

Recommended Books and Magazines

Introductory Books

- Exploring the Night Sky, Terence Dickinson (for kids)
- Nightwatch, 3rd Ed., Terence Dickinson
- Turn Left at Orion, 3rd Ed., Consolmagno & Davis
- The Binocular Stargazer, Leslie Peltier
- Exploring the Night Sky with Binoculars, David Chandler

Many of these books are found in the library; all can be purchased online

Intermediate Books

- The Backyard Astronomer's Guide, Revised Ed., Terence Dickinson and Alan Dyer
- Astronomy: A Self-Teaching Guide, 6th Ed., Dinah Moche
- Night Sky Observer's Guide, George Kepple and Glen Sanner (two volumes)
- Deep Sky Wonders, Walter Scott Houston
- The Deep Sky: An Introduction, Phil Harrington
- Burnham's Celestial Handbook, Robert Burnham, Jr. (three volume set)

Magazines

- Sky and Telescope (www.SkyAndTelescope.com)
- Astronomy (www.Astronomy.com)

More at our web site!

Internet Resources

General Astronomy

- www.SkyMaps.com - Monthly Sky Charts
- SkyTonight.com - Web Site of the Sky and Telescope and NightSky Magazines
- www.Astronomy.com - Web Site of Astronomy Magazine
- www.astromax.com - American Association of Amateur Astronomers
- www.astroleague.org - Astronomical League
- www.nasa.gov - NASA Main Site
- www.nineplanets.org - The Eight Planets - a multimedia tour of our Solar System
- www.ScopeReviews.com - Equipment Reviews
- www.cloudynights.com - Equipment Reviews
- skytoneight.com/observing/podcasts - Monthly SkyTonight Podcasts



Ryukyu Astronomy Club

www.nexstarsite.com/rac.htm

Established in February 2002, the Ryukyu Astronomy Club is the only English language astronomy club on Okinawa catering to all SOFA status personnel and their guests. From newcomers to old hands, all are welcome.

If you've ever wondered what's up there or looked at a telescope and been tempted to buy it, please stop by one of our meetings. Having someone with more experience to answer questions is the best way to get familiar with the night sky. Many members don't even own a telescope, but all share an interest in the night sky.

Club members stay in contact with one another via an Internet discussion group - see our web site to join. Visit our web site for presentations, articles and other information and resources.

In 2011, general meetings are scheduled at 7 PM the first Saturday of every month, though it is good to check our web site (www.nexstarsite.com/rac.htm) as unforeseen events may adjust the schedule. These meetings are held in Conference Room B at the Camp Lester Hospital. We usually have a little club business, a presentation on astronomy, an open discussion and then if the weather permits we go out for a little stargazing - an informal *star party*.

A schedule of upcoming meetings and maps to our meeting locations are found on the inside of this brochure. You can also find special events and the most current meeting information at our web site.

Meetings in 2011

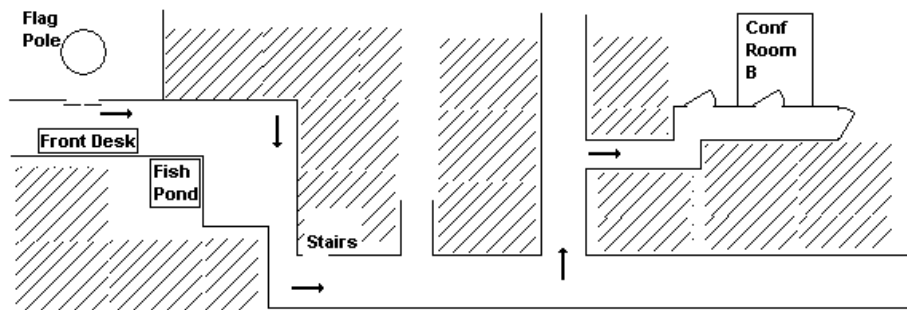
March 5th, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
April 2nd, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
May 7th, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
June 4th, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
July 2nd, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
August 6th, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
September 3rd, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
October 1st, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
November 5th, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B
December 3rd, 7PM	Camp Lester Hospital, Conference Room B

Star Party Tips

The Ryukyu Astronomy Club would like you to fully enjoy your time under the stars. Moving around in the dark presents some small hazards and the equipment in use is rather expensive. Please remember the following:

- Kids are welcome, but must be supervised at all times. They can easily wander off in the dark and are largely invisible to arriving and departing cars.
- Never touch someone else's equipment without permission, but don't be afraid to ask. **Never** touch any glass optical surfaces. Be especially mindful of the eyepiece that you are looking through (kid's seem to love to touch this) and the end pointed up to the sky.
- Avoid loud and boisterous behavior. Star-gazing is a quiet, peaceful activity.
- Be careful of where you step - it is easy to trip over tripod legs and wires as you walk around.

US Naval Hospital - Camp Lester



Signs are posted prior to each meeting. Enter the front of the hospital at the flag pole, go left past the fish pond and you will see the first sign.