



# AU AstroNews

## The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

June 2015

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History



*"Greetings, Earthlings. Am I late for the outreach?"*

### **JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> POTLUCK**

There will be no general meeting for the month of June. In its place come and join us for our annual potluck at the Broder Building on the SBMNH campus! We will gather at 6PM to share goodies. The Broder Building lies across the bridge on the south side of the creek on the SBMNH campus. After dinner we will meet in Farrand Hall for a showing of the 1951 science fiction classic "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

### **OUTREACH SUMMARY**

A big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who helped out in the rain and wind at Astronomy Day, and the big Girl Scout event last month! Since the last AU newsletter, volunteers Chatt Aiton, Angela Bates, Robert Bernstein, John Boyd, Sabine & Marciano Chan, Bill Clausen, Adrian Conrad, Tim Crawford, Joe Doyle, Dora Drake, Nancy Emerson,

Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art Harris, Jürgen Hilmer, Sean Kelly, Tom King, Chris Larson, Dale Lowdermilk, Janet & Martin Meza, Pat & Chuck McPartlin, Bonnie & Bruce Murdock, Max Neufeldt, Edgar Ocampo, Erin O'Connor, Zoe Reifel, Javier Rivera & his Quasars, David Salvia, Ron Skinner, Cez & Tom Totton, Chris Ulivo, Tom Whittemore, Jim Williams, Patricia & Jerry Wilson, Chuck Woodburn, and Linda & Harold Yarbrough shared astronomy with **2351** people.

### **JUNE OUTREACH EVENTS**

Here are the AU events scheduled so far for June. 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](mailto:macpuzl@west.net)

#### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, SETUP 8 PM**

Telescopes for a campout by Peabody School first graders at El Capitan Canyon Resort. Let Chuck know if you're planning to come, as we need to get names on a security list.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 4, SETUP 7:30 PM**

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the bluff lawn overlooking the ocean.

#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 6 PM**

Annual AU potluck picnic at the Broder Building at SBMNH, across the creek, followed by the classic 50s science fiction movie "The Day the Earth Stood Still," in Farrand Hall.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 6, SETUP 8 PM**

Slide show and scopes for Carpinteria State Beach. We set up on the sidewalk toward the ocean from the entry kiosk this year.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 11, SETUP 7:30 PM**

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the bluff lawn overlooking the ocean.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 12, SETUP 8 PM**

Telescopes for Gaviota State Beach, in the NE corner of their day use parking lot. Moved from Refugio because of the oil spill closure.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 6 PM**

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

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 8 PM**

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

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18, SETUP 7:30 PM**

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the bluff lawn overlooking the ocean.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 8 PM**

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

**SATURDAY, JUNE 20, SETUP 8 PM**

Slide show and telescopes for Cachuma Lake campground. We set up on the grassy field at Dakota Plains.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 9:39 AM PDT - SUMMER SOLSTICE!**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 23, SETUP 7 PM**

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

**THURSDAY, JUNE 25, SETUP 7:30 PM**

Telescopes for Bacara Resort and Spa. We set up on the bluff lawn overlooking the ocean.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27, SETUP 8 PM**

Slide show and telescopes for campers at Lopez Lake, up by Arroyo Grande. Contact Chuck if you're planning to come, so we can arrange camping for Friday and Saturday night.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 30**

Asteroid Day, on the anniversary of the Tunguska Event. Venus and Jupiter spectacular after sunset.



*"Anyone know a Sundance?" Astronomy Day at the Camino Real Marketplace. Photo credit: T. Totton.*

***"Time Travel"***

*Tom Totton, SBAU 2015 President*

I was proud to accept for the SBAU one of the three awards that the Sedgwick Reserve's Kate McCurdy presented Thursday, May 14, at an event to ask the Santa Ynez community for their support as a Dark Sky Refuge. Originally, our award was intended to honor our Outreach leader, Chuck McPartlin, but he was clever and had me go up to receive it. Anyway, I had fun telling the crowd about our club star party dates, its steep membership dues, Chuck's past Astronomical Society of the Pacific award <http://www.astrosociety.org/>, and about SMHS sophomore Zoe Reifel winning the SBAU Science Fair award. It turns out that the third awardee, Wayne Rosing, founder of LCOGT, had funded the ASP Las Cumbres award that Chuck received last summer in Tucson. Photos of the event are here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sbaushots/sets/72157652964948576>. The first awardee was the "W.E. Watch, Save Our Stars" folks who really push for keeping the lights toned down in our communities. Also, we had fun at the Sun Day at the Goleta Library, Saturday, May 16. Chuck gave another great talk in the conference room - this time on various aspects of the Sun. Lots of SBAU outreachers with solar scopes and library visitors came by to the back section of the Christian Science parking lot. Clouds threatened at first, but the Sun unveiled itself in its full glory of sunspots, filaments, and prominences. It sure made up for the rainy Astronomy Day we had the month before. See photos here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sbaushots/sets/72157653018340412>. Enough for now: I will miss the potluck, but I will see you during the second half of June.





*Here comes the Sun! John Boyd and Pat McPartlin at the Goleta Library "Sun-day" event. Photo credit: T. Totton.*

**Nice to hear....**

“I thought I would pass this on to you. I have a friend who is a retired math professor from UCSB. Two years ago his son won the raffle for the 8-inch reflector at our Astronomy Day. Since then he has been enjoying the scope immensely. He recently took it up to Mt. Palomar and camped with it under the stars. He is grateful we had the raffle, and is now a full-fledged amateur astronomer. It is nice to hear that our prizes spark curiosity and entuse others to take interest in astronomy.”

Take care,  
John Boyd



*“Aha! I see it! Your value for the Hubble Constant was off by a factor of two!” Photo credit: T. Totton.*

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**June 2015**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>PEABODY SCHOOL 8PM</b>	<b>4</b> <b>BACARA RESORT 7:30PM</b>	<b>5</b> <b>SBAU POTLUCK 7PM</b>	<b>6</b> <b>CARPINTERIA STATE BEACH 8PM</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>BACARA RESORT 7:30PM</b>	<b>12</b> <b>GAVIOTA STATE BEACH 8PM</b>	<b>13</b> <b>SBMNH PLANNING MEETING 6PM STAR PARTY 8-10PM</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>BACARA RESORT 7:30PM</b>	<b>19</b> <b>WESTMONT COLLEGE 8PM</b>	<b>20</b> <b>CACHUMA LAKE 8PM</b>
<b>21</b> <b>SUMMER SOLSTICE! 9:39AM</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>CAMINO REAL MARKETPLACE 7:30PM</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>BACARA RESORT 7:30PM</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>LOPEZ LAKE 7:30PM</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>ASTERIOD DAY! VENUS AND JUPITER AWESOME!</b>				

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