



*Bruce M. Bedow Memorial Observatory*

## The Oil Region Astronomical Society

*presents...*

### ASTROBLAST 2019

August 27-September 2, 2019

at the

**Oil Region Astronomy Learning Center  
and Bruce M. Bedow Memorial Observatory**

Franklin - Oil City - Clarion, PA USA

**Discount applies** if registration is returned by Tuesday, August 6.



*Drone's-eye view of our observing field*

## How to find the Observatory

The Oil Region Astronomy Learning Center is located at 4249 Camp Coffman Rd., Cranberry, PA, just up the hill from Camp Coffman. The easiest way to get there is to turn north onto Camp Coffman Rd. from Route 332, right at the end of Route 338. Directions at [www.oras.org](http://www.oras.org).

**Camping** is available on site (tent or trailer; sorry, no hook-ups.) There are shower facilities and rest rooms, but no potable water.

## What to expect from AstroBlast

AstroBlast is a regional gathering of amateur astronomers. Lectures, information and educational sessions, and dark-sky observing are all a part of our annual star party. The event is open to registered participants only. On-site registration will be available during the event. Newcomers are welcome to attend.

Participants are invited to bring their own telescopes or binoculars. Attendees are expected to abide by these general rules:

- \*If you need a flashlight, please use a red lens or lamp, or tape red cellophane over the lens.
- \*Participant parking for anyone leaving after dark will be in the main parking lot. Please park with headlights facing away from observatory.
- \*No vehicle entry or exit allowed from the camping area after dark.
- \*Please be courteous to others, and don't touch anyone's equipment without their permission.

## Oil Region Astronomical Society

The Oil Region Astronomical Society was founded in 1991 to promote astronomy, and to bring together amateur astronomers and those with a casual interest in space science.

Through persistence, hard work, donations, and thousands of hours of volunteer effort over nearly four years, ORAS completed its first astronomical observatory in 1995. It was located within Two Mile Run County Park.

In 2013 ORAS was given a site in southeastern Venango County on which to build a new observatory. Six years later, the two buildings at our new site are now complete. We are blessed with a large open field, wonderfully dark skies, and three high-level telescopes for public observing. These include a new 30" f/3 Starstructure telescope with a mirror by Mike Lockwood.

ORAS' annual AstroBlast star party is an annual event, first held in June 1994. We invite you to attend this year's celebration, and we urge you to consider joining us as a member!



*Scene from a previous AstroBlast*

## Tentative Schedule of Events

### Tues.-Wed.-Thurs., Aug. 27-29

5 p.m.: Gate opens  
6-9 p.m.: Registration booth open.  
9 p.m. - ???: Dark sky observing

### Friday, Aug. 30

3-11 p.m.: Registration booth open  
6-8 p.m.: Food tent open  
6 p.m.: Welcome and event logistics  
6:30-8:15 p.m.: Speakers  
9 p.m. - ???: Dark sky observing  
11 p.m.: Gate closes (All non-overnighters must leave, or leave vehicles in pkg. area)

### Saturday, Aug. 31

9 a.m.-9 p.m.: Registration booth open  
12-2 p.m.: Food tent open  
12-2 p.m.: Astronomy yard sale  
12:30-6 p.m.: Programs and speakers  
6:15 p.m.: Pizza party and prize drawing  
9 p.m. - ???: Dark sky observing  
11 p.m.: Gate closes (All non-overnighters must leave, or leave vehicles in pkg. area)

### Sunday, Sept. 1

9 p.m. - ???: Dark sky observing

Visit our website, [www.oras.org](http://www.oras.org), for an up-to-date list of programs and speakers. Our website will also have a list of door prizes, with new ones added as they're received. Check us out!



Representative photos  
from AstroBlasts of yesteryear

## AstroBlast 2019 Pre-Registration form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-registration ends on Tuesday, August 6.** .  
**Please send in your check no later than July 30.**  
Make check payable to ORAS, and mail it with  
this form to P.O. Box 1535, Oil City, PA 16301

### CHECK ONE:

- Individual registration for entire event, \$20  
 Family registration for entire event, \$32  
(five-person maximum per family)  
 Student registration for entire event, \$12  
(high school-college, not part of family group)

No more fees for camping!

### Saturday night pizza party:

- Number of adult tickets at \$7 apiece  
 Number of children's tickets at \$5 apiece  
(for children age 13 or under)

Total payment enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sorry, no refunds!**

(For those registering at the gate, the fees will be \$25 per individual, \$40 per family, and \$15 per student. Tickets for the pizza party as above.)