

## **Missed Session Makeup Activities**

If you have to miss a class session for any reason, consider the following activities. Each has a point value and you will need 10 points for a full class make-up. A short paper and a presentation to class on your activity or activities must also be included. Note: These activities are date sensitive and some require tickets!

### **Monthly Star Lecture (5 Points)**

JPL – 40 Years of Planetary Exploration  
Saturday, October 26, 2002  
6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.  
Albert Einstein Planetarium

Dr. Woody Davis, a Jet Propulsion Laboratory solar system ambassador, will lead the audience on an evening of planetary exploration. Join Davis as he discusses Mariner 2, the first successful exploratory probe of Venus. Finally, test your astronomical skills under the real night sky. Public telescopic observing follows the Monthly Star Lecture, weather and time of sunset permitting. No tickets are required.

### **Public Telescopic Observing (10 Points)**

Saturday, November 9  
Dusk-11 p.m., weather allowing  
Sky Meadows State Park, near Paris, Virginia

As darkness falls join Sean O'Brien, staff astronomer of the National Air and Space Museum's Einstein Planetarium, for this series of public telescopic stargazing events. The evening will begin with a short night sky orientation, followed by guided viewing of various astronomical objects through a telescope. Participants will be able to identify open and globular star clusters, planetary and reflection nebulae, and galaxies with the help of O'Brien and other local astronomers. Participants should bring flashlights covered with a red filter or a brown paper bag. In case of clouds or rain, an amateur astronomer will lead a short alternative program. There is a \$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle. Contact Sky Meadows State Park at (540) 592-3556 for further information and driving directions. Dusk-11 p.m., Sky Meadows State Park.

Sky Meadows State Park is west of Washington, D.C. on US Route 17 North, 1 mile south of US Route 50, or 7 miles north of Interstate 66, Exit 23.

### **National Air and Space Society Lecture (5 Points)**

**Apollo-Soyuz: The Race for Space**  
Saturday, November 16  
8:00 p.m.  
Lockheed Martin IMAX® Theater

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford—who flew aboard Gemini VI and commanded Gemini IX, Apollo 10 and the Apollo "half" of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project—recalls a truly amazing career. Tom Stafford attained the highest speed ever reached by a test pilot (28,547 mph), led the team that designed the sequence of missions leading to the original lunar landing, and drafted the original specifications for the B-2 stealth bomber on a piece of hotel stationery. His crowning achievement, however, was surely his role as America's unofficial space ambassador to the Soviet Union during the Cold War. As President Nixon's stand-in at the 1971 Soviet funeral for three cosmonauts, he opened the door to the possibility of cooperation in space between the Russians and Americans. In July 1975, his "handshake in space" with Soviet commander Alexei Leonov—who became a lifelong friend—proved the two countries could indeed work successfully together. Note: This lecture is free but tickets are required. For reservations, call (202) 357-3762.

### **Astronomy Fair (5 Points)**

Saturday, November 16  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Welcome Center (Gallery 108)

Calling all astronomy enthusiasts! Join local experts to learn how to select, use and care for astronomical instruments. Telescopes, accessories and educational materials will be displayed for visitors to enjoy.

**Monthly Star Lecture (5 Points)**

**Star Shines on the Hour of Our Meeting: Celestial Sights of the World of J. R. R. Tolkien**

Saturday, November 30, 2002

6:00 p.m.

Albert Einstein Planetarium

Join Einstein Planetarium astronomer Sean O'Brien as he discusses the celestial happenings of Middle Earth. Experience Tolkien's universe as the planetarium's star projector simulates the celestial phenomena of the trilogy. Passages and poetry by Tolkien will be read during the lecture. Finally, test your skills under the real night sky. Public telescopic observing follows the Monthly Star Lecture, weather and time of sunset permitting. No tickets are required.

For the Weekly Skywatcher's Report, a brief recorded message on the current astronomical sky, call (202) 357-2000. The report is also available through the museum's site online. For further information on the Albert Einstein Planetarium show times and ticket prices, see the web page or call (202) 633-STAR, or TTY (202) 357-1729

Check with your instructor for other possibilities.