

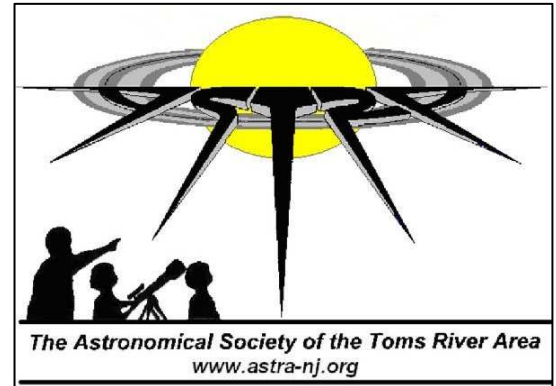
ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

October 2009

www.ASTRA-NJ.org

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

Meetings are in the Solar Lounge beginning at 7:00 PM. The Solar Lounge is located in the Ocean County College Center building across from the Planetarium. The relocation of the meeting is due to the renovation of the planetarium building.



With a paid-up family membership for 2009, when you attend a monthly meeting, each family may enter their name into a free random drawing for a door prize to be given away during the meeting.

Our Next Meeting – Friday – 7 PM – Oct 9, 2009

Mirror Grinding presented by Gene Russo. Gene will take us step-by-step through the process of grinding and polishing a mirror.

2009 Meeting Schedule

See www.ASTRA-NJ.org for latest update

(All meetings start at 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted)

October 9th – Mirror Grinding presented by Gene Russo

November 13th – Presentation by Phil Zollner on the Eclipse

December 11th – Annual Awards Meeting and Star Party Roundup

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 Spedalieri.

September 25th: Cub Scouts Island Heights, ASTRA members only

October 10th: OCC Fall star watch, open to the public

October 24th: Wells Mills Park, open to the public

See the ASTRA website for the latest times, dates, and directions.

Notice: The Group Purchase of Royal Astronomical Society Items (page 4) has been revised.

Highlights of the Last Meeting

September 11, 2009

Our September meeting featured retired astronaut, Robert Cenker. Bob flew the Space Shuttle Columbia (STS 61-C mission) as a payload specialist. During the six day mission, (January 12 to 18, 1986) he performed a variety of physiological tests, observed the deployment of the RCA Satcom Ku-1 satellite, and operated the primary experiment, an infrared imaging camera. He recounted his experiences aboard the Space Shuttle. Bob started off showing us the flight deck and living quarters aboard the shuttle. He went into the procedure on how to use the toilet – very compacted if you were in a hurry! He told us about the food on board and how it was prepared. Sleeping was a bit different in space than on the ground. We also saw a few pictures of Earth taken through the observation window. Bob only flew into space once, but he would have loved to do it again. He is content knowing that he did something people only dream of doing. This was a fantastic presentation that was given to a packed house in the lecture hall of the Technology Building. There were about 80 people there and some had to stand in the back. A big thanks to Geoff Redington for setting up this fabulous presentation.

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.

Items for Sale

Telescope for sale: Meade 8" Schmidt-Cassegrain LX200 (f/6.3) with Autostar and hand controller, AC and 18V DC power supply. Accessories include: 9.7mm Super Plössl, 12.4mm Super Plössl, 26mm Super Plössl, Eyepiece holder, T-Adapter, Diagonal Prism, 8x50 mm Viewfinder, AC adapter, eyepiece filter set (x4), Handheld Keypad/Controller, Canon EOS camera adapter.

Purchased in 2000. Used exactly twice. All original packaging and documentation. \$1500.00

You pick up from Delran, NJ 08075.

If you are interested, send a note to President@astra-nj.org for the e-mail contact information. The person selling the equipment can answer any questions or accept an offer.

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>.

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).

Newsletter: E-mail material to Newsletter@astra-nj.org

Executive Board: President – Rich Brady, President@astra-nj.org; Vice President-Secretary – Ed Mullen, VP@astra-nj.org; Treasurer - Ro Spedalieri, Treasurer@astra-nj.org; Newsletter Editor – Allen Malsbury, Newsletter@astra-nj.org; Webmaster - John Endreson, Webmaster@astra-nj.org.

2009 Oct. Celestial Events: supplied by J. Randolph Walton (Randy)

Day	Date	Time (EDT)	Event
Sat	3	00:25	Mars Rises
		02:40	Jupiter Sets
		04:55	Venus Rises
		05:30	Mercury Rises (best view in 2009)
		05:50	Saturn Rises
		06:58	Sunrise
		18:03	Moon Rise
		18:39	Sunset
Sun	4	02:10	Full Moon
		07:24	Moon Set
Sat	10	00:15	Mars Rises
		02:05	Jupiter Sets
		05:10	Venus Rises
		05:25	Saturn Rises
		05:40	Mercury Rises
		13:53	Moon Set
		18:28	Sunset
		18:42	Io casts shadow on Europa
Sun	11	04:56	Last Quarter Moon
		14:38	Moon Set
Tue	13	5:15	Saturn Rises 0.5 Deg. left of Venus Rise
Fri	16	06:05	Moon, Saturn, Mercury, & Venus group
Sat	17	00:07	Mars Rises
		01:40	Jupiter Sets
		05:05	Saturn Rises
		05:25	Venus Rises
		06:10	Mercury Rises
		06:15	Zodiacal light in E before morning twilight for next two weeks
		07:13	Sunrise
		17:38	Moon Set
		18:17	Sunset
Sun	18	01:33	New Moon
		07:45	Moon Rise
Wed	21	06:00	Orionid meteors (ZHR=20)
Sat	24	01:10	Jupiter Sets
		04:40	Saturn Rises
		05:40	Venus Rises
		06:40	Mercury Rises
		18:07	Sunset
		23:02	Moon Set
		23:55	Mars Rises
Sun	25	14:00	Moon Rise
		20:42	First Quarter Moon
Sat	31	00:45	Jupiter Sets
		04:15	Saturn Rises
		06:00	Venus Rises
		07:28	Sunrise
		16:30	Moon Rise
		17:59	Sunset
		23:45	Mars Rises

