



VIA STELLARIS

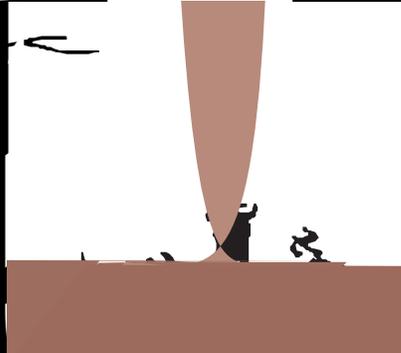
www.vbas.org

The Monthly Newsletter of the Virginia Braun Astronomical Society

VBAS Highlights for August

Public Programs for August

Asymptotic *mb S*



In This Issue:

President's Message

The Student's Corner

The VBAS Library

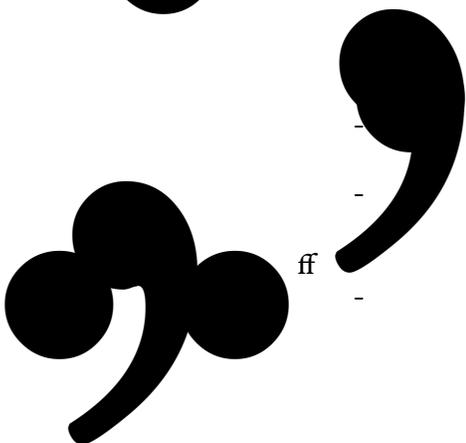
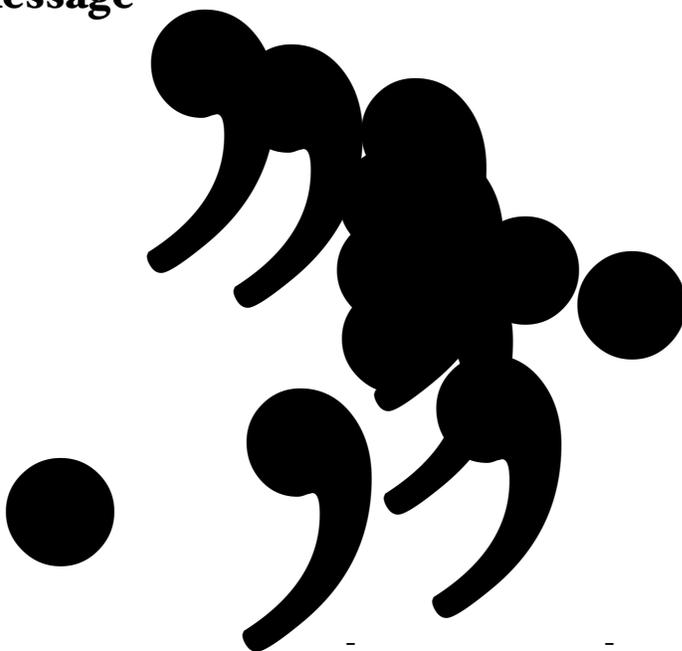
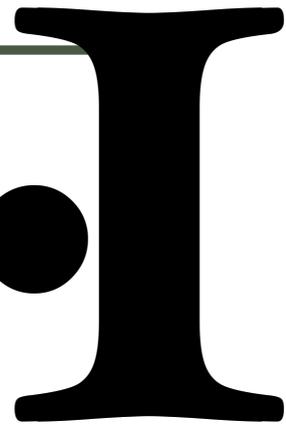
Siemens PLM Software Awards Grant to VBAS

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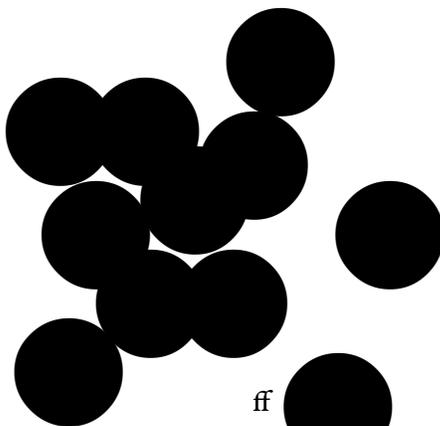
President's Message

by John Young



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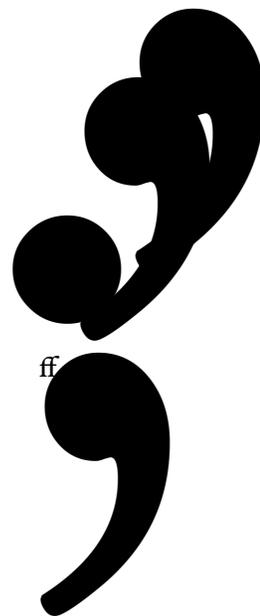
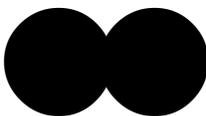
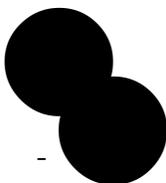


