

The SAN MATEO COUNTY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

September 2018 — 653rd General Meeting Notice



EVENT HORIZON

Founded in 1960, the San Mateo County Astronomical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for amateur astronomers and interested members of the public. Society meetings and lectures are held on the first Friday of each month, September to June, and star parties two Saturdays a month. All events are free for members and friends of SMCAS. Family memberships are offered at a nominal annual cost. Detailed info is found at www.smcasastro.com, where those who want can join via Paypal.

Membership includes access to this monthly Event Horizon newsletter, discounted costs and subscriptions to calendars and magazines, monthly star parties of the Society and the College of San Mateo, use of loaner telescopes, field trips, social occasions and general meetings presenting guest speakers and programs. For additional information, please email us at SMCAS@live.com, or call us at (650) 678-2762.



NEW SMCAS OFFICERS and board members were elected at the July StarBQue, held at Crestview Park in San Carlos. See page 2 for the first President's Corner column from our new President, Frank Seminaro. Outgoing President and incoming Secretary Marion Weiler gives full details in an article on page 6.

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UPCOMING DATES

Sep 7: General meeting, pizza, and presentation at the CSM Planetarium. Details on page 3.

Sep 18: SMCAS Board Meeting, CSM ISC room.

Sep 22: Fall Equinox spaghetti feed/potluck. Bring a dish to share. RSVP. See page 7.

Sep 23: Last day to order discounted 2019 astronomy publications through SMCAS. See page 2.

More events and further details on page 8.

President's Corner

Hello Everyone!

As your newly elected President, I would like to first take a moment to thank Marion Weiler for his time as our fearless leader for the past several years.

For those of you who haven't met me, I have been a member of the club for the past five years. My primary astronomy interest is astrophotography. I currently own several scopes and mounts including a 16-inch dobsonian. I use a Hyperstar for imaging which is mounted on a CF-11 and Losmandy G11. I am a gadget guy and can usually be found at Crestview star parties trying to get all my equipment to work together. Some nights have been more successful than others. My wife (Anne), Dog (Spyder) and I also travel for astronomy events, including the Golden State Star Party and Nightfall in Borrego Springs. We find both of these events are an amazing opportunity to meet new people, see incredible telescopes and experience very dark skies.

I have many other hobbies including woodworking, car restoration, and home improvement. I grew up in the trades and can pretty much fix anything. For college, I attended The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina and from there began my career in technology. I currently work for Oracle and can actually walk to work from my home in Belmont.

I am looking forward to working with the new board and club members. I recently read the Articles of Incorporation to review the original purposes of SMCAS. However, I am going to add a new #1—Have fun! My goal is to encourage more participation from the club members in new activities or even participation on the Board. Please stay tuned for new announcements

Your Board of Directors typically meets in the ISC room at CSM from 7:00–8:30pm monthly, on the third Tuesday of each month. More information about the Board of Directors, meeting schedule, and more can be found in Marion's article on page 6 and on the SMCAS website:

<http://www.smcasastro.com/board-of-directors.html>

Clear Skies!

Frank Seminaro

President, San Mateo County Astronomical Society

SMCAS Year-End Publication Orders

By Ed Ching

SMCAS will be placing orders on behalf of members for discounted publications for use in the coming year. To order, please submit payment (checks to SMCAS or exact change) to Ed Ching (chinged@gmail.com) on or before Sep 23, preferably at the club events on Sep 7 or 22. Include your name and explicit instructions on how many of which publication(s) you would like. All quoted prices include shipping. Publications should arrive in December, and will be made available for pickup soon thereafter. The publications are:

- [2019 Astronomy Magazine Deep Space Mysteries Wall Calendar](#). Monthly wall calendars with astronomical images each month, and interesting events noted on appropriate days, including moon phases. Price: \$7 (list \$12.99).
- [2019 RASC Observer's Handbook](#). Price: \$26.50 (list about \$32).
- [RASC Explore the Universe Guide](#). A beginner's observing guide introducing proper practices and techniques with targets of stars, constellations, lunar, planetary, deep sky, and other objects, requiring only binoculars. Price: \$22.50 (list about \$29).

