



Astronomical Society of Greenwich
Bruce Museum of Arts & Science

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June 2013

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings resume in the fall. Mark your calendar:

September 4

October 2

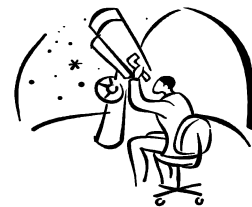
November 6

Bowman Observatory Public Nights (Weather Permitting)

June 11 & 25 – 9-11 PM

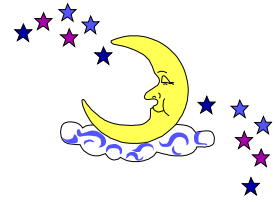
July 9 & 23 – 9-11 PM

August 13 & 27 – 8:30-10:30



Lunacy

May	3	Moon passes Uranus
	8	<i>New Moon</i>
	9	Moon at apogee (252,579 miles from Earth)
	10	Moon passes Venus and Mercury
	12	Moon passes Jupiter
	16	<i>First Quarter</i>
	18	Moon passes <i>Spica</i>
	19	Moon passes Saturn
	23	Full Moon – “Strawberry Moon” –passes Pluto . This month the full Moon is at perigee (221,824 miles from Earth), causing extra high and low tides.
	27	Moon passes Neptune
	30	<i>Last Quarter</i> Moon passes Uranus



News of the Worlds

Lining up in an almost-vertical row in *Gemini* on June 1, **Mercury**, **Venus**, and **Jupiter** continue their slow dance in the evening twilight. Jupiter (mag.-1.9) disappears into the sun's glare about a week later, reaching conjunction with the Sun on June 19 and popping up in the morning sky next month. Venus (mag.-3.8) continues moving eastward into *Cancer*, lining up with the “twin” stars *Castor* and *Pollux* on June 25. Our brightest planet sets around 10 PM by month's end, but at this time of year that's only about an hour and a half after sunset, and it doesn't get higher than 10° above the horizon. Mercury (mag.-0.4, fading to 1.2) climbs a little higher, reaching greatest elongation (24° east of the Sun) on June 12 and then heading back toward the Sun, passing Venus again on June 20.

Saturn (mag.0.3, fading to 0.5) is still a beautiful sight in the constellation *Virgo*, high in the sky at nightfall and setting around 4 AM at the beginning of June. By month's end it's setting at about 2 AM as Earth leaves it behind.

Neptune (mag.7.9) rises at 1:30 AM in *Aquarius*, followed by **Uranus** (mag.5.9) at 3 AM in *Pisces*. And just before dawn, you may be able to spot **Mars** (mag.1.5). The red planet, never quite catching up with Earth, remains in the morning sky for the rest of 2013.

Asteroid Ceres (a telescope object at mag.8.8) follows Venus through *Gemini* this month, passing Pollux on June 6 and crossing into *Cancer* on the 16th. Another telescopic object, our old friend **Comet PANSTARRS** (mag. 10) passes from the Little Dipper into *Draco*, passing its brightest star, *Thuban*, on July 1.

At about 4:30 AM on June 11, the **Gamma Delphinid Meteor Shower** peaks. Look southeast, below the Summer Triangle, at the tiny constellation *Delphinus* the Dolphin.

Summer Solstice occurs at 1:04 AM on **June 21**, when the Sun reaches its northernmost point on the celestial sphere, the *Tropic of Cancer*, 23.44° north latitude. In our area, the Sun rises at 5:20 AM and sets at 8:31 PM, giving us 15 hours and 11 minutes of daylight.

