

# Application WEST TEXAS ASTRONOMERS



www.wtastro.org

## WHO ARE THE WEST TEXAS ASTRONOMERS?

The West Texas Astronomers are a group of amateur sky observers who get together to learn about astronomy, to share what they know, and observe the spectacular West Texas night sky.

## WHERE DO WE MEET?

Monthly meetings are held at Blakemore Planetarium at 7:30PM on the 2nd Monday of each month and are free to the public. Conditions permitting, Star Parties take place after the Friday evening planetarium show in Haley Park once a month on the Friday closest to the first quarter moon. Observing sessions are held weekends nearest the new moon at the club's remote dark sky site.

## WHAT IS A MEETING ABOUT?

Meetings feature informative films, slides, workshops, and talks by members and guest speakers on topics as infinite as the Cosmos! The public is always welcome. Following the presentation and a break for refreshments is the business meeting.

## WHAT IS A STAR PARTY?

The Star Party is an outdoor gathering of those interested in looking at the night sky. Everyone is welcome to attend! You don't need a telescope or binoculars, but clothes appropriate for the season and a RED flashlight are a good idea. Members set up observing equipment for viewing stars, planets, galaxies and other celestial objects.

## WHAT IS AN OBSERVING SESSION?

The West Texas Astronomers have a "dark sky site" where they can observe under extremely dark conditions, away from city lights. They look for deep sky objects: star clusters, galaxies, nebulae and comets. Members often combine cameras with telescopes to produce spectacular astrophotography.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Benefits include the club newsletter *AstroNews*; membership in the Astronomical League including the *Reflector* newsletter; membership in the Night Sky Network (NASA, JPL, ASP); discounts on subscriptions to *Astronomy* and *Sky & Telescope* magazines; the annual trip to **Prude Ranch** in Ft. Davis Texas; and a holiday party. You will have the opportunity to learn about various sizes and types of telescopes and observe at club dark sky sites with friends--and much more. See you under the stars!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE : \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PH# : \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PH#: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX#: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TELESCOPE(S) OWNED: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

\$20.00 Regular Membership (includes family)

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD 1 \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD 2 \_\_\_\_\_

(list other children on back of form)

\$5.00 Student Membership - Available to any person 15 years of age or older currently enrolled in high school or college. A Student Member has no voting privileges and may not hold any Club office.

Registered or convicted sex offenders are not eligible for membership in The West Texas Astronomers or for participation in its programs and activities.

THE MARIAN BLAKEMORE PLANETARIUM AT THE MUSEUM OF THE SOUTHWEST  
P.O. Box 3284 Midland, TX 79702-3284 — (432) 683-2882