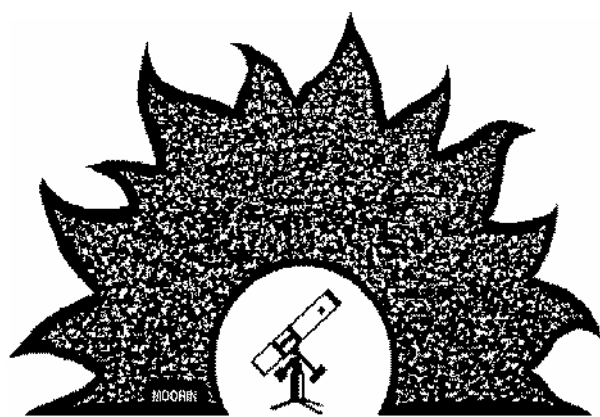




PAStimes

Phoenix Astronomical Society
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PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY — ESTABLISHED 1948

Next PAS Meeting November 4

Please join us for the November 4 meeting in the PVCC library.

Guest speaker Bio and Topic:

My name is Bob Holmes and I have been a collector of meteorites since the late '90s. My focus is on Arizona meteorites and related material. I have bought, found and traded hundreds of pieces. After some time

as strictly a collector I became more interested in finding the specimens in the field. Good fortune put me in contact with Carleton Moore at the Center for Meteorite Studies at ASU. He asked me to investigate many claims of found meteorites by people who contacted the center. From this experience I was able to hone some skills at field identification.

"I will be speaking about collecting meteorites. Areas of focus will be types of meteorites, assembling a collection, values of meteorites, displaying a collection, finding specimens in the field and distinguishing meteorites, from meteor 'wrongs'. I hope to spend a good bit of time answering questions from the audience".

PAS Meeting Review October 6

By Terri, Event Coordinator

At the PAS meeting on October 6, we had a great guest speaker, a nice turnout of PAS members and a fun time. We started the evening by helping Dolores Hill set up for her presentation. We gave her a table by the podium to put her meteorites and Meteor-wrongs on. There was a table set up for snacks & drinks, and the other side of the room had the table for the handouts. There were many handouts at this meeting.

We opened the meeting with President Bruce welcoming everyone. He then turned it over to me, Terri, and I did a few quick announcements and then turned it over to Sam Insana, who gave us a brief summary of how beautifully dark and black skies were at the Portal Site. Many thanks goes to Sam for the report and Dave Hellman for inviting PAS to Portal for a star party. Watch the calendar for more star parties at Portal. Before we could turn the night over to Dolores, a few other announcements were had.

A quick reminder came from Jerry, who told me and I forgot to announce it at the meeting, but I'm sure Jerry will want to say a few words about it at the next PAS meeting. The December Swap Meet will be happening again this year. More details are

in another article within this issue of the newsletter.

Jenny Neureuther was voted in as Honorary PAS member and will given access to the PAS Website as a PAS member.

Tim took a moment to tell us how wonderful a star party was had on the Friday prior to the meeting, Sept 30, at McDowell Mountain Park for Scottsdale Prep School. It was very dark and very enjoyable and the school group was exceptional. We will definitely want to do their event again, in the same location, preferred.

Dolores Hill took the floor. She shared a lot of info about Meteorites and Meteor-wrongs and was so delightful and fun to have as a guest speaker. On the way out of the Library, many PAS Members mentioned to me to ask Dolores to return with more info, and her husband Rik, who had done a previous presentation in May 2011. I emailed them about these wonderful requests and Rik and I are working on a return date.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Ed Wurst. \$18 was split between Ed and PAS. The water was provided by Bruce Wurst, our President. Snacks were provided by Ed, Sam, and various others and are greatly

appreciated. Many thanks goes to Rik and Dolores Hill for their presentations. Rik is selling his telescope. See the ad in this issue and / or in the PAS forums. Photos of this event are in the PAS Gallery. We hope to see you at the November PAS meeting for more Meteorites!!!



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PAS Upcoming November Events

By Terri, Event Coordinator Events@pasaz.org

Nov 3: PAS Meeting in the Library of PVCC, 7pm to 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Guest speaker's topic is "Holding a Piece of the stars & planets in your hand." Public event.

Nov 4: Private School Star Party in Phoenix, 6pm to 8pm.

Nov 8: CTCA Private Star Party, from 6pm to 8pm. PAStimes Star Tours members only. This is a paid event. RSVP is with Joe Collins (jcollins79@cox.net).

Nov 10: PVCC Telescope Workshop and Star Party, 7:30pm to 10pm. Everyone is welcome. RSVP with Terri to attend. In your RSVP, mention the type of scope you

need help with. Public event.

Nov 13: Bookmans Telescope Workshop in Bookmans back room from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Come help us help new astronomers with their telescopes. RSVP with Terri. Public must RSVP to attend this event. In your RSVP, mention the type of scope you wish to have help with. Thanks. Public event.

