

August 2010 Calendar of Events

by Elizabeth Brown

Venus, Mars and Saturn brighten the western sky in a close knit trio throughout the month. The crescent Moon joins them on the evening of the 12th. Look for this celestial show while watching for the peak of summer's best meteor shower – the Perseids. With little lunar interference, the evening should be a good one for observing them. Powell Observatory will be open that evening, so come on down! Mighty Jupiter rises after 10 p.m., shining brightly at -2.8 magnitude. The Galilean Moons provide a good show all month with several transits and occultations. By month's end, Venus will glitter at magnitude -4.6 in the low western sky.

New Moon – August 9

First Quarter Moon – August 16

Full Moon – August 24

Last Quarter Moon – August 3

Sun, Aug 1	Helen Sawyer Hogg 105 th bday (1905) globular cluster research
Tues, Aug 3	Last Quarter Moon
Thurs, Aug 5	Neil Armstrong 80 th bday (1930)
Sat, Aug 7	Public Night Powell Observatory, "Our Amazing Moon", 8:30 p.m.
Tues, Aug 10	Moon at perigee
Thur, Aug 12	ASKC Board of Directors' meeting, 7:00 p.m. Perseid meteor shower peaks in the evening
Sat, Aug 14	Public Night Powell Observatory, "Telescopes & Time Machines", 8:00 p.m.
Mon, Aug 16	First Quarter Moon
Thurs, Aug 19	50 th Anniv launch of Sputnik 5
Fri, Aug 20	Neptune at opposition. 35 th Anniv Viking 1 launch (1975). 125 th Anniv (1885) Ernst Hartwig discovers supernova in Andromeda galaxy
Sat, Aug 21	ASKC General Meeting, Royall Hall, UMKC at 7:00 p.m., Public Night Powell Observatory, "Amazing Planets Around Distant Stars", 8:00 p.m. 45 th Anniv (1965) Gemini 5 launch (Cooper & Conrad)
Tues, Aug 24	Full (Green Corn) Moon
Wed, Aug 25	Moon at apogee
Sat, Aug 28	Public Night Powell Observatory, "Asteroids", 8:00 p.m.
Sat, Sept 4	Public Night Powell Observatory, "What's Up Doc?", 8:00 p.m.