



# ***Harford County Astronomical Society***

*2015 Monthly Newsletter*

*Vol. 42 Issue 12--- December*

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*HCAS is an affiliated member of both the Astronomical League and the Night Sky Network*

This is an official publication of the Harford County Astronomical Society

Please go to our website for the latest updates for viewing schedule changes, and Public Outreach Events

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submit articles to the newsletter at : [hcasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hcasnewsletter@gmail.com)



## Harford County Astronomical Society Executive Committee and Board Members

Please feel free to contact these members at anytime with your concerns.

### *Executive Committee:*

*Robert (Bob) Kesler*..... President

***OPEN*** ..... **Vice President**

*Tim Kamel*..... Treasurer

*Rick Fensch* ..... Secretary

*Sitting Members of the Board:*     ***2 OPEN POSITIONS***

Tom Rusek     Larry Hubble     Mike Talbard

Dave Jayroe     Tim Phelan

*Technical Advisor to the Board: (Lifetime Standing)*

Mark Kregel

*Astronomical League, Night Sky Network coordinator:*

**OPEN**

## *HCAS MISSION STATEMENT*

- **HCAS IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM VARIED BACKGROUNDS OF ALL AGES BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WITH A COMMON BOND, THE LOVE OF ASTRONOMY. HCAS IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ( HCC ) AND HAS THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE OBSERVATORY AND ASSOCIATED MEETING ROOMS.**
- 
- **HCAS MEMBERS ARE FRIENDLY, AND WE WELCOME ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST OF ASTRONOMY TO JOIN OUR RANKS. A BEGINNER OR ADVANCED OBSERVER AND OR AN ASTRO-PHOTOGRAPHER. HCAS IS COMMITTED TO THE PEOPLE OF HARFORD COUNTY TO ASSIST AND AUGMENT LEARNING AND INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY, AS WELL AS PROVIDING STRONG, ALL VOLUNTEER OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO SCHOOLS, CLUBS, AND OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS**



## **Goals for HCAS**

- 1.- PROMOTE THE INTEREST AND LOVE OF ASTRONOMY FOR THE PEOPLE OF HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND.**
- 2.- ADVOCATE FOR DARK SKIES AND FIGHT LIGHT POLLUTION AND LIGHT TRESPASS.**
- 3.- ENGAGE WITH SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, SCOUTS AND OTHER GROUPS TO EXPAND KNOWLEDGE AND INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY.**
- 4.- ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN ATMOSPHERE AT THE OBSERVATORY WHERE EVERYONE IS INCLUDED AND INVITED TO JOIN AND SHARE ASTRONOMY BY VISUAL OBSERVING AS WELL AS ASTRO PHOTOGRAPHY, REGARDLESS OF SKILL LEVEL OR EDUCATION.**



This newsletter is an official publication of :

Harford County Astronomical Society

P.O. Box 906

Bel Air, Maryland 21014

For any articles and or pictures you would like to submit to the newsletter for consideration for publication

Please read the following :

It is strongly suggested that all articles be submitted in a “Word” document and sent to the newsletter email address at: [hcasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hcasnewsletter@gmail.com)

Articles and pictures will need to be submitted by the deadline. The deadline for each monthly issue is **NO LATER THAN** the third week of each month.

All pictures in each newsletter are copyrighted by the photographer, any duplication of the pictures need permission from the photographer, for permission please forward all inquiries to the newsletter and your request will be forwarded to the photographer, and permission will be granted by the photographer and only the photographer.

Any address changes should be brought to the attention of the editor given above. Any complaints concerning any content of this newsletter should be brought to the attention of the editor promptly.

Please visit our website at : [www.harfordastro.org](http://www.harfordastro.org)

Visit us online at [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/Harfordastro) / Harfordastro

*Upcoming Club  
Events this Month*



*HCAS General Meeting*

Thursday December. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm in the classroom



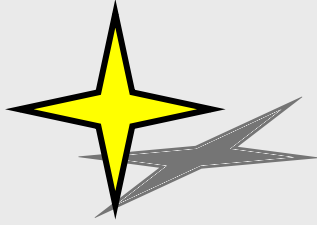
*HCAS Open House:*

Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm At the Observatory ,









## *HCAS 2016 Calendar of Events*

### ATTENTION ALL CLUB MEMBERS

The following list of dates was submitted to the membership back on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, those of you who have submitted a change to the dates and times, I would like to say “THANK YOU” to each and everyone of you,.