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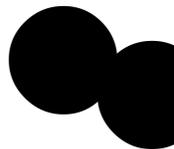
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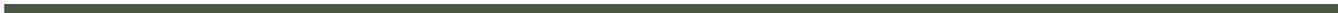


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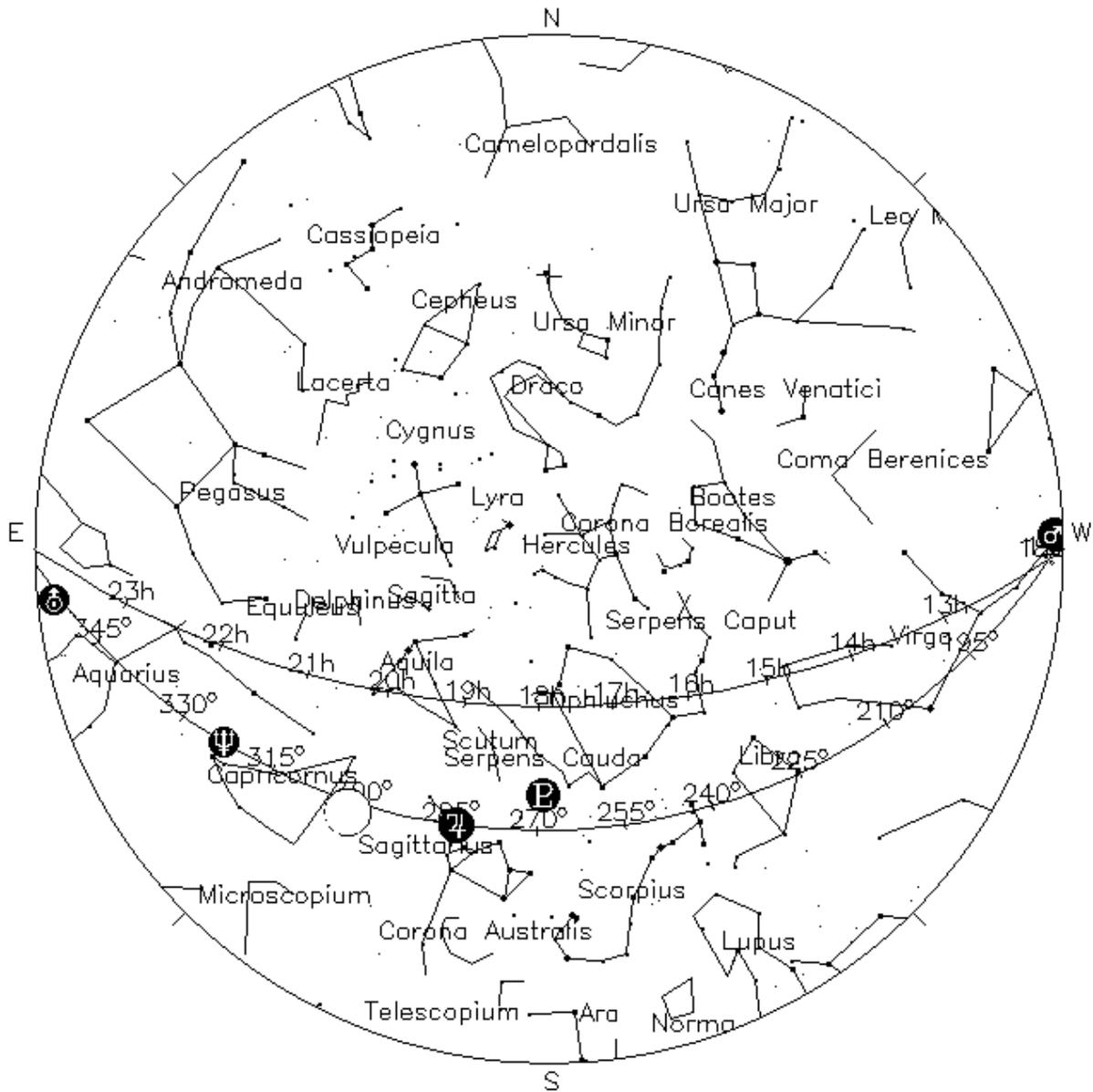
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The Night Sky for August, 2008

Map courtesy of John Walker and YourSky (<http://www.fourmilab.to/yoursky/>).