SMCAS General Meeting and Presentation on Friday September 7, 2018

Dr Pascal Lee

Chairman, Mars Institute; Planetary Scientist, SETI

Special Showing: Passage to Mars

Friday, September 7, 2018, College of San Mateo, Building 36

SMCAS General meeting at 7:00 p.m. ISC Room, room 110

Presentation at 8:00 p.m. in the CSM Planetarium

Free and open to members and friends of SMCAS, free parking (lots 5 and 6 recommended)

Prepare yourself for an adventure! Before humans make it to Mars, they must conquer the Arctic. 'Passage to Mars' is the incredible true story of six men led by Dr Lee who embark on a treacherous, 2,000-mile journey across the forbidding ice of the Northwest Passage—an alien voyage on planet Earth designed to prepare NASA astro-nauts for an eventual mission to Mars. SMCAS will be showing a special presentation of the

documentary of the adventure: 'Passage to Mars'. James Cameron describes it: 'Captures the truth of exploration - the will to survive against the odds. Gripping!' Dr Pascal Lee will be on hand to introduce the video, set it in context, and answer questions at the end.



Dr Lee 2nd from right

Dr Pascal Lee is a planetary scientist with two non-profit research organizations, the [Mars Institute](#) and the [SETI Institute](#). He is also director of the [NASA Haughton-Mars Project \(HMP\)](#) at NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California. His research focuses on Mars (in particular the history of water on Mars), asteroids, and the moons of Mars, Phobos and Deimos. He also works on advancing the human exploration of Mars. The HMP is a field research project on Devon Island in the Canadian High Arctic, that's helping plan future human missions to Mars. Most summers you will find him on Devon Island! Dr. Lee is a recipient of the United States Antarctic Service Medal and the [Space Frontier Foundation's](#) Vision to Reality Award.

Dr Lee is a long time friend of SMCAS. Many of you will recall SMCAS and CSM worked with Dr Lee in 2011 to send CSM student Luis Alvarez on a summer internship at Haughton Crater, and we developed a joint proposal for the San Mateo Arctic Research Telescope (SMART). He has frequently presented to SMCAS about his work.

Antique Telescope Society Trip to Stellafane

By Ken Lum

This year, the Antique Telescope Society made the inspired choice to visit the site of the first ever public star party at the annual Stellafane Convention in Springfield, Vermont in early August. We then toured telescopes at various liberal arts colleges throughout Massachusetts finally ending up at Harvard University where we visited the 15-inch Merz and Mahler refractor of 1847 at the old Harvard College Observatory and the Harvard Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments.

Stellafane (meaning "Shrine to the Stars") began when its founder, Russel W. Porter, started teaching a telescope making class in his native Springfield, Vermont in 1920. Porter was educated in engineering, architecture and art at Norwich University, University of Vermont, and MIT. He was involved in several north polar expeditions early in his career. After his last expedition and an attempt to climb Mt. McKinley, Porter settled in Port Clyde, Maine in 1906 in an attempt to start an artists' colony and try his hand at farming. He became interested in astronomy during his polar expeditions where he was responsible for navigation.

Porter began making telescopes at Port Clyde, mostly on his own, and built an observatory. He was encouraged by a friend, James Hartness, who was president of Jones & Lamson, a Springfield machine tool manufacturer and an amateur astronomer. At the time, there was very little literature on how to make high quality telescopes. Most amateur telescopes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were small refractors made by professional craftsmen who kept their techniques secret. And reflecting telescopes often required mirrors of speculum metal which was a very difficult material to work and fashion into mirrors.

But the invention of the chemical deposition of reflective silver on glass by Justus von Liebig followed by the invention of the knife edge test by Jean Foucault in the mid 19th century set the stage for making telescope mirrors from glass. Nevertheless, Porter ended up having to improvise

his own methods for figuring his mirrors.

Porter moved back to Springfield in 1919 to work at Jones and Lamson and started his telescope making classes, mostly for machine tool employees in the area and anyone else with an interest. He founded the Springfield Telescope Makers (STM) club in 1923 making it the second modern astronomy club (The first was the Society for Popular Astronomy founded by Frederick C. Leonard and John Mellish in 1909 in Madison, Wisconsin but folding in 1918). In short order, a club house was built on a site Porter owned called Breezy Hill where members could have meetings and work on their telescopes. That club house was called "Stellafane" and is still in use today.

