

# The Focal Point

The Atlanta Astronomy Club  
Established 1947  
July 2012

Vol. 25 No. 2

Editor: Tom Faber

## Table of Contents

- Page 1...** July General Meeting, The 2012 Peach State Star Gaze!  
**Page 2...** June Meeting Report, Woodruff Summer Camp, AL Info, FP Archives  
**Page 3...** CE Chapter Outreach Programs, July CE Chapter Meeting  
**Page 4...** Transit of Venus Observation Reports  
**Page 5...** Transit of Venus Observation Reports  
**Page 6...** Transit of Venus Observation Reports  
**Page 7...** AAC Online, Memberships, Club Officers & Contact Info  
**Page 8...** Calendar, AAC List Serv Info, Focal Point Deadline

## July General Meeting

Join us for the July meeting of the Atlanta Astronomy Club on Friday, July 20th at 8PM. The meeting will take place in the Parlor Room of the Hitson Center of the Sandy Springs Methodist Church, 86 Mt Vernon Hwy, NE, Sandy Springs, GA 30328 (see map on pg 7). Refreshments will be provided starting around 7:30PM.

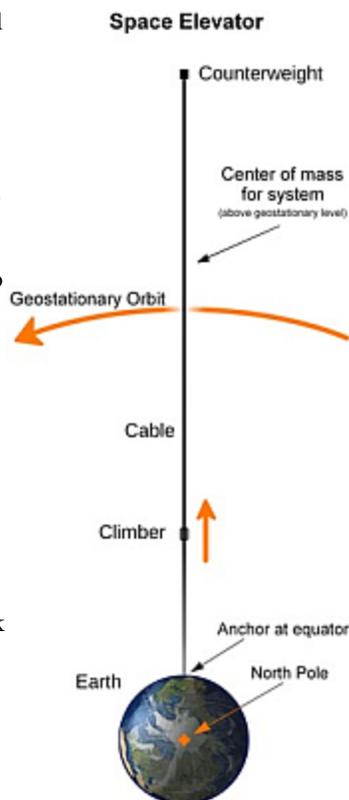
### The Program:

Our guest speaker will be Larry Philips who will present a talk about space elevators. After Larry presents his talk there will be the business portion of the meeting. If you have any announcements that you want to make during the meeting please contact our President, Richard Jakiel, so that he can schedule the time for you during the meeting. His contact information is on page 7.

### Upcoming AAC Meetings:

Our meetings will usually be held on the 3rd Friday of the month. Future meeting dates for 2012 are Aug 17, Sept 21, Oct 19, and Nov 16. The date for December Christmas potluck is TBA. Meetings will be at the Parlor Room of the Hitson Center unless noted otherwise.

*Basic concept of a Space Elevator.  
Image from Wikimedia Commons.*



## The 2012 Peach State Star Gaze!

The next Peach State Star Gaze is coming soon! The AAC's annual star party will again be held at the Deerlick Astronomy Village near Sharon, GA, and run from Sunday, October 7 to Sunday, October 14 (new moon is October 15). DAV has an 11-acre field that has room for RVs, campers, and tents. Limited power is available on the field. Full rest rooms with showers are available along with a 40' x 40' pavilion and gas BBQ grill. This year Micki's Kitchen returns to provide us with coffee, refreshments and meals (and brownies!). The Atlanta Astronomy Club's 24" telescope will be set up on the field and AAC's clubhouse will be open. We will have speakers, workshops, and vendors. Please visit us at [AtlantaAstronomy.org/pssg/](http://AtlantaAstronomy.org/pssg/) for details and registration.