Nov 17: Public Star Party at PVCC Black Mountain Campus. See map on page 7 for location & address of PVCC. Event is from 7pm to 10pm. RSVP your attendance with Terri Events@pasaz.org. Everyone Welcome!

Nov 18: Back up date for Nov 4 School

event.

Nov 19: Public Star Party & Leonids Meteor Shower Party at PV Park. RSVP with Terri. No public RSVP's may cancel this event. Event is from 6pm to 10pm. Bring your own: Drinks, Snacks, chairs, jackets, and binoculars. Telescopes will be set up for viewing more than just the Meteor Shower. Everyone Welcome!

Nov 22: Back up for Nov 8 CTCA event.

Dec 1: PAS Meeting in the Library of PVCC Main Campus, 7pm to 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Guest speaker's topic is "Planet Rovers." Public event. Bring a Friend!

PVCC's 2 Campus Locations

By Terri, Event Coordinator

PVCC has 2 locations PAS is utilizing for Public events. All events at PVCC are open to the public, so BRING A FRIEND!!! So we do not get confused as to which location we are referring to, the Main Campus will be referred to as PVCC or PVCC Main Campus. The North Campus will be referred to as Black Mountain Campus or PVCC Black Mountain. Below are the details of both sites.

PVCC Main Campus is where we hold

our Meeting of the Minds in G-147, our General Meeting in the Library, Telescope Workshops by the Telescope Dome by G-147, Indoor / Outdoor Astronomy Events, as they need G-147 for the Indoor portion and other events that are not strictly Star Parties. The address of this campus is 18401 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85032, which is 32nd Street and Union Hills Rd in Phoenix.

The PVCC at Black Mountain Campus is for the PVCC Star Parties. If the event we are doing is ONLY a star party, for now, we

are doing those at the Black Mountain Campus of PVCC. The address of this location is: 34250 N 60th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85266, which is 60th Street and Carefree Hwy, in Scottsdale. We set up in the parking lot in the N. W. Corner of the campus. Here are some events that will be happening at this location, that you may wish to attend: Nov 17, 2011 PVCC Star Party, Mar 29, 2012 PVCC Star Party, Nov 15, 2012 PVCC Star Party. More events will be announced as they become scheduled. Hope to see you there!!!

Bookmans Telescope Workshop Review of Sept 11

By Terri, Event Coordinator

The Bookmans Telescope Workshop went well. The 1 RSVP we had for the event didn't show. But, while we were set up, with Dewell's telescope on display by the door, we had a teacher, Daniel from the Peoria District in Sun City stop by and chat with us about doing a star party at his

school, Zuni. Then a Guy and Gal who are looking to buy a scope also stopped by. They collected some handouts and left before we could ask more questions. And Paul stopped by. Paul wanted to know about star parties and telescopes, too.

In attendance was Dewell Howell, Don Boyd, William & Terri Finch, Matt Kohl &

Kevin Harcey. It was a very successful event. Many thanks to Dewell for bringing his scope to use as a display and get the attention of the people walking by the door of the back room of Bookmans.

We hope to have your assistance & expertise at the next event. See you there!

Wonderful Event at Mike's Review Oct 8

By Terri, Event Coordinator

This was the event of all events in one night! Wow, so much going on. It was set up as a Potluck, the PAS Moon Marathon, Movie night, International Observe the Moon Night & Public Star Party, all in one!

We started the evening with the potluck. The potluck food wasn't much this time. There wasn't the participation that was expected. When the Finches got there, there wasn't much in food at all. Due to the lack of funds, we ate before we came. In attendance at this event was William & Terri Finch, Sam Insana, Bob Senzer, Kevin Harcey who brought Ryan M. and John Pulis with him, Dewell Howell, Don Boyd, Rod Glaze, Mike Marron, Albert Tucker & Judy Wolff. From the public we had Ophelia and Linda at the beginning of the event and Vicki & her husband by the end of the event.

As the Sun was setting, it was dropping in temperature. This was an extremely cold night with the breeze. We weren't prepared for it. Brrrrr! We originally had planned to start the Moon Marathon at 6pm, but as we were setting up, several scope operators were having trouble FINDING THE MOON. Yes, go ahead, laugh about it. That isn't what the Marathon is about, but

several folks seemed to think it was. So, after Judy and Kevin found the Moon, we began the event at 7:15pm. It took the group of scopes just over an hour to identify all 30 features on the Moon. At the November meeting, you will find out which Marathoner's got what place in the Moon Marathon. Here's the list of participating

Marathoners: Terri, Kevin, Dewell, Don, Rod Mike, Albert, & Judy. We had 3 Judges: William, Sam, and Bob. The judges did a lot of walking around between scopes. What we decided to do was to make this event on the honor system. The Marathoner will identify a feature, zoom in on it, and then mark it off on their page as they announce it. Randomly, the judges stopped by different scopes to identify features, to say it is or is not approved as being found. As the Marathon progressed, the sky decided to send some clouds our way. When we finished the marathon and began the public star party, Jupiter was hiding in the clouds. By 9pm the clouds went away, totally and it was awesomely clear!

