

Central Valley Astronomers, Inc. The Astronomy Club of Central California

CVA is a local group of astronomy enthusiasts drawn together by common goals and interests.

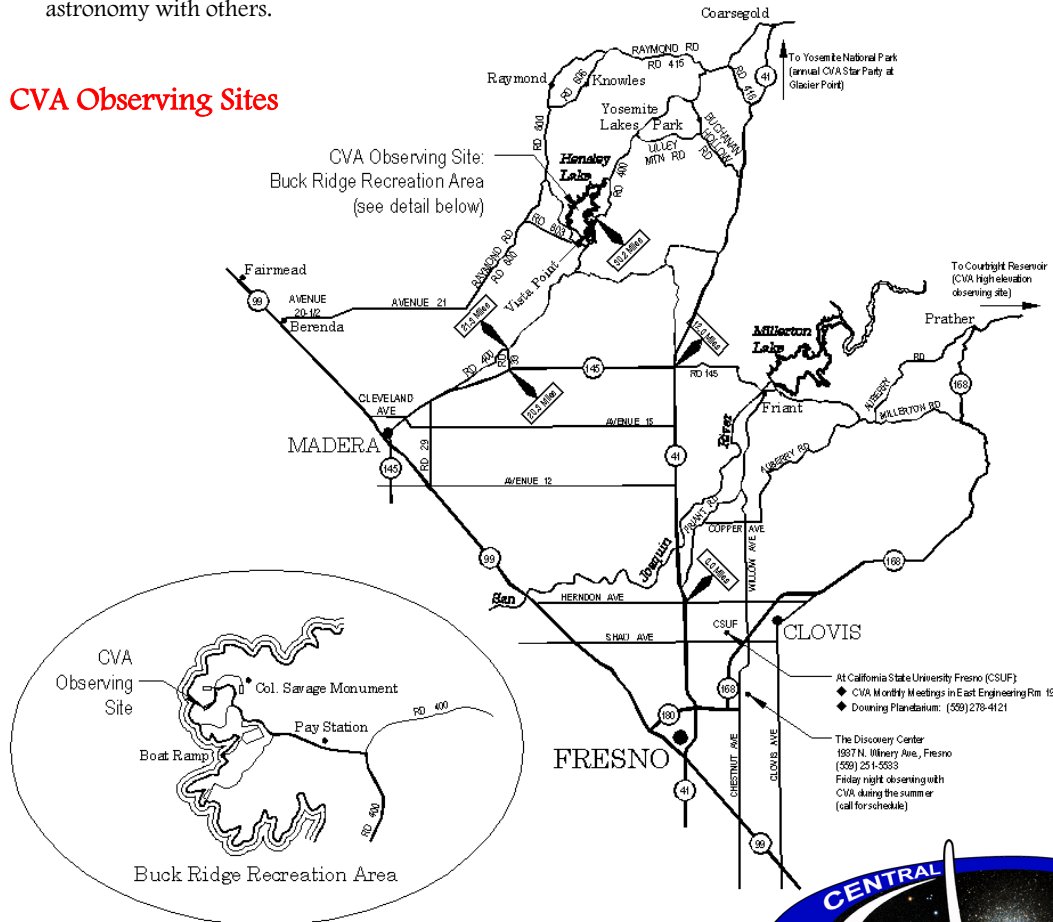
Goals:

- ❖ Provide a place for those interested in astronomy to meet together to enjoy and share their hobby.
- ❖ Share the wonders of astronomy with the public.
- ❖ Be a local source of astronomy education and information for our schools, the public, and the media.

Interests:

- ❖ To learn about astronomy and related topics.
- ❖ To enjoy the night sky with unaided eyes, binoculars, and telescopes.
- ❖ To learn from others and to share what we know about astronomy with others.

