TAAS Programs

• Monthly Meetings – Engaging speakers
• Astronomy 101 – Amateur astronomy basics
• Fab (Fabulous) 50 – Intro to astronomy
• Informative website and newsletter
• More than 40 loaner telescopes
• Education Outreach – School astro events
• Amateur telescope building & maintenance
• Adult night at Explora Museum — TAAS support
• Cosmic Carnival – Exhibits & evening star party
• GNTO – Private, member–friendly observatory
• TAAS Talk – member sharing via email
• Showcase of member astrophotography
• Telescope equipment trader
• UNM Observatory – Weekly during school year

Star Parties
Throughout the year TAAS holds numerous star parties at public sites, schools, remote locations and at its own observatory – GNTO. At these events, members bring their telescopes to share views of both prominent and obscure objects.

Spring
Valle de Oro SP – March, April
Bernalillo County Bachechi Open Space – March

Summer
Valle de Oro – August
Oak Flat Picnic Site – monthly May–Sept

Fall
Valle de Oro – October
Placitas State Park
ABQ Open Space Visitor Center
Chaco Canyon

School Year – August to May
UNM observatory, Friday evenings
Private Education Outreach at schools monthly

Observe – Educate – Have Fun!
www.taas.org
The General Nathan Twining Observatory (GNTO) is a TAAS-owned and operated observatory located south of Belen, NM (about 45 miles south of the Big-I). Situated in a remote area, this dark-sky facility is available to TAAS members and their guests every night.

At dark skies–GNTO, you’ll find:

- 24 Observing Pads and two fixed piers
- Cafe & warmup building (Cocina Galactica)
- Bunks, meeting & remote imaging rooms
- A 16-inch equatorially mounted f/6 Cave Newtonian reflector housed in the Main Dome
- A 14-inch Schmidt–Cassegrain telescope with CCD housed in the Imaging Dome
- On-site loaner telescopes, picnic & lecture areas.

Education Outreach

TAAS volunteers visit different schools each month from August through May to present short, interactive lessons about astronomy and science. Held on a weekday evening, students and their parents are introduced to topics in more depth than they might get in a regular classroom. TAAS also brings its sophisticated portable planetarium, which treats up to 40 people at a time to a virtual star journey right in their own school. Weather permitting, children get to view the heavens through TAAS telescopes.

Membership

Joining TAAS is easy; it is open to everyone regardless of age or level of knowledge. All of the programs listed on the other side are free to members, including the extensive telescope loaner program. Whatever your astronomical interest TAAS has a place for you. Join us!

The membership form is on taas.org.

Observe – Educate – Have Fun!

Contact Us
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All photos are by TAAS members
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