



The Refractor

The Bulletin of the Eastbay Astronomical Society
 Founded in 1924 at Chabot Observatory, Oakland, California

Volume 86
 Number 13

October 2010

October EAS Lecture Meeting

Title: **Solar Astronomy at Chabot and Hydrogen-Alpha Solar Observing**

Speakers: **Terry Galloway & Jim Ferreira, Eastbay Astronomical Society**

When: October 23, 7:30pm

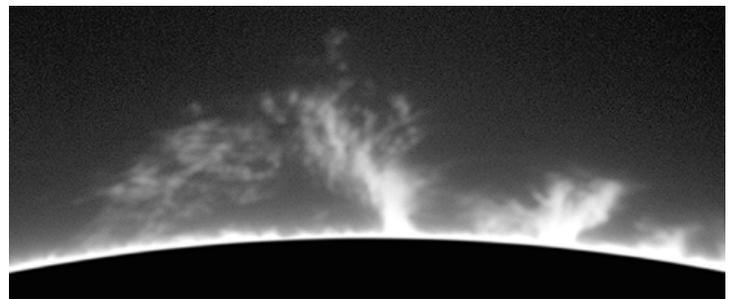
Location: Galileo Room, 2nd Floor, Spees Building, Chabot Space & Science Center

Solar observing is an important part of weekend astronomy at Chabot Space and Science Center. Each clear Saturday and Sunday afternoon a variety of solar telescopes are setup on the observing deck offering visiting public an opportunity to see our nearest star first hand. Terry Galloway will talk about the equipment presently being used to view the sun in white-light, Hydrogen-Alpha and Calcium K, and discuss the considerable interest shown by CSSC visitors in viewing the ever changing face of our sun. Terry will also give an update on the CSSC Solar Telescope project - a 20 inch vacuum solar telescope that will be permanently installed at Chabot to provide spectacular live views of daily solar activity.

Viewing our nearest star with a telescope equipped with a Hydrogen-Alpha filter is like discovering a whole new sun. Along with the familiar sunspots, chromospheric features can be clearly seen such as dark, snaking filaments, patches of brilliant plages, constantly changing spicules and fibrils and periodic solar flares. Plus those amazing prominences dancing on the limb of the sun. Even during periods of low solar activity there is much to be seen. EAS Newsletter Editor Jim Ferreira will talk about equipment presently available to the amateur and show what can be seen and imaged with modest aperture equipment from a suburban location.



Above left, the Swedish 20 inch Vacuum Telescope as it appeared on the island of La Palma. At right, architectural illustration of the Swedish Solar Telescope installation in the works at CSSC.



Quiescent solar prominence shot October 15th 2010 by Jim Ferreira with a 50mm aperture Hydrogen-Alpha filter from his suburban backyard in Livermore, CA.

DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER
 5:30, Sat, Oct.23
Hunan Yuan
 4100 Redwood Rd.
 (next to Safeway)
 No need to confirm,
 Just show up!

Inside this issue:

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 -Membership Renewal Form page 4

EAS Loaner Scope Program has telescopes available for rental by EAS members. Scopes include 60mm and 80mm refractors, a C-90, two 10 inch Dobsonians, and ; 4 and 8 inch Schmidt-Cassegrains. Scope rental is \$15 a month, with a \$50 deposit. For information, contact Ray Wong at (510) 796-5748 or qm7@yahoo.com

EAS Membership Renewal Time

That time of year is upon us once more. Included in this newsletter is a snail-mail membership renewal form. A quicker and easier way to renew is visit the EAS membership renewal page on-line at:

<http://www.eastbayastro.org/index/application.htm>

Annual dues: \$24 regular membership \$10 students



WANTED: PHOTOS OF OLD CHABOT

Do you have photographs of the Mountain Boulevard Chabot Observatory? If you do, pick out the best of the best and send a scanned image to the Newsletter editor. A new image will be posted in the newsletter each month.

