



mnassa

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assa news

MNASSA Editor position vacant

After four and a half years I have decided to step down as editor of *MNASSA* at the end of the current election year. I have been finding it increasingly more and more difficult to get issues out on time due to other commitments. I want to thank those who kept encouraging me to continue, despite deadlines falling increasing behind in the last year or so.

We are therefore looking for a suitable person to fill the position of editor. Keeping in mind that there are tentative plans to move towards electronic publication, experience in this field would be a great advantage. Interested persons are encouraged to write to the editorial address (mnassa@sao.ac.za) with details. ☆

ASSA Symposium 2010

First announcement and invitation to submit papers

The Society will hold its 2010 Symposium on 7, 8 & 9 October 2010 in Pretoria. The event will be hosted by the Pretoria Centre of ASSA.

The Symposium will be focusing on light/spectrum pollution, but will not be limited to these topics. All other aspects of astronomy will be allowed during the Symposium. We hereby wish to invite both professional and amateur astronomers to present papers at the Symposium. The organizing committee

is calling for abstracts (non-technical overviews of the papers that will eventually be presented. No mathematical or diagrammatic content required).

Verbal papers may be submitted in two categories:

- Short papers, for delivery in 20 minutes, with 10 minutes for discussion and questions.
- Long papers, for delivery in 40 minutes, with 20 minutes for discussion and questions.

A third available category is:

- Presentations in the form of displays. These may use one standard folding table (about 1 800 x 600 mm in size) and a poster board behind it to display any subject pertaining to astronomy.

Authors should indicate in the abstract in which category the paper is being submitted. Please make submissions in .doc (MS Word) or Adobe PDF format. Only e-mailed submissions, with the file attached, will be accepted. Full contact details (including e-mail address) and the full title of the paper MUST be submitted with the abstract. The latest date for submission is 31 July 2010. Please indicate a preferred date and time-slot to present your paper.

The Symposium committee reserves the right to accept or reject papers and to decide in which session it will be placed, although all efforts will be made to accommodate presenters.

Persons interested in attending, delivering a paper or presenting a display should contact the Symposium committee at: symposium2010@pretoria-astronomy.co.za

More details and a subscription form can also be downloaded from: <http://www.pretoria-astronomy.co.za>

Alternatively contact Andrie van der Linde at: 083 632 4894 ☆

Karoo Star-party update

Arrangements for the second National Karoo Star-party which will be held over the weekend of 6 to 9 August 2010 are progressing well. The Kambro Padstal, about 20 km north of Britstown in the Karoo, where the event will be held, is nearly booked out but accommodation in nearby Britstown offers alternative options. Chris de Coning from the Cape Centre has arranged a luxury bus from Cape Town to Britstown and has advertised amongst the local astronomy clubs there. Bookings for this bus, which includes accommodation in Britstown, is progressing well with some seats still available.

A bit more structure is being planned for the event which was initiated by Auke Slotegraaf (Deep-sky Section Director) who offered to present a “Deep-sky Observing Workshop” on the Saturday afternoon.

For more information, please contact the organisers:

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