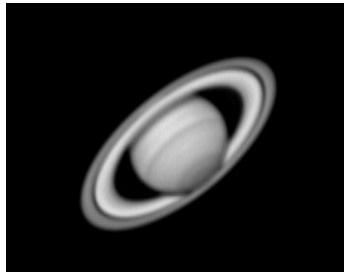


WELCOME TO S*T*A*R

S*T*A*R (The Society of Telescopy, Astronomy, and Radio) is the focal point for amateur astronomy in Monmouth County, NJ, attracting members of all ages, occupations and educational backgrounds. S*T*A*R's objectives are to promote the enjoyment of astronomy and to increase the level of astronomical knowledge among its members and the public. The club holds regular meetings, observing nights, field trips, and special activities such as amateur telescope making, assisting local schools, scouts, and the park system in conducting public astronomy programs



worldwide network of observers who tracked Sputnik to see how the earth's atmosphere affects satellite orbits. The club was incorporated in 1969.

Meetings

S*T*A*R holds its meetings on the first Thursday of the month from September to June, at 8 PM. Meetings are held at the Monmouth Museum on the campus of Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ. S*T*A*R is a registered non-profit educational amateur astronomy society. Membership is open to anyone interested in any area of astronomy. Programs generally consist of lectures and discussions by members or guest speakers on a variety of interesting topics on astronomy. Refreshments are served during

the meeting and, weather permitting, a short observing session may occur afterwards. Everybody is welcome – please come along!

Membership Benefits

There's no better way to learn and enjoy a hobby than by joining a club. Whether you are an experienced amateur, or new to astronomy, S*T*A*R has plenty to offer. S*T*A*R members have varied interests spanning the entire hobby. From deep sky observing, to amateur telescope making, to astrophotography, to solar observing, you'll find it all at S*T*A*R!



S*T*A*R members receive the club's newsletter, the *Spectrogram*, the Astronomical League's

Reflector, and discounts on subscriptions to **Sky & Telescope** and **Astronomy** magazines. Members can borrow the club telescopes (8" & 13" Dobsonians), and share our enormous 25" telescope – one of only two in New Jersey.

S*T*A*R Website

S*T*A*R prides itself on having one of the finest websites in all amateur astronomy. Here you'll find information on club events, weather related to astronomy, amateur telescope making, astro photos, star charts, classified ads and links to just about everything astronomical.

Surely the most popular and most visited section of the website is our discussion board. Here members discuss equipment, scope building, observing plans/reports, astronomy news, getting started in astronomy and anything else related to the stars. The board is open to the public – please stop in and chat at www.starastronomy.org.

Activities



In addition to monthly meetings, S*T*A*R special interest groups meet regularly to make telescopes, share astrophotography techniques and observe. S*T*A*R members often participate in 'star parties' at local schools where children and their parents get a close up view of the wonders of the night sky. S*T*A*R hosts an annual picnic for members and their families

Getting Started in Astronomy – Don't Buy a Telescope Yet!

The best way to get started in astronomy to is to read books, websites and magazines. This will help you decide what you are interested in doing, and what equipment you will need. You can start to explore the sky with a pair of binoculars that you may already own. Too many people buy low aperture, department store telescopes on very poor mounts and are quickly disappointed. Do some homework first - an excellent beginner's telescope will cost around \$300. If you come to a monthly S*T*A*R observing session you can try different telescopes and learn about them from their owners. We can help you to choose a telescope you will use and treasure. S*T*A*R produces an Introductory Observing Guide, free to new members, which provides a list of objects in the night sky and how to find them.



S*T*A*R Astronomy Society, Inc Membership Application Form

Memberships:

- () Individual....\$25
() Family.....\$35

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State____ Zip_____

Phone_____

E-mail_____

How did you find out about S*T*A*R?

Make check payable to: STAR Astronomy Society, Inc & send to us at

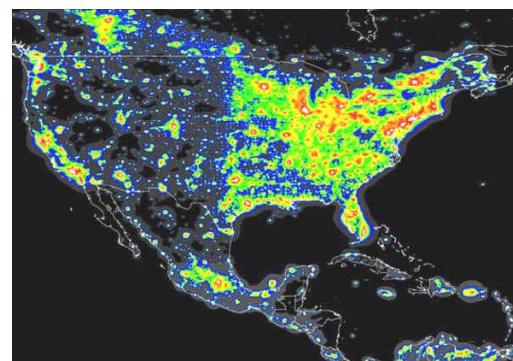
STAR Astronomy Society
P.O. Box 863
Red Bank, NJ, 07701

Membership year starts with the first meeting in September and runs for one year. Publications are not included in membership dues, but are available through S*T*A*R at club discount rates. Subscriptions amounts must be paid in full before S*T*A*R will enter them.

Save the Stars!

One of our planet's most beautiful resources, the dark, star filled night sky, is being quickly destroyed by light pollution.

Look up at the night sky tonight, even if it is cloudy. Do you see darkness? The Milky Way? If you live anywhere in New Jersey you will probably see an ugly red glow. This glow is caused by poorly placed or designed lights that direct light into the sky rather than onto the ground where we need it. In the United States more than a billion dollars a year is wasted by needlessly lighting up the sky.



In addition to preventing us from enjoying the night sky, poor lighting produces glare, damaging our ability to see which makes road accidents more likely. Government studies have shown no relationship between nighttime lighting and crime reduction.

The good news is that light pollution can be prevented. There is no need to stop outdoor lighting, simply to use better lights. Good lighting fixtures cost no more to buy than poor ones, and cost less to run by being more efficient. You can find out more on the following web sites.

www.darksky.org

www.skyandtelescope.com/resources/darksky/

Journey to the S*T*A*R*S

S*T*A*R
Astronomy
Club



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