

The FREMONT PEAK

OBSERVER

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STAR-B-Q AUGUST 2nd

The sixth annual FPOA/AANC/DPR Star-B-Q will be held on Saturday, August 2 at the observatory. Once again we will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs while sampling the wonders of the universe in delicious potluck dishes. As always, there will be a raffle for wonderful door prizes (presented by the FPOA).

But this year something new will be offered: After the barbeque and before the raffle there will be an astronomical trivia contest, sponsored by the FPOA Board of Directors (who else could have thought up something like this?) and hosted by our own Pat Donnelly, the Wizard himself. Finally, here's a chance to put all those useless astronomical details cluttering up your memory to work!

Please RSVP your reservations to the Star-B-Q to (408) 623-2465 before Wednesday, July 30th.

The Fremont Peak Observer is published quarterly by the Fremont Peak Observatory Association, P.O. Box 787, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045.

Signed Up For A Program Night Yet?

There are still a few program nights open on this summer's schedule, though volunteers have come through admirably to sign-up for the majority of public nights. It takes three people to run the show, so if you are certified to operate the scope and haven't put in your mandatory time, please call Rick and find out what's open. With the new setting circles the 30" is easier than ever to use!

New Setting Circles Are On!

On the weekend of June 27-28 I got a chance to use the new setting circles on the 30". Cool! Never before would I have attempted to hunt down those faint, fuzzy dim 16th magnitude planetaries I love so much. With just a few alignment procedures (easy) to go through, the telescope now can tell you where to go (i.e., helps you find that object you so desperately want to see.)

You are invited to attend the

FPOA/AANC STAR - B - Q

**Potluck Picnic and Super Star Party
at Fremont Peak State Park
Saturday, August 2, 1997**

**Hamburgers Hotdogs Raffle Awards Telescopes
*Observing Through the 30" Challenger Telescope***

The Fremont Peak Observatory Association (FPOA), the Astronomical Association of Northern California (AANC) and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) are co-hosting a potluck picnic/barbecue and super star party at Fremont Peak State Park. This is a **GREAT** way to meet other amateur astronomers and talk to members of other astronomy clubs.

The FPOA and AANC will provide the hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, relish and utensils. Bring a dish to share. There will also be a contest for the best dish with an astronomical theme. In the past there have been such entries as IO pizza, cosmic strings (spaghetti), solar cheese cake, black hole pie, etc. **BE CREATIVE!**

This year we will be holding an astronomy trivia contest so tune-up the brain and clear out the fuzzys. You WILL be tested!

COST: Free to FPOA, AANC members, friends of Fremont Peak and their guests. Fremont Peak Park charges \$3 a car for day use.

ARRIVAL TIME: If you have a telescope plan to arrive early (1 - 2 PM). There is limited space for telescopes behind the ranger's house where the potluck is held. **ALL VEHICLES MUST LEAVE THIS AREA AFTER UNLOADING.** Most people will be setting up at the Coulter-Madrone group sites. The gate to the ranger's driveway will be closed after 5 PM.

POTLUCK: Begins at about 4 PM. FPOA will be holding board member elections from 3 PM on. There will be various games throughout the afternoon. If you have a water pistol or supersoaker, bring it for the sixth annual Douse-Off!

RSVP: PLEASE RSVP by calling the FPOA hotline at (408) 623-2465 and leaving your name, number of guests, name of your astronomy club and whether or not you are a FPOA member. (non-astronomy club members welcome, too!) RSVP by July 30th.

DIRECTIONS: Hwy 101 to Hwy 156 E. (So. of Gilroy). Go two miles on Hwy 156 E. Look for Fremont Peak SP sign. Turn right at yellow flashing light. Proceed 11 miles on Rt. G-1.