

January 26, 2008, 9:56 AM

CENTRAL COAST ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Sharing the Night Sky for over 25 Years

<http://www.ccastronomy.org>

President Daniel George amonatumra@yahoo.com 805-462-9126

This issue is devoted to a smorgasbord of interesting, wonderful, fascinating, educational and surprising events happening on and above Earth.

Note: Educators, Scientists and Engineers interested and involved in STEM education See the last item in this bulletin for an upcoming symposium.

ASTEROID ALERT: 800-foot Long Asteroid 2007 TU24 Passing Very Close to Earth on January 29th

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.cfm?release=2008-012>

<http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/080124-asteroid-flyby.html>

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/community/skyblog/observingblog/14346437.html>

ASTEROID ALERT: JPL Gets First Images of Asteroid 2007 TU24

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.cfm?release=2008-014>

ASTEROID ALERT: Arecibo Preparing to Study Asteroid 2007 TU24 Close Flyby of Earth

<http://www.physorg.com/news120483899.html>

Comets: Stardust Research Results: Comet Wild 2 Dust is Similar to Asteroids

https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/news_releases/2008/NR-08-01-05.html

Jupiter: New Giant Storms Imaged by Hubble are Amazing Astronomers and Scientists

<http://www.universetoday.com/2008/01/25/gigantic-storms-on-jupiter-grow-in-a-single-day/>

<http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.nl.html?pid=24605>

Global Warming: Antarctic Ice Loss Speeds Up, Close to Matching Greenland's Loss of Ice

<http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=24606>

Global Warming: American Geophysical Union Releases Strong Statement on Threat of Global Warming

http://www.agu.org/sci_soc/policy/positions/climate_change2008.shtml

Jupiter Photo Op: Hubble Space Telescope Studies New Giant Storm

<http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2008/06/>

Mercury Photo Op: MESSENGER Flyby of Mercury: Beautiful Color Photo

http://messenger.jhuapl.edu/gallery/sciencePhotos/image.php?gallery_id=2&image_id=132

Mercury Fever Catches On

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/objects/planets/14029937.html>

Photo Op: Mars Rover Opportunity Continues Taking Stunning Pictures: Behold – Victoria Crater Panorama

Truly amazing, after spending 47 months crawling around Mars

<http://www.universetoday.com/2008/01/25/amazing-panorama-of-mars-victoria-crater-from-opportunity/>

Photo Op: New Chandra X-ray Observatory Image of Westerlund 2

<http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/2008/wd2/>

Hubble Space Telescope: HST's Upcoming Overhaul Mission

<http://www.space.com/business/technology/080123-hubble-upgrades-techwed.html>

NSF News: Lithium & Beryllium No Longer "Lack Chemistry"

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=111031&govDel=USNSF_51

Meteors: First Meteor Observed Originating Outside the Solar System ?

<http://www.universetoday.com/2008/01/25/researchers-observe-extra-galactic-meteor/>

Private Spaceflight: Virgin Galactic Unveils Design for New Suborbital Spaceliner, SpaceShipTwo

<http://www.space.com/news/080123-virgingalactic-ss2-design.html>

Stargazing: Beautiful Early Morning Sky Show – Venus, Jupiter and the Moon

<http://www.space.com/spacewatch/080125-ns-moon-planets.html>

Telescopes: Truce Between Telescope Manufacturers

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/community/skyblog/newsblog/14070427.html>

The Universe: High-Energy X-rays Detected from Galaxy Cluster

<http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/080125-x-ray-cluster.html>

The Universe: Arecibo Finds Critical Ingredients for Soup of Life in Galaxy 250 Million Light Years Away

<http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.nl.html?pid=24586>

Dinosaur Extinction Event: Killer Space Rock Theory is “All Wet”

<http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/080124-impact-crater.html>

Sun: Sun’s Magnetic Wave Secret Revealed

<http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/080122-st-sunshine-hinode.html>

GLAST: NASA Prepares to Launch Gamma Ray Large Areas Telescope in May

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/24jan_glast.htm?list212050

NASA: Revising NASA’s Vision May Mean No Moon Bases, But Manned Missions to Asteroids and More Science Work

<http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewnews.nl.html?id=1268>

Caltech: Keck Foundation Gives \$24 Million to Establish a New Space Institute

<http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.nl.html?pid=24595>

LHC: Large Hadron Collider Could Detect “Unparticles”

<http://www.universetoday.com/2008/01/23/large-hadron-collider-could-detect-unparticles/>

STEM Education: 2008 National Symposium for Scientists & Engineers

Feb. 27 – Mar. 1st, San Diego

Walt has details in a PDF file. Contact Walt for this file.

Also, see another info file http://www.nsrconline.org/pdf/2008_SE_main.pdf

National Science Resources Center <http://www.nsrconline.org/>

For the first time on the West coast the **National Sciences Resource Center of the Smithsonian and National Academies** will conduct this 4-day meeting in San Diego. This is directed at scientists and engineers from business, research or university who are engaged in science education outreach who would benefit from this national symposia “Changing the Course of Science Education”.

Why Attend?

The NSRC has found that the most effective science programs operate with support from the community, and especially from leaders in science and engineering. The 2008 National Symposium for Scientists and Engineers will explore ways in which you can channel your leadership skills in a new direction by working to improve K–16 science education.

Symposium goals:

- Review the state of science education and become familiar with available resources documenting the challenges of effective programs.
- Develop a shared vision for effective K–16 science learning and teaching through hands-on, inquiry-based science experiences and visits to virtual classrooms.
- Learn about research and best practices that support that vision.
- Review and discuss the characteristics of effective programs at the district and state levels.
- Discuss the varying roles of scientists and engineers in advancing K–16 science education reform.

Who Should Attend?

Scientists and engineers from both the public and private sectors, directors of research, directors of human resources, and deans and department chairs in science, engineering, and education. The NSRC strongly recommends that your organization support a two-person team who can co-lead and support your efforts to advance K–16 science education.

Walter Reil

CCAS Communications

JPL Solar System Ambassador

home: 805-466-0757 ccas@ccastronomy.org

office: 805-545-6570 wer1@pge.com