*The Deerlick Astronomy Village, located about 100 miles east of Atlanta and 50 miles west of Augusta, has some of the darkest skies in the state.*



*The AAC field at the DAV during the 2010 PSSG - Photo by Tom Faber.*

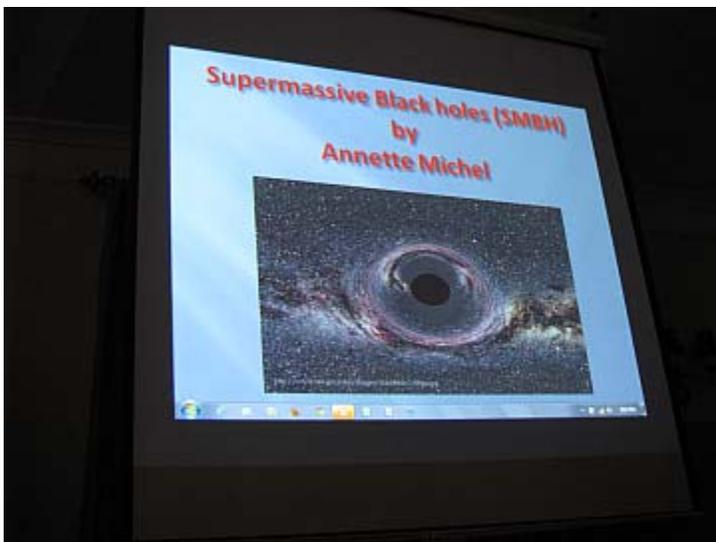
## June Meeting Report

Photos by Tom Faber

The June meeting of the Atlanta Astronomy Club took place on June 15 at the Hitson Center in Sandy Springs. About 40 club members and guests were present for the meeting. Sharon Carruthers provided snacks and drinks before the meeting began. Our guest speaker for the night was Annette Michel, an astronomy student at Georgia State University. Annette presented an interesting talk about Supermassive Black Holes and some research she has been involved with. Annette also spoke about astronomy research in Georgia schools. After Annette's talk some reports were presented about observations and public outreach events for the recent transit of Venus on June 5th, and announcements of upcoming club meetings and events were made. After the meeting some people did some impromptu observing with telescopes set up on the lawn outside the Hitson Center, then a number of us went to the nearby Mellow Mushroom for food, drink, and socializing.



Program chair Mark Banks introduces our speaker Annette Michel.



Annette begins her talk about Supermassive Black Holes.

## Woodruff Boy Scout Summer Camp

SUMMER TIME! SUMMER TIME! SUMMER TIME!

Summer Scout Camping is here again. This is not only our time to "pay the rent" for our access to Woodruff Boy Scout Camp; but also our best opportunity to fulfill our Club mandate to "educate" and "to promote the public knowledge of and interest in astronomy".

Our on-field viewing with the scopes will be on Thursday nights, after dark (from 9:30 – 10 p.m.) Bring your own scope or use the 10"/F6 Discovery Dob in the warm-up shed. We need volunteers to commit to go up on Thursdays, from June 7 – July 26. Please phone or e-mail me if you can commit to one or more of these evenings.

Sharon Carruthers, Treasurer@atlantaAstronomy.org (H) 770-941-4640.

## The Astronomical League

As a member of the **Atlanta Astronomy Club** you are automatically also a member of the **Astronomical League**, a nation wide affiliation of astronomy clubs. Membership in the AL provides a number of benefits for you. They include:

- \* You will receive *The Reflector*, the AL's quarterly newsletter.
- \* You can use the Book Service, through which you can buy astronomy-related books at a 10% discount.
- \* You can participate in the Astronomical League's Observing Clubs. The Observing Clubs offer encouragement and certificates of accomplishment for demonstrating observing skills with a variety of instruments and objects. These include the Messier Club, Binocular Messier Club, the Herschel 400 Club, the Deep Sky Binocular Club, and many others.

