



44th Annual Deep South Star Gaze Registration Form

Feliciano Retreat Center – Saturday 10-10-2026 to Thursday 10-15-2026

NAME _____

ADDRESS (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

TELEPHONE () _____ CLUB AFFIL. (if any) _____ EMAIL _____

1. Registration Fee - All attendees must register (1a or 1b) regardless of lodging choices

1a) Full Registration - \$30.00 per person / \$40.00 per family *if in advance and postmarked by 10/02/2026*. Registrations postmarked *after* this date are \$45.00 per person / \$60.00 per family. Refunds will be made only if notified on or before this date or in the unlikely event of a Star Gaze cancellation. One door prize ticket per full registration.

Number attending _____ List names _____

1b) Reduced Registration - \$10.00 per person / \$15.00 per family. This applies if you do not want a door prize ticket, you are not setting up any equipment and you will not be staying overnight. Note, if you stay overnight in any type of vehicle, the camping fee applies.

Number attending _____ List names _____

Total Registration Fee (1a OR 1b) \$ _____

2. Overnight Reservation Choices - Select desired lodging type (2a, 2b or 2c) if staying on site

2a) Cottage Reservations (bring your own bedding and towels, pillows, etc.)

	Rate		# of people		Amount Due
Saturday (10/10)	\$44.00 per person	X	_____	=	_____
Sunday (10/11)	\$44.00 per person	X	_____	=	_____
Monday (10/12)	\$44.00 per person	X	_____	=	_____
Tuesday (10/13)	\$44.00 per person	X	_____	=	_____
Wednesday (10/14)	\$44.00 per person	X	_____	=	_____

Cottage Reservations Total \$ _____

2b) Tent, Camper & RV Reservations – Limited electrical hookup is for telescopes only, and there are no sanitary hookups for campers nor RVs. Generator use is not permitted on the observing field at night. Picnic canopies are permitted on the observing field in compliance with our Light and Parking Rules.

	Rate		# of people (T, C, or RV) <<circle		Amount Due
Saturday (10/10)	\$21.00 per camper or rv or \$10 per adult per tent	X	_____ ()	=	_____
Sunday (10/11)	\$21.00 per camper or rv or \$10 per adult per tent	X	_____ ()	=	_____
Monday (10/12)	\$21.00 per camper or rv or \$10 per adult per tent	X	_____ ()	=	_____
Tuesday (10/13)	\$21.00 per camper or rv or \$10 per adult per tent	X	_____ ()	=	_____
Wednesday (10/14)	\$21.00 per camper or rv or \$10 per adult per tent	X	_____ ()	=	_____

Tent, Camper or RV Reservations Total \$ _____



2c) Lodge Reservations – The Lodge has 23 motel style rooms (*two of the rooms have queen beds*). At least 2 rooms are handicapped accessible The other rooms have 1 single bed & bunk bed. All have a private bathroom with a shower. Linens and towels are provided. Queen rooms are only upon request, (*check here ____ to request a queen*). Room numbers are assigned.

			# of People		Total per Night
Saturday (10/10)	\$90.00(single)/\$104.00(double)\$120.00(triple)	X	_____	=	_____
Sunday (10/11)	\$90.00(single)/\$104.00(double)\$120.00(triple)	X	_____	=	_____
Monday (10/12)	\$90.00(single)/\$104.00(double)\$120.00(triple)	X	_____	=	_____
Tuesday (10/13)	\$90.00(single)/\$104.00(double)\$120.00(triple)	X	_____	=	_____
Wednesday (10/14)	\$90.00(single)/\$104.00(double)\$120.00(triple)	X	_____	=	_____

Note – if you double up it is \$52 per person, triple up and it is \$40 per person

Lodge Reservation Total = \$ _____

3. Meal Reservations – To eat in the FRC dining hall, you **must** reserve meals here in advance

Note - Meals have to be paid in advance; there will be no on-site meal payment. (By the 10/02/26 deadline.)