CVA Observing Sites



Thanks to Steve Britton, Casey Chumley, Fred Lusk, Greg Morgan, Clarence Noell, Keith Quattrocchi, and Dr. Fred Ringwald, for providing many excellent photographs to choose from.
The Calendar Committee: Greg Morgan and Fred Lusk

What we do

- ❖ **Meetings:** Monthly meetings are usually held on the Saturday closest to the Full Moon, usually at Fresno State.
- ❖ **Star Parties and Public Observing:** Monthly “star parties” are usually held on the Saturday closest to the New Moon, usually at Hensley Lake in Madera County and occasionally at nearby Eastman Lake. We hold several star parties each summer at Courtright Reservoir (primitive camping). One weekend each summer we conduct a public star party at Glacier Point in Yosemite National Park. During spring, summer, and fall we conduct “sidewalk astronomy” at Riverpark Shopping Center on the Saturdays closest to the first quarter moon.
- ❖ **Newsletter:** Our monthly publication, *The Observer*, contains articles that share the knowledge and experiences of club members. Everyone is welcome to contribute.
- ❖ **Workshops:** Learn and share basic and specialized skills related to astronomy through club workshops.

Reaching out to others

- ❖ **Discovery Center:** We participate in events at The Discovery Center as part of our outreach program for the children of Central California.
- ❖ **Downing Planetarium (CSUF):** We are members of the Founders Circle of Donors at the Downing Planetarium.
- ❖ **Kingsburg Observatory:** We help maintain the observatory at Kingsburg High School and participate in their public events.
- ❖ **Local Schools:** We do free astronomy programs for schools and non-profit organizations!

Come Join Us

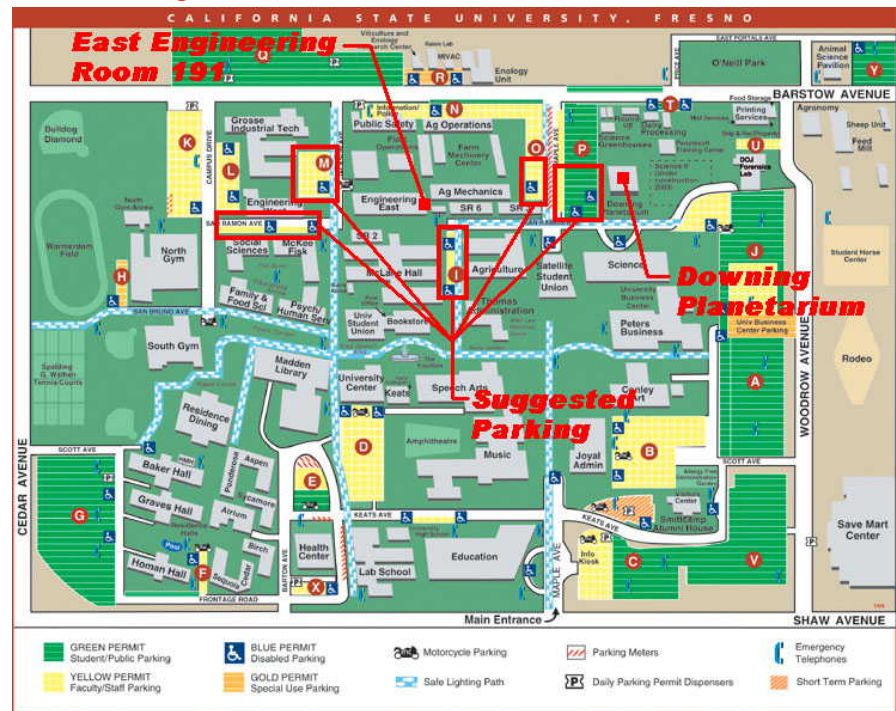
We always welcome newcomers and visitors. You need no special knowledge or skill to become a member. There is no age limit, and you need not own a telescope. You just need a curious mind.

Contacting CVA

Check our website, <http://www.cvafresno.org>, for current contact and membership information and larger maps to CVA activities.

CVA is a nonprofit organization.

CVA Meetings at Fresno State



Primary Calendar Sources:

- U.S. Naval Observatory [<http://aa.usno.navy.mil>]
- Astronomical Tables of the Sun, Moon and Planets, Jean Meeus
- Astronomy Magazine Sky Guide 2010
- CalSky [<http://www.calsky.com>] and similar websites
- Computer programs: RedShift Planetarium v1.0.0.0, WinEphem v1.09, & Cartes du Ciel v2.76

