



R. A. C. NEWS

February - 2002

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



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Membership Services, Treasurer, Special Events, PIP Liaison
Don Urban, 201-768-3295, 73 Haring St, Closter, NJ 07624
DonUrban@RocklandAstronomy.com

Newsletter Editor
Lisa Canino-Dymbort, 908-835-8995, 1 Edgemere Terrace, Wash-
ington, NJ 07882. Lcanino@juno.com

Webmaster
Dan Roman, 201-385-7675, n2mfc@bellatlantic.net

Assistant Webmasters
Peter Aurelio, 914-235-2207, paurelio@iscnet.net
Keith Murdock, 845-753-5625, Keith_Murdock@hotmail.com

NEAF (Northeast Astronomy Forum & Telescope Show) Chairman
Alan Traino, 973-423-3017, Alan3203@sprynet.com

SSP (Summer Star Party) Organizer
Don Urban, 201-768-3295, 73 Haring St, Closter, NJ 07624
DonUrban@RocklandAstronomy.com

Astrophotography
Tom Massey, 201-447-2908, Cmassey@k2tmk2tm@aol.com
Bill Thys, 973-881-8372, billthys@aol.com
Dominick Morelli, 914-623-5633, morelli1@worldnet.att.net

CCD Imaging
Jim Burnell, 914-986-3332, Burnell@Frontiernet.net
Dominick Morelli, 914-623-5633, morelli1@worldnet.att.net

Telescope Making
Jim Burnell, 914-986-3332, Burnell@Frontiernet.net
Mike Pass, 914-496-6320, ironhors@frontiernet.net

Wawayanda Observing Coordinator
NY -- Frank Bifulco, 845-354-3965, frankbif@earthlink.net
NJ -- Alan Traino, 973-423-3017, alan3203@sprynet.com

Mid-Hudson Observing Coordinator
Mies Hora, 845-429-0923, mies@ultimatesymbol.com

Children's Programs
Ed Siemenn, 914-783-3442, edsiemenn@hotmail.com
Lisa Canino-Dymbort, 908-835-8995, Lcanino@juno.com
Audrey Salvatore, 914-928-6697, nebula@frontiernet.net

Model Rocketry
Mark Hettinger, 201-768-5720, mlmkshett@aol.com

Equipment Manager
Ed Siemenn, 914-783-3442, edsiemenn@hotmail.com

Advisors
Al Nagler, 914-354-2552
Dr. Jack Rosen, Deepsky3@juno.com

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
*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 required*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

John B. Holmboe 107 S Mountain Ave., Pearl River, NY 10965 (845) 735-2582.
Les Lamando 14 Parkside Dr., Suffern, NY 10901 (845) 357-8326.
Gregory Maurer & Family 200 Diplomat Dr. #6L, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 (914) 241-7723.
Erik K. Rivet 1 Lester Dr. Orangeburg, NY 10962 (845) 359-1515.
Dr. Sal Vasile Bird Hill Road Tomkins Cove, NY 10968.
Larry Treuer 67 Overmount Ave., W. Paterson, NJ 07424 (973) 890-0420.

RAC ANNUAL DINNER

I've heard reservations have been pouring in for the club dinner Saturday, February 23 at Ondine's in Closter, NJ. Please, everyone, lets break all attendance records and make this the most successful club dinner we've ever had! Send your payment to Frank Bifulco as soon as possible. Use the coupon at the bottom of page five of last month's newsletter.

If you're a new member or don't have the coupon, send a check, for \$37.50, made out to the Rockland Astronomy Club, to 34 Astor Place, Wesley Hills, NY 10952. Phone (845) 354-3965 or e-mail Frankbif@earthlink.net for further information.

All checks and reservations must be received by Monday, February 18th.

Our speaker on this occasion will be Vinny Coulehan, a RAC member employed at the Indian Point nuclear power generating plant in Buchannan, NY where he is an engineer involved in HAZMAT operations.

OBSERVING PERMITS

It will be at least 4 weeks before the 2002 permit for observing at Wawayanda State park is received. Until that time, RAC members may continue to observe there, but should always have a copy of the 2001 permit in their possession.

The permit for observing at Lake Tahgkanic is good until June of 2002. No delay is expected in receiving a new permit for this location.

Notify Don Urban to have your name added to the club's "Permit Request List." Permits will be sent to you when available.

Club members are reminded that observing at Anthony Wayne Recreation Area, Silvermine or any other park under

the jurisdiction of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission is restricted to specific dates indicated on the attached "2002 Schedule of Events." Your presence at these locations at any other time may result in your being asked to leave by PIP officials or the Park Police.

Notice: The articles above and below are being reprinted in this issue of the newsletter because they were omitted from the January issue that was sent by US mail.

ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

The RAC Advisory Committee, by unanimous vote of those present at the last meeting, recommended that the club terminate its membership in the Astronomical League. RAC initially joined the League in 1993 to take advantage of the low cost liability insurance policy made available through its selected insurance carrier in Chicago.

Over the last 8 years, the combined cost of League membership and the annual insurance premium has risen from just under \$500.00 to more than \$1,200.00 while at the same time, membership dues in the Rockland Astronomy Club have remained stable at \$20.00 annually.

