



AU AstroNews

The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

November 2008

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

Outreach Summary

Since the last newsletter, AU outreaches John Boyd, Chad Caprio, Bill Clausen, Jason & Tim Crawford, Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art Harris, Jürgen Hilmer, Chris Larson, Pat & Chuck McPartlin, Ron Nixon, Edgar Ocampo, Helen Osenga, Javier & Samantha & their Quasars, Nancy Rohrer, Jonathan & SBCC students, John West, Tom Whittemore, and Tim Wittenburg showed the night sky to 503 customers.

Outreach for November

Here are the AU events scheduled so far for November. 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, November 4, setup 6:30 PM

Telescope Tuesday at the Camino Real Marketplace in Goleta. We set up in the plaza between Borders and the movie theater. Show people the Election Day constellation - Pegasus.

Wednesday, November 5, setup 7 PM

Slide show and telescopes for Family School, at the Sedgwick Reserve, at the end of Brinkerhoff Avenue near Los Olivos.

Thursday, November 6, setup 5 PM

Telescopes for Science Night at La Patera Elementary School in Goleta, off La Patera Lane next to Stow Grove Park.

Friday, November 7, 7 PM

Start with a short planetarium show, then our monthly meeting in Farrand Hall at SBMNH. Enjoy the NOVA video about our galaxy's black hole, "The Monster in the Milky Way."

Saturday, November 8, 5 PM

AU Planning Meeting in the classroom outside Javier's office at SBMNH. Come help plan your club's activities for the 2009 International Year of

Astronomy celebration of 400 years of telescopic discoveries.

Saturday, November 8, 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.

Monday, November 10, setup 6 PM

Telescopes for Science Night at Coastline Christian Academy, in Goleta on Cathedral Oaks just northeast of the Fairview intersection.

Monday, November 10, on PBS television

NOVA special on the making of the Palomar Telescope.

Thursday, November 13, setup 7:30 PM

Slide show and telescopes for La Colina Junior High School in Santa Barbara, off Foothill near 154. We always get a lot of students coming out for this event.

Friday, November 14, setup 7:30 PM

Telescopes at the Bacara Resort. Check with Chuck if you're interested in helping out, as space is limited for scopes.

Saturday, November 15, setup 7 PM

Slide show and telescopes for Los Olivos Elementary School, at the junction of 154 and Alamo Pintado Avenue.

Thursday, November 20, setup 6:30 PM

Telescopes for Goleta Valley Junior High School, off Stow Canyon Road. We set up in the Socratic Circle on their central lawn.

Friday, November 21, 7 PM

Monthly Public Telescope Night at Westmont College, at the Carroll Observatory, next to Van Kampen Dormitory.

Saturday, November 22, setup 7:30 PM

Telescopes at the Bacara Resort. Check with Chuck if you're interested in helping out, as space is limited for scopes.

Friday, November 28, setup 7:30 PM

Telescopes at the Bacara Resort. Check with Chuck if you're interested in helping out, as space is limited for scopes. Work off yesterday's Thanksgiving dinner showing the sky! ***This is also the deadline for getting your payment in for the AU Holiday Party next month.***

The October Messier Marathon

Many thanks go to William (Chad) Caprio for organizing the October Messier Marathon! Many of us enjoyed the clear, steady skies on Saturday, October 25, at the Winchester Gun Club. Thanks again, Chad! Maybe we could make this a regular fall activity for the club?



Chad takes a break! Photo courtesy of Art Harris.

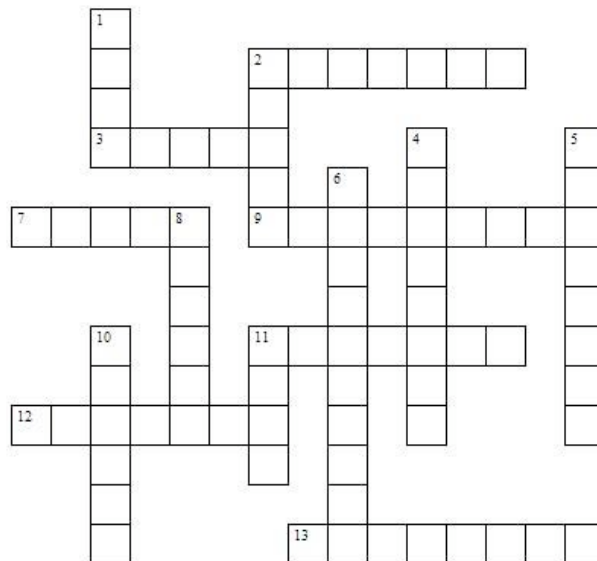
Outreach Award

SBAU is in the forefront “nationally” when it comes to community outreach. In an effort to encourage continued participation, and help out with the astronomically high gas prices, there will be a monthly \$50 gas card given to the member who drives to the outreach sites the most. For the month of August you are asked to keep a tally of the outreach events you drove to and then email it to Club Treasurer Ruben Gutierrez at rubenalvag@aol.com prior to the end of the month. If you're the one who drove to the most events, you'll win 50 bucks in gas!