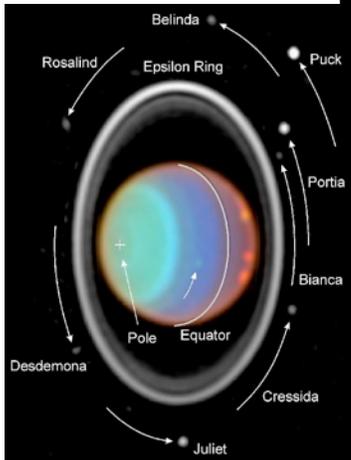
VBAS Calendar of Events

Friday, August 1st, 2008
Deep Sky Observing

Friday, August 8th, 2008, starting 6 to 6:30 PM
Perseid Meteor Shower Event
Location: **VBAS Observatory**

Saturday, August 2nd, 9th, & 23rd, 2008, 7:30 PM
Planetarium Show: Exploring Uranus & Neptune

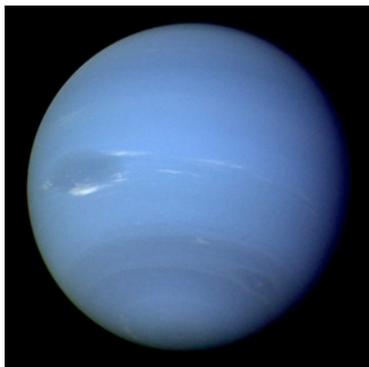
Monday, August 11th, 2008, 11 PM
Aurid Meteor Shower
Location: **Hayes Nature Preserve**



Wednesday, August 13th, 2008, starting 6:30 to 7 PM
Saturn and Venus Conjunction Event
Location: **Fields south of the UAH Optics Building**

Friday, August 15th, 2008, 7 PM
Regular Monthly Meeting

Uranian Moons, Rings, & Clouds (Image credit: E. Karkoschka, Univ. of Arizona, NASA)



Neptune, as seen by the Voyager 2 spacecraft in 1989.

Saturday, August 16th, 2008, 7:30 PM

Planetarium Show: Huntsville and Early Space Program

Presented by **Jim Wright, MSFC**

Pluto System • February 15, 2006
Hubble Space Telescope • ACS/HRC



NASA, ESA, H. Weaver (JHU/APL), A. Stern (SwRI), and the HST Pluto Companion Search Team

Pluto and its moons, Charon, Nix, and Hydra. Image credit: M. Brown, S. Busch, A. S. G. and the HST Pluto Companion Search Team, ESA, NASA

