



Northern Berkshire Astronomical Society

Founded 2023 | North Adams Public Library | North Adams, MA

This Month

As we head into Fall, and say goodbye to Summer, we are treated to an array of planets, meteor showers, galaxies, and more!

The Moon

-  - Oct 6
-  - Oct 14
-  - Oct 21
-  - Oct 28 "Hunter's Moon"

Planets

Mercury, Mars: behind the Sun

Venus: Rises about 3:30AM

Jupiter, Uranus: in Aries

Saturn: in Aquarius

Neptune: in Pisces

Deep Sky Objects

Easy (binoculars): M 31, M 33, M 45 (Pleiades), NGC 869/884, M27

Moderate (small telescopes): NGC 891, C 22, M 2, γ And

Challenges: M 74, NGC 1499, C 63, C 44



Welcome!

Our new astronomy group had its first meeting at the North Adams Public Library on 6 Sep 2023, with 8 people present. Since this was the first meeting, most of the discussion was about what everyone's thoughts were in terms of what the group could do to promote and support their own interests in astronomy, and to provide outreach to the local community.

The North Adams Public Library staff also stated their commitment to our success, and outlined several ways they could actively support the group.

The only official decision made was that monthly meetings would be held at NAPL on the first Wednesday of each month, at 6PM.

Our next meeting will be on Weds., October 4th.



This Month's Featured Image

Thanks to some prodding I turned my small imaging scope to parts of the Veil Nebula the night of 9/14. While it was always on my to-do list, I was discouraged by it's faint surface brightness (18 mag/arcmin²). This is a crudely post-processed image of a 25m exposure of the Eastern part of the nebula (NGC 6992) in Cygnus. I still have a lot to learn, but being able to see some of the subtle blues amongst the reds in its characteristic wispy structure is really exciting! – *Bob D.*

Interacting

We've created a Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nberkastro>

as a point-of-presence for the community. There we can add postings, announce observing parties, and use the Chats platform to connect to each other between meetings. Check it out and join!

Space Art Exhibit

Local enthusiast Rick Costello doesn't just sponsor observing sessions with his 12.5" Meade telescope around the Berkshires, he's also a talented artist, specializing in "space art" showcasing the Milky Way and other solar-system objects.



A Moment In Time
36" x 24" Acrylic

His paintings are currently on display at Kimball Farms, in the Connector Gallery, 235 Walker St. in Lenox.

Partial Annular Solar Eclipse

On Saturday, October 14th, there's an annular eclipse of the Sun. Unfortunately the path for the full eclipse is from Oregon down to Texas, but here we can see a small part of the Sun (20%) blocked by the Moon, starting in the late morning with the maximum happening about 1:20PM EDT.

Remember to take all necessary precautions whenever viewing the Sun!