So, at the November PAS meeting, the Judges will get first pick of the prizes, and then 1st through last will get prizes, and pick them in that order. 1st Place also gets a the Moon Marathon Plaque designed by Jerry Belcher. And each Marathoner will receive a nicely done up certificate for participation and their Moon Marathon page returned to them. Additional certificates for other things that happened that night, will also be awarded. We'd like to do this in the first 15 minutes of the meeting to allow for our guest speaker to have as much time as he needs to do his presentation.

As the night went on... after the marathon, we had Ophelia and Linda enjoying the views. Then they went home, I think... and around 10pm Vicki and her husband showed up. They are travelers from Seattle. Leah, Don, Mike and I were in contact with them through email and set up that they could come visit the star party. So, they got

there about 10pm, and we gave them an awesome tour of the sky. We saw the Moon (of course), Jupiter, Ring Nebula, Perseus Double Cluster, M13, another open cluster, the Pleiades, and a few other objects before they said they must leave. They were sharing a laugh with us. Most of us were freezing from the cold temps, and they were comfortable. Vicki and hubby left and we packed up our scopes.

Then we moved indoors to Mike's large TV and watched "MOON." That was an interesting movie. I wish to thank everyone who brought food for the potluck. Next potluck, we are doing a sign up... that will be Oct 22 at Mike's. I'd like to thank all those who competed in the Moon Marathon and stayed for the Public Star Party afterwards.



William Finch & John Pulis assist with Kevin Harcey's scope during set up for the PAS Moon Marathon. Photo taken by Terri Finch.

Next Meeting of the Minds Dec 15

By Terri, Event Coordinator Events@pasaz.org

Due to a need to accommodate star parties, the October and November PAS Meeting of the Minds have been canceled and replaced with events. This brings us to the next Meeting of the Minds, which will be December 15. Let's review the upcoming events:

For the October Meeting of the Minds, which would have fallen on Oct 27, we had the ASU West Star Party.

For the November Meeting of the Minds, which would have fallen on Nov 17, due to Turkey Day falling on the normal last Thursday of the month, we have the next PVCC Star Party at Black Mountain Cam-

pus. The Map to Black Mountain Campus is in this Newsletter on page 7. We would love to have all the telescopes we can get, to attend this event. The public is welcome, bring a friend, bring the whole family! RSVP for this event is with Terri at Events@pasaz.org and the calendar info is here:

<http://www.pasaz.org/forums/calendar.php?do=getinfo&e=657&day=2011-11-17&c=1>

The previous event we had at this location was on Sept 22 and the review can be enjoyed in the October 2011 Issue of PAStimes starting on page 2. It was a great turnout of scopes and many people joined in the event. We'd love to see you there!

Then we come to the December Meeting of the Minds. We will have an AWARDS CEREMONY! All awards needing to be presented by the end of 2011, will take place at this meeting. Bring a snack to share. PAS will provide the water, this time. Donations to the snack fund can ensure PAS can bring the water to this event. Let's Make it a PARTY! Meet in G-147 at PVCC from 7pm to 10pm. Awards being presented will be Moon Marathon, Messier Marathon, & International Observe the Moon Night. If you are receiving one+ of these awards, please wear a nice shirt for photos. We shall have plenty of topics and hopefully we can wrap up the discussion early and spend some time socializing. See you there! ***

CTCA-PAS SkyTour event Sep 20, 2011 Review

By Joe Collins, PAS Member & Cancer Fighter @ CTCA

It was a spectacular and comfortable night with almost perfect viewing for a total of 18 customers: patients, care-givers, and CTCA employees. We did not have solar viewing this time, but with it getting darker sooner, and a at least two PAS members (Don & Joe) staying past midnight to catch the rising last quarter moon, we had extended night sky viewing available.

Those who joined us this night had a real treat hardware-wise: they were able to look through four different types of telescopes: a 11" Schmidt-Cassegrainian (Joe's), a 6" APO refractor (Steve's), an 6" Newtonian reflector (Don's) and a 10" Dobsonian (Dewell's) telescope.

The sunset at 6:31pm, so we were setup and started the evening program with star alignments by 7:10pm. We just barely missed a setting Saturn behind the Estrella mountains. We made up for that by viewing Jupiter and its moons, Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto through at least one scope from 10pm throughout the remainder of the night. Joe stayed until 2am for folk

working the off-shift and for two patients having difficulties going to sleep. The celestial sights and night air was soothing, I was told.

