

HCAS



(SEE NOTE IN NEWSLETTER ABOUT THIS PICTURE)

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 40 ISSUE 12 JUNE 2014

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

SAT. JULY 5TH AT 8:30PM

NEXT MEMBERS' OBSERVING NIGHT

SAT. JUNE 28, 2014 @8:30 PM

HCAS OBSERVATORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURS. JULY 10TH AT 6:30PM

GENERAL MEETING

THURS. JULY 10TH AT 7:00PM

HCAS OBSERVATORY CLASSROOM

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE SCHEDULE UPDATES AND CHANGES AT [HTTP://WWW.HARFORDASTRO.ORG](http://www.harfordastro.org)
AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT [HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HARFORDASTRO](http://www.facebook.com/harfordastro)



[HTTP://ASTROLEAGUE.ORG/](http://astroleague.org/)



[HTTP://NIGHTSKY.JPL.NASA.GOV/](http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/)



MINUTES OF THE MAY GENERAL MEETING:

NO MINUTES OF THE MAY GENERAL MEETING HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED. WATCH THIS AREA FOR THE JUNE MINUTES.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

LET'S WELCOME TO THE CLUB THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

GREG LAUNDRY AND FAMILY

DAVID SIERACKI

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2014 – 2015

THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTINUES, WE HAVE JUST 25 MEMBERS SIGNED UP FOR NEXT YEAR, I WILL SEND OUT A SECOND NOTICE THIS UPCOMING WEEKEND, THEN ANOTHER IN EARLY JULY, THE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS WILL CLOSE THE END OF JULY. SO GET YOUR DUES IN TO THE CLUB ASAP.

TIM KAMEL

PLANETARIUM VISIT

SOUTHAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS ASK HCAS BY SPECIAL INVITATION TO STOP BY THE PLANETARIUM ON THURSDAY JUNE 19TH @ 7:00PM AND HELP CO-ORINDATE A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND HCAS FOR NATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY ON OCTOBER 3RD OF THIS YEAR. FOR THOSE IN THE GROUP THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN TO A PLANETIARIUM, THIS IS A ONCE IN A LIFE TIME TO SEE ONE IN ACTION. SO PLEASE TRY AND MAKE IT, COME ON OUT WITH US, AND HOPEFULLY WE CAN MAKE PLANS FOR THIS AFFAIR TO HAPPEN IN OCTOBER . IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING US PLEASE CONTACT BOB AT THE CLUBS EMAIL ADDRESS , harfordastro@yahoo.com

OPEN HOUSE DATES HAVE CHANGED

MEMBERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT THE DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR FOR ALL OF OUR SCHEDULED MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGED, SO PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

JUNE 2014:

GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY JUNE 12 @ 7PM

THE TOPIC FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING WILL BE "LENS & EYE PIECE CLEANING"

MEMBERS ONLY NIGHT: SATURDAY JUNE 28, @ 8:30 PM

JULY 2014:

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY JULY 5TH @ 8:30PM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: THURSDAY JULY 10 @ 6:30 PM

GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY JULY 10 @ 7:00 PM

MEMBERS ONLY NIGHT: SATURDAY JULY 26TH, @ 8:30 PM

AUGUST 2014:

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY AUGUST 2ND @ 8:30PM

GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY AUGUST 7TH @ 7:00 PM

MEMBERS ONLY NIGHT: SATURDAY AUGUST 23RD, @ 8:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 2014:

Open House: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH @ 7:30pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Thursday, September 11TH, @ 6:30 pm

General Meeting: Thursday, September 11th, @ 7:00 pm

Members Only Night: Saturday SEPTEMBER 27TH, @ 7:30 pm

OCTOBER 2014:

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 4TH @ 7:00PM

GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY OCTOBER 9TH @ 7:00 PM

MEMBERS ONLY NIGHT: SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH, @ 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER 2014: (NOTE: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS NOV.2ND)

Open House: Saturday NOVEMBER 1ST @ 7:00pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Thursday NOVEMBER 6TH @ 6:30 PM

General Meeting: Thursday NOVEMBER 22ND @ 6:00 PM

Members Only Night: Saturday NOVEMBER 22ND, @ 6:00 pm

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29TH @ 6:30 PM

DECEMBER 2014:

GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY DECEMBER 3RD @ 7:00 PM

MEMBERS ONLY NIGHT: SATURDAY DECEMBER 20TH, @ 6:00 PM

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY DECEMBER 27TH @ 6:00



OUTREACH REPORT : VERMONT ACADEMY – BOB KESLER



VERMONT ACADEMY ASTRO, BOB KESLER: BACK IN APRIL, 2014 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT FAMILY IN VERMONT AND SPEND SOME TIME AT THE VERMONT ACADEMY OBSERVATORY. THE OBSERVATORY IS A WOOD STRUCTURE BUILT TO LOOK LIKE A VERMONT SUGAR SHACK AND IT IS VERY WELL DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED BUT HAS BEEN UNDERUSED OVER THE YEARS AND I FEAR IT WILL FALL INTO DISREPAIR IF NOT ADOPTED BY SOMEONE SOON. THE WEATHER IN VERMONT WAS ALL RAIN AND CLOUDS SO THE ROOF WAS NEVER ROLLED BACK FOR NIGHT TIME OBSERVING. I WAS ABLE TO OFFER TWO PRESENTATIONS IN THE CLASSROOM FOR ABOUT 30 STUDENTS AN ANOTHER SESSION OF 13 HAD A BIT OF SOLAR VIEWING BETWEEN THE CLOUDS. ALL IN ALL ABOUT 45 PEOPLE WERE AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE EQUIPMENT AND HEAR ABOUT THE FORMATION OF STARS AND WHAT THEIR LIFE CYCLE IS ALL ABOUT. I CONTACTED THE LOCAL ASTRONOMY CLUB SOVERA AND THEY ARE NOW INTERESTED IN HELPING REVITALIZE THE OBSERVATORY AS MUCH AS THEY CAN. HOPEFULLY VA AND SOVERA CAN WORK TOGETHER TO SAVE THIS OBSERVATORY AND BRING IT BACK TO LIFE. I HAVE ALSO BEEN GIVEN THE 10" CAVE, ASTROLA CASSEGRAIN TO RESTORE AND RETURN TO VA. THE ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS ARE ALREADY BEING WORKED BY A FRIEND IN



OUTREACH REPORT: ABERDEEN LIBRARY – BOB KESLER

ABERDEEN PUBLIC LIBRARY, BOB KESLER: LAST NIGHT MAY 21, 2014 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO A GROUP OF 12 PEOPLE ABOUT STARS AND ASTRONOMY. WE TALKED ABOUT THE NORTH STAR AND THE BIG DIPPER AND WHY THOSE STARS AND CONSTELLATIONS WERE IMPORTANT TO EXPLORERS. WE TALKED ABOUT THE SIZE AND COLOR OF STARS AND HOW TEMPERATURE AND LIFE CYCLE OF STARS COULD BE DETERMINED BY THE COLOR OF STARS. WE HAD FUN MAKING COMPARISONS ABOUT TEMPERATURES OF STARS AND DISTANCES IN LIGHT YEARS, HOW A PIZZA IS BAKED AT ABOUT 450 F AND THE SUN IS ABOUT 12,000 F. WE TALKED ABOUT WHAT A LIGHT YEAR WAS AND HOW LONG IT TOOK LIGHT TO COME FROM THE SUN AND GET TO OTHER PLANETS. TO HELP THEM UNDERSTAND WE SAID THAT A TEXT WOULD TAKE 8 MINUTES TO GET TO THE SUN, ABOUT 4 MINUTES TO GET TO MARS, 68 MINUTES TO GET TO SATURN AND 320 MINUTES TO GET TO PLUTO... THAT IS A LONG TIME TO WAIT FOR A TEXT! THE AGES VARIED FROM 6 TO ADULT - CHALLENGING BUT I THINK THE SUBJECT WAS INTERESTING TO THE GROUP. WE TALKED FOR ABOUT AN HOUR AND EVERYONE SEEMED INTERESTED AND ANXIOUS TO LEARN MORE.



OPEN HOUSE - MAY 10, 2014 – TIM KAMEL

NOPE, NOT THIS TIME. SATURDAY THE 10TH WAS JUST AWFUL, THUNDER STORM AND TORRENTIAL RAIN MOST OF THE DAY. THERE WAS A RIVER RUNNING DOWN MY STREET.

BUT I WENT UP TO THE DOME ANYWAY, GOT THERE ABOUT 7 PM. IT HAD STOPPED RAINING SO I WAS HOPING FOR MAYBE A SMALL MIRACLE. THE GATE WAS OPEN SO I THOUGHT SOMEONE ELSE WAS THERE. THERE WASN'T. AT 7:20, DAVID SHOWED UP. WE CHATTED TILL ABOUT 8 PM. NO ONE ELSE CAME. NO MEMBERS OR GUESTS.

