



NEXT KAS OPEN MEETING



Friday June 6th, 2014 @ Round Table Pizza
4200 Gosford Rd Bakersfield 93313
Dinner & Fellowship: **6:30 pm**
Meeting & Program: **7:30 pm**



June 6th Program

TARA HOSTNIK, DARK SKY FESTIVAL
"Dark Sky Festival , Camping & the Sky"

July 4th NO MEETING

IN CELEBRATION OF OUR NATION'S
INDEPENDANCE DAY, THERE IS
NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.



Join us at our June General Meeting in which Tara Hostnik, of the Dark Sky Festival, will have the program, sharigin information of our upcoming KAS Camping Trip and Star Party at the Dark Sky Festival. Join us for the free family-friendly meeting the first Friday of Every Month.

The night sky in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is nationally recognized. Our darkness not only adds to the aesthetic qualities of the wilderness, but is important to the health of our wildlife. The Dark Sky Festival aims to educate visitors about the importance of this park resource and inspire them to take action in their own community. We hope you join us and share your passion for the night sky and astronomy during this fun weekend.

The weekend will include: constellation tours, telescope viewings, solar observations, astronaut speakers, storytellers, living history performances model rocket-building, home lighting demonstrations, and more to be announced!



THE KERN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY INFOSHARE

WHO WE ARE

Since 1956, The Kern Astronomical Society has promoted community awareness of current events in astronomy, and provides a forum for sharing of knowledge and experiences among amateur astronomers.

Annual membership is \$20.00 which also provides "Sky and Telescope" and / or Astronomy magazines at reduced rates. More information on our web site. The KAS will e-mail The Syzygy free of charge to any educator; just contact the editor.

CLUB STAR PARTIES

The Kern Astronomical Society usually has 2 Club-Star Parties per month depending on the weather. We also host public Star parties upon request.

Our Star Parties are held on Saturdays. The primary date is the weekend of new moon with the secondary date being before or after new moon. You may get current Star Party information from our coordinator, Darren Bly.

NEXT MEETING

The KAS holds their Monthly meeting the 1st Friday of every month.

Round Table Pizza in the "Meeting Room"

Diner & Fellowship: **6:30 pm**; Meeting: **7:30 pm**

4200 Gosford Rd. #101, Bakersfield 93313, (661) 397-1111



KAS CLUB TELESCOPES

The Kern Astronomical Society has telescopes and accessories (listed below) available for loan to Club members in good standing. Members are encouraged to borrow the different types of scopes in stock (especially if you are considering purchasing one-checking out and trying different types will help you make an informed purchase decision). If you have a Club scope in your possession, the KAS expects you to use it by participating in at least one Star party.

- 6" f/6, 8" f/6, 10" f/5.6, 13" f/4.5 Dobsonian scopes
- Parks Jovian 90, 3-1/2" F-13 Maksukov-Cassegrain
- 4" f/15 Unitron Refractor
- 8" solar filter
- Eyepieces up to 2" wide

KAS CONTACTS

Star Parties	Darren Bly	661-832-0712	dcibly@bak.rr.com
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Kern Astronomical Society
on Facebook

[facebook.com/groups/syzygy/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/syzygy/)



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 moon ↑ 9:14 am moon ↓ 11:09 pm sun ↓ 8:06	2	3	4	5 ☉ 1:40 pm 	6 ☉ KAS Meeting 6:30p	7 ☉ Public Star Party Panorama Park, 8-10pm ☉ Conjunction: Moon/Mars
8 ☉ 1625 Giovanni Cassini born moon ↑ 3:41 pm moon ↓ 2:27 am sun ↓ 8:10	9	10	11	12 ☉ 9:12 pm 	13	14
15 moon ↑ 10:33 pm moon ↓ 8:34 am sun ↓ 8:13	16	17	18	19 ☉ 11:39 am 	20	21 ☉ Club Star Party Lockwood ☉ Summer Solstice
22 moon ↑ 2:26 am moon ↓ 4:07 pm sun ↓ 8:14	23	24	25	26	27 ☉ 1:09 am 	28 ☉ Club Star Party Lockwood
29 moon ↑ 8:00 am moon ↓ 9:45 pm sun ↓ 8:15	30	1	2	3	4 ☉ 4th of July. No KAS Meeting 	5 ☉ 4:59 am ☉ Public Star Party Panorama Park, 8-10pm 