Here is a synopsis of the objects we viewed and activities this night: Don said: "I looked at M6, M7, The Double Cluster, The Et Cluster (NGC457), the Pleiades, Jupiter, and the Moon thru the shrubbery [when low in the East]. About 6 or 8 people viewed thru my scope." Steve said: "(I) showed patients Albireo, Vega, M23 open cluster, M13, and Caldwell 14 double cluster [in addition to Jupiter and its moons]". Dewell, our volunteer for the night, said: "I viewed the double double star in Lyra, M13, Jupiter and Mizar/Alcor. I spent about an hour talking to a caregiver about telescopes, telescope designs, spotters and eye-pieces. I maybe had 8 or 9 people look through my scope. Thanks for letting me tag along, it was a nice evening!"

I prepared and distributed our astronomical handouts for this event printed out by Marisa Benincasa prior to the event. I showed our customers my Alignment stars: Deneb, Arcturus and Vega; multiple stars:

Polaris, Alcor, Albireo, Cor Caroli, τ -Cassiopeia, γ -Andromedae v- & ψ -Draconis and β -Scorpii (Graffias), ζ -Cancri (Tegman or double double) and ϵ -Lyrae [All of these binaries/multiple star systems are listed in our handout]; the double cluster in Perseus, the Wild Duck Cluster M11; M2 and M13 globular clusters; Uranus, Jupiter and its moons: Io, Europa, Ganymede, Callisto; planetary nebulae: M57 Ring Nebula, and the 'blue snowball' nebula (NGC7662). I ended with viewing the stars of Orion and the Great Nebula in Orion, Trapezium and De Marius Nebulae (M42/M43). I shared the iPad Star Map, Star Walk apps to show folks how the objects we were viewing look like from the Hubble and Spitzer space telescopes and to check facts on object size and distance and unique characteristics.

It was such a mild and comfortable evening that we had four patients and care-givers stay with us for almost four hours.

I want to thank Don, Steve, Dewell and Marisa for making this evening's event a great success.

We are looking forward to autumn skies when we return in October.

Temple Beth Review Oct 14

By Terri, Event Coordinator

It was a rushed afternoon. We had to get to Temple Beth before they closed the gates at 5pm. So, my goal was to get there by 4:30 and then that assures me that I'm in the gate. So, William and I loaded the car, took off across town, picked up dinner at Filberto's on the way, and were there about 4:40pm. We set up a few things and then ate our dinner. Mike wasn't there yet, so I didn't feel rushed, once there.

Hot and humid is a good description of this evening's event. So, we set up while Mike arrived. And we were behind one of the portable diesel fuel light generators. It was noisy, it was full of fumes, it was tremendously bright, but we made it work. Photos of this event can be seen on the PAS website in the Photo Gallery.

The sun went down about 6pm. 6:30 the crowd was getting antsy because we hadn't found any objects. They did their ceremonies and ate their pizza and then wandered back. By then, I found Alberio. They liked it because they hadn't seen it before. But nothing else was visible due to the bright lights and the sky. It was a clear

sky yet seemed like there was as thin film over it, as if wispy clouds were in the way of me seeing anything good. I made an attempt to find the Perseus Double Cluster and no luck. So, Alberio was what most of the people saw. We waited a bit, and Jupiter was hiding behind a tree. I moved my scope, which messed up the alignment, but by then most of the crowd had left, and I announced to everyone that I had Jupiter. That brought the crowd. They really liked Jupiter.

William and I had brought the Astroscan with the intention of putting it on the Moon for the night. The Moon never made it up in time for anyone to see it. So, the event wrapped up about 7:30ish. We slowly packed up and were the last ones, other than the sound system, out of the yard. Mike, of course stole the show and had a crowd almost the whole night. Mike appreciated the bright flood lights, but I had a rough time finding objects. I was just glad I found Alberio, and then Jupiter. But the attendees seemed to enjoy the evening and we enjoyed the fact that it wasn't too hot or too cold, but it did seem rather humid. I'd

like to suggest that the lights be positioned differently next year.

Maybe we can get them further from us, so we can not only see something cool in the night sky, but also get away from the loudness of the generator. Overall, the event was good. I didn't see Terry at this event, but did meet a few people who I mentioned to them that we do star parties at schools and they could email me about setting one up. Mike, William and I were the only attendees. There's about 250 people involved in their event. Maybe next year we will have a bigger telescope turnout and less lighting. ***



Mike Marron showing a group of Temple Beth children his meteorites. Photo by Terri Finch.

PVCC Telescope Workshop & Star Party Review Oct 13

By Terri, Event Coordinator

The weather for this event was awesome! And a clear sky!!! We began the event by setting up the handouts. Bob Christ and Tim Jones arrived and set up their 2 scopes. Dewell Howell was there with his scope. Jenny Neureuther brought out one of the 6" PVCC Dobs. Nick, a student at PVCC was there to assist. William and I got there about 7pm.