To learn more about the Astronomical League and its benefits for you, visit <http://www.astroleague.org>

## The Focal Point Archives

The AAC began publishing the *Focal Point* as a PDF online in June 1998. Since then every issue has, and still is, available for download from the club's web page. Recently that archive has expanded. Sharon Carruthers has scanned 61 issues of the AAC's newsletter (then called *The Atlanta Astronomers' Report*) from 1948 to 1977. Although many issues from this period are still missing these provide a valuable record of the club's early years. In addition I (Tom Faber) came across 19 issues of the *Focal Point* from the years 1995-1998 that I scanned to make available on the club's web site. Again not every issue during this period is available but it is another step in maintaining and making available to all a record of the AAC's history. Our web master Daniel Herron has uploaded these to the web site as PDF's for download. Just visit [www.atlantaastronomy.org](http://www.atlantaastronomy.org) and click on the "Focal Point Archives" link on the right side of the page. If you have any of the missing issues of the club's newsletter that you would like to scan and submit to Daniel as a PDF please do!

## CE Chapter Outreach

By Theo Ramakers, Outreach Coordinator

<http://ceastronomy.org/tramakers>

The highlight for the Chapter's outreach in June was the Venus transit. In preparation, over a period of several months we had secured three groups who were willing to sacrifice their time to observe the transit and attend to the community to give them also a chance to see this historic event. Three locations in Grayson/Loganville, Lawrenceville/Auburn and Covington were selected. In addition, some members attended the AAC location at Stone Mountain or showed the public in the locations they were viewing the event. Our events were announced in all our outreach programs leading up to the event. The local newspaper, *The* (Rockdale as well as the Newton) *Citizen* ran a lead article about the events on the front page of the weekend edition prior to the transit: "IN TRANSIT". Other papers listed the event also. Despite the bad weather forecast, those who had committed to these events stayed put and remained optimistic, so the events could go on when in the last minute indeed the weather changed. I would like to thank all those who helped out in giving the greater Atlanta community an opportunity to see this transit, not on TV or on the web, but in person through our telescopes.

Following the Venus transit, the Chapter reached out to the participants of the Summer Camps organized by the Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation Department. Three Chapter members went to Bogan Park, Rhodes Jordan Park, and George Pierce Park to give presentations about astronomy and space exploration. Thanks to all who gave their time again this month to reach out to the community.

Clear Skies!



## Charlie Elliott Chapter July 21 Meeting

Join us for our next meeting at 5 p.m., Saturday, July 21 at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center's Visitor Center.

### Meeting Agenda

Feature Presentation: Stellar Evolution by Joseph Seymour of Perimeter College. Please Note: We're trying something NEW during the warmer months of the year! If the weather is nice (in the Goldilocks zone) and the skies are clear, we're planning to have the meeting out on the Jon Wood observing field (observing field entrance is on your right just before you get to the Visitor's and Conference Center buildings). The meeting will start at 5:00 PM as with an indoor meeting, but instead of starting our presentation at 5:00 PM, we'll have solar observing through member telescopes starting at 5:00. The feature presentation "Stellar Evolution" would then start at about 8:00 PM, followed by our "This Month's Sky" presentation - under a REAL sky!

LOOK for a SIGN: If the meeting is on the observing field - there will be a sign directing you to turn. Otherwise, continue on to the Conference Center. In either case, the meeting starts at 5:00 PM. BRING Camping Chairs or a Blanket: When the meeting is on the field, please bring an extra camping chair or blanket to sit on for the presentations. Conference Center: The staff at CEWC have asked us to move future indoor meetings from our regular meeting location at the Visitor's Center to the Conference Center. The Conference Center is just one block past the Visitor's Center on your left.

### "Observing after the meeting"

All are invited to the observing field immediately after the meeting (weather-permitting). Everyone is welcome. Place: Jon Wood Astronomy Field at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center

Our Meeting Schedule for the rest of 2012: August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15.

## The 2012 Transit of Venus

Unlike the 2004 transit when we were clouded out, the skies in most of the Atlanta area cleared just in time for the June 5th event. On the next several pages are photos and write-ups of club members' efforts to observe, image, and show to the public the last Transit of Venus until 2117.