Around 1925, Albert G. Ingalls, an editor at *Scientific American* magazine developed an interest in building his own reflecting telescope. Like Porter, he found essentially no literature on how to go about doing this. (George W. Ritchey, who worked for George Ellery Hale at Yerkes and Mt. Wilson, relied on some papers from the 1860s by Henry Draper to build his first reflectors. He eventually did a great deal of new development beyond this to build his telescopes.)

Ingalls started by relying on a couple of articles by Porter in *Popular Astronomy* and a 1920 booklet titled "The Amateur's Telescope" by the Rev. William F. A. Ellison, Director of the Armagh Observatory in Northern Ireland. He soon made contact with Porter and became active in the new hobby and visiting Stellafane. Better yet, Ingalls began publishing articles in *Scientific American* about amateur telescope making which spread the word amongst many other would-be hobbyists.

Ingalls also published a new authoritative book in 1926 titled "Amateur Telescope Making" which was to become the primary instruction book for ATMers. This book went through several editions and expanded to 3 volumes. It is still available in revised format from Willmann-Bell publishers. This

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Stellafane, continued from p. 4

source was later joined by “Making Your Own Telescope” by A. J. Thompson (1947), “How to Make a Telescope” by J. Texereau (1951–1984), “All About Telescopes” by S. Brown (Edmund Scientific) (1967), and “Build Your Own Telescope” by R. Berry (1985), among others.

With these publications, telescope making spread through the US and postwar Europe. The hobby really took off during the “Space Race” of the 1960s especially for the Baby Boomers when commercial telescopes were still costly and the novelty of the daily drumbeat of space news encouraged us to stick with building our telescopes. That has diminished as commercial telescopes have become better and cheaper. Amateur telescope makers have retreated to being a niche demographic.

The first annual Stellafane convention was held in 1926 and with few exceptions (mostly WW II) has continued on to this day. Amateurs bring commercial and home-made telescopes to exhibit. Today, the Stellafane site hosts some permanently installed telescopes such as the Porter Turret telescope (1930), the McGregor Observatory with its 13-inch [Schupmann](#) folded refractor (1995), and a domed observatory containing a 10-inch Cassegrain telescope mounted on a Porter Springfield equatorial mount (2006). Porter always strove to make the observer more comfortable. His Springfield mount fixed the eyepiece in a mostly immobile location so the observer could sit comfortably while the telescope moved to different targets. Similarly, James Hartness developed the turret telescope to shelter the observer from the freezing subzero temperatures of rural Vermont.

There is also the Hartness-Porter Museum of Amateur Telescope Making located in the basement of the Hartness House hotel near Breezy Hill. It contains many artifacts from a century of telescope making activities of the STM.

Porter and a fellow STM member, Oscar Marshall, left Vermont in 1928 to work on the 200-inch



An original Porter Springfield telescope mount in the Hartness-Porter ATM Museum with a photo of how an observer could comfortably sit while observing.

Palomar reflector at the behest of George Ellery Hale. While there, Porter produced eye-popping cut-away perspective drawings of the giant telescope which greatly assisted the engineers in visualizing how its parts would come together and function long before the advent of CAD drawings, and helped publicize public awareness of the Palomar telescopes. These drawings are now archived at Cal Tech and posted on the Internet and published in a book titled “Giants of Palomar”. In subsequent years, Stellafane has spawned other meetings of telescope makers most notably the Riverside Telescope Makers Conference in Big Bear City, CA (1969), and the Texas Star Party (1979) along with a host of other smaller regional gatherings.

References

1. <https://stellafane.org>
2. Venables, K., The real origins of amateur telescope making. *Sky & Telescope*, 133(5):22–27 (May 2017).

Loaner Telescopes

By Ed Pieret

The picture at right may look like the inventory of a small telescope store. It is in fact the collection of SMCAS loaner telescopes.

All these instruments are available for members to borrow and use. Any of the telescopes in this collection are capable of showing Saturn's rings, Jupiter's moons and the mountains and craters on the Moon. They can be used to explore star clusters and bright nebulae.

Some of these telescopes are easy to use and would be good for a child interested in starting out in astronomy. Others are more sophisticated, and some have computer controls.

