



RocheStar Fest 2026

July 10– 11, 2026, Marian and Max Farash Center for Observational Astronomy, Ionia, NY

Featured Speaker – Peter Miller on The Nancy Roman Space Telescope. Peter graduated from the University of Rochester with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and began his career at Xinetics (now part of Northrop Grumman). He then continued his education at Boston University, earning an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Following graduate school, Peter returned to Rochester and joined Kodak, now L3Harris, for the past 23 years.

At L3Harris, Peter has held a variety of technical roles spanning structural and dynamic analysis, opto-mechanical design, control systems, and spaceflight operations. His broad experience across multiple disciplines led him to the Systems Engineering organization, where he currently serves as Chief Systems Engineer for the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope Optical Telescope Assembly as well as for a telescope technology development program supporting the next NASA flagship astrophysics observatory.

The Astronomy Section of the Rochester Academy of Science (ASRAS) will hold the 29th annual RocheStar Fest on July 10th to July 11th. This weekend-long event features astronomy, lectures, demonstrations, and camping at ASRAS's Ionia, NY observing grounds. A picnic dinner will be held on Saturday. Door prizes and a silent auction add to the fun. Proceeds benefit ASRAS, a non-profit organization devoted to education and public outreach in the fields of astronomy and space sciences. Camping arrangements are available at no charge, tents and small campers permitted. These are primitive camping sites - no electric hookups, water hookups, or showers are available. No pets or ground fires are allowed.

Schedule of Events

Friday, July 10th	6:00 pm	Arrival for camping, Astro-Jeopardy and music trivia contest (rain or shine), observing (beginning at dark, weather permitting)
Saturday, July 11th	11:00 am	Registration begins – pick up Door Prize tickets at Registration table; <u>hot dogs will be available for purchase or bring your own lunch</u> , drinks available at modest cost
	1:00 – 4:30 pm	Talks, Demonstrations, & Experiments – Contact Lori Englund (lenglund175@gmail.com) to get your talk or demonstration on the schedule
	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Silent auction, door prizes
	4:30 pm	Members Reception (bring appetizers to share if you'd like)
	5:15 pm	Door Prizes followed by group photo
	6:00 pm	Barbeque Dinner at Ionia Volunteer Firehouse Beef brisket, pulled pork, smoked turkey, hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, pasta salad, and veggies. Bring your signature dish or dessert if you'd like.
	8:00 pm	Featured speaker: Observing to follow, weather permitting
Sunday, July 12th	10:00 am - Noon	Cleanup (breakfast at 9:00 am)

For general information, program ideas, and offers to help, contact *Lori Englund* at (585) 820-5012. If you can donate a door prize, contact *Mark Minarich* at (585) 261-5666. For camping arrangements, contact *Roger McDonough* at (585) 519-9121

Check out all the other ASRAS summer activities, at www.rochesterastronomy.org!!



Registration due by Friday, July 3, 2026

Day of registrations will be accepted: dinner purchases available but not guaranteed

Complete and mail this form with your payment (checks made out to ASRAS) to
Lori Englund, Attn: RocheStar Fest Registration, P.O. Box 20292 Rochester, NY 14602

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email address (optional): _____

Number of adults attending: _____

Number of children attending (under 12): _____

Total number attending: _____

Camping? Yes No (Tents and small campers allowed; no hookups are available.)

Early-Bird Event Fee: \$15 for individuals or \$25 for families Amount due \$ _____

Dinners: Number of adult dinners: _____ x \$10 \$ _____

Children 6 thru 12 (5 and under FREE) _____ x \$5 \$ _____

Children 5 and under _____ free **Registration Total** \$ _____

**Day of Registration Fees:
(July 11, 2026)**

Individual: \$20

Family: \$30