



AU AstroNews

The Newsletter of the Astronomical Unit

September 2014

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History



Sir Chuck Halley and Pat Herschel explain the heavens to an enthralled crowd at Astrovaganza. Photo: T. Whittemore

OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our guest speaker for the September 5th meeting will be Dr. Iair Arcavi, a postdoctoral scientist at LCOGT. Iair describes his talk: "On the night of May 31st, 2011 a supernova was discovered in the beautiful Whirlpool Galaxy by an amateur astronomer in France. But he didn't tell anyone. A few hours later, the robotic 48-inch telescope on Palomar Mountain also detected the supernova, but the automatic supernova-detection software threw it away. A few hours after that, the supernova was imaged by the 18-inch telescope at the Wise observatory in Israel, but again, no one was notified. What happened? And how did those images of a "baby" supernova contradict conclusions drawn from Hubble Space Telescope images using decade-old trusted methods? On the importance of finding supernovae during their first hours, how amateurs can still "scoop" professional observatories, and how LCOGT will show us the interiors of exploding stars.

OUTREACH SUMMARY

Since the last newsletter, AU volunteers Angela Bates, John Boyd, Sabine & Marciano Chan, Adrian Conrad, Krissie Cook, Tim Crawford, Zak Dafaallah, Coni Edick & Joe Doyle, Ed Edwards, Blake Estes, Mike Farris, Ruben Gutierrez, Art

Harris, Jürgen Hilmer, Ed Kalasky, Ken Kihlstrom, Chris Larson, Adrian Lopez, Zanna Lucy, Pat & Chuck McPartlin, Janet & Martin Meza, Bruce Murdock, Max Neufeldt, Edgar Ocampo, Javier Rivera & his Quasars, Warren Rogers, Nancy Rohrer, David Salvia, Colin Taylor, Cez & Tom Totton, Chris Ulivo, Tom Whittemore, Patricia & Jerry Wilson, Paul Winn, Tim Wittenburg, and Linda & Harold Yarbrough showed sky goodies at Astrovaganza and other outreaches to 2357 customers.

OUTREACH FOR SEPTEMBER

Here are the events scheduled so far for the month. Outreach 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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for UCSB students at San Nicolas dormitory, on the lawn. Let Chuck know if you plan to come, so we can get parking permits arranged.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 7 PM

Monthly AU meeting in Farrand Hall at SBMNH. See a quick planetarium show, then hear a talk on "The Curious Case of the Supernova in the Nighttime."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Carpinteria State Beach, just to the right before the main entrance, across from the ranger station. International Observe the Moon Night.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, SETUP 7 PM

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for campers at Refugio State Beach. We set up in the day use parking lot at the southwest corner of the park.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 5 PM

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 7:30 PM

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, SETUP 7 PM

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for campers at Refugio State Beach. We set up in the day use parking lot at the southwest corner of the park.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Boy Scouts at Cachuma Lake. We'll set up as usual at Dakota Plains.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes for Bacara Resort, on their Miró Lawn. Contact Chuck for instructions if you haven't come before.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, SETUP 7 PM

Telescopes and constellation tours for teachers at the Outdoor School, (address) on the mountain side of 154 by Cachuma Lake.

THE SUMMER IN PHOTOS



Tim shows off his polishing expertise. Photo: T. Totton.



Let me see if I can get a taller ladder for your doggie. Photo: T. Totton.



I think your tube should point the other way. Photo: T. Totton.



Now how did I do that to this mirror? Photo: T. Totton.



Planning ahead. Photo: T. Totton



Let me show you how $0 + 1 = 0$. Photo: T. Totton.



On deck at Lake Cachuma. Photo: T. Totton.

ARTS CORNER...

From the pen of Albert Einstein -

The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.

I was sitting in a chair in the patent office at Bern when all of a sudden a thought occurred to me: If a person falls freely he will not feel his own weight. This simple thought made a deep impression on me. It impelled me toward a theory of gravitation.

When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity.

Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.

Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics. I can assure you that mine are still greater.

There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.

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September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 UCSB SAN NICOLAS 7PM	4	5 SBAU MEETING 7PM	6 CARPINTERIA STATE BEACH IOMN 7PM
7	8	9 CAMINO REAL MARKETPLACE 7PM	10	11	12 REFUGIO STATE BEACH 7PM	13 PLANNING MTG 5 PM SBMNH STAR PARTY 7:30PM
14	15	16	17	18	19 WESTMONT COLLEGE 7PM	20 REFUGIO STATE BEACH 7 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26 BOY SCOUTS AT CACHUMA 7PM	27 BACARA RESORT 7PM
28	29	30 OUTDOOR SCHOOL 7PM				

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