Many of the telescopes have been donated in new or nearly new condition. Some would cost hundreds to thousands of dollars to purchase. If you are thinking of purchasing your own telescope it would be a good idea to borrow one for a couple of months to decide if you really want to spend the money. If you still want to buy your own telescope,



you will be in a much better position to decide on what to buy.

If you want to borrow a telescope contact Ed Pieret at Epieret@comcast.net. I will be glad to discuss your needs and recommend a loaner telescope to you.

I will be providing much more detail on our website, SMCASastro.com.

Election of SMCAS Officer and Board Members for 2018–2019

By Marion Weiler, SMCAS Secretary

The SMCAS Annual meeting and election of Officers was held at Crestview Park on Saturday, July 14, 2018. At this meeting, nominations for the Officers and Board Members at Large were closed. There were no nominations from the floor. The Board slate was then unanimously approved by the members present and were installed into office. We are proud to have the following members voted into office and providing leadership and service to our community for the 2018–2019 term:

President: Frank Seminaro

Vice-President: Ed Pieret

Treasurer: Tom McDonough

Secretary: Marion Weiler

Board Members at Large: Edwin Ching, Bill Lockman, Ken Lum, Mary Ann McKay, Steve Minkin, and Mike Ryan.

Karen Boyer retired from her position on the Board as Treasurer, but is staying actively involved with SMCAS as a Board Member Emeritus. Thank you Karen for your years of faithful service as SMCAS Treasurer!

You can find more information about the Board of Directors, Board Meeting schedule and other information on the Board of Directors page under the "About" tab on the SMCAS web site. Check it out:

www.smcasastro.com/board-of-directors.html

Please note that SMCAS members are free to attend our Board meetings. We meet monthly, usually on the third Tuesday of the month in the ISC room at CSM. Contact a SMCAS Board member for more information and to arrange a free parking pass.

SMCAS Autumnal Equinox Social and Spaghetti Feast!

Come help us be part of the world community celebrating this year's Autumnal Equinox! Our Autumnal Equinox Social and Spaghetti Feast is scheduled for Saturday, September 22 at 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

Bring your appetite, your spouse, your family, friends and all the stories you wish to tell; there will be no truth meter present!

This event is free for members and their families/friends. You are encouraged to bring your favorite appetizer, bread, side dish or desert to share, but it is not required. We will supply the pasta and sauces, plates/utensils as usual! RSVP to Marion at mgwe@pacbell.net with the number of people in your party.

An equinox is the time when the sun crosses the plane of the earth's equator, making night and day of approximately equal length all over the Earth and occurring about March 21 (vernal equinox or spring equinox) and September 22 (autumnal equinox). Astronomically, the September Equinox marks the end of Summer and the beginning of Fall (Autumn) in the Northern Hemisphere



Many cultures around the world hold feasts and celebrate festivals and holidays to mark the September Equinox.

Where:

The Fireside Room
Crystal Springs Methodist Church
2145 Bunker Hill Drive, San Mateo, California
Telephone: 650-345-2381

Upcoming SMCAS Meetings and Events

We have many fun and interesting activities planned in the coming months. See the web site (www.smcasastro.com) or contact Marion Weiler (mgwe@pacbell.net) for more information or to volunteer at any of these events. Please contact Ed Pieret (epieret@comcast.net) if you are available to help out with Star Parties at Crestview Park and other locations.

Fri, Sep 7	7:00 pm	General Meeting, Pizza Social and Presentation
Sat, Sep 8	7:30 pm	Crestview Park Star Party
Tue, Sep 18	7:00 pm	SMCAS Board Meeting
Sat, Sep 22	6:00 pm	Fall Equinox Social, Crystal Springs Methodist Church
Sun, Sep 23		Last day to order discounted 2019 astronomy publications through SMCAS. Full details on page 2.
Sat, Sep 29	7:00 pm	Crestview Park Star Party
Fri, Oct 5	7:00 pm	General Meeting, Pizza Social and Presentation
Sat, Oct 6	6:30 pm	Crestview Park Star Party
Tue, Oct 16	7:00 pm	SMCAS Board Meeting
Sat, Oct 20	all day	Family Science and Astronomy Festival at CSM — Volunteers needed!
Fri, Nov 2	7:00 pm	General Meeting, Pizza Social and Presentation
Sat, Nov 3	6:00 pm	Crestview Park Star Party
Sat, Nov 10	5:00 pm	Crestview Park Star Party
Tue, Nov 20	7:00 pm	SMCAS Board Meeting

General meetings and board meetings are held in the ISC Room (room 110) in building 36 at the College of San Mateo, unless otherwise noted. For directions to the building or to the star party site at Crestview Park in San Carlos, see page 12. All SMCAS members are welcome at board meetings.

