



AU AstroNews

The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

August 2013

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History



Jupiter, Mercury and Mars after sundown. Image: Jerry Wilson.

OUTREACH SUMMARY

Since the last newsletter, *and including Astrovaganza*, AU volunteers Angela Bates, Lorraine Cass, Daniel Cassidy, Tim Crawford, Zak Dafaallah, Joe Doyle, Susan Jackson & John Edkins, Ed Edwards, Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art Harris, Jürgen Hilmer, Colin Jones, Ed Kalasky, Tom King, Chris Larson, Zanna Lucy, Pat & Chuck McPartlin, Janet & Martin Meza, Kim Miller & Daniel Godinez, JT & David Moorman, Bonnie & Bruce Murdock, Max Neufeldt, Edgar Ocampo, Ray Ogella, Tanya & Ken Owen, Ros Perry, Bob Richard, Javier Rivera & Julio Orozco & the Quasars, Nancy Rohrer, David Salvia, Cez & Tom Totton, Chris Ulivo, Mary Warren, Maureen O'Rourke & Tom Whittemore, Jim Williams, Patricia & Jerry Wilson, Paul Winn, Tim Wittenberg, and Dmitrii Zagorodnov showed cool astronomy stuff to **2786** visitors.

AUGUST OUTREACH EVENTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the Miro Lawn, on the bluff overlooking the ocean.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, SETUP 7:30 PM

Monthly Public Telescope Night at Westmont College, at the observatory, next to the baseball field.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, SETUP 8 PM

Telescopes for campers at Cachuma Lake Campground. We set up on the grassy field at Dakota Plains.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, SETUP 7 PM

Telescope Tuesday at the Camino Real Marketplace in Goleta. We set up in the plaza next to the theater.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the Miro Lawn, on the bluff overlooking the ocean.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Refugio Beach State Campground, in the day use parking lot, southwest corner.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the Miro Lawn, on the bluff overlooking the ocean.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 7 AM

Field trip to the California Science Center to see the Space Shuttle, and then to JPL in Pasadena. The bus leaves SBMNH promptly at 7:30 AM!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the Miro Lawn, on the bluff overlooking the ocean.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the Miro Lawn, on the bluff overlooking the ocean.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, SETUP 8 PM

Telescopes for campers at Cachuma Lake Campground. We set up on the grassy field at Dakota Plains.



Summer setup at the Bacara Resort. Photo: Tom Totton

From the President's Pen...

Mike Farris

Hello Fellow AU Members,
The JPL tour is just around the corner on August 28th and we have filled all the seats! ***Remember that the bus leaves the Museum promptly at 7:30AM, so don't be late or you will miss the bus.*** I recommend that you are at the museum no later than 7:15AM.

Have a great rest of August, and I will see you at the meeting on Friday, September 6th. The meeting starts at 7PM at Farrand Hall (next to the Gladwin Planetarium).

The Arts Corner...

SATURN

Watching the stars at night
I see one with yellowish light.
If I squint very hard
there are ears sticking very far
So said Galileo in sixteen ten.
it was first seen way back then.
Since then we've had a better look
It can be found in a book.
The ears are thousands of rings
made up of ice, dust and things
some as big as an elephant.
Could they be little astro-phants?
There's more than have been counted
as well as many moons.
Titan takes the most room.
Interest in Enceladus will grow fast
as icy geysers are seen to blast
by Cassini as it glides around.
Water's been found, what does it mean?
Could it be life past, present and future
sixth from the Sun, a big ball of gas
like us all, as gassy mass.
It is lighter than water
we could not swim in that matter
but would sink down 'til rock we hit
I think it would hurt a bit.
What more will we learn of this Planet
as Cassini flies around 'til he's had it.

Nancy Rohrer, 3/10/06



The SBAU camps at Lake Cachuma. Photo: Tom Totton.

VENUS

The Moon and many Stars
In the Heavens above
Sends gleeful glows to me.
One Star shines brighter
than all the rest.

Only it is not a Star.
It is Earth's Sister Planet
Named for Goddess of Love
And Beauty, Planet Venus
Always with us beaming bright.

It is second Planet from the Sun
Merely a short 0.72 AU away
Almost as big as Earth
With a similar make up
Yet, very different

870 Degrees discourages visitors
Brave Mariner 2 visited in 1962
There have been many visits since
Huge volcanoes were found and
Thick covering of poisonous gas.

All is convincing to stay at home
With our rolling oceans
Forest of fluttering leaves swaying
In the fresh soft breeze
On beautiful, comfortable Earth.

Nancy Rohrer, 3/10/06



"I could've sworn that my scope was aimed at the Deerlick Group...."
Photo: Tom Totton

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AU annual membership rates:





Single = \$15 Family = \$25

AU mailing address:

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August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 BACARA RESORT 7PM	2	3 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM
4	5 MAW AT CATE SCHOOL 7 PM	6 	7	8 BACARA RESORT 7PM	9 CARPINTERIA STATE BEACH 8PM	10 ASTRO- VAGANZA! 10AM- 10PM
11	12	13	14 	15 BACARA RESORT 7PM	16 WESTMONT COLLEGE 7:30PM	17 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM
18	19	20 CAMINO REAL  MARKETPLACE 7PM	21	22 BACARA RESORT 7PM	23 REFUGIO STATE BEACH 7PM	24 BACARA RESORT 7PM
25	26	27	28 JPL TRIP  SBMNH 7AM	29 BACARA RESORT 7PM	30 BACARA RESORT 7PM	31 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM

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