

## Summer filled with opportunities for nighttime observing

The summer is a great time to get out and see the night sky. As the constellations of Scorpius and Sagittarius become visible to the south just after sunset, we are looking towards the center of our Milky Way galaxy. This means that the richest and most beautiful sections of it are on display. The galaxy will arc overhead from the southern horizon, up through the Summer Triangle and eventually pass through the twin W shapes of Lacerta and Cassiopeia before disappearing again on the northern horizon. Many nebulae and star clusters are visible in the summer sky, including the best globular cluster in our sky, M13, in the constellation of Hercules.

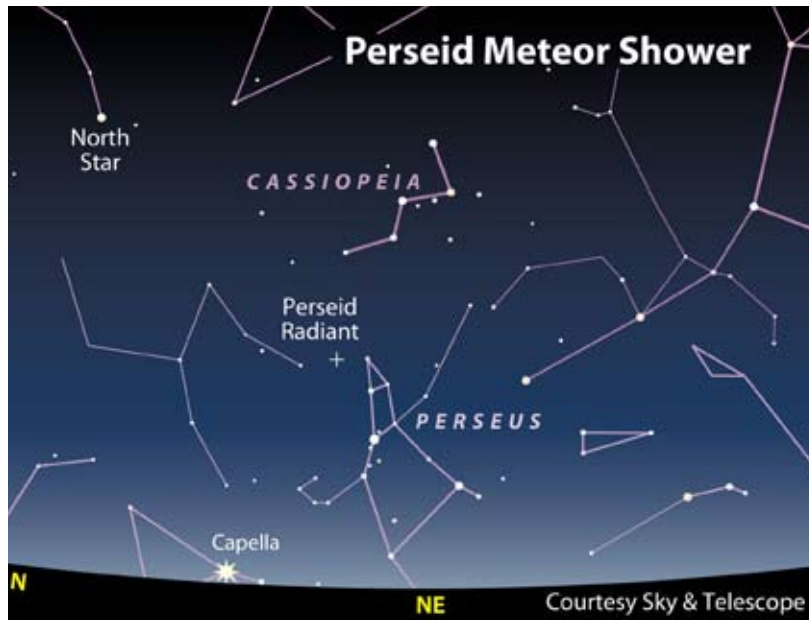
Saturn remains a prime target

for telescopes and binoculars through July and into early August. Just about the time Saturn will become hard to see, it will be joined by Mercury for a brief duet in the evening sky just after

(6<sup>th</sup> largest), Ganymede (Largest), and Callisto (3<sup>rd</sup> largest), and were originally discovered by Galileo Galilei. On September 2, at approximately 10:50 p.m., Ganymede and Europa

will be transiting Jupiter's face, Io will be behind the planet, and Callisto will be in Jupiter's shadow, making it invisible. This will last until Io emerges from Jupiter's shadow at about 12:30 a.m., followed by Europa finishing its transit about 20 minutes later. This will not occur again until 2019, it is highly recommend to get outside and see this fairly unique occurrence.

We are also coming up on the time of one of the better meteor showers of the year, the Perseids. Peaking around



midday on August 12, this shower has a chance of letting you see up to 90 an hour (~1-2 a minute) from a dark sky location. The moon is not perfect this year, but it should still be a good show. A meteor shower is caused by the Earth passing through comet debris as it orbits the sun. As that debris hits our atmosphere, it burns up and creates the beautiful meteor streaks across the sky. There is a decent chance for some fireballs and other large meteors. The best chance to see it is to get out away from the city lights during the early morning hours (2 – 4 a.m.) on either August 12 or 13.

There is a very interesting event that will be occurring with Jupiter in early September. For a brief time, Jupiter will appear to not have any of its major moons, The Galilean Satellites. These four moons are among the largest in the Solar System. They are named Io (4<sup>th</sup> largest), Europa

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## A special thank you to our members

Clark Planetarium members hold a special place in my heart. We share a common interest in supporting and promoting public science education programs that help people appreciate how amazing the universe really is, while at the same time having a positive and memorable experience. You are our core audience.

As planetarium members, you tell us what you want to see more of and where you want to see us improve. The staff and I care a lot about your feedback.

You also provide crucial support for our mission to create and present enlightening experiences that inspire wonder in learning about space and science for over 100,000 school children each year. Your purchase of an annual membership provides the planetarium with valuable financial support.

Especially in this challenging economy, it's important to remember what a great value your Clark Planetarium membership is for you and your family. Whether you come to the planetarium to tour our astronomy and space science exhibits, or to see shows in the ATK IMAX and Hansen Dome Theatres, you're getting a great bargain and supporting public science education. In addition to free tickets for our shows, don't forget that members enjoy discounts on birthday parties, concessions and Planet Fun Clark Planetarium Store merchandise.

I encourage you to visit us often and take advantage of the special events that we offer exclusively for members, like the special presentation by Mike Murray on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Apollo 11.

When you support the planetarium by purchasing and renewing your membership, you're saving money on great programs and you're helping the planetarium fulfill its role as an important part of the cultural and educational fabric of our community. It's a classic win-win partnership. THANK YOU!