Crystal Springs Methodist Church is located at 2145 Bunker Hill Drive, San Mateo. The Holiday Party will be in the Fireside Room.

The times given for the star parties are approximately at sunset. Arrive then to set up a telescope or if you want to learn about telescopes. If you would like to merely see the wonders of the night sky through our telescopes, observing starts about an hour later and usually continues for about two hours.

A Trip Through the Milky Way

By Jane Houston Jones and Jessica Stoller-Conrad

Feeling like you missed out on planning a last vacation of summer? Don't worry—you can still take a late summertime road trip along the Milky Way!

The waning days of summer are upon us, and that means the Sun is setting earlier now. These earlier sunsets reveal a starry sky bisected by the Milky Way. Want to see this view of our home galaxy? Head out to your favorite dark sky getaway or to the darkest city park or urban open space you can find.

While you're out there waiting for a peek at the Milky Way, you'll also have a great view of the planets in our solar system. Keep an eye out right after sunset and you can catch a look at Venus. If you have binoculars or a telescope, you'll see Venus's phase change dramatically during September—from nearly half phase to a larger,

thinner crescent.

Jupiter, Saturn and reddish Mars are next in the sky, as they continue their brilliant appearances this month. To see them, look southwest after sunset. If you're in a dark sky and you look above and below Saturn, you can't miss the summer Milky Way spanning the sky from southwest to northeast.

You can also use the summer constellations to help you trace a path across the Milky Way. For example, there's Sagittarius, where stars and some brighter clumps appear as steam from a teapot. Then there is Aquila, where the Eagle's bright Star Altair combined with Cygnus's Deneb



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This illustration shows how the summer constellations trace a path across the Milky Way. To get the best views, head out to the darkest sky you can find. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech.

September Rise and Set Chart

SMCAS 2018 (PDT)	Sep 1 Rise	Sep 1 Set	Sep 8 Rise	Sep 8 Set	Sep 29 Rise	Sep 29 Set
Sun	6:40 AM	7:37 PM	6:45 AM	7:26 PM	7:03 AM	6:54 PM
Moon	11:27 PM	12:36 PM	5:22 AM	7:12 PM	10:09 PM	11:34 AM
Mercury	5:17 AM	6:57 PM	5:48 AM	7:06 PM	7:36 AM	7:14 PM
Venus	10:26 AM	9:13 PM	10:27 AM	8:55 PM	10:03 AM	7:50 PM
Mars	5:57 PM	3:11 AM	5:31 PM	2:49 AM	4:22 PM	2:00 AM
Jupiter	12:14 PM	10:36 PM	11:52 AM	10:11 PM	10:47 AM	8:59 PM
Jupiter's moons	c e(g)J i		(e)j i c		c J i e g	
8 PM, East on left	J=Jupiter, c=Callisto, e=Europa, g=Ganymede, i=Io, (x)=eclipsed					
Saturn	3:48 PM	1:27 AM	3:20 PM	12:59 AM	2:00 PM	11:34 PM
Uranus	9:45 PM	11:07 AM	9:18 PM	10:38 AM	7:53 PM	9:13 AM
Neptune	7:49 PM	7:16 AM	7:21 PM	6:47 AM	5:57 PM	5:22 AM
Pluto	4:56 PM	2:40 AM	4:28 PM	2:12 AM	3:05 PM	12:49 AM

- Star parties are at Crestview on the 1st, 8th, and 29th.
- Jazz Under the Stars is at CSM on the 15th.

- courtesy of Ron Cardinale

Fundraising for the Group: SMCAS Participates in AmazonSmile and Receives a Percentage of Your Purchase

SMCAS is now enrolled in AmazonSmile, a program that enables certified 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations to receive donations from eligible purchases at Amazon.



