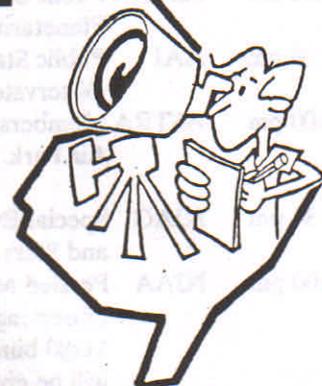

United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey Newsletter

UACNJ



United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey

An idea long in coming is now a reality. The United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey, a state federation of astronomy clubs, has been formed, the fruit from which will benefit all the clubs across the state.

What benefits you may ask? First ... UACNJ is NOT an astronomy club, but an organizational entity making possible the networking of state-wide amateur astronomy information. UACNJ will have a quarterly newsletter (you are reading the first edition) to announce meeting and special events of interest to amateur astronomers through out New Jersey. From this medium astro-computer bulletin boards and information phone numbers can become more widely known. A state speakers bureau of both amateur and professional speakers could become a reality.

State light pollution problems might be approached in a more organized manner. Local club fund raising events will be better advertised allowing for better turn-out. State Dark-Sky-Locations can be identified. ... the possibilities are endless.

When did it all start? Following is a synopsis of the events transpired over the last year:

On November 11, 1989, a meeting was held at the Morris Museum, Morristown, to form a state federation of astronomy clubs. With nine clubs represented, a name was created, a Steering Committee formed to draft a constitution, and a Nominating Committee selected to propose a slate of officers.

On June 9, 1990 the second meeting was held at Sperry Observatory in Cranford. Eight clubs were in attendance. Ron Russo (MMAS) presided over the meeting. Club delegates were designated. Presentations were made on: light pollution by Rick Kurczewski (SHAA); State-wide Newsletter by Barry Malpas (AAI); and State-wide star parties, Larry Smith (AAAP). A letter on light pollution from Fred Schaff (SJAC) was also presented.

The new constitution was accepted. The Nominating Committee [Sue Barry (NJAA), Grace Casalino (NJAG), Ron Russo (MMAS)] presented its slate of officers and the following were elected for 1990: President - Glen Burke (NJAG); Vice-Pres. - Barry Malpas (AAI); Secretary - Lou Poli (MAA); Treasurer - Larry Smith (AAAP).

The appointments to the four committee positions (Member, Finance, Newsletter, and Credentials) would be made over the next few months.

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A third meeting was held on June, 30 at High Bridge and hosted by NJAA. A light pollution committee was created and some individuals appointed to it and the other committees.

A UACNJ sponsored, state-wide, Mars opposition event was proposed for the fall (see elsewhere in this newsletter).

It was proposed and passed that the dues from each club for 1990 would be \$15 per club to cover expenses incurred by delegates and committee members in UACNJ activities, such as any mailing and reproduction costs.

Seeing RED - The Mars Opposition

The United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey will be sponsoring a special astro-vaganza to observe the last Mars opposition of this century. It will be held on Friday, November 23rd (rain dates the 24th and 25th) and is open to the members of all UACNJ astronomy clubs. The event will be hosted by the New Jersey Astronomical Association at their observatory in High Bridge. The program will begin with deep-sky observing at 7:00 PM, Mars viewing from 8:30, followed by lunar madness at 11:00. Invited speakers will give presentations on the Mars theme. Further details and activities will be described in the Fall issue of the UACNJ Newsletter.

Astronomy Club Sky Information and Bulletin Board Phone Numbers

AAI- (201) 276-STAR Sky Information
NJAA- (201) 638-8593 Bulletin Board
NJAG (201) 345-STAR Sky Information

