

# Monthly Notices of the Everglades Astronomical Society



Naples, FL August 2018

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#### President's Message

I have now returned from my "trip of a lifetime". I had the amazing opportunity to travel to Peru and Ecuador. I know that looking at other people's vacation pictures can be boring, but I do have enough material for at least two presentations, maybe three. I promise you, I will strictly focus on my astronomical experiences.

Hopefully, several of you made it to the Second Cup meeting in July. The August meeting will also be at the Second Cup at 7:00 PM. No doubt, there will be a lot of conversation about how our summers are going.

Congratulations must go out to Bob Gurnitz. While I was gone, he received information that the Astronomical League was going to give a telescope to a deserving library to be lent out the community. Bob did the work and submitted the application. Guess what! Our club won. This action certainly helps us fulfill our mission of serving our community. Thank you so much, Bob.

Once again, I am asking for our members to provide input to the upcoming year's programs. I do have September, December, and January scheduled. Please let me know if there is a topic you are interest in learning about, if you would like to give a presentation, or if you know of someone who I can contact to give a program.

Denise.

#### Dates for the "Fak"

Usually the best times to go out to the Fakahatchee Strand viewing site are moonless nights. Below is a list of upcoming Saturday nights that you will often find fellow club members out there enjoying the skies with you (weather permitting).

Date	Moonrise	Moonset
August 11	6:05 a.m.	7:36 p.m.
September 1	10:59 p.m.	11:31 a.m.

#### **Sky Events**

Aug. 4 - Last Quarter

Aug. 7 - Jupiter Transit (Io)

Aug. 11 - New Moon

Aug. 12/13 - Perseid Meteor Shower Peak

Aug. 18 - First Quarter

Aug. 23 - Jupiter Transit (Europe & Io)

Aug. 26 - Full Moon

Aug. 30 - Jupiter Transit (Europa)

#### **Next Meeting**

August 14, 2018: Time 7:00 – 9:00 pm Second Cup at the Mercato, Naples

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#### PERSEID METEOR SHOWER AUGUST 12/13, 2018 By Jackie Richards

This year's Perseid Meteor Shower will take place on August 12<sup>th</sup> into August 13<sup>th</sup> under ideal conditions and should be



Perseid Meteor Shower in 2013. Photo by Jackie Richards at the Fak.

spectacular, weather permitting. Since we will view it under a new moon, it is possible that we could see 1-2 meteors per minute (60-90 meteors per hour) during the early Monday morning hours (3:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.) of August 13<sup>th</sup>. If we have a Fak viewing on Saturday night (August 11<sup>th</sup>) into Sunday morning (August 12<sup>th</sup>), the meteor shower should be almost as good just one night before the peak night. The meteor shower runs in its entirety from July 17 through August 24 and bright meteors may be seen any time during that period. More details can be found in the Space Place article below. Go out and find yourself some meteors.

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#### PHOTOS BY CLUB MEMBERS



Photo of Mars taken by Chuck Pavlick in Cape Coral.



Photo of Jupiter taken by Chuck Pavlick in Cape Coral.



Photo of Saturn taken by Chuck Pavlick in Cape Coral.



Photo of the Lunar Eclipse by Henri Troch taken 7/27/18 in Hyeres (South of France).



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### TELESCOPE AWARD UPDATE By Bart Thomas

Jamesly Malande, EAS telescope award recipient, is able to easily set up the telescope, use the laser collimator, align his ez finder with the eyepiece image, and use his Barlow lens. I brought along some filters and they seemed to work very well on Jupiter and Venus. Our viewing took place on July 26th. All we were missing was bug repellent.



Jamesly Melande operating the telescope that was awarded by the EAS back in May (the Everglades Astronomical Society Award).

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#### **Published Articles by EAS Members**

Ted Wolfe's article in the Naples News/Collier Citizen on July 27, 2018: Looking Up: Rhapsody in Blue.



https://www.naplesnews.com/story/news/local/communities/collier-citizen/2018/07/27/looking-up-rhapsody-blue/818997002/

TO VIEW THE ABOVE ARTICLE, PRESS "CTRL" AND LEFT CLICK RUTTON

The below link provides previous articles in the Naples News/Collier Citizen by Ted Wolfe that appeared over past years. <a href="http://www.naplesnews.com/search/Ted%20Wolfe/">http://www.naplesnews.com/search/Ted%20Wolfe/</a>

To view all of Ted Wolfe's photos, visit his website @ www.tedwolfe.com.

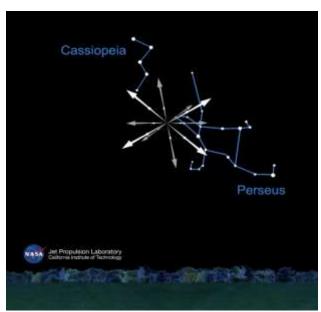


## Best Meteor Shower of the Year By Jane Houston Jones and Jessica Stoller-Conrad

If you're a fan of meteor showers, August is going to be an exciting month! The Perseid meteor shower is the best of the

year, and in 2018, the peak viewing time for the shower is on a dark, moonless night—perfect for spotting meteors.

The best time to look for meteors during this year's Perseid shower is at the peak, from 4 p.m. EDT on Aug. 12 until 4 a.m. EDT on Aug. 13. Because the new Moon falls on the peak night, the days before and after the peak will also provide very dark skies for viewing meteors. On the days surrounding the peak, the best time to view the showers is from a few hours after twilight until dawn.



The Perseid meteor showers appear to radiate from the constellation Perseus. Perseus is visible in the northern sky soon after sunset this time of year. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Meteors come from leftover comet particles and bits from broken asteroids. When comets come around the Sun, they leave a dusty trail behind them. Every year Earth passes through these debris trails, which allows the bits to collide with our atmosphere and disintegrate to create fiery and colorful streaks in the sky—called meteors.

The comet that creates the Perseid meteor shower—a comet called Swift-Tuttle—has a very wide trail of cometary dust. It's so wide that it takes Earth more than three weeks to plow all the way through. Because of this wide trail, the Perseids have a longer peak viewing window than many other meteor showers throughout the year.

In fact, this year you should be able to see some meteors from July 17 to Aug. 24. The rates of meteors will increase during the weeks before Aug. 12 and decrease after Aug. 13. Observers should be able to see between 60 and 70 meteors per hour at the shower's peak.

The Perseids appear to radiate from the constellation Perseus, which is where we get the name for this shower. Perseus is visible in the northern sky soon after sunset this time of year. Observers in mid-northern latitudes will have the best views.

However, you don't have to look directly at the constellation Perseus to see meteors. You can look anywhere you want to; 90 degrees left or right of Perseus, or even directly overhead, are all good choices.

While you're watching the sky for meteors this month, you'll also see a parade of the planets Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn—and the Milky Way also continues to grace the evening sky. In next month's article, we'll take a late summer stroll through the Milky Way. No telescope or binoculars required!

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#### **EAS 2018 DUES**

For the bargain price of only \$20.00 per family, all this can be yours this year:

- Meet with your fellow astronomy enthusiasts at least 10 times a year;
- Learn about astronomy and telescopes. Check out our club scope;
- Many opportunities to view planets, nebulae and other celestial objects (even if you don't have your own telescope); and
- Enjoy the many astronomy programs at our regular monthly meetings.

**Don't miss out!** Fill out this form (please print clearly) and send it with your \$20 check to the Everglades Astronomical Society, P. O. Box 1451, Marco Island, Florida, 34146.

Name:	 		
Address:		 	
Phone:			
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