To enroll in the program, go to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit to this site, you can select a charitable organization – San Mateo County Astronomical Society (SMCAS) – that will receive 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible items on Amazon. How will you know if an item is eligible? Items are clearly and literally marked on the product detail pages with “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation.” For more information, go to smile.amazon.com/about.

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 7:49:51 PM Sunset	27	28	29	30	31	01 7:30 PM Crestview Star Party
02 7:39:50 PM Sunset	03	04	05	06	07 7:00 PM General Membership Meetin	08 7:30 PM Crestview Star Party
09 7:29:21 PM Sunset	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 7:18:34 PM Sunset	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 7:07:40 PM Sunset	24	25	26	27	28	29 7:00 PM Crestview Star Party
30 6:56:50 PM Sunset	01	02	03	04	05 7:00 PM General Membership Meetin	06 6:45 PM Crestview Star Party

• observing event • club event • community event

Calendar courtesy of Ed Pieret

Milky Way, continued from p. 9

and Lyra's Vega mark what's called the "summer triangle." The familiar W-shaped constellation Cassiopeia completes the constellation trail through the summer Milky Way. Binoculars will reveal double stars, clusters and nebulae all along the Milky Way.

Between Sept. 12 and 20, watch the Moon pass from near Venus, above Jupiter, to the left of Saturn and finally above Mars!

This month, both Neptune and brighter Uranus can also be spotted with some help from a telescope. To see them, look in the southeastern sky at 1 a.m. or later. If you stay awake, you can also find Mercury just above Earth's eastern horizon shortly before sunrise. Use the Moon as a

guide on Sept. 7 and 8.

Although there are no major meteor showers in September, cometary dust appears in another late summer sight, the morning zodiacal light. Zodiacal light looks like a cone of soft light in the night sky. It is produced when sunlight is scattered by dust in our solar system. Try looking for it in the east right before sunrise on the moonless mornings of Sept. 8 through Sept 23.

You can catch up on all of NASA's current—and future—missions at www.nasa.gov.

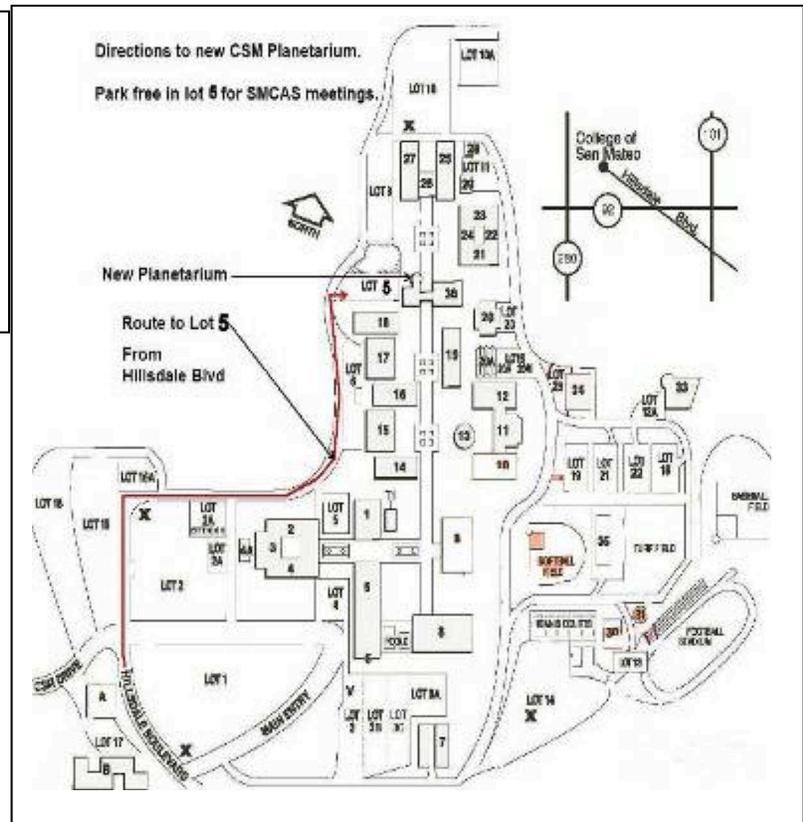
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Directions to SMCAS Meetings at CSM, and to Star Parties

Star Parties are Free to Members and Visitors and are Held Regularly, Weather Permitting

Directions to the CSM Planetarium for Meetings

After exiting Hwy 92 at Hillsdale Blvd, climb the hill towards CSM, passing two traffic lights to the stop sign at the top. Continue straight, bear right then, after the 2nd stop sign, bear left over the rise. Enter the next parking lot on the right, called Lot 5, "Marie Curie". Science Bldg 36 and the planetarium lie straight ahead. Enter Bldg. 36 thru the door facing the lot, or walk around the dome to the courtyard entrance.