Shortly after we set up, Cherie, Aspen and Hannah arrived. They brought with them 2 scopes. Dewell and I were the Telescope Teachers and neither of us had an

idea of what to do, at the beginning but Dewell put together 1 of the two scopes. The other one was missing pieces. So, assembled, we moved from G-147 where we assembled that scope, out to the deck.

Aspen, a 6 year old, cute gal was very intrigued with the whole night. She spent a lot of time talking with Mike and enjoying his meteorites. Then, she moved outdoors with the scope and Cherie & Hannah and they all enjoyed some views from Dewell's scope, and Tim's scope.

The night went on, the sky remained clear, the temperature was perfect. No other

people showed up. So, around 9pm, the three RSVP's left and we packed it in. I'd like to thank Dewell for helping me with Hannah's scope. I'd like to thank Tim and Bob for being there and helping do the star party portion of this event. Jenny was extremely helpful. Dave Helmann was present for a little while, but left around 8:30. This event was a success even with the lack of public attendance. The public missed some really awesome views of Jupiter! See you at the next Telescope Workshop!

December PAS Swap Meet - Everyone welcome!

By Terri, Event Coordinator

At the December PAS Meeting we will be holding the yearly PAS Swap Meet. This is open to everyone. You don't have to be a PAS member to buy / sell / trade astronomy items at the Swap Meet. Here's how it works:

1st take advantage of free advertising. You have an item you wish to sell. Give me a brief write up of that item by email Events@pasaz.org and I will put it in the list of items for sale at this year's event. Deadline is Nov 15th.

2nd Bring your item, and a description

of your item on a piece of paper, to the Swap Meet at the December 1st PAS meeting. We will have tables set up around the room for you to display your item. The page you provide has a brief description of the item, and a place for everyone to put their silent bid. Leave a pencil by your paper on the table in front of your item for sale. Please put a starting price for the bidding. Please make your starting bid reasonable, so you can have a bunch of bidding happen to your item for sale.

Before, during and after the meeting, the bidding will commence. You look at the items for sale, you bid on them by putting

your amount, after the last amount that may be listed, and put either your first name and last initial or just your initials next to your bid. At the conclusion of the meeting, we try to allow for 15 minutes to wrap up the sale or purchase of items. So, our meeting will close about 9:15 on that night, to allow for transactions to happen. Be sure to bring enough money to make your purchases. This is CASH ONLY. NO checks. It is a fun way to sell off those astronomy items that you no longer wish to use or keep, and maybe buy something fun for yourself or a gift for someone else. We hope to see you there.

Scottsdale Prep School Star Party Review 9/30

By Bob Christ, PAS Member

Cumulus clouds are not conducive to view the night sky; especially when "Nimbus" is attached to the front or back of the cloud's descriptor, and, especially when gravity pulls the moisture to Earth.

Raindrops peppered the windshield while driving to McDowell Mountain Park where the Scottsdale Prep Star Party was being held on Friday, September 30th. Those of us supporting this event believed there was a window of opportunity that the night would be OK, but these raindrops cast doubt on our ability to forecast the evening's weather. Fortunately, the weather gods smiled upon us and the event was a rousing success.

The school delivered some 60 + attendees comprised of students and parents, and it was a coin-flip which group was more excited to be there; both were totally en-

gaged and asked a lot of questions. I view outreach programs such as this one to be an opportunity to incite a youngster to develop an interest in science, and I'm confident these parents in particular will be most supportive. Chet Schuler, Don Boyd, Tim Jones, Mike Marron, and I represented PAS and the school provided us with sub sandwiches, chips, and drinks.

After setting-up, the 18% illuminated waxing Moon was the first target and the views alternated between 3-D like views along the terminator to Cirrus clouds passing by in front. It was "game on" when the sky became fully dark.

McDowell Mountain Park is comprised of a large tract of land north of Fountain Hills that delivers a relatively dark sky for a location so close to urban development. After the Moon set, and astronomical twi-

light occurred, the Milky Way actually became marginally visible.

Four planets were shown: Uranus, Neptune, Jupiter, and a fourth. Toward the end of the event I asked which four planets folks were able to see. Most were stumped at three, and then chuckled when I related "Earth" and directed them to look down. The cloudless sky, in concert with acceptable seeing and transparency, allowed us to show multiple variations of every type of target; including a great view of Comet Garradd passing through Hercules. I had fun trying to teach some of the attendees to use averted vision to pull out details in some of the targets, and, as we know, it's an acquired skill.

All-in-all, it was a wonderful event and our host Adriana and the attendees were most appreciative.



The Gray Cubicle You Want to Work In

By Dr. Tony Phillips

It's another day at the office.

You're sitting in a gray cubicle, tap-tap-taping away on your keyboard, when suddenly your neighbor lets out a whoop of delight.