THE NEXT DAY, MOTHER'S DAY, WAS BEAUTIFUL. MILD WITH LOTS OF SUNSHINE.

NEWSLETTER COVER SHEET PHOTO EXCHANGE

THE THUMBNAIL SIZE PICTURE ON THE MAIN PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER SHOWING MEMBERS SETTING UP TELESCOPES AT AN OPEN HOUSE EVENT, THE EDITOR WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE THIS PICTURE OUT EVERY MONTH, THAT'S PROVIDING MEMBERS WILL SUBMIT PICTURES TO THE NEWSLETTER , THOSE THAT ARE SELECTED WILL GRACE OUR NEWSLETTER COVER FOR THAT MONTH AND WILL BE PUT BACK INTO THE FOLDER TO BE PUT BACK UP AT A LATER DATE. ALL PHOTO CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE PERSON WHO SUBMITS THEIR PICTURE. SO IF YOUR ATRE INTERESTED IN HAVING ONE OF YOUR SHOTS GRACE OUT COVER, PLEASE SUBMITT THEM TO : HCASNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM AND IN THE SUBJECT LINE PUT "COVER SHEET PHOTO"

**THANKS AND GOOD LUCK
EDITOR**



OBSERVING REPORT : ON THE ROAD WITH DAVE JAYROE

I SHOT THIS PHOTO WHEN I WAS LEAVING THE "MEMBERS ONLY "NIGHT ON MAY 31ST 2014 @ 11:00 PM



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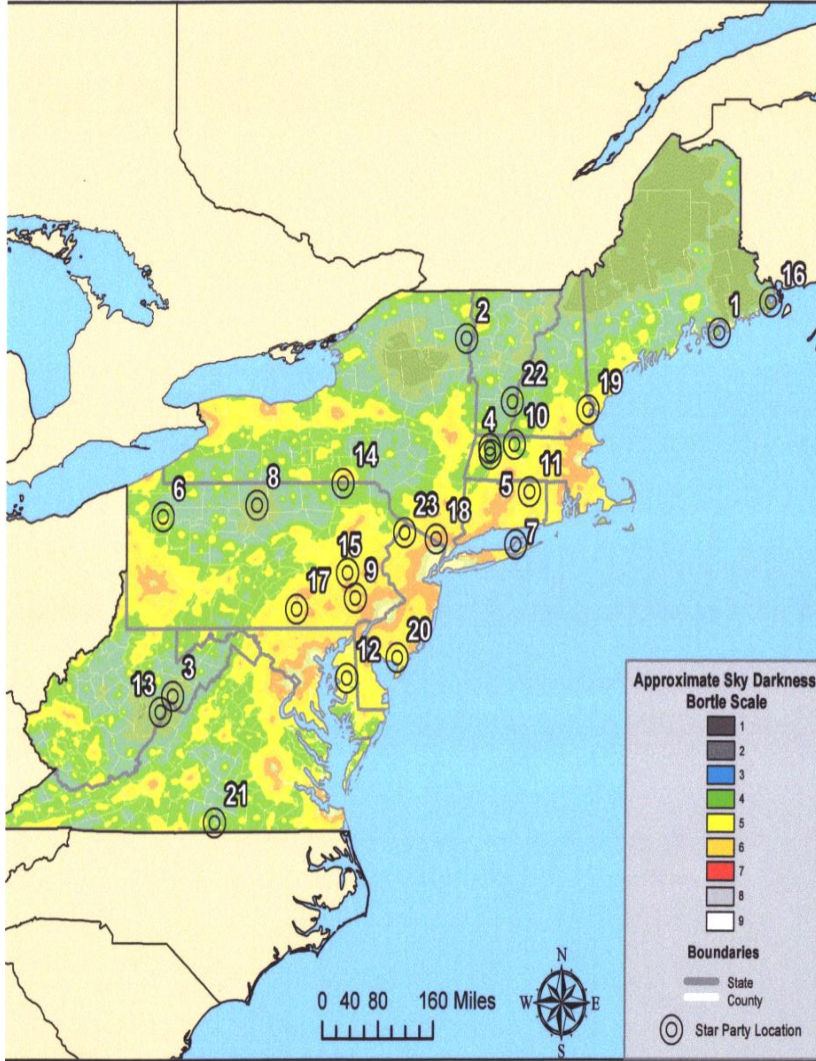
SATURN RING TILT 2013 vs. 2014