Crestview Park

Come on out, and bring the kids, for a mind-blowing look at the Universe!

Bring your binoculars, telescopes, star guides, and lounge chairs for some informal star gazing at Crestview Park.

Dress warmly and wear a hat. Only visitors with telescopes should drive in. Others should park on the street and walk in, or arrive before dark so that car headlights don't affect the observers' dark adaptation. Bring small flash-lights only, covered with red cellophane or red balloon.

These measures avoid safety issues of maneuvering in the dark, as well as ruining the night vision of the viewers.

Please don't touch a telescope without permission. And, parents, please don't let children run around in the dark.

From Hwy 101 or El Camino, take Brittan Avenue in San Carlos, west (to the hills). Follow Brittan 2.3 miles (from El Camino) to Crestview Drive. Turn right on Crestview. In half-a-block, you will see a small blue posted sign with an arrow, indicating the entry road into Crestview Park. It lies between houses with addresses #998 and #1000 Crestview Drive.

From Highway 280, take Edgewood Road exit. Go east (toward the Bay) about 0.8 miles. Turn left at Crestview Drive. Go 0.5 mile uphill to where Crestview meets Brittan. Again, drive the half-block, to the sign on the right, and the entry road on the left.

Directions to Crestview Park for Star Parties

Note: If bringing a telescope and arriving after dark, please enter the Park with your headlamps and white interior lights off. If you aren't bringing a telescope, whether before or after dark, please park along Crestview Drive, and walk in.

2nd Note: Crestview Park is residential, adjacent to homes and backyards. Before inviting potentially noisy groups, please call Ed Pieret at (650) 595-3691 for advice and advisories. Call Ed also to check the weather and 'sky clock', and to see whether the star party is still scheduled.



San Mateo County Astronomical Society Membership Application

rev 04022017

SMCAS@live.com; P.O. Box 974, Station A, San Mateo CA 94403; (650) 678-2762

Date: _____ Please check one: [] New Member or [] Renewal

[] \$30 Regular Family Membership; [] \$15 Student Membership

All members, please indicate areas of interest below. New members, please complete entire form. Renewing members, please provide your name and any information that has changed in the last year.

We will list your name, address, email address, and phone number(s) in our membership roster unless you have checked the box preceding that information. The membership roster is distributed to active members only.

Each member's name and mailing address must be provided to the Astronomical League (AL), SMCAS' parent organization. If you don't want AL to have your phone number and email address, indicate below.

[] Name(s) _____ [] Email Address _____

[] Address _____

[] City & Zip Code _____

[] Phone Number(s): _____ [] Do not provide my phone number(s) to the AL.

[] Don't provide my email address to the AL. (Checking this means you can ONLY get **The Reflector** by regular mail)

Please check one: send **The Reflector** [] by mail, or [] by email.

Areas of Interest

SMCAS encourages member involvement. We invite you to provide additional information about your interests, skills, occupation and prior experience. Please identify SMCAS projects and functions that you might like to help facilitate.

Please indicate which of the following activities might be of interest to you:

_____ Star Parties - Do you own a telescope you can bring: Yes () No ()

_____ General Meetings - Finding (or being) a Speaker. Official greeter. Set up or take down ISC or refreshments.

_____ Family Science Day & Astronomy Festival (Usually at CSM the first Saturday in October).

_____ Social Events - Equinoctial and Summer Solstice potlucks, Summer Star-B-Que, Holiday Potluck.

_____ SMCAS Membership and Promotional Drives

_____ Communications – 'Event Horizon' Newsletter, Website(s), Facebook page, group email, Publicity posting.

_____ Educational Programs – School, museum and library star parties, Bay Area Astro teacher assistants.

Other/Comments: _____

<http://www.SMCASASTRO.com>