



R. A. C. NEWS

February- 2001

www.rocklandastronomy.com
Message Line (201) 768-3295



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Observing and Meeting Locations

North Rockland High School Planetarium, Thiells, NY
Rockland Community College, Suffern, NY
Iron Horse Farm, Mike Pass, 914-496-6320, Campbell Hall, NY
*Anthony Wayne Recreation Area, Exit 17, Palisades Interstate Pkwy
*Lake Sebago, Seven Lakes Drive, Exit 16, Palisades Interstate Pkwy
*Silvermine Ski Area, Exit 18, Palisades Interstate Pkwy
*Wawayanda State Park, 973-853-4462, Highland Lakes, NJ
Tahgkanic State Park Taconic State Parkway, Ancram, NY

- *Special permits are required to observe.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sheri A. Dennis PO Box 1008, Hillburn, NY 10931
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Robert A Norris 474 Christian Herald Rd., Valley Cottage, NY 10989 (845) 268-3630

Carmine & Christine Rocco 33 Ralphs Ave., New City, NY 10956 (845) 638-6529

Chris Sauer & Family 106 Brightwood Ave., Pearl River, NY 10965 (845) 735-3094

ANNUAL DINNER

Have you made your plans to attend our annual dinner yet? If you haven't, please do. Many new members have joined our brood since our last dinner, and we want to meet you! What better way to get acquainted than gathering at the dinner table? Well, tables, really.

Of course, we want to see those who have been members since telescopes were invented! Some of you we've never met!

So, please, everyone come to the dinner Saturday, February 10th. If you are brand new to the club, contact Don Urban for the particulars. Hurry, Don must have your RSVP's by February 3rd !!

LIBERTY STATE PARK

(Exit 14B of NJ Turnpike)

Tuesday, February 13 "Searching for Extraterrestrials" Seth Shostak, Astronomer with the SETI Institute.

This program begins at 6:30PM and is followed by a Q & A period and reception. An admission fee of \$10.00 is charged.

If you missed this gentleman, who spoke at our NEAF last year, try to see him. He is quite an engaging, witty speaker.

AMATEUR ASTRONOMY--A TEAM SPORT

It's not a difficult task to take your average sized telescope, pack up your car, and venture off by yourself to some dark sky area to do some star hopping. Most of us have done this and will do so in the future.

I've noticed over the years that when alone, on one of these excursions, I find myself conversing with my other half more than usual. I'll often remark to him about anything from a breathtaking view of the Milky Way to a problem in locating an object I've never seen before. Yes, amateur astronomy can be an individual undertaking. In the past I frequently rolled out my 20" dobsonian onto my front lawn and spent a night conversing with the wind and the sky. Dark skies comparable to Anthony Wayne, no streetlights, and the convenience of my home behind me made the task an easy one. So why have I been using my scope less and less? The answer is quite obvious; astronomical viewing is just not the same unless it can be shared with someone. It is truly a team sport.

It's easy to verify this tautology by just recalling any of our group outings to see the overwhelming benefits to sharing this passion of ours with others of our ilk. Throughout the winter I often think about the upcoming Summer Star Party and the hours of valued camaraderie beneath the stars. I await the summer Star-B-Q even if we've never had a good night of observing after eating all day at the picnic. The need to share our common interests is satisfied just by gathering together even to wile away some time singing old rock songs under the picnic tent. Participating in meetings at the Rockland Observatory, going to club dinners and being part of NEAF, all satisfy my needs. But, it is uncanny how it seems to always be with the same 30 or so club members. Where are the new faces? I thought we had almost 200 members in the RAC. Where are all these people? We need their infusion into our active ranks. I view my monthly club calendar as it dangles by magnets from my refrigerator, and I see that the prime observing window is almost upon us, but, alas, I receive no phone calls. No one ever calls to see if I want to roll out my light bucket to share a night of viewing. They often promise to call but I never hear from them. I guess everyone thinks that Orange County is in California. Since I've seen so few visitors (not since Hale-Bop), I've finally obtained an SUV so I can pack up my big Dob and go to meet the same few regular observers at some very dark sky sight like Tahgkanic or Sam's Point. I realize winter is rough for our form of outdoor sport, so I'll just have to wait until May or June for our next dark sky scheduled event. Before then I'll partake of the few scheduled get-togethers to obtain my fix of group participation.