Over the top of the carpeted divider you see a star exploding on the computer screen. An unauthorized video game? No, this explosion is real. A massive star just went supernova in the Whirlpool Galaxy, and the first images from Hubble are popping up on your office-mate's screen.

It's another day at the office ... *at NASA.*

Just down the hall, another office-mate is analyzing global temperature trends. On the floor below, a team of engineers gathers to decode signals from a spaceship that entered "safe mode" when it was hit by a solar flare. And three floors above, a financial analyst snaps her pencil-tip as she tries

to figure out how to afford *just one more* sensor for a new robotic spacecraft.

These are just a few of the things going on every day at NASA headquarters in Washington DC and more than a dozen other NASA centers scattered around the country. The variety of NASA research and, moreover, the variety of NASA people required to carry it out often comes as a surprise. Consider the following:

NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) supports research in four main areas: Earth Science, Heliophysics, Astrophysics, and Planetary Science. Read that list one more time. It includes everything in the cosmos from the ground beneath our feet to the Sun in the sky to the most distant galaxies at the edge of the Universe. Walking among the cubicles in NASA's science offices, you are likely to meet people working on climate change, extraterrestrial life, Earth-threatening asteroids, black holes or

a hundred other things guaranteed to give a curious-minded person goose bumps. Truly, no other government agency has a bigger job description.

And it's not just scientists doing the work. NASA needs engineers to design its observatories and build its spacecraft, mathematicians to analyze orbits and decipher signals, and financial wizards to manage the accounts and figure out how to pay for everything NASA dreamers want to do. Even writers and artists have a place in the NASA scheme of things. Someone has to explain it all to the general public.

Clearly, some cubicles are more interesting than others. For more information about the Science Mission Directorate, visit science.nasa.gov. And for another way to reach the Space Place, go to <http://science.nasa.gov/kids>.



Some of the employees of NASA's Science Mission Directorate may work in gray cubicles, but their jobs are anything but dull. They get to study Earth, the Sun, the Solar System, and the Universe!

Corona Ranch Resort Star Party Review Oct 15

By Terri, Event Coordinator

It was a lovely night for a star party. We had clear skies all around. The caterers were setting up for 600+ to show up for this event. 10 scopes total were hired through DFAC and PAS. Three PAS members attended, Terri Finch, Don Boyd & Dewell Howell. Many thanks to Dan Heim for inviting PAS members to join in this Paid event.

We got there around 5:30, set up and 6pm the event was to start and we were to be viewing. However, the sky was still too bright to view, and the crowd wasn't there yet. So, we were waiting on the sky light to leave, and noticing that the flood lights were not very convenient for us to do observing. Prior to it getting all the way dark, I found the Ring Nebula. Since it was such a bear to find, I stayed on it most of the night, until 9pm. It wasn't until 8 or 8:30 before Jupiter and the Moon came into view. So, the other scopes set up on various items. Once Jupiter and the Moon were visible, many scopes turned to those two items. Dan Heim had several deep sky objects such as M7 which is a nice Open cluster. Don Boyd had M6 which is the Butterfly Cluster. Dewell took Alcor & Mizar until it got dark enough to see other items. In attendance from DFAC (taken from Dan's email) were: Scott Loucks, Jay Chatzkel, Roger Serrato, Raul Espinoza, Ron Walker, & Dave Beams.

All of us fought with the bright flood lights, but if they were off, we would have had super viewing. Since we were S of the

Phoenix night glow, the Southern sky was awesome. S. Mountain was in our view, over the South wall of the resort. The most challenging part was finding the North Star, and anything prior to total dark.

As the night went on, we were scheduled to end our part of the party at 9pm, however, 9pm is when most of the guests at the event found us. So, we stayed. Dan wandered off about 9:45 to find the lady who had hired us, and he negotiated a prorated amount for us to stay a little longer. Dewell, Don and I were fine staying as the crowd helped us to feel more like we were part of the event. Prior to that, a few people wandered by and it was like we were doing the event for ourselves. So, we were there until 11:30pm. The event was due to go to 11:30, but the people started departing at 11. We had a few who stayed behind and enjoyed the views and then we packed it up. William and I were still in the area until 12:30am when we were headed North, saw a Taco Bell, and got some Chalupas since we were both really hungry by the time we were done.

The event, as I mentioned above was catered, however, we only got a taste of 1 or two items and we were offered bottled water 1/2 way through the event.

It was a good event for the viewing, but would have been better without the flood lights. And it would have been very nice to be included in the food. One thing I didn't like was that the attending people placed their drinks and dishes on my table, which

had my star charts, eyepieces and other important things to me on it. I asked them not to do that, after a while of putting up with it.

As the night came to an end, Jupiter and the Moon were the highlights and we all enjoyed showing those two fascinating objects in the sky. The view of Jupiter was so amazing, I'm glad I was able to attend and do this event!

