

The Fourteenth Annual
Nebraska Star Party
P.O. Box 540307
Omaha, NE 68154-0307

INSTRUCTIONS

BASIC INFO – Fill in the Pre-Registration form to the left with the names of those in your party, along with the requested contact information. Cost of NSP is only \$35 per adult if this form is **postmarked by June 1st**. If postmarked **after** June 1st, the cost is \$45 per adult. Children 12 and under still attend for free!

MEALS – Sunday's and Monday's optional meals must be paid for along with your pre-registration. Sunday's meal features half a Barbecued Chicken (3 pieces) for \$10, while Monday's meal features a French Dip sandwich with a half pound of meat for \$9! All NSP meals include three sides, dessert, and drinks in the price, and will be served buffet style, convenient to the Observing Field. Tuesday's half-pound "Cattle Country" Hamburger Dinner is included with your registration. Wednesday's evening meal is on your own. Thursday's optional Smoked Turkey Roll and Friday's Barbequed Roast Beef dinners can be prepaid during Check-in. Prepayment for Sunday's and Monday's meals is refundable in case of cancellation prior to July 7th.



T-SHIRTS – The popular NSP commemorative T-Shirt bearing this year's theme, our pledge – *You Won't Get Plutoed!* – is available in limited quantities. A small number of shirts will be available at NSP, however they sell out quickly, so order yours now. Specify the quantity of each size of shirt desired. Shirt sizes XL and smaller are \$12, while XXL and larger are \$14 each.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM – Wednesday's activities at Valentine High School include a special Children's Program with activities designed to pique youngsters' interest in science. Materials for the program will cost \$7 per child. Please indicate the number of children from your party who will attend the program.

TOTAL – Add up the number of adult attendees, optional meal orders, T-Shirt orders, and Children's Program participants, and calculate your total cost. Then, turn the form over to read, sign, and date the liability release on the reverse side. Indicate the number in your party who want to reserve space in NSP's free Beginner's Field School. To help us gather data, also please circle the dates your party expects to arrive and depart NSP and the type of lodging you anticipate (this is not a commitment, just an indication for our future planning).

MAIL – Enclose the form, including the signed liability release and your check for the total, payable to **NEBRASKA STAR PARTY**, and mail to:

NEBRASKA STAR PARTY
c/o Eric Balcom
P.O. Box 540307
Omaha, NE 68154-0307

The 14th Annual NSP Nebraska Star Party JUL 15 - 20, 2007

You Won't Get Plutoed!

www.NebraskaStarParty.com

The Nebraska Star Party

Invites you to NSP 14

July 15th through 20th, 2007

Snake Campground at Merritt Reservoir, 27 miles South of Valentine, Nebraska

Our tongue-in cheek theme, celebrating the American Dialect Society's 2006 "word of the year", is also our promise -

You Won't Get Plutoed!

It's time once again to plan for a summer family vacation under the stars! The astronomical views from Merritt Reservoir's Snake Campground are fabulous, and there are plenty of recreational opportunities to keep the entire family entertained all week long at the 14th annual Nebraska Star Party.



For newcomers, NSP is the perfect place to become acquainted with the wonders the heavens hold, many of which can't be enjoyed from cities. Our unique Beginner's Field School will show you how fun it is to explore the heavens here, as well as in your own back yard when you return home, with or without a telescope.

Seasoned observers will find NSP enjoyable as well, with observing challenges, an astro photo contest, and a fantastic light pollution-free sweep of the summer night sky, with naked-eye limiting magnitude approaching 7.5 to 8!

The remote sandhills of north-central Nebraska offer a vacation full of western and natural history. Short day trips will take you to historical sites important to the settlement of the west. The spring-fed water and sugar sand beaches of Merritt Reservoir offer swimming, boating and fishing. Valentine National Wildlife Refuge provides a window into the ecology of the prairie, while the nearby Niobrara River affords a cooling tube float or canoe trip through the surrounding cattle ranching country.

Whether you've been to NSP many times before or you don't even know what a star party is, you'll be treated like a cherished old friend. Plan now to join us for an unforgettable - and economical - vacation this summer! You don't need a telescope to come. Be sure to register before June 1st to save \$10 per adult on registration costs.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL NSP events this year, except meals and observing, will be held in the city of Valentine. This includes Registration and Check-In, Field School, Seminars, Swap Meets, and Children's Program. Optional evening meals will be served on the Observing Field adjacent to Snake Campground at Merritt Reservoir.

SUNDAYRegistration & Check-In, 3:00 to 6:00 PM; Optional Barbecue Chicken Dinner, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

MONDAYField School, 3:00 to 5:00 PM; Registration & Check-In, 5:00 to 6:00 PM; Optional French Dip Dinner, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

TUESDAYSwap Meet, Noon to 3:00 PM; Field School, 3:00 to 5:00 PM; Registration & Check-In, 5:00 to 6:00 PM;

Free "Cattle Country" Hamburger Dinner, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY(All at Valentine High School) Field School, 10:00 AM to Noon; Registration & Check-In, 10:00 AM to Noon; Swap Meet, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM; Speaker Program, 1:00 to 4:00 PM; Children's Program, 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Dinner on your own.

THURSDAYOpen day, no NSP events scheduled; Optional Smoked Turkey Roll Dinner, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

FRIDAYOpen day; Optional Barbecue Roast Beef Dinner, 7:00 to 8:00 PM; Public Star Party, 9:00 PM; Observing Field.

Door prize drawings will be held at the Free NSP-hosted Hamburger Dinner on Tuesday evening and following the conclusion of the Speaker Programs on Wednesday at VHS.