Please indicate the number of meals you want –

Saturday (10/10)		Dinner \$16	X	_____	= \$	_____
Sunday (10/11)	Breakfast \$13	X	_____	= \$	_____	Dinner \$16
Monday (10/12)	Breakfast \$13	X	_____	= \$	_____	Dinner \$16
Tuesday (10/13)	Breakfast \$13	X	_____	= \$	_____	Dinner \$16
Wednesday (10/14)	Breakfast \$13	X	_____	= \$	_____	Dinner \$16
Thursday (10/15)	Breakfast \$13	X	_____	= \$	_____	

All Meals Total \$ _____

Grand Total

Total of sections 1, 2 and 3

TOTAL REMITTED

\$ _____

All checks should be made payable to “**Barry Simon**” and mailed to:

Barry Simon, DSSG Director
842 Crystal Street
New Orleans, LA 70124

Email me at bsimon615@aol.com if you have any questions. For registration verification, please include your email on your registration paperwork and I will confirm receipt and registration. Due no later than 10-02-26 (early) or 10/7/26 at increased prices.



RELEASE OF LIABILITY - 2026

I, _____, of _____
(print name) (city and state)

In consideration of my fee form being accepted for the 2026 Deep South Star Gaze, I hereby irrevocably covenant, promise and agree to relieve, release and hold harmless the DSSG, it's organizers, and workers from any and all losses, claims, expenses, law suits, costs, demands, damages or liabilities, whether joint or several or of whatever kind or nature related, or from any sickness, infection, injuries and or losses, up to and including accidental death or death due to illness attributable to any cause which may occur to the undersigned registrant or his family, or any third person or party for whom the undersigned may be legally responsible while attending the 2026 Deep South Star Gaze.

I further agree to indemnify any party indicated above should such party suffer any claims, liabilities, losses, demands, causes of action, law suits and expenses (including attorney fees), caused directly or indirectly by my negligent or intentional acts, or failure to act, or if such acts or failures to act are directly or indirectly caused by any person in my family while participating in the 2026 Deep South Star Gaze.

It is understood that the 2026 Deep South Star Gaze is held at the Feliciana Retreat Center located near Clinton, Louisiana. It is understood that the above named event commences at 12 noon on Saturday, October 10th 2026 and runs until 12 Noon on Thursday October 15th 2026. As this is a rural area with a number of events held out of doors and in and around motor vehicles and in the presence of large numbers of other participants, certain risks are understood and accepted by me in registering for and attending this event. **SPECIFICALLY I HOLD HARMLESS THE DSSG, IT'S ORGANIZER(S), THE FELICIANA RETREAT CENTER AND ANY OTHER REGISTRANTS WHO MAY VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS WITH THIS FUNCTION.**

I further agree to abide by all rules established by **the DSSG** and its organizers as specified in rules established for the event.

The Feliciana Retreat Center has a prohibition against alcohol use on Feliciana Retreat Center grounds. We are obligated to respect and follow this prohibition.

Further the Feliciana Retreat Center in conjunction with the Deep South Star Gaze has a prohibition against firearms being carried as open carry or concealed. This is a condition of Registration, registration for the event is not permitted if you indicate that you cannot agree to this stipulation. Any registrant of the Deep South Star Gaze or Spring Scrimmage displaying, holstering or concealing a firearm on his or her body on site will have to leave and will be banned from registering and attending any future Deep South Star Gaze or Deep South Spring Scrimmage. It is understood that an attendee may transport a personal protection weapon in his or her vehicle. That is where it has to stay. No exceptions and no second chances. Appropriate signage will be displayed.

I hereby waive any and all claims against the DSSG, IT'S ORGANIZERS, THE FELICIANA RETREAT CENTER AND ANY OTHER REGISTRANTS WHO MAY VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS DURING THE COURSE OF THIS FUNCTION for injury, death or personal property damage or theft in excess of my personal insurance coverage, except in matters of gross neglect or criminal action by either the DSSG/Deep South Spring Scrimmage, the Feliciana Retreat Center, it's organizer and volunteers. In any incident involving other registrants outside of the actual management of the DSSG or DSSS, those registrants will be directly responsible for and shall be held accountable for their actions.

My signature on this form also indicates agreement and acceptance on behalf of all minor children (under 18 years of age) under my care in attendance.

_____ (initial here) I have received a copy of the DSSG/DSSS Light and Parking Rules, in force during the Deep South Star Gaze or the Deep South Spring Scrimmage and will abide by them.

*Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____
(Please Print)

*** Note – An additional Liability Release has to be completed by all attending family members, age 18 and over.**

Additional names of minors (under 18) attending _____ (age) _____
_____ (age) _____
_____ (age) _____
_____ (age) _____

Note - Registration is not complete until this form is completed and submitted with your Fee Form and payment.



Deep South Star Gaze/Spring Scrimmage – Rules & Regulations

(Please keep this portion with you)

revised 8-2-26

At the Deep South Star Gaze or Deep South Spring Scrimmage events held at the Feliciana Retreat Center, light restrictions will be in effect from deep dusk until dawn on the observing field and its approaches. Parking rules on the observing field and its approaches will be in force for the duration of the star gaze. These rules have been designed to make the star gaze an enjoyable experience and are based upon our previous 42 years with the Deep South Star Gaze. These rules are common sense and should be familiar to anyone who does regular astronomical observing from a dark site. Many regulations are the same or quite similar to rules found at other star parties.

1. **Spots on the observing field are strictly *first come, first serve*, with the exception of the Registration Canopy (north side of the field). RV's and campers, if any, will set up near the northeast corner of the observing field. Small telescope trailers will be permitted as long as space permits.**

Attendees are prohibited from setting up any vehicle or equipment on the observing field until we stake and mark the field. (This should be completed by noon on the first day of the event.)

We will lay out the field based upon registration numbers and the condition of the field. Each spot (observation station) will be approximately 15 feet wide. New arrivals should "key" off of what is already set up as we want to avoid creating spaces which are either too narrow or too wide between "observation stations" (*observation stations consist of your telescopes, canopies or tents*). Telescopes will be set up within a registrant's spot closest to the field center (center line runs the length of the field. There will be an approximately 15 ft. corridor between (from the outside – vehicles, then canopies and then equipment) running the length of the field. No gaps will be left between canopies other than enough space to walk and/or move equipment. Our main objective is to conserve space on the field. Note too that canopy size should be no larger than 12' x 12'. The field layout may be modified based upon registration numbers as circumstances dictate. AC electrical power is limited. Capability to run your equipment on battery power is recommended.

2. Once set up in a spot, your vehicle should be facing out. (Moving toward field center the best order for your stuff is vehicle, canopy and then your telescope.) Setting up this way lets you use your car freely during the day to explore the area near or far from the Feliciana Retreat Center. The open spot behind your canopy is your spot.
3. Tents can be set up behind telescope equipment in lieu of a canopy or within a canopy. If registration is light we may be able to allow tent setup adjacent to a canopy. Do not expect this, in all likelihood you will not be able to set up both a canopy and a tent on the Arena Field unless the tent is under a canopy or if you elect to move your vehicle off the field.

AC electrical power will be available from a few 20 amp outlets we have set up on a pole near the northeast corner of the observing field. From these outlets we will run a 100 ft cord toward field center where it will be connected to an electrical tree with multiple outlets. As several may want to tie into the same power source, tripping is a possibility. If that happens, lines will have to be removed from the power source in order (last one in is the first one out). The DSSG management is not providing extension cords or junction boxes. The run from the outlets to where telescopes will be on the field will be a minimum of 100 feet and a maximum of 300 feet. It is anticipated that heavy use could result in multiple tripped circuits. The cord run could also result in significant voltage drops. If you use cord(s), please secure it to the ground to prevent a tripping hazard. (Hint: use batteries if at all possible.)

We will have trash barrels strategically located around the field.

Registration check-in will take place at the Registration Canopy located on the east side of the field.



4. "No Equipment" (*reduced rate*) registrants should park their vehicles on the opposite side of the road that passes the observing field. If parked in this area you can pack your vehicle (observing our light prohibition rules) and leave when we call out "time windows" for departure. (8 pm, 10 pm and midnight).
No one parked on the Arena Field will be allowed to drive off at any time between dusk and dawn except during designated departure windows except in the case of an extreme emergency.
5. White lights of any kind are forbidden after dark unless light rules are suspended due to weather conditions or an emergency. In the case of a true medical emergency, white lights are justified. Do whatever is necessary to make your car, truck or van "astronomy friendly". This includes turning off interior light master switches, removing fuses, leaving vehicles unlocked after dark (*to avoid light flashes via remotes*), covering lights that cannot be turned off, etc. The best practice is to simply plan ahead and not open doors after dark if there's any question of lights coming on.
6. Flashlights and computer screens (at night) have to be red shielded, keep flashlights pointed down as much as possible. Some red shielded lights are still too bright. Use judgement and ask your neighbor if your light is too bright. If told by multiple people that your light is too bright, please take steps to correct this. Additionally we prohibit the use of red flashlight headbands. Typically they are much too bright and a real issue if when worn you might talk to someone else and look at them face to face. If found wearing/using one you will be reminded that they are forbidden.

