



AU AstroNews

The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

December 2013

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History



A couple of star-gazers enjoy a look at the Moon at the Camino Real Market Place. Photo: Tom Totton.

OUR DECEMBER MEETING

This is our annual club meeting where members get to strut their stuff, and **you** get a chance to serve your club as an elected or appointed officer! The meeting is set for Friday, December 6th, in Farrand Hall at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. A 7PM planetarium show precedes the meeting. The business portion of the meeting kicks in at 7:30PM sharp followed by presentations by several club members. The presentations are set to start at 7:45PM. At press time our speakers and their topics include: (1) Chuck McPartlin: Asteroid occultations that he has worked on; (2) Jerry Wilson: Review of the Advanced Imaging Conference he attended in Santa Clara http://www.aicccd.com/newsletter/aic_newsletter_vol6nbr5.html; (3) Robert Richard: his latest Astrophotography <http://www.imagesfromthecosmos.net/> and (4) Jim Doordan: "Why I attend SBAU meetings, given that I cannot see."

OUTREACH SUMMARY

Since the last newsletter, AU outreaches Andy Allen, Peter Angeloff, Angela Bates, Eldon Chapman, Tim Crawford, Coni Edick & Joe Doyle, Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art Harris, Chris Larson, Sheri & Hunter & Landon Mayta, Pat &

Chuck McPartlin, Janet & Martin Meza, Kim Miller, Shib Mookherjea, Bruce Murdock, Max Neufeldt, Edgar Ocampo, Javier Rivera & Quasars, Nancy Rohrer, David Salvia, Tom Totton, Chris Ulivo, Tom Whittemore, Jim Williams, Patricia & Jerry Wilson, and Linda & Harold Yarbrough showed the night sky to **1363** happy viewers.

OUTREACH REPORT

Here are the AU events scheduled so far for December. Remember, events are subject to change, so to get the latest information on schedules, or directions, just contact Chuck at 964-8201 or macpuzl@west.net

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, SETUP 6 PM

Telescopes and slide show for Santa Barbara Junior High School. We set up behind Marjorie Luke Theater on the campus, and get in via the gate on the East Ortega and North Quarantina intersection.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, SETUP 5 PM

Telescopes for Science Night at Adams Elementary School, at 2701 Las Positas Road in Santa Barbara. We set up on their playground, with access through their main parking lot, next to the auditorium. Enchiladas at 5, for those so inclined.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 7 PM

Monthly AU meeting in Farrand Hall at SBMNH. Elections and Members' Night.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, SETUP 7 PM

Telescope Tuesday at Camino Real Marketplace in Goleta. We usually set up in the plaza next to the theater, under the Christmas tree, but may have a slight location change because of their new bright lights.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, GATHER AT 6 PM

Annual AU Holiday Party at the Beachside Bar & Grill at Goleta Beach.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 5 PM

AU planning meeting, in the classroom next to Javier's office.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 7 PM

Monthly Public Star Party at SBMNH. Bring a scope and have fun showing goodies in the sky outside Palmer Observatory, or just show up and enjoy looking at them.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 7 PM

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, SETUP 5 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on their Miró Lawn. Solstice!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, SETUP 5 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on their Miró Lawn.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, SETUP 5 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on their Miró Lawn.



Chris Ulivo shows off his "Flaming Tomato" hand-crafted 8" Dobsonian at the workshop. Photo: Tom Totton.

CALENDARS!

The beautiful 2014 Astronomy calendars are here. They cost only \$10 each, which is a good \$3 less than sold at stores. Remember to make your check out to SBMNH, with a note of "SBAU calendar" in the memo area of your check. Buy at the Friday, December 6, 2013, AU meeting!

HOLIDAY PARTY 2013

The AU Holiday Party is coming up on Friday, December 13, 2013, at the Beachside restaurant, at Goleta Beach. Spaces are \$30 for each person: remember to make your check out to SBMNH, with a note of "SBAU Holiday Party" in the memo area of your check. We gather at 6pm, dinner at 7pm, and game of gift exchange at 8pm. For the gift exchange game, you'll need to bring a wrapped, anonymous present, costing approximately ten dollars (or less), and we'll have fun with this game. You can mail in your check to SBAU, c/o SBMNH, 2559 Puesta Del Sol, SB 93105-2998, or give your check to AU Treasurer Pat McPartlin at the December 6, 2013 AU meeting. This is also the last day to buy a space!

From the President's Pen...

Mike Farris

First I would like to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and hope you enjoyed lots of tasty food. The annual AU Christmas party is just around the corner and the cost is only \$30 and will be held at the Beachside Bar Cafe Friday the 13th of December. If you don't have your tickets, be sure to call Pat McPartlin and let her know you are coming.

To all who make our club what it is today, I wish to give my heart felt thanks for all of your hard work and dedication. Even those of you that don't attend star parties, you can still share with your friends and coworkers of the numerous benefits that the SBAU has to offer.



Jerry Wilson seems unafraid at an eerie mirror-making workshop. Photo: Tom Totton.

Arts Corner...

In honor of Canis Major...

Dogs

Aaron Kramer

Looking foolish next to a tree in a one o'clock rain:
umbrella aloft, the leash in my other hand –
I wanted my late-coming neighbor to understand
that dogs are worth the expense, inconvenience and
pain;

their tails are truthful, no coiled rebellion beneath
a loving look; they are quick to kiss you, and quick
to fetch for you, and – should you raise a stick
threateningly – they are quick to show their teeth;

and better still (but this I never revealed),
when you bring downfall home, the death of a hope,
their nonchalant manner does more for you than a
drink;
and best of all, when triumph's to be unsealed,
such lack of respect they show for the envelope,
- your fingers halt, the brain cools, and you think.



Jerry and Pat Wilson at the Sedgwick Reserve. Photo: Tom Totton.

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AU AstroNews, the monthly publication of the **Astronomical Unit (AU)**, is mailed to the AU membership. For publishing consideration for the next month, submit astronomical items by the 20th of the current month!

AU annual membership rates:



Single = \$15 Family = \$25

AU mailing address:

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On the Web: <http://www.sbau.org>

December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 	3 SB JUNIOR HIGH 6PM	4	5 ADAMS ELEMENTARY 5PM	6 SBAU GENERAL MEETING 7PM	7
8	9 	10 CAMINO REAL MARKETPLACE 7PM	11	12	13 ANNUAL AU HOLIDAY PARTY 6PM	14 PLANNING MEETING 5PM STAR PARTY 7PM SBMNH
15	16	17 	18	19	20 WESTMONT COLLEGE 7PM	21 BACARA RESORT 5PM
22	23	24	25 	26	27 BACARA RESORT 5PM	28 BACARA RESORT 5PM
29	30	31				

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