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Free Nighttime Photography Class, Part of Upcoming Star Party in Jemez Springs on June 16

JEMEZ SPRINGS, NM—The Village of Jemez Springs is continuing its efforts to be known as a Dark Sky destination by hosting a Star Party on Saturday, June 16 beginning at 7 p.m. with a free night time photography workshop, hosted by the Albuquerque Astronomy Society (TAAS).

“Our second star party of the year falls the day before Father’s Day which is a great excuse to bring dad to Jemez Springs, stay the night then enjoy the hot springs, Jemez Historic Site, galleries and natural beauty of the Village,” said Mayor Roger Sweet. “We are grateful to the Albuquerque Astronomical Society for graciously contributing their time and expertise to this event.”

Beginning at 7 p.m. in the Jemez Springs Conference Center at the Plaza, next to the Jemez Springs Public Library, TAAS president Dale Murray will provide techniques and tips on photographing the constellations and night sky (“nightscape”) for anyone using a digital camera. Then at 8 p.m., TAAS will discuss general astronomy topics followed by night sky viewing behind the Jemez Springs Bath House with at least four telescopes provided by TAAS. There is no charge for the workshop or star viewing.

The star party takes place during a New Moon, which indicates a darker night sky. The event is weather dependent. Visitors are asked to visit Facebook/JemezSprings for updates.

The Village of Jemez Springs will provide complimentary hot cocoa at the event. Participants are asked to wear sturdy shoes, bring a jacket and water. Please do not use flashlights; rather, bring only red lights to preserve night vision.

Jemez Hot Springs has extended hours during the event, allowing for viewing the stars while soaking in their mineral hot springs pools outdoors. Call Jemez Hot Springs to book. Because the event continues until 10 p.m., visitors are encouraged to stay in the many lodging facilities within walking distance of the Plaza. Visit www.jemezsprings.org/lodging for a list of facilities.

The astrophotography workshop and astronomy discussion will be held in the Conference Room, next to the Jemez Springs Public Library. The viewing will take place behind the Bath House, located at 62 Jemez Springs Plaza in Jemez Springs.

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