Saturday, September 19th, 2008, 7 PM
Regular Monthly Meeting

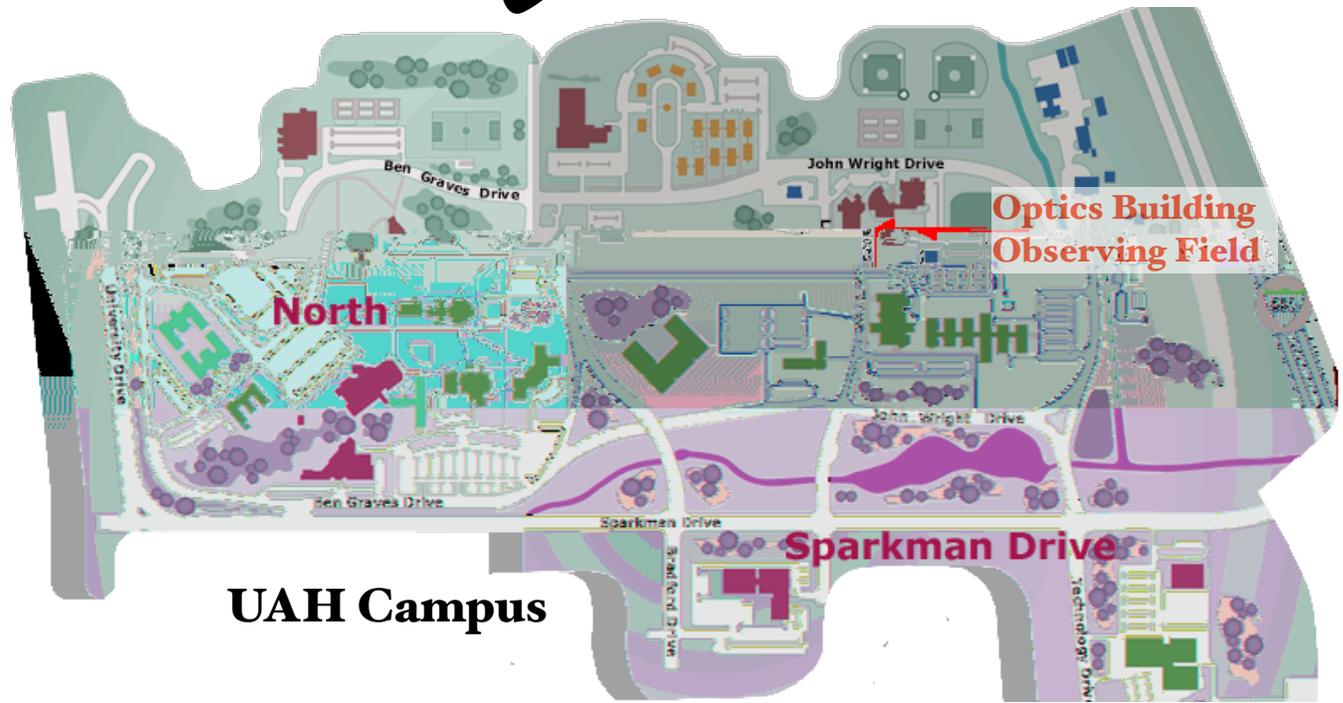
Saturday, September 6th, 13th, & 27th, 2008, 7:30 PM

Planetarium Show: Exploring Pluto

Saturday, September 13th, 2008, 7:30 PM

Planetarium Show: To Be Announced

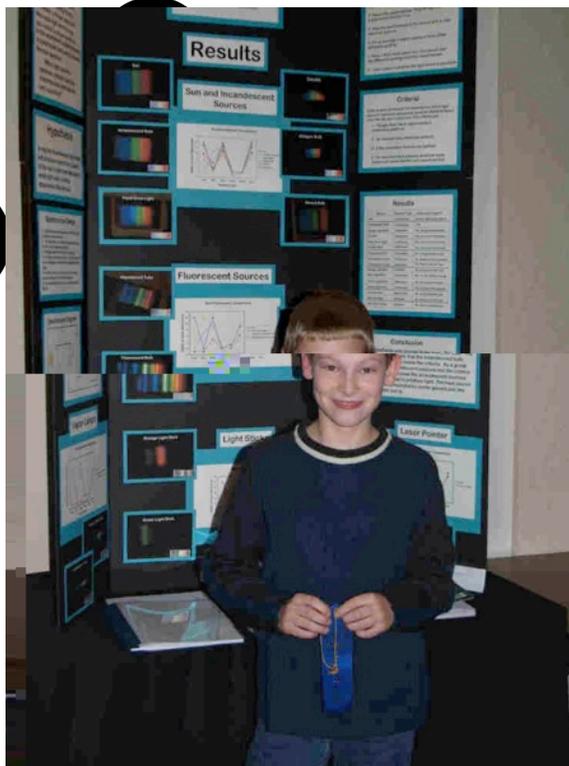
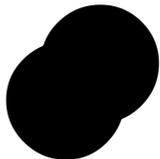
Presented by **To Be Announced**





