

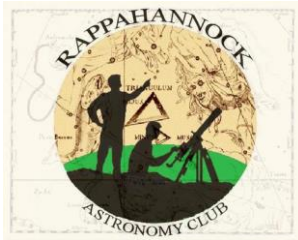
Rappahannock Astronomy Club

Rappahannock Astronomy Club

What Is RAC?

RAC is a nonprofit organization of amateur astronomers serving Fredericksburg, VA, and the surrounding area. RAC is dedicated to the advancement of public interest in, and knowledge of, the science of astronomy.

If you have even a passing interest in the night sky, attend one of our monthly meetings or activities. Membership is open to anyone interested in astronomy, regardless of his/her knowledge about it. Contact us via our website at www.raclub.org.



Star Parties

RAC holds public star parties one Saturday night each month. These star parties are held at Belmont Observatory in Spotsylvania and the VDOT lot in Bowling Green. (Upon request, parties are also held at Caledon State Park, on VA Route 218 in King George.) The public is invited to come out and enjoy the beauty of the night sky through amateur telescopes. If you're thinking about purchasing a telescope, you also get a chance to look through a variety of telescopes to help you choose the right one. Plan to arrive shortly before sunset and stay as long as telescopes are on the field. Be sure to check the RAC website after noon on the same day to confirm the location(s) of the star party(ies) and that the expected weather is suitable.

Education and Outreach

Education is a primary RAC mission. We hold public outreach events, setting up telescopes at schools and

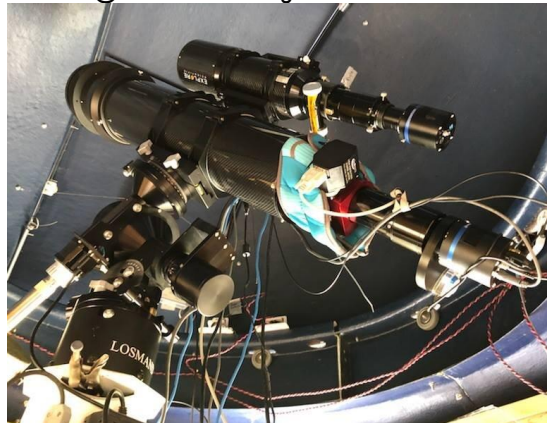
other public locations in the Fredericksburg area for solar observing during the day and lunar and planetary observing at night. We also do school presentations. If you would like RAC to conduct a star party or program at your school or facility, please contact the RAC President at president@raclub.org.

Mark Slade Remote Observatory (MSRO)

The MSRO was made possible by a generous donation from the estate of Mark Slade, RAC, and donations of private individuals in the Fredericksburg region. Its mission is to serve as both a training and research facility for anyone interested in astronomy and astronomical research. It is available to members of RAC, high-school and college students, and members of the general public. Operated by MSRO Science, Inc., day-to-day operations and maintenance, scheduling of approved observation requests, and user training are the responsibilities of the Director and Assistant Director.

The facility includes four telescope systems with varying capabilities. For additional details and to request training and/or observing time, visit: <http://www.msroscience.org>.

You can also contact the staff at: president@msroscience.org.



Monthly Meetings

RAC members meet on the third Wednesday of each month, and guests are welcome. Our meetings are held via Zoom. Members who have signed up for our Groups.IO group receive a message prior to the meeting with the date, time, and Zoom link. If you are not a member, you can email president@raclub.org to receive an invitation to attend. Our meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude by about 9 p.m. Some meetings begin with a program on astronomy topics ranging from scientific advances to astrophotography to how to use a telescope. Normally, the business session follows the program and starts at 8:00. Check the website for additional information.

Groups.IO Group

RAC maintains a Groups.IO group for members. This is RAC's only internal real-time communication channel so joining the group is the best way to stay up to date on the club's activities. When you become a RAC member, you will be invited to join the Groups.IO group.

Want to Join RAC?

Membership is \$20 per family for 1 year, which includes *The StarGazer*, our e-newsletter. Students may join for only \$5.00. You can find a membership form on the back of this brochure or on our website at <https://www.raclub.org/join/>. For more information, contact the RAC President at president@raclub.org.

Rappahannock **Astronomy** Club

Rappahannock Astronomy Club Membership Application

To join Rappahannock Astronomy Club, print this page, fill out the application form below, and return with a dues check. Annual membership dues are \$20 per family. Students may join as individuals for \$5.00.

If you wish to also join the national organization Astronomical League and receive its magazine *The Reflector*, enclose an additional \$7.50.

Please print. Make your check out for the appropriate amount, payable to "RAC". Please mail this form and your check to address shown.

Name: _____	Mail application and dues to: Matthew Scott, Treasurer RAC P.O. Box 752 Fredericksburg, VA 22404-0752
Street Address: _____	
City State Zip: _____	
Phone: _____ Email: _____	

_____ Family (\$20.00/year)

Or

_____ Student (\$5.00/year)

_____ Astronomical League & *The Reflector* (optional, \$7.50/year additional)

_____ Total Enclosed (please send one check payable to "RAC" for full amount)

