

Re: NYC Events February 9/11

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Continued from previous message.

Astroclubs like to pass along NYC Events to their members. Way to go!! By letting your members know of activities around your own turf you broaden their astronomy experience and encourage cross visits with other clubs.

There are two ways to give NYC Events to your members. First is to give the entire article with no alteration. The other is to pare down the list to better suit your membership. If you do, please add a note at the top that your peculiar version of NYC Events is an adaptation and that the complete one is in NYSkies or the sci.astro.* newsgroups.

Amateur Astronomers Association Inc in January 2005 passed up NYC Events for its website. It is the choice of a club to give its members NYC Events thru it, so I'm completely neutral toward AAA's decision.

I'm always looking out for astronomy nourishment not yet in NYC Events. If you know of any, either oneshot events or a continuing series, let me know. Provide the six 'W's of news reporting, plus an extra one just for you NYC Readers:

Who – sponsor name, website, phone, email

What – title and description of event

When – day, date, hour, duration

Where – place, address, room of event

Why – anniversary, memorial, may be included with 'what'

hoW – tickets, security ID, registration

Wow – interest for NYC Events readers

The only real conditions are that the event be open to the public; no members-only or invite-only events. I confine to the commuting radius around New York City. This covers Long Island, west Connecticut, Hudson Valley, Catskills, Delaware Valley, north and central New Jersey. I do put in select astronomy conferences and starparties beyond this zone.

Event news

At the Starry Nights jazz show at the Hayden Planetarium, you'll find us around a cocktail table with a 'NYSkies' and 'National Space Society' sign on it. First look on the lower deck among the

planetarium exhibits. Then on the upper deck overlooking them.

The American Museum of Natural History offers certain activities for its own members which I previously included in NYC Events. No one ever objected and these events were at times mixed into Museum notices for public ones. After clarification about which are which I now omit the members-only activities.

Amateur Astronomers Association closed off its Recent Astronomy Seminar and Observing Group meetings, effective on January 13th. They are now restricted only for AAA members; guests and visitors are no longer allowed. So, like for any other club's internal activities, such as darksky observing or committee meetings, I now omit the Seminar and OG.

The Graduate Center at City University of New York starts in February a series of shows and lectures about Albert Einstein. 2005 is the 100th anniversary of the first publication of his relativity theory. Recall that in 2002 a megashow about Einstein opened at the American Museum of Natural History, which then toured the country. Now it's heading back to Israel for permanent installation in April, the actual anniversary of the relativity publication.

The big showcase for science in the City is the Science and Engineering Fair at City College on February 13th. Free to the public, this megaexhibit present some 1,500 --- one thousand five hundred! --- high school science project in competition for the citywide and national awards. Some of them, being that I was a judge in previous years, are amazingly good. And many relate to astronomy and space.

The Verdopols conference, starting on February 7th, is a rather heavy high-powered show, with a heavy high-powered fee. I can't expect many readers to attend, but there may be some free exhibits in the halls outside the conference rooms in Time-Warner Center. The importance of this conference is the brainstorming it provides for the growth and development of the City in this century under the ethic of harmony with nature. For us astronomers that includes energy conservation and removal of luminous graffiti from our skies.

Sky News

Comet Machholz is putting up a good show for us! Machholz's close approach to the Pleiades was totally clouded out, but there were enough clear (and chilly) nights to let us follow it thru Taurus and Perseus. The comet is still an easy binocular target, holding up quite well and behaving itself nicely.

We're all aflutter about the success of the Huygens probe! Several NYSkiers, and about four hundred other city space and astro fans!, were at the Hayden Planetarium to take in a marathon of shows about the flight. (Some New York astronomy folk are not yet in NYSkies; WAAaaah!) They started on Friday the 14th evening and ran all thru Saturday the 15th into late afternoon. Many in the audience by mid day on Saturday were zonking out from lack of sleep!

A light pollution row broke out in late November. International Dark Sky Association (IDA) issued a proposed law for removing light pollution, now under comment and review. After massive protest from a

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wide variety of darksky leaders, IDA pulled back the draft for a rewrite. A revised bill is expected at end january. See

Continued in next message.

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