The “Members Night” list of viewing dates will be sent over to the webmaster for inclusion to the “Members Only” section of the website, and those who have not yet received a password for the site, please submit your request to the webmaster at the following address: [lkhubble@comcast.net](mailto:lkhubble@comcast.net)

Here’s for CLEAR SKIES in 2016

..... Bob / President

**MONTH**

**DATE & TIME**

**MOON PHASE**

**January**

Open House Jan 16 @ 6:30 pm



BOD Meeting Jan 21 @ 6:30 pm

**February**

General Meeting Jan 21 @ 7 pm



Open House Feb 13 @ 6:30 pm

General Meeting Feb 18 @ 7 pm

**March**

Open House Mar.12 @ 8:00 pm



BOD Meeting Mar.24 @ 6:30 pm

General Meeting Mar. 24 @ 7 pm

**April**

**\*\*\*\*\* NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS \*\*\*\*\***

Open House Apr 16 @ 8:30 pm



General Meeting Apr. 21 @ 7:00 pm @ 7 pm

**May**

**\*\*\*\*\* ELECTIONS TO BOARD \*\*\*\*\***

Open House May14 @ 8:30 pm



BOD Meeting May.24 @ 6:30 pm












General Meeting May. 24 @ 7 pm

**June**

Open House June 11 @ 8:30 pm



General Meeting June 16 @ 7:00 pm

MONTH	DATE & TIME		MOON PHASE	
July	Open House	July 9 @ 8:30 pm		
	BOD Meeting	July 2 @ 6:30 pm		
	General Meeting	July 2 @ 7 pm		
August	Open House	August 13 @ 8:30 pm		
	General Meeting	August 18 @ 7:00 pm		
September	Open House	September 10 @ 7:30 pm		
	BOD Meeting	September 15 @ 6:30 pm		
	General Meeting	September 15 @ 7:00 pm		
October	Open House	Oct. 8 @ 7:00 pm		
	General Meeting	Oct. 13 @ 7:00 pm		
November	Open House	Nov. 5 @ 7:00 pm		
	BOD Meeting	Nov. 10 @ 6:30 pm		
	General Meeting	Nov 10 @ 7:00 pm		
December	Open House	Dec. 10 @ 8:30 pm		
	General Meeting	Dec. 15 @ 7:00 pm		

**FOR "MEMBERS NIGHT" VIEWING SESSIONS REFER TO THE WEBSITE**

## HCPS Astronomy Night @ Southampton Middle School

Nov. 13, 2015

The HCPS astronomy night started with sunset and clear skies, for a change. Southampton Middle School was the location of the 2015 astronomy night which was a three part program for approximately 116 participants.

Thanks to Jason Mills and Regina Goss and Andy Radzuli the HCPS Science Department Head for organizing and sponsoring the event and for including HCAS.



The three parts consisted of a planetarium show, a library presentation in the cafeteria and a field session with live telescopes. HCAS members Paul Sokolowski, Tim Phelan, Larry Hubble, Tim Kamel, Tom Rusek and Bob Kesler were on site with telescopes to offer views of the starry night.

Everyone who attended from the youngest to the oldest enjoyed the event and were asking about HCAS and when will we be holding the next astronomy Night

All in all, a huge success for HCPS and HCAS. Thanks to everyone for attending and already looking forward to next year, Have a safe Holiday season,

Till next year,

Bob

## Solar System this Month

### December 2015

The following information is for viewing the Solar System this Month

Any and all feedback on this, or if you would like to add to it for next month

Then your input will be appreciated. Just send your info over to the Editor at the newsletter.

#### Planets this month December :

- Mercury*      Very Low in the *SW* after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month
- Venus*              Low in the *SE*, in morning twilight
- Mars*              Rises in the *E* approx. 2am / visible in *SE* near dawn
- Jupiter*          Rises near midnight in *E* / transits in the *S* at Sunrise
- Saturn*              Very Low in the *SE* in the morning twilight

#### Moon Phases this month:

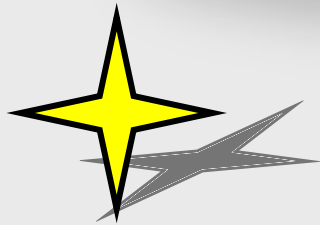
Last Qtr. -----      Thursday **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** @ 2:41 am

New Moon ----      *Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>* @ 5:29 pm

First Qtr. ---      *Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>* @ 10:14 am

Lunar Straight Wall is visible on Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup>

FULL MOON –      *Friday December 25<sup>th</sup>* @ 6:10 pm



**Happy and Safe Holiday Season**

Visit us on Facebook at: **Harford County Astronomical Society (HCAS)**

Visit our website at: [www.harfordastro.org](http://www.harfordastro.org)