FUTURE CONJUNCTIONS—2010

Oct 23 EAS General Meeting, Chabot, Physics Lab, 7:30pm
14 Board Meeting, Chabot, Soda Board Rm, 7:30pm
17 EAS MOVN
Nov 20 EAS General Meeting, Chabot, Physics Lab, 7:30pm
11 Board Meeting, Chabot, Soda Board Rm, 7:30pm
14 EAS MOVN
Dec 12 EAS MOVN

For questions or if you are uncertain about the weather, call (925)926-0853 before 6pm, or check Chabot's weather page at <http://www.chabotspace.org/forms/weather.aspx>

CSSC Joint Powers Authority Board

EAS member and long time CSSC volunteer David Birnbaum recently announced that he would be stepping down as one of two EAS members on the Chabot Space and Science Center 'Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Board.' David, along with tireless Terry Galloway, has strived to keep astronomy in the forefront of CSSC strategic planning as JPA board members. His considerable knowledge and experience will be sorely missed. We wish to thank David for his fine work on the JPA board and look forward to his continued participation in EAS and volunteer work at Chabot Space and Science Center.

We are fortunate to have another long time CSSC volunteer and EAS member, Rollen Maski, stepping into David's sizeable shoes on the JPA board. Thank you Rollen for taking on this most important assignment.

For those not aware of the JPA:

Chabot Space & Science Center has two separate Boards of Directors - the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Board and the Foundation Board. The JPA Agency was created in May 26, 1989 by a Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Oakland, the Oakland Unified School District, and the East Bay Regional Park District and in collaboration with the East-bay Astronomical Society. The JPA Board provides oversight to the general operations and governance of the Center, giving its approval to all major expenditures, appointments and strategic decisions.

The Chabot Space & Science Center Foundation is a separate 501c3 nonprofit corporation that receives contributions, donations, and other funds from various sources for the benefit of the Center. The role of the Foundation Board is to assist in Chabot's fundraising effort through personal contributions and in-kind resources, and to help promote and build support for Chabot in the community.

Chabot Space & Science Center Invites EAS Members to Volunteer with Us!

- Share your knowledge of and passion for astronomy with thousands of CSSC visitors
- Experience the unique opportunity to operate Chabot's historical telescopes
- Share your own telescope at Chabot*
- Inspire young astronomers and future scientists by assisting students in our astronomy education programs

Explore these opportunities at our next Volunteer Orientation!

For upcoming orientation dates, or for more information, please contact us at: volunteers@chabotspace.org or, call our Volunteer Manager Megan Gray at (510) 336-7414

**EAS members who are only interested in sharing their own telescope at Chabot are required to attend a Chabot volunteer orientation and complete a self-guided training worksheet entitled "Getting to know Chabot." After completion, you may join us on deck and share your own telescope any Friday or Saturday night!*

***Full Chabot Volunteers must make the regular volunteer commitment and pursue official placement through the Volunteer Manager.*



A splendid full moon portrait by long time EAS member and past Chabot Observatory Director of Instruments, Bob Schalck, now living in Bend, Oregon. Shot afocally with a 90mm refractor using a 25mm eyepiece and Sony Cybershot 7 megapixel digital camera. Good stuff; Bob! Keep 'em coming.

EAS Library: Hours, 3:00pm - 7:00pm every Friday, and immediately after monthly EAS lecture meetings. The library is located on the second floor of the Del-lums Building, down the hall next to the interactive lunar lander exhibit.

Volunteer librarians are needed to expand library hours. **We are particularly interested in any member having experience with book cataloging software.** If you'd like to help contact EAS president Barry Leska at b.leska@comcast.net

Astronomer John Bally
Tentative lecture Nov. 3rd 2010
Mark your Calendars!

Long time EAS members may remember a teenage John Bally at old Chabot Observatory - a very enthusiastic and talented amateur astronomer. John went on to become a radio astronomer, earning his PhD at the University of Massachusetts. His research has since taken him all over the world, including Antarctica.

Don't miss what should be a very special evening. A book signing is also planned.

EASTBAY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

New Renewal (Just print this page, fill it out, and mail it in!)

