
United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey

Newsletter

December 1994 Vol. 5, No. 5

UACNJ Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the UACNJ will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 1995 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Sperry Observatory Cranford, NJ. AAI are our hosts. Please try to have the representative from your club attend.

Election of Officers

At the last meeting the following officers were elected for a one year term starting on January 1, 1995.

President:	Bruce Rights
Vice President:	George Walker
Secretary:	Jim Chenard
Treasurer:	Tom Massy
Trustee :	Barry Malpas

UACNJ Meetings, 1995

UACNJ Meetings are scheduled for the following dates and places:

@ Sperry Obs, Cranford,	Feb. 28
@ MMAS, Morristown,	April 8
@ StarQuest, Beemerville,	May 27
@ Jenny Jump, Hope ,	Sept. 23
@ Trenton Museum,	Nov. 18

Special UACNJ Club Star Parties

From 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. there will be a star party at the Jenny Jump Observatory on:

Jan. 7
Feb. 4
March 4
April 29
May 20
June 24
July 29
August 26
Sept. 23
Oct. 21
Nov. 18
Dec. none

These parties are open to any member of a UACNJ Club. {Club Newsletter Editors, please publicize these events to your club members.}

UACNJ Special Events

International Astronomy Day will be supported by the UACNJ with a day of astronomy events and observing at Jenny Jump Observatory. From 3 PM until 10 PM this event will be directed towards the general public.

Second Annual UACNJ Astronomy Symposium will be held Saturday, September 23, 1995, from 1 PM until whenever. There will be general and technical talks, day and evening observing, and much, much more.

Research At Jenny Jump

If you would like to participate or have questions, call Barry (908) 755-6932.

Building an Observatory

Work sessions at Jenny Jump State Park in Hope, NJ will be held on Saturdays, {Jan. 7 and 21, Feb. 4 and 18, and March 4 and 18} from 10:00 a.m. to dark. Anyone willing to help work on the facility is more than welcome. Call Barry 908-755-6932 for more information.

Observatory Committee Meeting

The committee met on Nov. 19 and agreed that they would look for an architect to sign new plans for a 10' x10' concrete pad with pier type foundation. Then a site plan would be submitted to the state to place 5 of these pads on a 100' x 20' area currently partially used for parking. Clubs interested in one of these pads need to contact Barry Malpas or Ron Russo of the observatory committee as soon as possible to arrange to reserve a pad at this time. It will require a check for \$ 350.00 be provided to UACNJ by March 1, 1995 to cover the materials needed for the pad construction. Work to prepare the pad site, framing of the pad and foundation, finishing of the pad, installation of pipe for electricity or other services is the responsibility of each individual club. For more information, contact Barry Malpas at 908-755-6932 or Ron Russo at 201-673-1631

This Space could be Yours.

What item could you sell in this small space which I must fill up to end the page?

Committee Staff Needed

All committees need additional staffing. If you are interested in serving on or starting a committee, please contact any officer or trustee. Existing committees are:

Credentials
Finance
Publications
Membership
Observatory, Planning and Light
Pollution
Messier

UACNJ Newsletter, 1995

The newsletter needs a new editor. anyone interested in serving our state organization in this capacity please speak with any officer or trustee or attend the next UACNJ meeting.

UACNJ Newsletter publication dates will be :

Jan. 17
March 21
May 2
July 11
Sept. 5
Oct. 31
Dec. 5

Submit news to Bruce Rights, P. O. Box 2682, Branchville, NJ 07826 one week prior to the publication date. I.e.: January 10 th....

This Space could be Yours.

What item do you wish to purchase? In this small space you could place a request to purchase something.

UACNJ Bulletin Board - For Sale

The UACNJ Bulletin Board is open for business. Through it, astronomical items you wish to sell may be advertised throughout the New Jersey area clubs. There is no cost to list items. However, should you sell an item, we request a 10% donation be sent to the UACNJ to help fund UACNJ projects. (Mail to Tom Massy, UACNJ Treasurer, 14 Iona Place, Glen Rock, NJ 07452) This will be an on-your-honor service. Please submit your ad to the newsletter editor by the submission date above.

UACNJ Observatory at Jenny Jump Public Evenings

Saturday Night Presentation and Observing: 8:00-10:00 p.m.

January, February, March	none
April	29*
May	6, 13, 20, 27*
June	3, 10, 17, 24*
July	1, 8, 15, 22, 29*
August	5, 12, 19, 26*
September	2, 9, 16, 23*, 30
October	7, 14, 21*
November	18*
December	none

(* are New Moon Weekends)

UACNJ needs to staff these nights with a public program presenter and people to help the public observe. Remember, Jenny Jump Observers are expected to help staff 2 nights per year.

IN SOME OF THE OTHER CLUBS:

If you would like your club's events listed here, please submit a club calendar or event notice to the newsletter editor before the submission deadline. Please let us know what your club's plans are for International Astronomy Day.

StarQuest

Sponsored by AAAP. Located @ Beemerville, NJ. May 26-28

Planning for UACNJ Events, 1995

What would you like to see happen in 1995? Please contact your club representative with your ideas. At the February meeting we will be finalizing the calendar of events for the year.

Should we have a state wide messier observing contest?

What other events would you and your local clubs like to see the UACNJ support?

What is the status of your club putting a telescope @ Jenny Jump? New Jersey Astro-photography Workshop. Planning for April/May New Jersey CCD Astro-photography Workshop. Planning for April/May

A simulated space shuttle mission at the Buhler Challenger and Science Center?

A club trip to Liberty Science Center or another science center?

What about club trips to each of the planetariums in the state for a special presentation?

Under the Planetarium Dome

by Kevin D. Conod

"First Night" in Montclair is a town-wide celebration of the New Year held on December 31st. The many activities include concerts, and a preview of 1995 night skies at the Glenfield Planetarium, Glenfield Middle School, Montclair. Call (201) 509 - 4174 for schedule information and directions.

Newark Museum's Dreyfuss Planetarium begins 1995 with the children's show "The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket" (for ages 5-8). This classic planetarium show tells the story of two boys who build a rocket from a cardboard box and travel to all the planets on Saturdays and Sundays at 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. The Family Feature, for adults and children ages 8 and up, is "Sky Guide." This unique live presentation explores the patterns found in the constellations, on planets, in galaxies and out in the Universe on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. The exhibit "Astronauts: The Star Travelers" celebrates the 25th Anniversary of Apollo 11 Wednesdays through Sundays noon to 5:00 p.m. Call (201) 596-6611 for more information and a current sky report.

"The Edge of Darkness" asks if there is a tenth planet out beyond the orbit of Pluto at the Robert J Novins Planetarium, at Ocean County College in Toms River. From January 6 through February 5, "The Edge of Darkness" runs at 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The planetarium also offers "A Sky for All Seasons" on Saturdays and Sundays at 3:15 p.m., and a children's show on Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. Call (908) 255-0342 for directions and ticket information.

For children under 6, the Raritan Valley Community College Planetarium offers "The Magic Sky." The program introduces young people to the planetarium and both the daytime and nighttime skies are explored. They meet constellations and the Moon along the way. Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. Children ages 5 -12 can climb aboard the "Space Bus" and go on a field trip through the solar system with kids from Asimov Elementary School. While on their trip, Space Command issues a warning that an unidentified spacecraft has been spotted near Pluto! Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. Both shows run through January 28. Call (908) 231-8805 for more information.