

ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

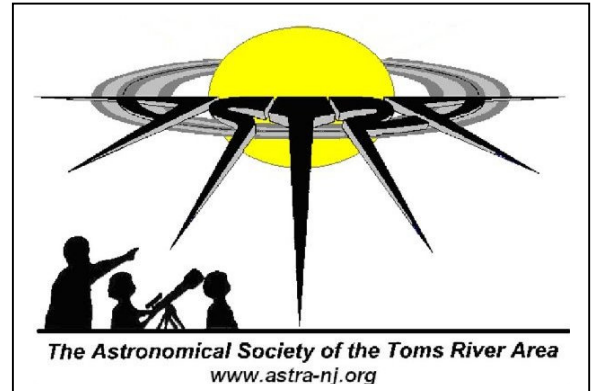
January 2008

www.ASTRA-NJ.org

**** **PLEASE NOTE** ****

The Telescope Workshop will be at 7 PM in the College Center Cafeteria across from the Planetarium.

Beginning in February and until further notice, the monthly ASTRA meetings will be held in the Solar Lounge beginning at 8:00 pm. The Solar Lounge is located in the College Center building across from the Planetarium. The relocation of the meeting is due to the impending renovation of the planetarium building to begin in 2008.



As a paid-up member for 2008, when you attend a monthly meeting, you may enter your name into a free random drawing for a door prize to be given away during the meeting.

Meeting Schedule 2008

Jan. – Telescope Workshop; Help the public use their telescope - all members. Early start, 7:00 PM.

Dues; The Treasurer will collect dues for this year's membership.

Feb. – Cinema Scopes II; Presented by Bob Salvatore.

Dues; The Treasurer will collect dues for this year's membership.

Mar. – Astronomy Equipment and/or Book, Show & Tell; all members.

Dues; The Treasurer will collect dues for this year's membership.

Our Next Meeting – 7 PM – January 11, 2008

The Telescope Workshop will start at 7 PM in the College Center Cafeteria across from the Planetarium with a welcome to ASTRA by Sarah Waters. After an introduction on telescope type and other items people should have (*red light, planisphere*), we will divide the group for individual help. Refractor telescopes will be with Gene Russo; digital control telescopes will be with Bob Salvatore; and reflector telescopes will be with Rich Brady. One group will remain in the cafeteria and the others will go to other available rooms. We can use help from all members, regardless of knowledge. Try to bring some simple tools (*straight and Phillips screwdrivers, pliers, small wrenches or hex keys*) if you can.

Dues are Due for 2008

See Ro Spedaliere at a club meeting or mail the attached form to the address listed on the form. – Treasurer@astra-nj.org

Highlights of the Last Meeting

Contributed by Sarah Waters

The December meeting was lots of fun. As the holiday seasons gives us a time to reflect I think of what a great group of people we have in our club. I enjoy the way we all merge to provide each other with knowledge and enthusiasm to enjoy our hobby. Even if I was re-elected unopposed, Thank you. I am glad to take on another year as President and happy Ro and Rich will also be working with me again.

The meeting started with the Kid's Zone and a few thought provoking questions and answers provided by our junior Astronomers. They later enjoyed turning in their gift certificate for something fun from the gift shop, where everything was on sale. I purchased a few items myself. Gloria was running the sale because the renovation on the Planetarium will start soon and everything will be cleared out of the building. We are all very excited about the renovations and thank everyone that supported the purchase of the new Planetarium equipment. It will be well worth the long wait and it is great to see the project through each progressive step.

Ro purchased some wonderful Astronomy books that she wrapped and were given to all the Junior Astronomers. Thanks Ro that was a big hit. After that we presented a few club members with the yearly certificates, all given in the spirit of fun and appreciation. Congratulations to all the recipients.

Bob was supposed to give his presentation but has rescheduled for February so we could all enjoy one last show in the Planetarium. ASTRA members enjoyed the show about the holiday season and look forward to the first show in the new set up.

We had lots of snacks for break time with many homemade goodies. YUM YUM. The calendars and other purchased items were passed out and a fun swap meet sent a few Astronomers home with some new toys. Help was given to a fellow Astronomer as a group of people gathered around his telescope. I believe he was leaving that night around 10:00 to go home and set up in his yard. That is great when one more person gets to observe instead of being frustrated with a telescope that is confusing or not adjusted properly.

