Cayman Islands Astronomical Society - June 2024 Newsletter

1 message

Cayman Astronomy <cayman.astronomy@yahoo.com> Sun, Jun 2, 2024 at 5:58 PM
To: "cayman.astronomy@yahoo.com" <cayman.astronomy@yahoo.com>

Cayman Island Astronomical Society Upcoming Events:
Sunday, June 2 - Parade of Space Stations
Wednesday, June 5 - Starlink train
Saturday, June 8 - Public event at the Turtle Centre parking lot

Parade of Space Stations

June 2 (also June 3 and June 4)

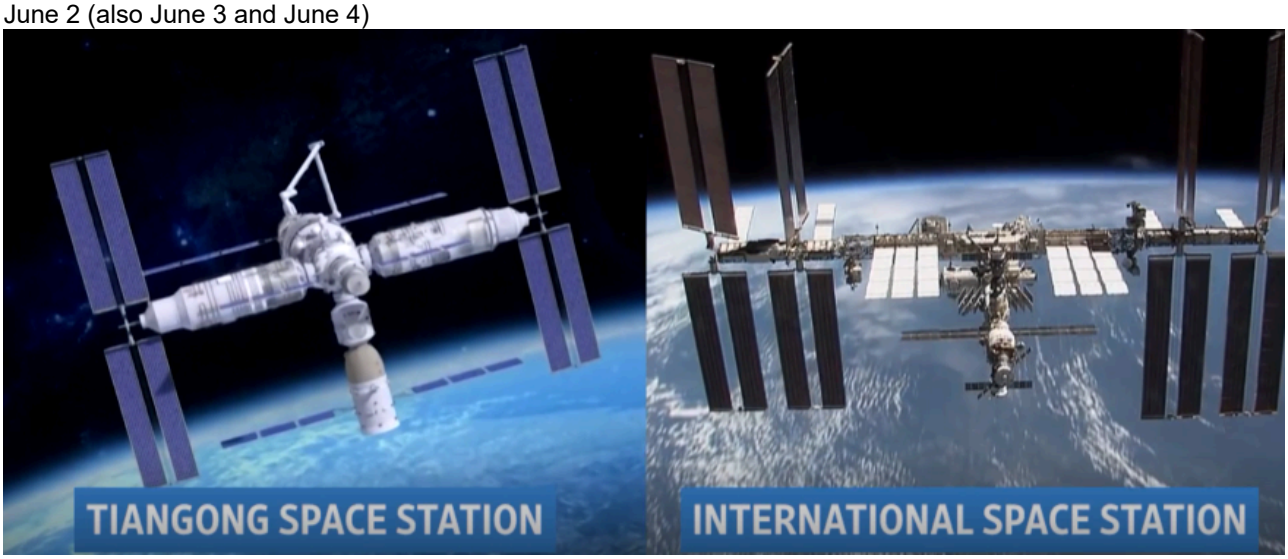

image adapted from WSJ.com

Tonight, both crewed space stations will make dramatic flybys over the Cayman Islands within a few minutes of each other!
Tiangong (3 onboard) will pass from right to left across the southern sky from 7:50pm. Minutes later, the ISS (7 onboard) will pass almost overhead from the northwest from 8:04pm.
In fact there are more paired passings over the next few evenings, but tonight is the best. Check times on the tables below.

Starlink Train

June 5 (and other days)