NAME: (please print) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

DAY PHONE: (____) _____

EVE PHONE: (____) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: (please print very legibly!) _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Regular \$24 Family \$36 Contributing \$40

Sustaining \$60 or more \$ _____ Student \$10 (digital newsletter only)

Optional discounted 12-month magazine subscriptions:

Note: Discounted magazine subscriptions are now handled directly with the publishers. You will need to be entered into our database as a current member before you can claim such discounts.

To take advantage of your discount, log into your EAS Night Sky Network account (new members should wait up to two weeks for their email invitation), click on "Links", and then select "New and Renewal subscriptions." From there you can choose the magazine of your choice.

Optional, tax deductible donation(s) to any of the projects of the Eastbay Astronomical Society:
Burns Library \$ _____ Betty Neall Youth Award Fund \$ _____ General \$ _____ Other: _____ \$ _____

EAS Lapel Pin \$3.00 +\$1.00 per pin for shipping and handling. # of pins _____

Total Amount for # of pins \$ _____

(Tip: If you buy them at a club meeting or event, you can avoid the S&H fee.)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail this form and your check or money order payable to:

Eastbay Astronomical Society

PO Box 18635

Oakland, CA 94619-0635

For more information, please contact club Treasurer Richard Ozer at (510) 406-1914, rozer@pacbell.net, or write him at the address, above.

By default, (if you have an email address) you will be notified by email that the digital (.pdf) version of the club newsletter is ready to download off the club website. If you prefer to get the B&W hard copy, please check the box below:

I prefer the hard copy mailed to the address entered above.

And,

Are you interested in volunteering your time/equipment for public stargazing at Chabot?

Are you interested in doing other volunteer work for Chabot and/or the Eastbay Astronomical Society?

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!



Eastbay Astronomical Society

At Chabot Space & Science Center
10000 Skyline Boulevard • Oakland, CA 94619

October 2010
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Eastbay Astronomical Society

President: Barry Leska b.leska@comcast.net

Treas: Richard Ozer (510) 532-5477 rozer@pacbell.net

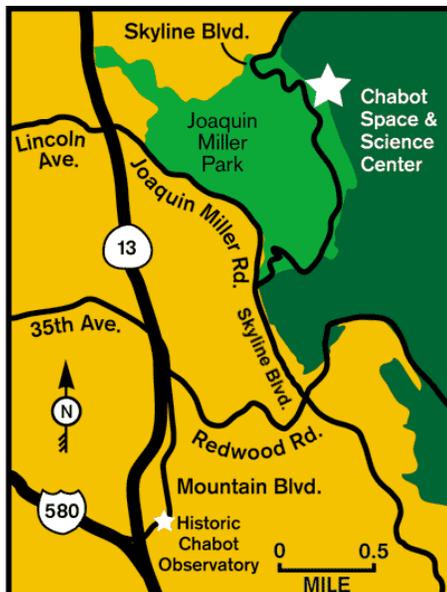
Secretary: Linda Lazzaretti (510) 633-2488

Articles and photos for *The Refractor* are encouraged. Deadline for the Nov. 2010 issue is November 10, 2010. Items may be submitted by snail-mail or E-mail to: Editor - Jim Ferreira, 753 Oriole Avenue, Livermore CA 94551 bakerst@comcast.net (925) 449-0107

Vice President: Ray Wong (510) 796-5748 qm7@yahoo.com

Membership Reg: Bruce Skelly EastbayAstro@gmail.com

Events Coord: Dave Rodrigues (510) 483-9191



FUTURE CONJUNCTIONS

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|--------|--|
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Join the Eastbay Astronomical Society

- Regular, \$24/year
- Family, \$36/year
- Contributing, \$40/year
- Student, \$15/year (digital news-letter, only)
- Sustaining, \$60/year or more

Contact: Gerald McKeegan, EAS Treasurer
Tele: (925) 926-0853 Email: geraldspace@earthlink.net
Mail: 1760 1st Ave, Walnut Creek, CA 94597-2561

Sign up online at <http://www.eastbayastro.org/>