New Jersey Summer Calendar and Upcoming Major Events

Date	Time	Club	Details
Jul 13	8:30 pm	NJAG	Saturn, M-13, Ring and Dumbbell Nebulae observing.
	9:00 pm	ASTRA	Public Star Party. Novens Planetarium.
14	8:00 pm	AAI	Public Star Party. Sperry Observatory.
21	9:00 pm	ASTRA	Members Star Party. Miller Air Park.
Aug 11	1:30 pm	NJAG	Special Event - All day Sun and Stars.
	8:00 pm	NJAA	Persied Meteor Shower Observing. A pair of Meade 11x80 binoculars will be given away.
	9:00 pm	ASTRA	Members Star Party. Persied Meteors. Miller Park.
	11:00 pm	MMAS	Persied Meteor Shower Observing.
Aug 18	8:00 pm	AAI	Star Party. Dark sky location
	24 8:30 pm	NJAG	Moon, Saturn, M-13, Ring Nebula, Albireo observing.
25	--	WAS	Star Party and Camp Out.
Sep 8	10:00 am	UACNJ	Fall UACNJ meeting. Princeton. AAAP Host.
	8:00 pm	NJAG	Special Night - Saturn and Outer Planet observing.
21	8:00 pm	NJAG	Moon, Saturn, Ring Nebula, M-15 observing.
Oct 6	11:00 am	MMAS	Solar Observing Party.
Nov 3	6:00 pm	NJAA	25th Anniversary Celebration.
	23 4:00 pm	UACNJ	Winter UACNJ meeting.
	7:00 pm	UACNJ	Mars Opposition Astro-vaganza hosted by NJAA. See above for details.

Events and Contacts

Amateur Astronomers, Inc. (AAI), Union County College, Cranford is open to the public Friday evenings (rain or shine) from 7:30 to 10:30. A slide, video, or member lecture on an astronomy topic is presented and viewing through the observatory telescopes, weather permitting. Call (201) 709-7520 evenings for star party information and other event details and directions.

The Astronomical Society of Toms River Area (ASTRA) is home based at the Novens Planetarium. For star party and other event information at Novens call (201) 255-0343. For Miller Air Park star parties call (201) 370-1685.

The Morris Museum Astronomical Society (MMAS) is in Morristown. Further information about their events may be acquired through Ron Russo, (201) 368-1848.

The New Jersey Astronomical Association (NJAA) of High Bridge will be holding its 25th Anniversary Celebration on Nov. 3. The Theme will be "25 Years of Space Exploration" with speaker Harold Hoff, formerly of NASA Headquarters. For information call (201) 359-7191. Observing is held on Saturday evenings through October. Call (201) 638-8500.

The North Jersey Astronomical Group (NJAG) operates the observatory at Rifle Camp Park in West Paterson. They are open to the public for viewing on selected dates (see above) during the year. For further information call (201) 523-0024.

The Willingboro Astronomical Society (WAS) will hold its Summer Star Party at Woodland Acres, Quarryville, Lancaster County, PA. Free camping will be available on Saturday evening when you bring a telescope. For information call Dan Stosay (215) 387-5867 or Joy Crist (609) 829-4345.

UACNJ Clubs

The following clubs are involved with, or have shown interest in the UACNJ:

Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton (AAAP), Princeton; Amateur Astronomers, Inc. (AAI), Cranford; Astronomical Society of Toms River Area (ASTRA), Toms River; Concordia Astronomy Club (CAC), Jamesburg; Hopatcong Area Amateur Astronomers (HAAA), Hapatcong; Monroe Astronomical Association (MAA), Hazlet; Montclair Telescope Club (MTC), Montclair; Morris Museum Astronomical Society (MMAS), Morristown; New Jersey Astronomical Association (NJAA), High Bridge; North Jersey Astronomical Group (NJAG), Clifton; Sheep Hill Astronomical Association (SHAA), Boonton; Small Scope Observers Association (SSOA), Audubon Park; South Jersey Astronomy Club (SJAC), Millville; S*T*A*R*A Astronomical Society, Inc. (SASI), Holmdel; Tychonian Observers (TO), Glassboro; Willingboro Astronomical Society (WAS), Merchantville.

The United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey Newsletter is published quarterly containing news and events of UACNJ astronomy clubs. Information for inclusion should be forwarded through your UACNJ delegate.

UACNJ Newsletter Staff: Grace Casalino, Don Greenwood, Linda Greenwood, Barry Malpas, Larry Smith.

If your club has a Sky Information Service phone number or Astronomy Bulletin Board, let us and the rest of New Jersey know.