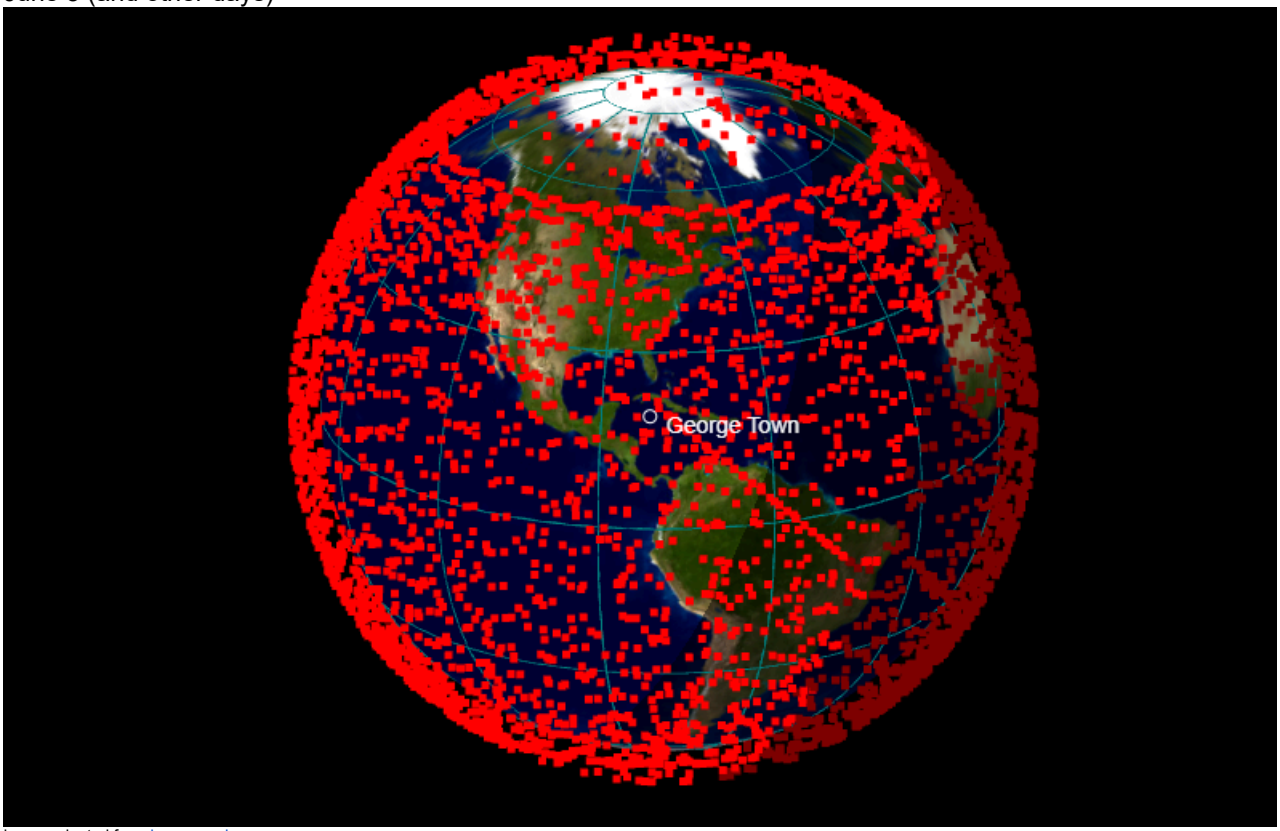

image adapted from heavens-above.com

23 Starlink communication satellites launched together on May 31st are still forming a "train" in the sky before they each change orbits to spread out and become part of the "constellation" of 6528 Starlink satellites in orbit. The conditions should be ideal to see them pass over the Cayman Islands on the 5th of June from around 8:10PM to 8:20PM, as they reflect sunlight towards us. They will rise in the northwest, and enter Earth's shadow almost overhead. They may be visible on other evenings as well, and their orbits do change, so check the heavens-above website to check.