Note - **Use of laptops on the field – any laptop used on the Observing Field must have its screen red shielded. If found to be too bright, the screen illumination can be turned down. Additionally it is a good idea to also shroud your laptop within an enclosure or "computer tent" – see links. This serves a double purpose as it also protects your computer from dew. If possible, please set up your computer so the screen is pointed away from other observers.**

Link to buy red screens and computer enclosures/tents

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=computer+tent&ref=nb_sb_noss_1

7. **Lasers or Red Dot Finders** – red dot finders are ok for use at the DSSG. Green, red or any other color laser used as a finder/pointer on telescopes or as hand held night sky pointers are prohibited when the sky is clear..
8. Music – everyone has different tastes. If you like to listen to music when observing, use earphones/ear buds.
9. The Feliciano Retreat Center prohibits alcohol and it's use on its grounds and in any of its buildings. Please respect their rules. We do not intend to forfeit our ability to continue to use the Feliciano Retreat Center for the Deep South Star Gaze. Having said this, we are not roving policemen.
10. **As stated elsewhere during the duration of any Deep South Star Gaze or Deep South Spring Scrimmage event no attendee is permitted to openly display (open carry) or conceal carry any firearm. If you have a firearm and feel you need to carry it in your vehicle, that is where it has to stay.**
11. Pets are not allowed on Feliciano Retreat Center grounds or in its buildings. The only exception made will be if you have a small pet and you are in a rv or camper. Please leash your pet when you bring it outside and clean up after your pet. If there are complaints about excessive barking you should make every effort to control it.
12. Please be very careful if you want to use a football, frisbee, baseball, volleyball, etc. There are lots of other open areas on the property where you can throw a ball or toss a frisbee. Flying objects can be a danger near telescopes.



13. Campfires, cook stoves, Sterno or propane heaters, barbecue pits are not allowed on the observing fields. While they are specifically not disallowed OFF the observing field, care must be taken to fully shield their light output so as not to be visible from the field. If light from a "cooking device" is visible on the field, you may be required to extinguish the device. **NO USE AT NIGHT.**
- 14..Smoking is not allowed on the observing fields or in any Feliciana Retreat Center building.
15. **Driving on and off the observing fields or along the road adjacent to the observing field -**
- a) If you are coming up for just an afternoon and evening and not staying overnight you can only move your vehicle onto the observing field to unload during daylight hours. You have to then move your vehicle facing away from the field (in the direction of the entrance to the Feliciana Retreat Center, so somewhere between the observing field and the log cabin). If you have equipment set up you have to tear down using approved lighting as outlined in rules above; others are observing. A collapsible wagon is ideal for moving your equipment back to your car.
 - b) If setting up equipment and perhaps a canopy you can leave your vehicle in "your area" and you can work out of it during the star gaze but you have to assure that you have all external and internal lights disabled (fuses) or with bulbs removed or covered and you cannot drive your vehicle on to or off the field at night irrespective of the fact that all your vehicle lights are disabled. This can be done, research it prior to the star gaze. If you cannot do this you have to park your vehicle as in # a) above or you can park it by the lodge where we eat and sleep.
 - c) These are rules common to all organized star parties held in dark sky areas. Light trespass can set back dark sky adaptation by 30 minutes or longer and light rule infraction cannot be tolerated.
 - d) We have no designated times for anyone parked on or near the field to depart when the skies are clear and observing is going on. Once again, if you plan on leaving at night in a vehicle, you have to have it parked away from the field as outlined above (see **a** and **b** above).
 - e) If anyone needs any clarification about these rules, please contact me via my email. Barry Simon at bsimon615@aol.com