### Lenny Abbey's Transit Report

Eugenia and I observed from the Target parking lot on North Druid Hills road. Alex Langoussis lent us a small table-top Orion reflector which we set up on the trunk. All of my scopes have been "paid forward." The little Orion scope is really nifty. It is not a toy. It is a real scientific instrument! Amazing!

We had an unobscured view until the Sun/planet combination set in the West. I may have seen the black drop, but I wouldn't swear to it. I enjoyed a bonus. Between first and second contacts an airliner made its own transit! I could see the plane by reflected light before it encroached on the Sun's disk. Then it was seen in silhouette. This is the second time that this happened to me. It is sort of scary if you aren't expecting it. Towards the end of our little expedition, we were joined by a chef from a posh retirement facility. We swapped recipes for Lobster Thermidor.

### Tom Faber's Transit Report

Kat and I had planned to go to Tellus for the Transit but we were prepared to go much farther if the weather in the Atlanta area didn't cooperate. We loaded my car with Kat's Astroscan, solar filters, cameras, snacks, drinks, and overnight bags (in case we went farther than we could drive back that evening). Tuesday morning the skies were cloudy but the forecasts were saying "clearing in the late afternoon." I was closely watching the satellite images all morning and the clearing line was moving south through Tennessee - SLOWLY. By 11:30AM I had pretty much decided it was time to hit the road when I saw a post by Richard Jakiel who said that they were headed north to Chattanooga and would evaluate conditions there before deciding where to go next.

Kat and I headed out just before noon and went north on I-75. We drove through a couple of light showers on the way, but by the time we got near Chattanooga the clouds had broken with just some scattered cumulus in the sky. We met up with Rich, Pixie Bruner, David Lumpkin, and Rick Clark in downtown Chattanooga and after a late lunch we headed up Lookout Mountain to scout observing locations. After checking out a couple of locations including Point Park we were able to get access to a



private residence near the park that had great views to the west over the valley. We set up our scopes and binoculars with solar filters and cameras, and waited for first contact. Right on time Venus began to move onto the solar disk at 6:05PM but as second contact approached at about 6:23PM an ill-placed cloud covered the sun for 3-4 minutes so we missed it.

Other than occasional stray clouds from time to time we had great views of the transit all the way until sunset at 8:53PM! We packed up our equipment and headed down the mountain for a late dinner and then the drive home. We arrived back home at 12:30AM, tired but our mission had been accomplished!



Our observing setup. Front to back: Richard Jakiel, Pixie Bruner, Rick Clark, Dave Lumpkin, Kat Sarbell. Photos above & top right by Tom Faber.



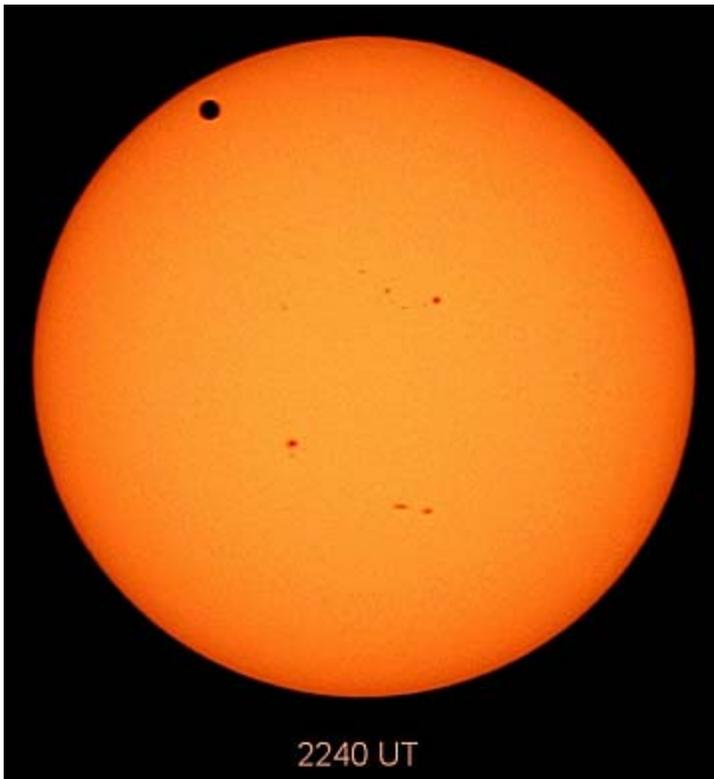
The transit at 7:53PM EDT. Photo by Tom Faber with a Canon SX100IS hand held to the 32mm Plossl eyepiece in Kat's Astroscan with a homemade solar filter made using Baader solar filter material. Exposure 1/200s, f/4, ISO-80, manual focus, optical zoom ~3.3X.



