

RAC Equipment Loan Policy

- **RAC loaner equipment**
 - Reflectors: 8" Dobsonian, 6" Orion, 6" Celestron
 - SCT: Celestron NexStar 5 GOTO
 - Coronado Personal Solar Telescope (PST)
 - Meade DSI digital CCD astrocamera
- **Loaners are available only to club members, for a period of one month**
 - Must be returned to the club at the next monthly meeting for use by other members
 - If no one else wishes to use the item it may be retained on a month-by-month basis
 - Borrowers are responsible for any damage to or loss of borrowed equipment
 - **The membership requirement is not to discourage equipment use but rather to encourage club membership; dues are virtually our only source of funds**
- **VP Joseph Francis has accepted role of loaner equipment coordinator**
 - To request an item, email Joe at joefran@mac.com or phone 540-775-3034
 - Joe's contact info is on the RaClub.org home page and on the [Library](#) page
 - Joe will contact the current borrower to ask that the item be brought to the next meeting
 - To mitigate the burden of transporting equipment to every meeting even if no one wants it, members wishing to borrow (or retain borrowed) equipment should inform Joe two weeks before the next meeting
 - In the case of an equipment retention request, Joe will determine whether another member wants to use the equipment and inform the current borrower
- **We need volunteer custodians to store each item when not in use**
 - Custodians must be members who regularly attend meetings
 - Custodians are welcome to use gear when not checked out by other members
 - Custodians are asked to continually assess equipment for possible repairs and upgrades

RAC Membership Benefits

Dues are \$15/year individual or family, \$7.50 for students

Dues payable 1 January, 90 day grace period ending 31 March

(dues pro-rated for new joins)

Non-members welcome at meetings & star parties but miss out on benefits listed below

Individual membership in the Astronomical League is \$7.50 extra per year

Membership Benefits

- Three loaner reflectors, GOTO SCT, solar scope and Meade DSI astrocamera
- Library of books, magazines & DVDs
- Attendance at annual club picnic, food provided by club, 50-50 raffle prizes
- Food provided by club at Nov election mtg
- Eligibility for Astronomical League membership and subscription to the AL magazine, *The Reflector* (\$7.50/yr)
- Eligibility for discount subscriptions to *Sky & Telescope*, *Astronomy* (restrictions apply) and *Star Date*
- Club email list server raclub@m31.us (also available to non-members)
- Club calendar, reminders and astronomy news via Yahoo RAC_GROUP
- Make motions and vote at club meeting

Community Activities

- Informative programs at monthly meetings
- Monthly star parties, weather permitting
- Web site with club news, astro links, image gallery and observing resources
- Coach beginners on learning the sky, using telescopes and astrophotography
- Conduct public outreach events
- Conduct scout clinics (Glenn Holliday)
- Conduct school lectures (David Abbou)