You hiding members, come out of the woodwork, share with us what makes us amateur astronomers; share with us some of your knowledge for we all have something to contribute from our individual experiences. Just call another club member and begin the process of getting yourself under the stars; for that's what we do.

Michael Pass

FOR SALE

Two tickets for the Winter Star Party with Camping. Cost \$246. If interested e-mail nebula@frontiernet.net

Epson 900 Pro Printer – USB & parallel ports. Like new \$200. Moonlight Low Profile 2" Focuser for dobsonian. Focus lock, shims to fit barrel of scope, all machined, BNIB \$75.

Dominick Morelli morelli@worldnet.att.net or 845-623-5633.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE 30 YEARS MAKES

1970: Long Hair.

2000: Longing for hair.

1970: The perfect high.

2000: The perfect high yield mutual fund.

1970: Keg.

2000: EKG.

1970: Moving to California because it's cool.

2000: Moving to California because it's warm.

1970: Growing pot.

2000: Growing pot belly.

1970: Watching John Glenn's historic flight with your parents.

2000: Watching John Glenn's historic flight with your children.

1970: Trying to look like Marlon Brando or Elizabeth Taylor.

2000: Trying NOT to look like Marlon Brando or Elizabeth Taylor.

1970: Seeds and stems.

2000: Roughage.

1970: Our president's struggle with Fidel.

2000: Our president's struggle with fidelity.

1970: Killer weed.

2000: Weed killer.

1970: Hoping for a BMW.

2000: Hoping for a BM.

1970: The Grateful Dead.

2000: Dr. Kevorkian.

1970: Getting out to a new, hip joint.

2000: Getting a new hip joint.

1970: Rolling Stones.

2000: Kidney stones.

1970: Peace sign.

2000: Mercedes logo.

1970: Take acid.

2000: Take antacid.

1970: Passing the driver's test.

2000: Passing the vision test.

ELIMINATE SPAM FROM YOUR EMAIL

If you utilize Microsoft Outlook Express to send and receive e-mail, you may be interested to know that you can eliminate SPAM (junk email) from making its way to your computer. Other email systems may also provide methods to prevent SPAM, but I am not aware of them.

Outlook Express allows you to set up specific rules that can screen email messages sent to your computer, and gives you options how to handle them. Once we get into the specific steps, you can choose the action best suited for your requirements.

Most SPAM messages arrive using your actual email address (yourname @ yourdomain) for example DonUrban@RocklandAstronomy.com. Some arrive addressed to “Undisclosed-recipients” or some other address that is not your actual email address. However, some of these may be messages from a mailing list you have voluntarily signed up to. Regardless of the address by which SPAM reaches your computer, all of them contain character strings and/or certain phrases that can be used to identify them as SPAM. These include, but are not limited to, “!”, “\$”, “/”, “\”, “work at home”, “no obligation”, “absolutely free”, “learn how”, etc.

An important rule to remember is that, as you set up rules to block SPAM, each message will be tested by your rules in the sequence that you have set them up. You must take care that your rules are set up to allow you to receive mail you want, even if it would be blocked by another rule.

Here are step-by-step instructions for setting up blocking rules for Outlook Express.

1. Highlight the message without reading it.
 2. Select TOOLS
 3. Select MESSAGE RULES
 4. Select MAIL – a window MESSAGE RULES pops on your screen.
 5. Click on NEW
- These five steps will be used for each rule you want to build.

A window (NEW MAIL RULE) will appear on your screen with 3 sets of variables from which you must make selections. They are (1) Select the conditions for your rule, (2) Select the actions for your rule, and (3) Rule description

The first rule you set up will identify any FROM ADDRESS of a specific sender that you do not want to block regardless of the TO ADDRESS used to send it to you. To do this, continue below.

6. From CONDITIONS, select “Where the FROM line contains people”.
7. From ACTIONS, select “Stop processing more rules”.
8. In RULES DESCRIPTION click on the underlined “Contains people”.

A new window SELECT NAMES will appear.

9. Type the sender’s email address in the box at the top. Note – you may also need to include your own email address here, if you receive mail that you send to yourself.
10. Click ADD on the right.

(You may repeat 9 and 10 for as many addresses you want to accept).

11. Finish up by clicking on OK until you are back at the MESSAGE RULES window.

The second rule you set up will reject any TO ADDRESS that does not contain your own email address. For example, “Undisclosed recipients”.