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THESE TWO IMAGES SHOW SATURN ON MARCH 30, 2013 (TOP) AND MAY 26, 2014 (BOTTOM) , NOTE HOW SATURN'S RINGS HAVE TILTED UPWARD DURING THIS 14 MONTH PERIOD.
EQUIPMENT USED FIRST IMAGE C-11 SCT WITH A 2.5X BARLOW AND A CCD WEBCAM , SECOND IMAGE C-11 SCT AND A 2X BARLOW AND A CMOS WEBCAM.

Northeast Star Parties



Events and Websites

1. Acadia Night Sky Festival
www.acadianightskyfestival.com
2. Adirondack
www.adirondackastronomyretreat.org/
3. Almost Heaven Star Party
www.ahsp.org/
- 4.* AOS Starfest
www.aosny.org/starfest/
5. Arunah Hill Days
www.arunah.org/events/ahd.htm
6. Astroblast
www.oras.org/astrbldst.htm
7. Astronomy Jamboree
www.custerobservatory.org
- 8.* Black Forest Star Party
www.bfsp.org
9. CAS Starfest
www.chesmontastro.org/node/8199
- 8.* Cherry Springs Star Party
www.astrohbg.org/CSSP/Information.html
10. Connecticut River Valley Astronomers Conjunction
www.philharrington.net/astroconjunction/program.htm
11. Connecticut Star Party
www.asnh.org/slideshow/CSPpicIndex.php
12. Delmarva Star Gaze
www.delmarvastargazers.org/archive/StarPartyHome.html
13. Green Bank Star Quest
www.greenbankstarquest.org/
14. Kopernik Starfest
www.kopernikastro.org/astrofest/
15. LVAAS MegaMeet - Club and Regional Club Members Only
vaas.org/staticpages/index.php?page=megameet
16. Maine State Star Party
www.downeastaa.com/
17. Mason Dixon Star Party
www.masondixonstarparty.org/
18. NEAF Solar Star Party
www.neafsolar.com/
19. New England Fall Astronomy Festival
www.physics.unh.edu/observatory/NEFAF
- 4.* RAC Summer
www.rocklandastronomy.com/SSP/index.html
20. SJAC Star Party
sjac.us/starparty.html
21. Staunton River
www.chaosastro.com/starparty/
22. Stellafane Convention
www.stellafane.org/convention/
23. Stokes Star Party



HarfordAstro.org
Created By:

Note:
Light pollution basemap is approximate and is not a guarantee of limiting magnitude at each site.

Some star parties require advance registration and/or a fee. Please see relevant website for details.

* = Multiple star parties use same location

THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
HARFORD COUNTY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 906,
BEL AIR, MD 21014

1. - ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE EDITOR BY THE END OF EACH MONTH FOR CONSIDERATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE UPCOMING ISSUE,

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PLEASE SEND ALL CONTRIBUTIONS (MS WORD FORMAT IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED) TO EDITOR AT:

HCASNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM

4.- ADDRESS CHANGES SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EDITOR AT THE ADDRESS GIVEN ABOVE.

5.- COMPLAINTS CONCERNING ANY CONTENT OF THIS NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EDITOR PROMPTLY.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: [HTTP://WWW.HARFORDASTRO.ORG](http://www.harfordastro.org)

HCAS MISSION STATEMENT

WHAT IS HCAS?

HCAS IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM VARIED BACKGROUNDS OF ALL AGES, MEN AND WOMEN, WITH A COMMON BOND – A LOVE FOR ASTRONOMY. HCAS IS ASSOCIATED WITH HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND HAS USE OF THE HCC OBSERVATORY AND MEETING ROOMS.

OUR MEMBERS ARE FRIENDLY AND WELCOME ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY – A BEGINNER OR AN ADVANCED OBSERVER AND/OR 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

PROMOTE THE INTEREST AND LOVE OF ASTRONOMY FOR THE PEOPLE OF HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND.

ADVOCATE FOR DARK SKIES AND FIGHT LIGHT POLLUTION AND LIGHT TRESPASS.

ENGAGE WITH SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, SCOUTS AND OTHER GROUPS TO EXPAND KNOWLEDGE AND INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY.

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.