STAR PARTY COORDINATOR DARREN BLY DCBLY@BAK.RR.COM



When you think about the four rocky planets in our Solar System—Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars—you probably think about them in that exact order: sorted by their distance from the Sun. It wouldn't surprise you all that much to learn that the surface of Mercury reaches daytime temperatures of up to 800 °F (430 °C), while the surface of Mars never gets hotter than 70 °F (20 °C) during summer at the equator. On both of these worlds, however, temperatures plummet rapidly during the night; Mercury reaches lows of -280 °F (-173 °C) while Mars, despite having a day comparable to Earth's in length, will have a summer's night at the equator freeze to temperatures of -100 °F (-73 °C).

Those temperature extremes from day-to-night don't happen so severely here on Earth, thanks to our atmosphere that's some 140 times thicker than that of Mars. Our average surface temperature is 57 °F (14 °C), and day-to-night temperature swings are only tens of degrees. But if our world were completely airless, like Mercury, we'd have day-to-night temperature swings that were hundreds of degrees. Additionally, our average surface temperature would be significantly colder, at around 0 °F (-18 °C), as our atmosphere functions like a blanket: trapping a portion of the heat radiated by our planet and making the entire atmosphere more uniform in temperature.

But it's the second planet from the Sun -- Venus -- that puts the rest of the rocky planets' atmospheres to shame. With an atmosphere 93 times as thick as Earth's, made up almost entirely of carbon dioxide, Venus is the ultimate planetary greenhouse, letting sunlight in but hanging onto that heat with incredible effectiveness. Despite being nearly twice as far away from the Sun as Mercury, and hence only receiving 29% the sunlight-per-unit-area, the surface of Venus is a toasty 864 °F (462 °C), with no difference between day-and-night temperatures! Even though Venus takes hundreds of Earth days to rotate, its winds circumnavigate the entire planet every four days (with speeds of 220 mph / 360 kph), making day-and-night temperature differences irrelevant. Catch the hottest planet in our Solar System all spring-and-summer long in the pre-dawn skies, as it waxes towards its full phase, moving away from the Earth and towards the opposite side of the Sun, which it will finally slip behind in November. A little atmospheric greenhouse effect seems to be exactly what we need here on Earth, but as much as Venus? No thanks!

Check out these “10 Need-to-Know Things About Venus”:

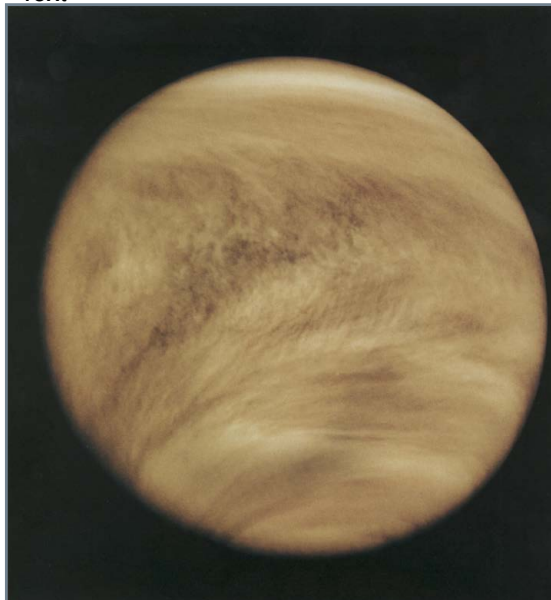
<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/profile.cfm?Object=Venus>.



Kids can learn more about the crazy weather on Venus and other places in the Solar System at NASA's Space

Place: <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/planet-weather>.

Text



Above, 2012 Venus Transit Video from the Solar Dynamics Observatory. [\[view via APOD\]](#)

Left, 1979 NASA's Pioneer Venus Orbiter image of Venus's upper-atmosphere clouds as seen in the ultraviolet. [\[view via APOD\]](#)