Sketch of the transit at 8:14PM EDT by Kat Sarbell using the Astroscan with a 32mm Plossl eyepiece (14X).

8:14 PM - EDT  
My scope - Astroscan  
32mm Plossl

Transit Reports  
Continued on next page



*This image by Richard Jakiel shows the transit at 6:40PM EDT from Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. 72mm f/6 ED, Canon 1000XS + Baader Solar Filter, Seeing - 5(10) with widely scattered clouds.*



*As the sun neared the horizon a few more clouds moved over it from time to time. This photo shows the transit at 8:35PM - about 18 minutes before sunset at Lookout Mountain. Canon SX100IS hand held to the 32mm Plossl eyepiece in the Astroscan with a homemade solar filter made using Baader solar filter material. Exposure 1/25s, f/4, ISO-200, manual focus, optical zoom ~3.7X. Photo by Tom Faber.*

## Alex Langoussis' Transit Report

Not trusting Atlanta's June weather, Nelda and I took an Astroscan, PST, and binocs and headed for the Land of Enchantment. Below the Sandia Mountains, aside ancient pueblo ruins and the Rio Grande, we had an unobstructed view of 'Zia' and Venus from the 4:06 start until sunset over four hours later.

The transit was much more beautiful than expected. I saw little of the black drop effect in white light, perhaps due to atmospheric conditions (6% humidity!). The h-alpha view was exceptionally crisp. I was hoping Venus would transit a prominence, but it was not to be. I thought I saw a slightly brighter thin ring around Venus, but things were happening quickly at the start, so I can't be sure. The binocular view was interesting as well, as Venus gave the appearance of floating in front of the sun.

There were about a dozen folks from a local astronomy club at the site, and a couple of hundred local residents came through over the four hours, allowing for plenty of sharing of the experience.

The beauty and rarity of the event from a phenomenal setting with wonderful people is an experience I will never forget. I'm looking forward to the next one. :-)

## Daniel Herron's Transit Report

*( See Daniel's full report at [http://atlantaastronomy.org/?page\\_id=673](http://atlantaastronomy.org/?page_id=673) )*

Photos by Daniel Herron unless noted.

Tuesday was finally here and with it were the clouds. Although the forecast still looked ok for the afternoon it was not a good feeling seeing a lack of blue outside throughout the day. I started getting calls and emails from volunteers that were going elsewhere to try to improve their chances. By noon the forecast looked dreadful. My brother, Trey, and I finished packing up the car and spent the rest of the time watching the weather channel, visiting every weather site we could, and doing anything to look for a glimpse of good news. 2pm arrived and soon after my wife, Misty, got home early from work. We were soon on our way to Stone Mountain.

Arriving soon after 3:30 pm we unloaded the van, packed everything into the wagon, with Misty and Trey stilling having to carry a few things, and headed to the Sky Lift. Everything loaded on the Sky Lift we began getting strange looks from the other guest boarding the lift. You could tell they wanted to ask what we were doing heading to the top with what looked like a cannon and the supplies necessary to use it! We told them about the transit and about the club, but were soon interrupted by a wonderful narration for the ride up the mountain.

