



AU AstroNews

The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

July 2011

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

OUTREACH SUMMARY

Since the last newsletter, volunteers John Boyd, Bill Clausen, Tim Crawford, Carolyn & Ed Edwards, Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art Harris, Jürgen Hilmer, Jackson Kwiatkowski, Janet & Martin Meza, Pat & Chuck McPartlin, Max Neufeldt, Dennis Nord, Edgar Ocampo, Colleen Pease, Rosemary & Al Rice, Bob Richard, Javier Rivera & Mike Bennett & the Quasars, Bob Richard, Nancy Rohrer, David Salvia, Gary Schneider, Colin Taylor, Tom Totton, John West, Tom Whittemore, Jim Williams, Jerry Wilson, and Tim Wittenburg showed good stuff in the sky to 1067 customers.



John West captured this photo on the last day at RTMC this past May. Clearly, high winds the previous night rendered the facility "out of odor."

OUTREACH FOR JULY

Here are the AU events scheduled so far for July. 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

FRIDAY, JULY 1, SETUP 8 PM

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

SATURDAY, JULY 2, SETUP 8 PM

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

SUNDAY, JULY 3, SETUP 8 PM

Telescopes for Carpinteria State Beach. We set up in the grassy area between the RR tracks and their ranger station.

THURSDAY, JULY 7, SETUP 6:30 PM

Telescopes for the Biltmore. Contact Chuck for details. We set up on their Monte Vista lawn. We start early because we have the Moon.

FRIDAY, JULY 8, SETUP 8 PM

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

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 6 PM

Planning meeting in the classroom next to Javier's office at SBMNH. Come plan your club's activities. All are welcome.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 8 PM

Monthly Public Star Party, next to Palmer Observatory at SBMNH.

TUESDAY, JULY 12, SETUP 7 PM

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

FRIDAY, JULY 15, SETUP 7:30 PM

Monthly Public Telescope Night at Westmont College, at the new observatory, next to the baseball field. To check the status of the viewing if the weather looks iffy, call the Westmont Telescope Viewing Hotline at 565-6272.

SATURDAY, JULY 16, SETUP 8 PM

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

FRIDAY, JULY 22, SETUP 8 PM

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

SATURDAY, JULY 23, SETUP 8 PM

AU Summer Star Party at the Shotgun Range of the Gun Club, at the end of West Camino Cielo. *No Starbecue this year - just observing.*

SATURDAY, JULY 30, SETUP 8 PM

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN...

R. Gutierrez

June potluck under our belts...

Summer has arrived and the AU has welcomed it with a "Big Bang." Starting with our annual Pot Luck in June, our club sure knows how to put on a good spread. This was another very successful event under our belts - in more ways than one. This year had a nice twist when a few door prizes were given out. I wish to thank Paul Winn for donating a full color AU Club T-Shirt as a prize, and all those who attended and brought favorite dishes. A special thanks to Tim Crawford for making everything work so smoothly!

A special July club event...

Next on the AU summer agenda is our first annual "Summer Star Party" at the Gun Club on Saturday, July 23rd. For this special event AU members are asked to bring their scopes, big or small, enjoy that beautiful ride up San Marcos Pass, and trek to the Gun Club to witness a magnificent, unobstructed view of the summer sky!

Biltmore "starry nights" resume...

July will also be the month we'll hold our first "Starry Nights" 5-Star star party at the enchanting Santa Barbara Biltmore Hotel. Please bring a scope and share the night sky with others on the evenings of **July 7th, August 8th, and September 6th**. There will, of course, be other star parties the AU will have - just check out the schedule at SBAU.org.

Kudos to our club...

And, speaking of outreach, trot over to your nearest magazine rack and pick up the July issue of Astronomy Magazine. In this "Best selling astronomy magazine in the world," you'll find the story of the best astronomy club in the world. The July issue contains the article announcing the winner of the international "Out-of-this-World"

award for best public programming by an astronomy club - The Santa Barbara Astronomical Unit. Your club! Again, congratulations to the membership!

On the event horizon...

Looking ahead, we'll have the annual campout at Cachuma Lake from Sept. 23 - 25. I'll talk more about that in the next issue of the AstroNews, so please make sure you save the date. Speaking of important dates, the monthly star party in October has been changed to Saturday, October 1st, to coincide with Fall Astronomy Day and the special astronomical science speaker at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. On the second Saturday of October, October 8th, we will help celebrate International Observe the Moon night in grand style at the ever-so-popular Carpinteria Avocado Festival. Despite these adjustments, we'll still have our usual general membership meeting on the first Friday, October 7th, with a cyber space planning meeting for that month. The AU is certainly fortunate to have such great membership, and incredible sponsorship from the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Because of this our Club has been able to reach the "stratosphere of success." Fabulous work everybody! And a star-blazing, Fourth-of-July firecracker thank you to renewing members Rod Fritz and Ron Nixon.



Another photo taken "the morning after" by John West showing how powerful the winds were at RTMC this year. Astronomical products are seen scattered about one of the vendor's sites.

SAD NEWS

AU member Joe Brown informs us that David Shipman, the builder of the 29-inch Shipman telescope (the "SCUD launcher"), passed away in May.

ARTS CORNER...

PEACE ON EARTH

The Archer is wake!
The Swan is flying!
Gold against blue
An Arrow is lying.
There is hunting in heaven--
Sleep safe till to-morrow.
The Bears are abroad!
The Eagle is screaming!
Gold against blue
Their eyes are gleaming!
Sleep!
Sleep safe till to-morrow.
The Sisters lie
With their arms intertwining;
Gold against blue
Their hair is shining!
The Serpent writhes!
Orion is listening!
Gold against blue
His sword is glistening!
Sleep!
There is hunting in heaven--
Sleep safe till to-morrow.

William Carlos Williams, 1913

ALDEBARAN AT DUSK

Thou art the star for which all evening waits--
O star of peace, come tenderly and soon,
Nor heed the drowsy and enchanted moon,
Who dreams in silver at the eastern gates
Ere yet she brim with light the blue estates
Abandoned by the eagles of the noon.
But shine thou swiftly on the darkling dune
And woodlands where the twilight hesitates.
Above that wide and ruby lake to-West,
Wherein the sunset waits reluctantly,
Stir silently the purple wings of Night.
She stands afar, upholding to her breast,
As mighty murmurs reach her from the sea,
Thy lone and everlasting rose of light.

George Sterling, 1911

BREAKING NEWS

Tentative plans are to move the Telescope and Mirror Workshop to every Tuesday night, from its current alternating Wednesday nights.

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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>

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 REFUGIO BEACH 8PM ●	2 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM
3 CARPINTERIA STATE BEACH 8PM	4	5	6	7 BILTMORE HOTEL 6:30PM ◐	8 REFUGIO BEACH 8PM	9 PLANNING MEETING 6PM SBMNH STAR PARTY 8PM
10	11	12 CAMINO REAL MARKETPLACE 7PM	13	14 ○	15 WESTMONT COLLEGE 7:30PM	16 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM
17	18	19	20	21	22 REFUGIO BEACH 8PM ◐	23 AU SUMMER STAR PARTY 8PM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 CACHUMA LAKE 8PM
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