A new insurance policy has been secured through the efforts of club member Mark Hettinger, at an annual cost of \$500.00 resulting in a savings of \$700.00 a year. Mr. Hettinger, a registered insurance broker employed by the New Milford, NJ firm of Nelson – Patterson Insurance, will not personally derive benefit from this transaction.

RAC members who may wish to continue receiving "The Reflector", the quarterly magazine published by the Astronomical league, may do so by joining the League individually.

Notice: In the 4 weeks since the above was written, it has been decided to retain our insurance policy with the Astronomical League. The new policy could not be provided at the cost that was quoted to us. So, in effect, the above article is moot.

FOR SALE

LX200 EMC 8 inch telescope with tripod, ac/dc adapters, 26 mm series 4000 super plossl lens, 1.25 diagonal. It is in excellent condition; purchased new in 2000. 'Go To' computer system works superbly. Asking \$2000.00. Call 973-316-5427 or email me at Mikebro_1@excite.com.

Mike Heuler

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF. . .

How can a stranger tell if two people are married?

"Married people usually look happy to talk to other people." Eddie, age 6

"You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids." Derrick, age 8

"That's easy. The people smiling are single, and the people who are crying are married." John, age 6

"Married people have lots of wrinkles." Justine, age 6

What do most people do on a date?

"Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough." Lynette, age 8

"On the first date they just tell each other lies, and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date." Martin, age 10

Is it better to be single or married?

"I don't know which is better, but I'll tell you one thing, I'm never going to have sex with my wife. I don't want to be all grossed out." Theodore, age 8

"It's better for girls to be single than for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them." Anita, age 9

How would the world be different if people didn't get married?

"There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there?" Kevin, age 8

"Kids wouldn't know who their mommies and daddies were." Lori, age 5

How would you make your marriage work?

"I'd bring her gummy worms every night." Adam, age 6


"Tell your wife she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck." Ricky, age 10



ROCKLAND ASTRONOMY CLUB - (201)768-3295

February 2002

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

						1 Sunrise 07:07 Set 17:13 Moonset 09:41 Rise 21:56	2 Sunrise 07:06 Set 17:14 Moonset 10:10 Rise 23:08
3 Sunrise 07:06 Set 17:15 Moonset 10:39 Rise --	4 Sunrise 07:04 Set 17:16 ● LQ Moonset 00:19 Set 11:09	5 Sunrise 07:03 Set 17:17 Moonset 01:28 Set 11:43 7:30pm NEAR COMMITTEE MEETING AT LHVCC	6 Sunrise 07:02 Set 17:19 Moonset 02:36 Set 12:20	7 Sunrise 07:00 Set 17:20 Moonset 03:40 Set 13:04	8 Sunrise 06:59 Set 17:21 Moonset 04:39 Set 13:53 ALPHA AURIGIDS 7:30pm REGULAR CLUB MEETING AT NRHS PLANETARIUM	9 Sunrise 06:58 Set 17:22 Moonset 05:32 Set 14:48 NEW MOON OBSERVING AT WAWAYANDA	
10 Sunrise 06:57 Set 17:24 Moonset 06:17 Set 13:47	11 Sunrise 06:56 Set 17:25 Moonset 06:55 Set 16:47	12 Sunrise 06:54 Set 17:26 ● NM Moonset 07:28 Set 17:48	13 Sunrise 06:53 Set 17:27 Moonset 07:55 Set 18:48	14 Sunrise 06:52 Set 17:29 Moonset 08:21 Set 19:46	15 Sunrise 06:51 Set 17:30 Moonset 08:44 Set 20:45	16 Sunrise 06:49 Set 17:31 Moonset 09:06 Set 21:43	
PRIME OBSERVING WINDOW							
WINTER STAR PARTY IN FLORIDA KEYS							
PRIME OBSERVING WINDOW							
17 Sunrise 06:48 Set 17:32 Moonset 09:29 Set 22:42	18 Sunrise 06:47 Set 17:34 Moonset 09:59 Set 23:43  President's Day	19 Sunrise 06:45 Set 17:35 Moonset 10:21 Set --	20 Sunrise 06:44 Set 17:36 ● FQ Moonset 00:46 Rise 10:53 7:30pm ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT LHVCC	21 Sunrise 06:42 Set 17:37 Moonset 01:51 Rise 11:31	22 Sunrise 06:41 Set 17:38 Moonset 02:56 Rise 12:19	23 Sunrise 06:40 Set 17:39 Moonset 03:59 Rise 13:17 7:00pm RAC ANNUAL DINNER	
24 Sunrise 06:38 Set 17:41 Moonset 04:56 Rise 14:25	25 Sunrise 06:37 Set 17:42 Moonset 05:46 Rise 15:39	26 Sunrise 06:35 Set 17:43 Moonset 06:28 Rise 16:58	27 Sunrise 06:34 Set 17:44 ○ FM Moonset 07:05 Rise 18:16	28 Sunrise 06:33 Set 17:45 Moonset 07:38 Rise 19:34			

DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 18.