LODGING - NSP's registration cost does not include lodging. A number of options are available ranging from primitive camping on the observing field to motels, B&Bs, and RV spaces in the region. This year Valentine's hotels are offering attendees special NSP rates, so be sure to ask. Details will be provided with the registration confirmation which will be sent to you. Or you may consult the NSP website for reference information at www.NebraskaStarParty.org/lodging.html.

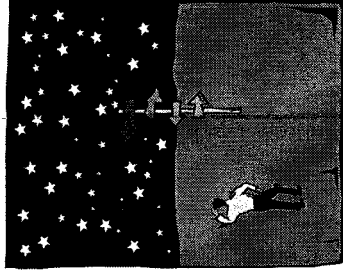
CAMPING - Campers will find primitive space both on the observing field and in the adjacent Snake Campground, with access to drinking water and vault toilets. No pads or electricity are available, though other campgrounds along the perimeter of the reservoir offer expanded facilities, including coin-operated (quarter) showers.

STATE PARK FEES - All vehicles must display a valid Nebraska State Park Entry Permit, available at the Trading Post for \$4 per day or \$20 annually. Campers are subject to daily camping fees of \$6, payable in kiosks at campground entrances.

MEALS - Your registration includes our special "Cattle Country" Hamburger Dinner on Tuesday evening, otherwise meals are on your own. This year NSP has arranged for optional meals to be available *at the observing field*, including entree, three sides, dessert and beverages for \$10 or less. And you won't go away

hungry! Meals are available by prepayment only, and must be paid along with registration for Sunday and Monday nights. Prepaid meals for Thursday and Friday nights may be arranged at Check-in. (Meal prepayment is refundable prior to July 7th.)

BEGINNER'S FIELD SCHOOL - Always one of the most popular features of NSP, we'll again be offering our **Beginner's Field School** covering the fundamentals of observing which attendees can put into practice on the observing field each evening. There is no extra cost to attend each of the three Field School classes, however since materials are limited, please reserve your space when mailing this Pre-Registration form.



OTHER NSP EVENTS - As always, you'll enjoy the knockout views of deep sky objects popping out against the **Dark Skies** of NSP's isolated location. Then you can test your skills against one of NSP's

Deep Sky Challenges; there's a Challenge for every proficiency level from novice to expert. Photographers can submit existing or new photos to NSP's **Astrophotography Contest**. Sell off that under-used equipment or find the bargain you've been looking for at the **NSP Swap Meets**. There will

be **Seminars** presented by expert speakers in the field of astronomy, and a **Children's Program** to foster scientific curiosity in your youngsters. There's no shortage of social events, either, including **Dinners**, drawings for **Door Prizes**, plus all the fun of relaxing beneath the stars with friends and family members.

NSP 14 Pre-Registration Form

Pre-Registration Cost - *IF MAILED BY JUNE 1st:*

of Adults # _____ x \$35 = _____
 # of Kids (12 & under) # _____ x \$ 0 = _____

Pre-Registration Cost - *IF MAILED AFTER JUNE 1st:*

of Adults # _____ x \$45 = _____
 # of Kids (12 & under) # _____ x \$ 0 = _____

Name: _____

Family Member: _____

Family Member: _____

Family Member: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

NSP Optional Meal ORDER FORM

Sunday Night • 3-pc BBQ Chicken, 3 sides & drinks

No. of Dinners # _____ x 10.00 = _____

Monday Night • 1/2 lb. French Dip, 3 sides & drinks

No. of Dinners # _____ x 9.00 = _____

NSP T-Shirts ORDER FORM

Adult Size • Quantity x Price ea. = subtotal

Small _____ # _____ x 12.00 = _____

Medium _____ # _____ x 12.00 = _____

Large _____ # _____ x 12.00 = _____

X-Large _____ # _____ x 12.00 = _____

XX-Large _____ # _____ x 14.00 = _____

XXX-Large _____ # _____ x 14.00 = _____

Please reserve the following spaces in the Children's Program on Wednesday. A \$7 materials fee applies per child.

Children's Program _____ x 7.00 = _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Please turn the form over and complete the reverse side.

== IMPORTANT ==
PLEASE SIGN & DATE BELOW
WHEN RETURNING YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION

Nebraska Star Party Liability Release

By registering for, or participating in, the Nebraska Star Party I hereby affirm that I and my family release the Prairie Astronomy Club, Omaha Astronomical Society, Organizers, and Sponsors of the Nebraska Star Party (hereinafter referred to as the "Providers") from any and all injuries or damages received or sustained arising out of or occasioned by the acts of the Providers in the execution or performance of the Nebraska Star Party.

I further waive any claim that I, my heirs, assigns, or personal representatives, may have against the Providers for all accidents, injuries or losses I may incur while participating in the Nebraska Star Party. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Providers for any costs incurred (including attorneys fees) in defending any action brought against the Providers as a result of my participation in the Nebraska Star Party.

My signature upon this form also indicates agreement and acceptance on behalf of all the attendees registering on this form, and for all minor children attending while in my care.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

BEGINNERS FIELD SCHOOL RESERVATION

Please reserve _____ positions in the Beginners Field School for members of our party.

THE FINE PRINT

Your registration fee is non-refundable. Payments for T-shirts, meals, and Children's Program fees are refundable (meal payments refundable only prior to July 7th). Mail this form prior to June 1st to take advantage of pre-registration savings. Confirmation of your pre-registration will be sent to you via email or regular mail along with detailed information for planning your trip to NSP.

Please indicate by circling the date your party might arrive:

PRIOR TO	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
7/15	7/15	7/16	7/17	7/18	7/19

And the date your party might leave:

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	AFTER
7/16	7/17	7/18	7/19	7/20	7/20

And whether you're likely to lodge in:

a Campground a Motel/B&B an RV Park

(This section is for statistical purposes only, and will not affect your registration. This does not commit you in any way, nor does it constitute a reservation.)