

## Astronomical Internet Resources

- ★ *How to Buy a Telescope*  
[www.scopereviews.com/begin.html](http://www.scopereviews.com/begin.html)
- ★ *How to Enjoy a Star Party*  
[http://docs.sdaa.org/\\_tds/TDS\\_StarPartyGuide.pdf](http://docs.sdaa.org/_tds/TDS_StarPartyGuide.pdf)
- ★ *Tonight's Sky*  
[http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/tonights\\_sky/](http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/tonights_sky/)
- ★ *How to Make a Star Finder*  
<http://lawrencehallofscience.org/starclock/skywheel.html>
- ★ *SkyMaps*  
[www.skymaps.com](http://www.skymaps.com)
- ★ *Heavens Above*  
[www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com)
- ★ *International DarkSky Association*  
[www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)
- ★ *Julian Starfest*  
[www.julianstarfest.com](http://www.julianstarfest.com)



## Contact the SDAA

San Diego Astronomy Association  
P.O. Box 23215  
San Diego, CA 92193

Internet: <http://www.sdaa.org>  
EMAIL: [sdaa@sdaa.org](mailto:sdaa@sdaa.org)

*Proudly Serving  
the community since 1963*

## Join the SDAA!

**Membership Information** – The SDAA has four levels of membership. An application form can be obtained from our website, and will have current dues information.

**Basic Membership** – This basic club membership, available to the general public, includes a copy of our monthly newsletter and an invitation to all Association activities.

**Contributing Membership** – All the benefits of Basic Membership, plus the member receives lock combinations at Tierra del Sol Observing Site for access during non-star party nights. Also, Contributing Members may be trained in use of the 22-inch Lipp Telescope, and members 21 years and older may serve on the SDAA Board of Directors.

**Family Membership** – Additional memberships are available for immediate family members who want membership privileges. NOTE: Family Membership is not a requirement for family members to attend meetings and observing sessions with other Association members as guests.

**Associate Membership** – Students 18 years of age and under may apply for Associate Membership. There is no charge for this membership as it is intended to get students interested and involved in astronomy. A limited number of Associate Memberships are available each year to students who are in good academic standing and meet other participation requirements. Requires approval from the SDAA Board of Directors.

Members may receive any of these three magazines available at an Association discount. They are:

**SKY & TELESCOPE**

**ASTRONOMY**

**ODYSSEY**

Membership level, subscription availability, and subscription prices subject to change.

To join, visit:  
[www.sdaa.org/Membership](http://www.sdaa.org/Membership)



# SAN DIEGO ASTRONOMY ASSOCIATION

*Promising you  
the Sun,  
the Moon,  
and the Stars...*



*The Andromeda Galaxy (M31). Photo by SDAA member Vince Bert.*

*...and delivering!*

The SAN DIEGO ASTRONOMY ASSOCIATION (SDAA) is a non-profit educational organization established and incorporated in 1963. Our purpose is to further the education of our members and the general public in the subjects of astronomy and related space and physical sciences, and to increase public awareness and enjoyment of these sciences.

Membership is composed of people from all walks of



*The Whirlpool Galaxy. Photo by SDAA member Jeff Lunglhofer.*

life who share a common scientific interest. Our members are a mix of enthusiasts who are new to astronomy to those who have enjoyed the hobby for many years (a few of our veteran members have even built their own telescopes). Some members are involved in school and civic activities around the county helping residents of San Diego see the night sky for the

very first time through a telescope. Some of our members conduct research for professional organizations, while others just enjoy the serenity of a night under a canopy of stars. Whatever a member's interests, all share a common fascination for the mysteries of our universe and a willingness to exchange and share the results of practical observational experience.

The SDAA holds regularly scheduled events for its membership and for the general public. Once a month, an educational lecture program and general meeting is presented for members and the general public. Regular observing sessions – *star parties* – are held at our ten-acre site in the East County, and the Association's 22-inch telescope is available for use by any member

trained in its operation. Star Parties are held for schools and youth groups, and members meet regularly in Balboa Park and Mission Trails Regional Park for public stargazing. Members conduct astronomy seminars for educators, mirror and telescope making classes, and classes in observing and astrophotography. An on-line messaging group for members is available to exchange ideas about astronomy with the local astronomical community. Members and the public are welcome to visit the SDAA's online web-site where they will find information about the club, club events, resources, and other informational items. Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to participate in any and all SDAA activities.



*SDAA member Peter DeBaan shares views through his telescope with the public at Balboa Park.*

### Tierra del Sol Observing Site

The SDAA's observing site is home to the Association's 22-inch telescope, public observing pads, and private observing sites available for lease by the membership. Located in East County San Diego in the small town of Tierra del Sol and known by the membership simply as *TDS*, members enjoy dark skies for astrophotography or basic star gazing. Bathrooms and a warming room are available to all, and limited overnight camping is available to the membership. More information and a map to TDS are available on our website.



*The Lipp 22" Telescope. Members can be trained in its use and schedule observing time on this world-class instrument.*

### Monthly SDAA Events

**Program Meetings** – Held the third Wednesday of each month except December & January, the Program Meeting is open to members and the general public. Association news, upcoming activities and events are discussed – followed by an educational talk or presentation by a featured speaker about an astronomy related topic.

**Stars in the Park™** – At dusk on the first Wednesday of each month, following the monthly *Sky Tonight* planetarium show in the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, members of the SDAA set up telescopes for free public sky viewing, on the Prado west of the Fleet Science Center (weather permitting).

**Stars at Mission Trails™** – The SDAA holds a monthly Star Party at Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) on the second Friday of every month at Kumeyaay Lake Campground on the Santee side of MTRP. Members set up telescopes in the day-use parking lot: turn to the right after you enter the campground. Directions can be found on MTRP's website ([www.mtrp.org/campground.asp](http://www.mtrp.org/campground.asp)).

**Tierra del Sol Public Star Parties** – Once a month, the SDAA *Tierra del Sol* Observing Site and the 22-inch Lipp Telescope are open to the public for a Star Party. Star Parties at the site begin at sunset. The public is invited to come out and view through the Association's telescopes and request views of their favorite objects. Check out the Association's website for directions to the site and other important information for your visit.

**Camp with the Stars** – One weekend every month (except December) members set up telescopes at campgrounds in San Diego County for public viewing. There is usually a slide show presentation on astronomy before the viewing session. During the summer months we are in the local mountains and during late Autumn through early Spring we are in the desert. The general public is welcome, but there is a fee to get into the campgrounds. Free camping is available to members who brings a telescope to share with the public.