Puzzle Time

(puzzle courtesy of Jim Williams)

Solar System



Across

2. Most distant manmade object in the solar system.
3. Lots of methane here but will be tough to get.
7. Recently estranged and left in the dark but still has company close by.
9. Comet lady.
11. Very hot dry place with lots of craters.
12. No makeup can hide the red blemish on its face.
13. This belt won't help with trousers.

Down

1. Cloud of comets way far away.
2. Best greenhouse in the Solar System.
4. Pluto discovery guy.
5. Uranus discovery guy.
6. Big moon crater named for this very Sun centered guy.
7. We don't mean dark mysticism, but sun block.
10. Orbits guy.
11. Summer can be about as warm as a cold day on earth.

Annual AU Holiday Party

The Astronomical Unit cordially invites you and your spouse or guest to the Annual AU Holiday Party at The Beachside Bar Café on Thursday, December 11, 2008. We will gather at 6PM. A no host bar will be available. Dinner and awards presentations will follow. There will be the usual gift exchange – \$10 maximum and in good taste please!

The dinner menu will include soup or salad. All entrees will include sautéed vegetables and garlic

parmesan whipped potatoes. You may choose from these four main entrees: (1) California chicken, (2) Salmon Hollandaise, (3) Beef fillet, or (4) Penne with Portobello mushroom. Dessert will be available at an additional charge. It is requested you pay items from the bar in cash - numerous credit cards are problematic. Cost of Dinner is \$40 per person – this includes tax of 7.75% and a gratuity of 18%. *Your payment is due no later than Friday, November 28, 2008.*

Please make your check payable to “Astronomical Unit” and give/send payment to Ruben Gutierrez on or before 11/28/2008. If you will be mailing your check – no cash, please - mail it to:

Ruben Gutierrez
3078 Calle Fresno
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

An Outreach Moment at Peabody School...



Photo courtesy of Ruben Gutierrez

For Sale

Orion Apex 102 Mak-Cassegrain Telescope with following accessories: Orion Eq 1 mount; 25mm and 9mm Orion Sirius plossl eyepieces; Orion 9x50 right angle finder scope; star diagonal; 2x shorty barlow, moon filter, dew shield; soft carrying case for scope. This scope would be excellent for terrestrial use once a correct image diagonal is purchased. The majority of these items can be seen along with specs in Orion's catalog or on line at their website. All items are “like new” condition

and have been used very little. If purchased separately, these components would cost \$600. My selling price is \$250 or best offer. If you are interested, please contact Don French at (805) 569-5839 (Home) or 636-5707 (Cell). Please contact me only if you are seriously interested! My home e-mail address is: dsfrench@cox.net.

AU Information Box

President: Tim Wittenburg 969-6945
black10@aol.com

Vice President: Chad Caprio 570-506-5378
capwil87@netzero.net

Secretary: VACANT

Treasurer: Ruben Gutierrez 450-7451
rubenalvag@aol.com

Outreach: Chuck McPartlin 964-8201
macpuzl@west.net

Webmaster: Paul Winn 886-2319
strg8zn@syvcomputers.net

Refreshments: Tim Crawford 962-3619
tcrawf3@cox.net

Newsletter: Tom Whittemore 687-2025
kometes@aol.com

Equipment: Art Harris 968-4017
n6is@cox.net

AU Astronomy Information Pager
(Leave a short message) 564-9002

SBMNH Astronomy Program Coordinator
Javier Rivera 682-4711x173
jrivera@sbnature2.org

SBMNH Astronomy Program Tape
Updated monthly 682-4711x405





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:
Astronomical Unit
c/o Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2998

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

November 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 "Fall Back" 2AM	3	4 Camino Real Marketplace 6:30PM	5 Sedgwick Reserve 7PM	6 La Patera 5PM 	7 AU General Meeting 7PM	8 AU Planning Meeting 5PM SBMNH Star Party 7PM
9	10 Coastline Christian 6PM	11	12	13 La Colina 7:30PM 	14 Bacara Resort 7:30PM	15 Los Olivos 7PM
16	17	18	19 	20 Goleta Valley JHS 6:30PM	21 Westmont College 7PM	22 Bacara Resort 7:30PM
23	24	25	26	27 	28 Bacara Resort 7:30PM	29
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The Astronomical Unit

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2559 Puesta Del Sol Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2998