12. Click NEW (same as step 5 at top)
 13. From CONDITIONS select “Where the TO line contains people”.
 14. From ACTIONS select “Do not download from server”.
- This is your ultimate action, but to test that your rule works, you should temporarily choose “Move it to the specified folder”
15. In RULES DESCRIPTIONS click on the underlined “Contains people”

The new window “SELECT PEOPLE” will appear.

16. Type your email address in the box at the top.
 17. Click ADD on the right.
 18. Click OPTIONS
 19. Click the button for DOES NOT
 20. Click OK two times
 21. Click on the underlined “Specific folder”
- A new window MOVE will appear.
22. Click on NEW FOLDER at right and name it SPAMRULE2.
- Note that once you are satisfied that this rule is working correctly and you select “Do not download from server”, you will not use 21 and 22 above and will be able to delete the SPAMRULE2 folder.
- 23 Continue to click OK until you are back to the MESSAGE RULES window.

Your third and final rule will screen messages that slip by the second rule.

24. Click NEW (same as step 5 above)
 25. From CONDITIONS select “Where the message body contains”.
 26. From ACTIONS select “Do not download from server”.
- Again, this is your ultimate action, but you should also test that it works by choosing “Move it to the specified folder”.
27. In RULES DESCRIPTIONS click on the underlined “Contains specific words”.
 28. A window TYPE SPECIFIC WORDS will appear.
 29. Type the phrase or character string you wish to test for, for example \$\$ or no obligation. Do not enclose them in single or double quotes.
 30. Click ADD on the right.
- Repeat 29 and 30 for each new entry you make.
- Continue to click OK until you are finished.
31. Click on the underlined “Specific folder”
- A new window MOVE will appear.
32. Click on NEW FOLDER at right and name it SPAMRULE3.
- Note that once you are satisfied that this rule is working correctly and you select “Do not download from server”, you will not use 27 & 28 above and will be able to delete the SPAMRULE3 folder.
- 33 Continue to click OK until you are back to the MESSAGE RULES window.

Good Luck!



Don Urban



ROCKLAND ASTRONOMY CLUB - (201) 768-3295

February 2001

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

4	Sunrise 07:04 Set 17:16 Moonset 03:35 Rise 13:22	5	Sunrise 07:03 Set 17:17 Moonset 04:42 Rise 14:20	6	Sunrise 07:02 Set 17:19 Moonset 05:45 Rise 15:28	7	Sunrise 07:00 Set 17:20 Moonset 06:40 Rise 16:42	8	Sunrise 06:59 Set 17:21 Moonset 07:27 Rise 17:59 ALPHA AUIGUIDS O FMI	9	Sunrise 06:58 Set 17:22 Moonset 08:07 Rise 19:16	10	Sunrise 06:57 Set 17:24 Moonset 08:42 Rise 20:30 7:00pm RAC ANNUAL DINNER 
11	Sunrise 06:56 Set 17:25 Moonset 09:13 Rise 21:41	12	Sunrise 06:54 Set 17:26 Moonset 09:43 Rise 22:49	13	Sunrise 06:53 Set 17:27 Moonset 10:13 Rise 23:55	14	Sunrise 06:52 Set 17:29 Moonset 10:44 Rise --- O LQ	15	Sunrise 06:51 Set 17:30 Moonset 01:29 Set 11:17	16	Sunrise 06:49 Set 17:31 Moonset 02:00 Set 11:54	17	Sunrise 06:48 Set 17:32 Moonset 02:29 Set 12:36
18	Sunrise 06:47 Set 17:34 Moonset 03:53 Set 13:22	19	Sunrise 06:45 Set 17:35 Moonset 04:42 Set 14:13  <i>President's Day</i>	20	Sunrise 06:44 Set 17:36 Moonset 05:26 Set 15:07	21	Sunrise 06:42 Set 17:37 Moonset 06:04 Set 16:04	22	Sunrise 06:41 Set 17:38 Moonset 06:58 Set 17:03	23	Sunrise 06:40 Set 17:39 Moonset 07:08 Set 18:00 ● NMI	24	Sunrise 06:38 Set 17:41 Moonset 07:56 Set 19:02
25	Sunrise 06:37 Set 17:42 Moonset 08:02 Set 20:02	26	Sunrise 06:35 Set 17:43 Moonset 08:27 Set 21:03	27	Sunrise 06:34 Set 17:44 Moonset 08:54 Set 22:05	28	Sunrise 06:33 Set 17:45 Moonset 09:22 Set 23:09	PRIME OBSERVING WINDOW					
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