Arriving at the top found us in cooler weather, and just a few hundred feet closer to the motionless cloud layer above us. We stopped inside the middle of the building and setup an information booth with Atlanta Astronomy Club handouts and membership applications, then were on our way outside to find a place to setup. On the way we ran into Marie Lott, Tim Lott, and Brigitte Fessele. We found a nice level spot on the tip top of



*Continued on next page*

the mountain and began setting up the scope and arranging everything. While I setup, Trey walked the top and got lots of great pictures of the view, and more volunteers arrived and setup.

I was pleasantly surprised by the numbers who were already on-site waiting for views, even though it was cloudy and the transit was still 2+ hours away. Once setup, I walked around and talked to a few of them, mostly about the weather and whether or not we thought it would clear. About an hour after arriving and setting up it started getting busy; we were handing out Solar viewing glass, most of which Marie got from the Charlie Bates Solar Astronomy Project.

Around this time, 30 or so minutes before the transit start time, Ken Cook from Fox 5 Atlanta's weather team arrived and begun interviewing and filming the guest. I introduced myself and we spoke briefly. A few minutes later a young girl told me she was upset because the weather said it was going to be partly cloudy. I pointed at Ken and told her "he is the weather man go blame him". Without a delay she ran over to him, while I watched laughing to myself at what I was sure was going to be a funny situation to put them both in. When to my horror I hear her say as she turns and points to me "He said to blame you for the bad weather!" I averted my eyes and pretended to adjust my scope, which wasn't actually pointed at anything. Ken just laughed it off, I am sure he gets that a lot.



I soon realized the volume of people that were up there with us as the clock rolled to 5:45, and remember saying to Misty, Trey and Marie to prepare for a stampede at the slightest opening in the clouds, should there ever be one. 15 minutes to the transit and still no sign of clearing, I started preparing to deal with a disappointed public, while trying to save a little hope for a clearing.

Ten minutes before the transit was to begin the sun popped thru the clouds just long enough for us to fix our scopes on it. The crowd began to approach the scopes in anticipation, lines started to form, there was a mad dash to get the solar glasses we were handing out, and then it happened. A hole opened in the sky, people started looking through the scopes, Wow's could be heard around and the transit had not even begun. One minute



before the transit was to begin the clouds parted and then soon after faded away almost entirely! As if one cue Venus made the slightest dent in the side of the sun. First Contact had been made, it had begun!

The next hour is a blur of smiling faces at the scope, the sun through my camera lens, people taking pictures of us at the scopes, Misty handing out solar glasses, Trey helping others at my little scope, news interviews, views through the scope, and a couple of clouds moving in front of the sun here and there, and of course Venus march ever so slowly across the Sun's surface. How often do you get to see something in space through a telescope move? What an experience!

By this point it is approaching 7:30 and I kept pointing out to Trey and Misty the Sky lifts coming up the mountain every 10 mins. They are packed full with people pressed up against the glass! More and more people kept coming as if they were waiting at the bottom in case the sky cleared and once it did they headed up the mountain. People were still coming up the hiking trail too. It was not until 8 or so that the crown started to die down. Around 8:15 it began getting cloudy again and by 8:30 it was pretty much over. We packed up all that we had brought minus 95% of the handout materials which had been taken; all the solar glasses were gone. Marie brought 300 pairs, I had 50 Pairs and a few others had given out about another 50 to 100 pairs. We estimate 500 to 700 if not more people were up there.

By 9 o'clock we had everything down the mountain and back into the van, the sun had set and the transit was over. Our feet were killing us, our throats were raw, our backs hurt, we were hungry, tired, had to pee, and probably dehydrated, but we decided to stay and see the firework spectacular at 9:30. The show was good and they have made a lot of improvements but I do miss the lasers flying over the heads of the crowd. The transit was over but the night's astronomy events had not quite finished with us. Toward the end of the firework show about half way through the national anthem a small but bright light popped out from behind the top of the mountain. It moved slowly but steadily towards the north and east. It looked unlike a airplane and was totally unexpected. The International Space Station was flying over! It looked, and was later confirmed, to be around -3 magnitude; slightly dimmer than Venus had been just a few weeks ago when its journey toward the sun began.