Dan informed me that if he has any events that he doesn't have enough scopes to cover, in the future, he will be in touch with PAS about it, and I will do the same with his club. This is in reference to Paid events. It was a great night! Hope to do more like this, in the near future! ***



Invite Everyone You Know!!!

By Terri, Event Coordinator

Put it on your calendar. Mar 1, 2012 PAS is holding a special meeting at a different location on the PVCC campus, in the Q

Building, to allow for a larger audience to see William K. Hartmann do a presentation. William Hartmann is known for his art work in many astronomy books as well as

his research. More details will be available soon. Watch for announcements about this big event. Invite EVERYONE you know to come!!! ***

Telescope for Sale - Package or Individual parts

By Rik Hill

Classic C11 OTA. This has been in storage for nearly 10 years but worked great back in the day. Should still be fine. It has been tested on the sky and achieved resolution limit for an 11" aperture on double stars. There are some minor scuffs and scratches. Asking \$1000 on Cloudy Nights Classifieds but for EVAC, SAC & PAS members \$850 pick up in Tucson only.

C11 fork and base that was purchased separately from the OTA and while the drive works it has never carried the OTA. No photos available at this time. Asking \$500 pick up in Tucson only. Classic Star Liner German Equatorial Mount that carried the C11 OTA for many years. It has a homemade tangent arm Dec. drive and tracks very well. This thing is massive so pick up in Tucson only. Asking \$600.

The C11 on the Star Liner mount. Drive corrector not included. Prices are negotiable.

More photos of this telescope at: <http://www.lpl.arizona.edu/~rhill/instr.html> Asking \$1700 on Cloudy Nights Classifieds but for EVAC, SAC & PAS members \$1500 to pick up in Tucson. Email: RHILL@LPL.ARIZONA.EDU ***

Bookmans' Update Oct 12

By Yvette Yturalde

I have just gotten word that this Bookmans will undergo a remodel before Christmas. This includes getting rid of the Community Room and turning it into the Kids Corner. Our current kids book section will now be our Musical Instrument department. This news and how quickly the changes are coming is a surprise to myself

and to all users of the community room. Right now I'm letting everyone keep their November dates only because I haven't gotten an official start date for construction yet. The second I do get a date, I will let you know so you and the club can make other arrangements- this may be very soon. I apologize for the inconvenience, the transition is going to be difficult for everyone but

best for the store in the long run. After the remodel we can get back in touch and see if there is space on the sales floor for your event since I will still be hosting events just in a different location, but for the time being, everything is up in the air =(Yvette Yturalde, Phoenix Community Relations, Bookmans Entertainment Exchange, 8034 N. 19th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85021 ***

Canyon Ridge School Star Party Review Oct 21

By Terri, Event Coordinator

This was an event I wasn't sure was going to happen. In the end, we had 4 telescopes. Many, many thanks goes to Bruce Wurst, John Miller and our newest PAS member, as of this night, Eric Steinberg for signing up to help out. Mike Marron, William Finch and I also attended. A small amount of \$\$ was donated to PAS through a check from the school for gas reimbursement, for which we divided up prior to leaving the event.

We arrived at Canyon Ridge School in Surprise about 5pm. When we got there, we were expecting the pizza to be waiting for us like other schools do, but instead, we set

up our scopes, and went into the Library to enjoy our food. It was a bit more relaxing to enjoy the pizza away from the set up area, and not feel pressured to get set up and eat at the same time and then go to our scopes afterwards. So, we ate until we were content, then moved to the scopes. Since this was the night of the school's book fair, the children who were attending had their parents and bags of books with them. We had probably 75 kids and parents visit our scopes. They came from the Library in waves with about 10 per wave. So, it was a more laid back star party than we are used to, but we had a constant flow of viewers. I did a little Q & A with some of the kids. Other kids couldn't figure out why I was

asking questions and hid from me. I gave out about 20 posters this night. As the night wore on, I was concerned the teachers who were running this event, wouldn't get to look through the scope, so I texted my contact at the school and told her to be sure to include all the teachers in the viewing, especially since Jupiter was so awesome this night. They came out, and then we packed up and left. This was a good event. I'm hoping the attendees talk about it so that if/when we do another event for this school, more people will show up. Mike kept busy all night long. The sky was awesome all night, and except for a little humidity around the time we packed up, the temperature was perfect. We had a great time. ***

PAS Indoor / Outdoor Astronomy Event Review Oct 20

By Terri, Event Coordinator

Attending PAS members & PVCC faculty: William & Terri Finch, John Miller, Don Boyd, Jenny Neureuther, Bruce & Bette Wurst, & Mike Marron. Public attendance = 2: Eric & Ora Steinberg.