That help is what we are all about. That is what we will be doing on January 11th at 7:00 in the Cafeteria. Come and provide any knowledge you may have. There is always someone that can use the tips you felt have helped you. What ever level you are as an Astronomer you can always be helpful to someone else. Remind them that as long as they enjoy getting outside and looking up then they should keep coming back to the meetings to have the support and enthusiasm that each one of us have received over the years. This is my anniversary of joining the club. I think this is my fifth, maybe sixth, Telescope workshop. I remember showing up with my telescope unable to work it and not knowing anything to look for besides the Moon. Thanks to everyone over the years for a lot of good memories and making it possible for me to show others the excitement of Astronomy.

Star Party Plans

For members who enjoy observing the skies, checkout the following list. ASTRA hosts several *public* and *private* star parties, coordinated by Ro Spedaliere. Many members also attend star parties put on by *other* groups held at other locations.

Coyle Field (*private*)

[See Message Board for dates and times](#)

2008 Jan. Celestial Events: supplied by J. Randolph Walton (Randy)

Day	Date	Time (EST)	Event
Fri	4	02:00	Quadrantid meteors peak (ZHR 120)
		04:13	Moon Rise
Sat	5	04:30	Venus Rises
		05:14	Moon Rise
		06:40	Mars Sets
		06:40	Jupiter Rises
		07:22	Sunrise
		16:49	Sunset
		17:35	Mercury Sets
		21:05	Saturn Rises
Tue	8	06:37	New Moon
		07:46	Moon Rise
Sat	12	04:45	Venus Rises
		06:02	Mars Sets
		06:20	Jupiter Rises
		07:21	Sunrise
		16:55	Sunset
		18:05	Mercury Sets
		20:35	Saturn Rises
		21:32	Moon Set
Tue	15	10:57	Moon Rise
		14:46	First Quarter Moon
Sat	19	04:55	Venus Rises
		05:30	Mars Sets
		06:00	Jupiter Rises
		07:18	Sunrise
		13:45	Moon Rise
		17:03	Sunset
		18:35	Mercury Sets
		20:05	Saturn Rises
Tue	22	08:35	Full Moon
		17:22	Moon Rise
Sat	26	04:57	Mars Sets
		05:10	Venus Rises
		05:37	Jupiter Rises
		07:14	Sunrise
		17:11	Sunset
		18:37	Mercury Sets
		19:35	Saturn Rises
		21:53	Moon Rise
Wed	30	00:03	Last Quarter Moon
		00:59	Moon Rise

Astronomical League

www.AstroLeague.org

As an ASTRA member you have a membership in the Astronomical League, which gets you the Reflector magazine, discounts on books, and Observing Awards. If you are not getting your Reflector magazine or want to apply for an Observing Award contact the club **ALCOR**: Ro Spedalieri.

Items for Sale

ASTRA-WEAR: For Embroidered and/or Printed items with the ASTRA Logo

You can 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.

Stellarvue 4" f/6.9 Achromatic Refractor Optical Tube Assembly, 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 dew cap and a fully rotating JMI Crayford 2" type tailpiece. Also with a 1¼" adaptor, Stellarvue tube rings, and a soft padded Stellarvue carry case. Combined original cost over \$1075. ~~Sell for \$850~~, Now reduced to \$550.

TeleVue 32mm Plossl Eyepiece; Like new in original packaging with spec. sheet. New \$110. Sell for \$60.

Contact: *Phil Zollner* at 732-905-0889 or pazap@juno.com

Astronomic Group Purchase, Items for Sale, or Help Wanted Advertisements: If you want to handle a Group Purchase, have Sale items, or need Help contact the President President@astra-nj.org to announce it at a meeting and send the advertisement to the newsletter (See *Newsletter* below).

Education Article: If you have written a general interest astronomy article, please submit it to the newsletter (See *Newsletter* below). Try to keep it less than one page or it may need to be split over several months. It would be helpful if it were sent as an MS Word document attachment to an e-mail.

Newsletter: E-mail material to Newsletter@astra-nj.org or mail to: Novins Planetarium, ASTRA Newsletter, Ocean County College, P.O. Box 2001, Toms River, NJ 08754-2001. If you do send something please call Randy Walton, phone 732-458-3465 as I may only check for e-mail at my local library weekly or the Planetarium only on the night of an ASTRA meeting. ***Deadline:*** Material for *ASTRAL PROJECTIONS* must be received 21 days before the next 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 web 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; **Vice President-Secretary** Rich Gamba, VP@astra-nj.org; **Treasurer** Ro Spedalieri, Treasurer@astra-nj.org; **Newsletter Editor** Randy Walton, phone 732-458-3465, Newsletter@astra-nj.org, checked weekly; **Webmaster** John Endreson, Webmaster@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 <i>each additional family member who comes to ASTRA meetings</i> :	_____
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