It was a perfect end to a truly wonderful event!



Photo above by Johnathan Justice - Stone Mountain

*Transit Reports Continued on next page*



Venus and bird transit by Dan Llewellyn. Dan took this image between first and second contact and managed to catch a passing bird.



The AAC's meeting location at the Hitson Center in Sandy Springs.

The **Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc.**, the South's largest and oldest astronomical society, meets at **8:00 P.M.** on the 3rd Friday of each month in the Parlor Room - Hitson Center in Sandy Springs, or occasionally at other locations or times. Membership fees are **\$30 (\$42)** for a family or single person membership. College Students membership fee is **\$15 (\$27)**. These fees are for a one year membership (\$12 per year extra charge to receive a printed *Focal Point* by mail).

Magazine subscriptions to *Sky & Telescope* or *Astronomy* can be purchased through the club for a reduced rate. The fees are **\$33** for *Sky & Telescope* and **\$34** for *Astronomy*. Renewal forms will be sent to you by the magazines. Send the renewal form along with your check to the Atlanta Astronomy Club treasurer.

**The Club address:** Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc., P.O. Box 76155, Atlanta, GA 30358-1155. AAC Web Page: <http://www.AtlantaAstronomy.org>. Send suggestions, comments, or ideas about the website to [webmaster@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:webmaster@AtlantaAstronomy.org). Also send information on upcoming observing events, meetings, and other events to the webmaster.

## Atlanta Astronomy Club Online

While this newsletter is the official information source for the Atlanta Astronomy Club, it is only up to date the day it is printed. So if you want more up to date information, go to our club's website. The website contains pictures, directions, membership applications, events updates and other information. <http://www.atlantaastronomy.org> You can also follow the AAC on Facebook by joining the AAC group, and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/atlastr>.

### AAC Officers and Contacts

- President:** Richard Jakiel [President@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:President@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Program Chair:** Mark Banks [Programs@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Programs@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Observing Chair/BoD Chair:** Daniel Herron  
[Observing@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Observing@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Corresponding Secretary:** Tom Faber  
[Focalpoint@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Focalpoint@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Treasurer:** Sharon Carruthers [Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Recording Secretary:** Pixie Bruner  
[Secretary@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Secretary@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Board Chair:** Daniel Herron, Contact info TBA
- Board:** Brigitte Fessele, Contact info TBA
- Board:** David Lumpkin, Contact info TBA
- Board:** Theo Ramakers 770-464-3777  
[webmaster@CEastronomy.org](mailto:webmaster@CEastronomy.org)
- ALCor:** Art Zorka [President@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:President@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Elliott Chapter Director:** Larry Owens [director@ceastronomy.org](mailto:director@ceastronomy.org)
- Elliott Observing Supervisor:** John Towne  
[observing@ceastronomy.org](mailto:observing@ceastronomy.org)
- Elliott Recording Secretary:** Marie Lott [mtlott@comcast.net](mailto:mtlott@comcast.net)
- Elliott Coordinator:** Alesia Rast [Alesia\\_Rast@mail.dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Alesia_Rast@mail.dnr.state.ga.us)
- Elliott Webmaster:** Theo Ramakers 770-464-3777  
[webmaster@CEastronomy.org](mailto:webmaster@CEastronomy.org)
- Elliott Outreach Coordinator:** Theo Ramakers 770-464-3777  
[outreach@ceastronomy.org](mailto:outreach@ceastronomy.org)
- Georgia Astronomy in State Parks:** Sharon Carruthers  
[Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- PSSG Chairman:** Peter Macumber [pmacumber@nightsky.org](mailto:pmacumber@nightsky.org)
- PSSG Co-Chair:** Joanne Cirincione  
[starrynights@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:starrynights@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Sidewalk Astronomy:** Brad Isley  
[sidewalkastronomy@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:sidewalkastronomy@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- Light Trespass:** Open - Contact Mark Banks if you would like to volunteer for this position
- Woodruff Observ. Coordinator:** Sharon Carruthers  
[Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org](mailto:Treasurer@AtlantaAstronomy.org)
- AAC Webmaster:** Daniel Herron, Contact info TBA