This was a good event. PAS Members got to enjoy the evening. The evening was good seeing, not great, just good. The sky seemed to have a slight film over it. To start the evening, Jenny, Don, Bruce, Bette and I

took a walk to the Q Building to find out what the meeting room for our March 1 2012 PAS Meeting will be like. Then we walked back. It was a good hike. Upon our return, our two RSVP's were there with their telescope and set up by the telescope dome. Mike was set up inside and hung out with William most of the evening. We borrowed 2 of the 6" dobs from the school and set them up. Don and John Miller worked one of them. Bruce and I worked the other.

Eric brought his own scope, so he worked it. We didn't have public, other than Eric and Ora, but we found a bunch of objects and had a good viewing session. The evening concluded later than 9:30 (the ending time of the event) because we had such great company. Chatting with everyone really makes the night go fast. We had discussions of many things astronomy as well as Doctor Who. It was a good event. I wish more public could have attended. ***

Unmanned Space Craft?

By Laura K. Lincoln, Outreach Coordinator, Jet Propulsion Laboratory

What's it like to work right in the middle of an exciting NASA science mission? The Space Place decided to find out by asking NASA scientists and engineers to describe some of their most exciting moments on the job. The result is Mission Chronicles, a blog for parents and teacher - although kids are welcome to read it too.

The latest post comes from a mission ACE, more formally called a mission controller. He or she is the one who maintains the human link between spacecraft and Earth as the robotic explorer carries out its mission of discovery in deep space. Check out the ACE's story at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/mission-chronicles>.

Distributed by Laura K. Lincoln, on behalf of the Space Place Team.

Check out our great sites for kids:

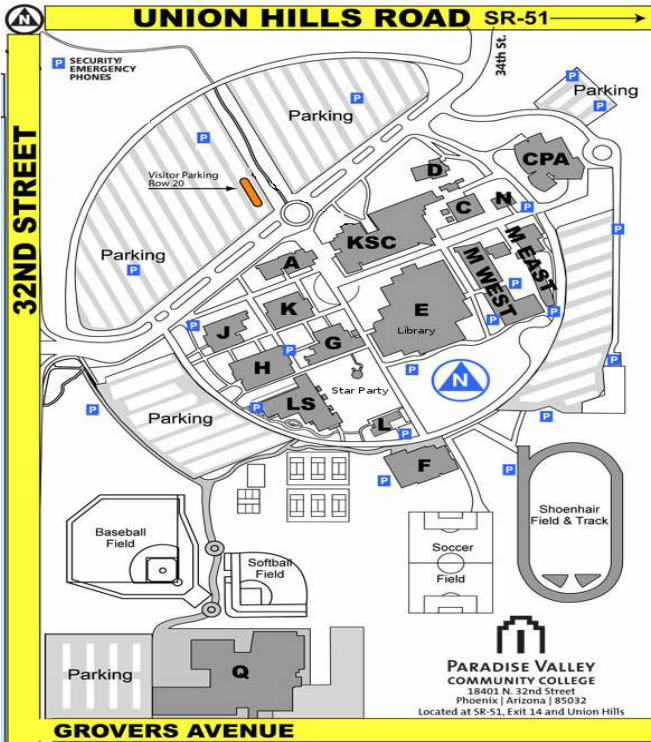
<http://climate.nasa.gov/kids>

<http://scijinks.gov>

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov> ***

Map of PVCC Main Location

18401 N. 32nd Street | Phoenix, AZ 85032



Map of PVCC Black Mountain

34250 N. 60th Street | Scottsdale, AZ 85266



See page 2 for more information

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 PAS Meeting	4 School Star Party	5
6	7	8 CTCA Private Star Party	9	10 PVCC Telescope Workshop	11 Veterans Day	12
13 Bookmans Telescope Workshop	14	15	16	17 Black Mountain Star Party	18 Backup Date for Nov 4 Party	19 Public Star Party @ PV Park
20	21	22 Backup Date for Nov 4 CTCA	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Don Boyd
PAStimes Editor
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To:

PAS Guest Speaker Line-up for Fall 2011

By Terri, Event Coordinator, Events@pasaz.org

Dec 1: David Williams: "Planet Rovers: From Lunokhod to Spirit and Beyond"

Jan 5 in G-147: Bryan Penprase: "The Power of Stars" lecture and book signing

Feb 2: Leah Sapir "On-line Telescopes"

If you have an idea for a guest speaker, please contact Terri at events@pasaz.org. ***

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What's Up For November?

By Rod Sutter, PAS Past President

Name	Date	Rise	Set
Mercury	11-15-11	08:50	18:35
Venus	11-15-11	08:50	18:46
Mars	11-15-11	00:30	13:38
Jupiter	11-15-11	16:20	05:10
Saturn	11-15-11	04:51	16:33
Uranus	11-15-11	14:51	02:54
Neptune	11-15-11	13:16	00:13
Pluto	11-15-11	09:59	20:21

All Times Arizona Time

November 15 2011

Sunrise: 06:54

Sunset: 17:22



New: October 26



Q1: November 2



Full: November 10



Q3: November 18