Department of Continuing and Professional Education, 732/255-0404, for information or to register.

**Planetarium office:** 732/255-0343 weekdays 9 AM - 4 PM. Hot line: 732/255-0342. Select 6 for ASTRA. Visit the Planetarium page at <http://ocean.edu/planet.htm> or visit our Web page at <http://astra-nj.org>

**Executive Board: President** – Sarah Waters – [President@astra-nj.org](mailto:President@astra-nj.org) **Vice President-Secretary** – Rich Gamba – [VP@astra-nj.org](mailto:VP@astra-nj.org) **Treasurer** - Ro Spedalieri – [Treasurer@astra-nj.org](mailto:Treasurer@astra-nj.org) **Webmaster** - Paul Gitto – [Webmaster@astra-nj.org](mailto:Webmaster@astra-nj.org) **Newsletter Editor** - J. Randolph Walton - Phone # 732-458-3465 – [Newsletter@astra-nj.org](mailto:Newsletter@astra-nj.org)

# A.S.T.R.A. DUES

To renew your membership, all you need to do is fill out this form and send it with your dues to:

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

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ASTRA.**

You can also pay at a meeting. If you do, please complete this form and bring it with you.

Annual dues, per family:	\$15.00
Refreshment fee — \$1.00 for each additional family member who comes to ASTRA meetings:	_____
Telescope Fund assessment (Mandatory first year , Optional for continuing members):	5.00
TOTAL (minimum \$15.00):	_____

Privileges of membership include ASTRA's newsletter (*Astral Projections*), use of a Club telescope (after suitable training), student discount on admission to Planetarium shows, membership in the Astronomical League, the Astronomical League's newsletter (*Reflector*), and use of the Night Sky Network kits (after suitable training). Dues are payable January 1 each year, and past due as of the end of the March meeting.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS JOINING (Include \$1.00 Refreshment fee for Each):**  
**(Please indicate if member is over 18 - for voting purposes)**

_____	18+	_____	18+	_____	18+	_____	18+
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

I grant permission to publish the following to ASTRA members only (check any that apply):

phone number    e-mail address    put me on the star party phone list