# Calendar by Tom Faber (Times EDT/EST unless noted)

## AAC Events are listed in BOLD

- July 3rd, Tuesday: Full Moon.
- July 4th, Wednesday: Earth at aphelion.
- July 10th, Tuesday: Moon Last Quarter.
- July 15th, Sunday: Moon near Venus and Jupiter morning.
- July 19th, Thursday: New Moon.
- July 20th, Friday: **AAC Meeting, 8PM.**
- July 21st, Saturday: **CE Chapter Meeting, 5PM. DSO at location TBA.**
- July 26th, Thursday: Moon First Quarter.
- July 28th, Saturday: Delta Aquarids Meteors.
- Aug 1st, Wednesday: Full Moon.
- Aug 9th, Thursday: Moon Last Quarter.
- Aug 12th, Sunday: Perseid Meteors.
- Aug 13th, Monday: Moon near Venus morning.
- Aug 17th, Friday: **AAC Meeting, 8PM.** New Moon.
- Aug 18th, Saturday: **CE Chapter Meeting, 5PM. DSO at location TBA.**
- Aug 21st, Tuesday: Grouping of Moon, Mars, Saturn, Spica evening.
- Aug 24th, Friday: Moon First Quarter.
- Aug 31st, Friday: Full Moon.
- Sept 8th, Saturday: Moon Last Quarter.
- Sept 15th, Saturday: **CE Chapter Meeting, 5PM. DSO at location TBA.** New Moon.
- Sept 21st, Friday: **AAC Meeting, 8PM.**
- Sept 22nd, Saturday: Moon First Quarter.

## Oct 7th - 14th: Peach State Star Gaze!!

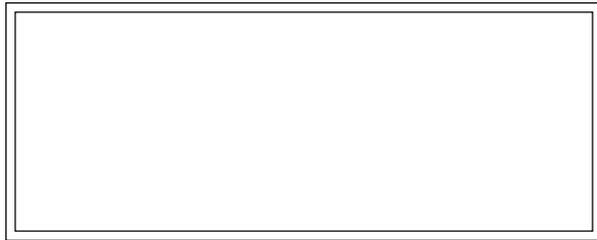
For more event listings see the calendar at : [www.atlantaastronomy.org](http://www.atlantaastronomy.org)

## Atlanta Astronomy Club Listserv

Subscribe to the Atlanta Astronomy Club Mailing List: The name of the list is: AstroAtlanta. The address for messages is: [AstroAtlanta@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta@yahoogroups.com) . To add a subscription, send a message to: [AstroAtlanta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AstroAtlanta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) . This list is owned by Lemmy Abbey.

## Focal Point Deadline and Submission Information

Please send articles, pictures, and drawings in electronic format on anything astronomy, space, or sky related to Tom Faber at [focalpoint@atlantaastronomy.org](mailto:focalpoint@atlantaastronomy.org). Please send images separate from articles, not embedded in them. Articles are preferred as plain text files but Word documents or PDF's are okay. You can submit articles anytime up to the deadline. **The deadline for August is Friday, July 27th. Submissions after the deadline will go in the following month's issue.**



FIRST CLASS



[www.beclage.com](http://www.beclage.com)



We're here to help! Here's how to reach us:

Newsletter of The Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc.



*The Focal Point*

Tom Faber  
2206 Tretridge Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Atlanta Astronomy Club

P.O. Box 76155

Atlanta, GA 30358-1155

[www.atlantaastronomy.org](http://www.atlantaastronomy.org)

On Twitter at <http://twitter.com/atlastro>