Group Purchase of Royal Astronomical Society Items

(Revised)

The ASTRA astronomy club is taking orders to try to make a bulk purchase of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) Observer's Handbook and Calendar for the coming year at a discount. The RASC has not set the prices for shipping yet, but the discounted price is expected to be about the same as last year. We will collect the discount price, which includes shipping and handling to ASTRA. If we do not meet the minimum order for discount, the money collected will be refunded.

The *Observer's Handbook* is a 320+ page guide published annually. The sections in the *Observer's Handbook* are of two kinds: **Sections dealing with astronomical events** that occur during the year, e.g. times of sunrise, sunset, moonrise, moonset, eclipses, meteor showers, star occultations by the Moon and by asteroids and a section called "The Sky Month By Month"; and **Sections dealing with astronomical data** and information that does not change from year to year

The *Observer's Calendar* has an astronomical photo for each month, times of sunrise, sunset, moonrise, moonset, phases of the moon, and the most important astronomical events that occur during the year.

Item	Reg. Price & Shipping	Expected Disc. Price & Shipping
Observer's Handbook	\$32.45	\$21.00
Observer's Calendar	\$23.45	\$16.00

Name:
Phone: ()
Member of which astronomy club:

Qty.	Item	Price each	Total
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
Total			\$

Please use this form to list what you want, make a check out to ASTRA, and give it to Randy Walton at an astronomy club meeting, or mail it to ASTRA, Robert J. Novins Planetarium, Ocean County College, P.O. Box 2001, Toms River NJ 08754-2001 by Oct. 9. Items will need to be picked up from Randy Walton at a club meeting, hopefully in November.

ASTRA Club Elections.

Members start thinking about volunteering to run for office.

Nominations for all offices shall be accepted by the October Meeting. Members can self-nominate or nominate someone that has agreed to serve if elected. Nominations and acceptance can be done at the regular meeting or in writing. The written self-nomination or acceptance must reach the club Officers by the October meeting. The Newsletter Editor shall mail ballots by the November meeting, at the direction of the Vice President-Secretary.

Election of officers shall take place at the December meeting.

Club OFFICERS

The officers of the organization shall be the President, the Vice President-Secretary, and the Treasurer. The Officers shall be elected, and no person may hold more than one elected office concurrently.

a. The President shall

1) be the primary point of contact for the organization, speak for the organization in all official matters, and preside over all meetings.

b. The Vice President-Secretary shall

1) assume the responsibilities of the President in the President's absence 2) make a record of any formal actions taken by the organization 3) coordinate with the Newsletter Editor in mailing appropriate club business 4) perform as the ALCor (Astronomical League Correspondent). The ALCor communicates with the Astronomical League (AL) and periodically furnishes the AL with copies of our membership list. 5) Keep track of telescope equipment loans 6) Keep the official version of the Bylaws and Policy documents

c. The Treasurer shall

1) be the club membership chairperson, shall maintain the club treasury, shall collect club dues, and shall expend funds as directed. Recurring expenditures normal to the operation of the organization are authorized. The Treasurer shall provide a written report of the years expenditures, which shall be included in the Newsletter, published within the first calendar quarter. Separate accounting will be maintained for the Telescope Fund and it will not be used for general club operations without a vote at a regular meeting.

ADMINISTRATORS

Administrators of the organization shall be appointed by the Officers from volunteers and shall be the Newsletter Editor and the Webmaster. Officers may serve as Administrators.

a. The Newsletter Editor shall publish the club newsletter, ASTRAL Projections, once a month and for any special event, and shall coordinate with the Vice President-Secretary to publish appropriate club business in the ASTRAL Projections.

Publication of Club Business: The club newsletter, ASTRAL Projections, shall be the official organ of A.S.T.R.A. The newsletter shall carry the dates, times, locations, and subject matter (if known at the time of publication) of impending meetings. Any policy matter requiring a vote of the general membership must be published in the newsletter not less than one month prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. If the matter requires a mail ballot, the ballot shall be mailed with the newsletter one month after the issue in which the impending vote is announced. The club is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail. The newsletter shall include other items as necessary.

b. The Webmaster shall manage the club website and the associated discussion board.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall consist of the three elected officers and the two Administrators.

a. The Executive Board shall recommend dues, expenditures, voting issues, and shall perform other duties as appropriate.

b. The Executive Board may appoint standing committees as needed to carry out recurring or ongoing tasks required by the club. These standing committees will continue until the officers determine that their functions are no longer required. All committees so established shall act solely in accordance with the authority granted by the Executive Board

c. The Executive Board may appoint special committees to perform single tasks as needed by the club. These special committees will disband upon completion of their function.