Seth Jarvis, Director

## Golf tournament benefits space and science programs

Clark Planetarium's 5th Annual Golf Tournament was held on June 23 at Old Mill Golf Course in Salt Lake City. Participants enjoyed fun games, friendly competition, and great prizes donated from local area businesses. The awards luncheon donated by All Star Catering and LHM Management offered a great time to mingle and network with other local business leaders. Proceeds from this tournament benefit Clark Planetarium education programs. A special thanks to the great leadership of Carl Jensen and Jeff Jensen for organizing the golf tournament for the past five years. We'd also like to give a big thanks to this year's sponsors including:

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## Harry Potter 6 sneak peak fundraiser



Experience the magic of J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* before everyone else this summer at an advanced film screening on Tuesday, July 14, at 4 p.m. at The Gateway Megaplex 12. Proceeds from this event will benefit Clark Planetarium space and science education programs.

Tickets can be purchased for \$25 each online at [www.clarkplanetarium.org](http://www.clarkplanetarium.org) and include admission to the movie, small popcorn, and a drink. For more information, contact Cynthia Lyman at [clyman@slco.org](mailto:clyman@slco.org) or 801-456-4970.

Visit [www.clarkplanetarium.org](http://www.clarkplanetarium.org) for show times.

## Clark Planetarium partners with NASA for Flight to the Moon

Clark Planetarium and NASA have partnered to create a newsreel program titled *Flight to the Moon*, which describes the recently launched Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) and Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS) spacecraft missions in incredible detail.

On June 18, the two unmanned spacecraft were launched from the Kennedy Space Center. The LRO spacecraft will map the moon in unprecedented detail while LCROSS will drop a massive projectile into a lunar crater, creating an impact plume for the spacecraft to fly into and analyze if water is present.

Clark Planetarium has worked closely with NASA to create a production depicting these events in a full-dome, three-dimensional mini-show allowing audiences to be virtually transported to the moon with these remarkable spacecraft.

"Clark Planetarium has utilized the discoveries of NASA previously, but we've never partnered before on a

project," said Mike Murray, Programs Manager. "This is a great opportunity for the planetarium and it's exciting to be a part of such an historic event.



Americans briefly visited the moon 40 years ago, now it's time to explore that world to help prepare for future explorations of the moon and Mars."

NASA chose Clark Planetarium to tell the story of the LRO/LCROSS mission because of the planetarium's extensive experience in creating scientifically accurate visualizations of astronomy and space science missions with strong public appeal. Clark Planetarium's experience and ability to create and distribute the program to other planetariums and science centers around the world was a major reason for NASA's partnering with the planetarium on this project.

*Flight to the Moon* is a 10-minute newsreel that plays in the Hansen Dome Theatre on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday as part of the *Night Vision* show.

As the LRO/LCROSS missions progress, Clark Planetarium will provide additional updates during *Night Vision* and on the web at [www.clarkplanetarium.org](http://www.clarkplanetarium.org).

## Saving the planet, one page at a time

Clark Planetarium strives to be eco-friendly and environmentally savvy. Whether it is the switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs or the installation of energy saving solar panels, Clark Planetarium is always looking for ways to minimize ecological impact. In following this trend, the newsletter is moving to an exclusively digital format, with this edition being the last available in print format. This method will provide members with the most up-to-date information and additional online incentives.

When you opt-in to receive your newsletter via email, you receive great benefits:

- Updated link to our Calendar of Events
- Information on special giveaways, coupons, and promotions
- Updates on special events and recent news

If you are already receiving our newsletter by email, thank you for supporting our green initiative. If you are not currently receiving emails and want to be added to our contact list, please contact Carl Malaret at 801-456-4973 or [cmalaret@slco.org](mailto:cmalaret@slco.org).

## Schedule Change

**From August 23 thru  
October 31, 2009  
Clark Planetarium will  
open to the public  
at 11:30 a.m.  
Monday - Friday.**

**On weekends, we will  
continue to open at  
10:30 a.m.**

**Visit our website for  
schedule details.**

**Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for space news, fun facts & event info**



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Clark Planetarium Member Connections

Summer 2009

## Upcoming Events at Clark Planetarium

### ***It's Only A Paper Moon Fundraising Gala***

Clark Planetarium's *It's Only A Paper Moon Fundraising Gala* will be held on September 25, 2009. This star-studded evening will feature delicious dining, silent and live auctions and space-age entertainment.

The gala provides valuable support for Clark Planetarium education programs, recognizes our most generous supporters and celebrates the year's accomplishments.

Dinner will feature delectable specialties from some of Salt Lake's best restaurants. Guests will enjoy our most popular Dome Theatre and IMAX films as well as live music from the award-winning Crescent Super Band.

Please join us for a fun evening that benefits school programs in our community. Advance tickets and corporate sponsorships are available by calling Cynthia Lyman at 801-456-4970.

### ***Member Event: Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Apollo 11***

Clark Planetarium members are invited to a special presentation to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the greatest adventures in recorded history, the first human steps on the moon. Mike Murray, Clark Planetarium Programs Manager, will deliver this special presentation on Saturday, July 18 at 7 p.m. in the Hansen Dome Theatre.

Tickets for this event are free and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis at our ticket counter. Please bring your member card for membership verification. Light refreshments will be served. For additional information, contact Carl Malaret at 801-456-4973 [cmalaret@slco.org](mailto:cmalaret@slco.org) or

A repeat presentation for the general public will be made on July 20 at 7 pm, close to the actual time that we first stepped onto the Moon 40 years ago. Additional information on the public event can be found on our website [www.clarkplanetarium.org](http://www.clarkplanetarium.org).