The Student's Corner

by David Lofts



The VBAS Library

by Terry Owens



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Book of the Month

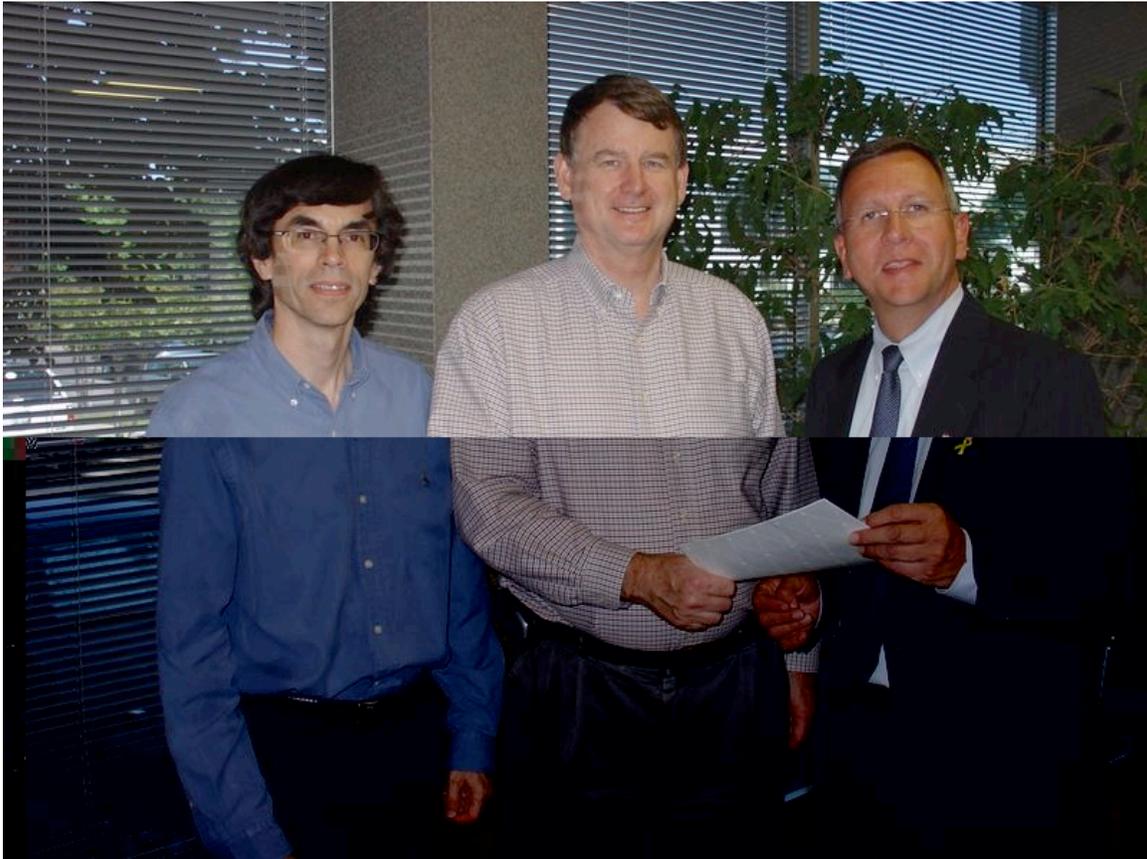


Siemens PLM Software Awards Grant to VBAS

by Jeff Delmas

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Jeff Delmas, Bill McClure, and Michael Cowger (left to right).



Contributions to Via Stellaris

We welcome contributions to our newsletter that may be of interest to the astronomical community. Contributions are best sent by email to Steve Sloan at editor1@vbas.org. If you don't have access to email, you can send articles in either Word or ASCII format to Steve at 2110 Vilaret Dr, Huntsville, AL 35803.

Membership and Renewal

The VBAS currently has four categories of membership. All four include free admission to the planetarium shows; subscription to this newsletter; membership in the Astronomical League; and use of VBAS library and equipment. The four categories of membership, and the dues for each, are: REGULAR at \$24.00 per year, FAMILY at \$36.00 per year, STUDENT (must be full-time student) at \$12.00 per year, and LIFE at \$500.00. Newsletter Only is also available for \$12.00 per year. Membership renewal occurs for all members annually on March 1st.

All VBAS memberships came up for renewal on March 1, 2008. If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Gerry Conrad.

Please send your renewal to the Membership Secretary at VBAS, P.O. Box 1142, Huntsville, AL 35807. Make checks payable to the Von Braun Astronomical Society. If your mailing or email address changes, please report the new address promptly to the Membership Secretary, Gerry Conrad, at conrad1908@knology.net or 722-8212, to avoid missing issues of *Via Stellaris*.

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VIA STELLARIS



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Steve Sloan, Via Stellaris editor