Public stargazing at the Turtle Centre

8 June - 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

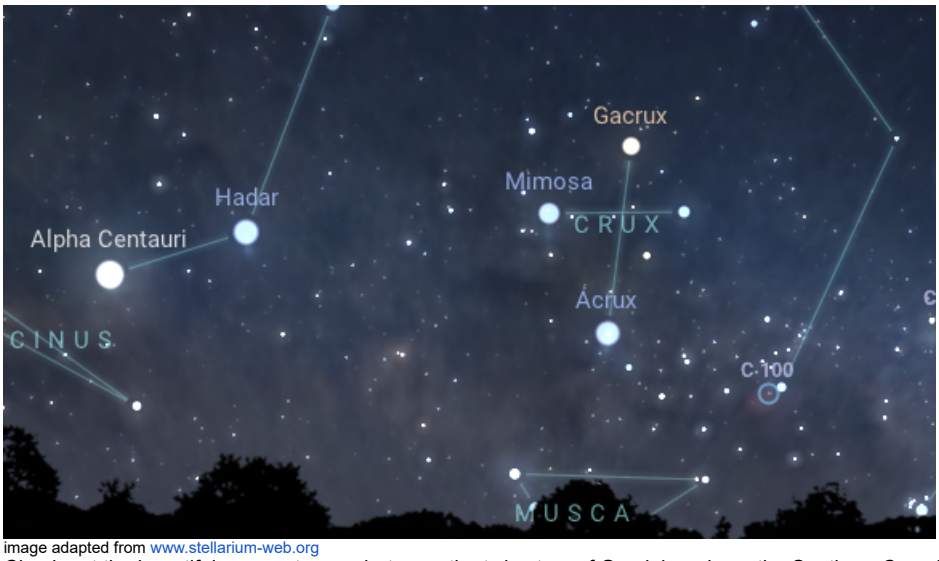

image adapted from www.stellarium-web.org

Check out the beautiful crescent moon between the twin stars of Gemini, and see the Southern Cross! Join us in the Cayman Turtle Centre parking lot in West Bay from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM on Saturday, the 8th of June. All are welcome, and the event is entirely free. The viewing will be cancelled if there is over 50% cloud cover, so check the Facebook page for the latest updates.

Opportunities to see Space Stations passing overhead

Click on the date for a star chart and other pass details from heavens-above.com. The lower the magnitude (more negative), the brighter the pass. You can learn more about how we can see the space station in our ISS explainer video.

International Space Station Passes (current crew of 7 people)

Click on the date to get a star chart and other pass details.

Date	Brightness	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
	(mag)	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
02 Jun	-3.8	20:03:54	10°	NNW	20:07:13	69°	NE	20:08:30	34°	SE	visible
03 Jun	-0.9	20:53:28	10°	WSW	20:54:29	11°	WSW	20:54:36	11°	SW	visible
04 Jun	-1.8	20:02:39	10°	WNW	20:05:24	24°	SW	20:07:51	12°	S	visible

Date	Brightness	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
	(mag)	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
14 Jun	-1.8	05:11:41	10°	S	05:14:26	24°	SE	05:17:11	10°	ENE	visible
15 Jun	-0.9	04:24:01	10°	SE	04:24:58	11°	ESE	04:25:55	10°	ESE	visible
16 Jun	-3.8	05:08:40	12°	SW	05:11:43	69°	NW	05:15:00	10°	NNE	visible
17 Jun	-3.0	04:21:22	37°	SSE	04:22:06	44°	SE	04:25:16	10°	NE	visible
18 Jun	-0.9	03:33:57	15°	E	03:33:57	15°	E	03:34:55	10°	ENE	visible
18 Jun	-1.8	05:06:47	10°	W	05:09:00	17°	NW	05:11:18	10°	N	visible
19 Jun	-2.9	04:19:15	37°	NW	04:19:15	37°	NW	04:22:18	10°	NNE	visible
20 Jun	-1.1	03:31:37	20°	NE	03:31:37	20°	NE	03:32:44	10°	NE	visible
21 Jun	-1.1	04:16:40	11°	NW	04:16:40	11°	NW	04:17:17	10°	NNW	visible

Tiangong Space Station Passes (current crew of 3 people)

Click on the date to get a star chart and other pass details.

Date	Brightness	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
	(mag)	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
02 Jun	0.0	04:59:00	10°	NNW	05:01:50	30°	NE	05:04:39	10°	E	visible
02 Jun	-1.3	19:49:32	10°	SSW	19:52:20	30°	SE	19:54:13	17°	E	visible
03 Jun	1.0	03:59:55	10°	N	04:01:50	15°	NNE	04:03:44	10°	ENE	visible
03 Jun	-0.6	20:26:12	10°	WSW	20:29:09	36°	NW	20:32:06	10°	NNE	visible
04 Jun	-2.1	04:35:40	10°	NW	04:38:49	79°	NE	04:41:57	10°	SE	visible
04 Jun	-2.2	19:26:03	10°	SW	19:29:12	85°	SE	19:32:21	10°	NE	visible
05 Jun	0.7	03:40:50	16°	E	03:40:50	16°	E	03:41:41	10°	E	visible
05 Jun	-0.4	05:13:33	10°	W	05:15:29	15°	SW	05:17:26	10°	S	visible
05 Jun	0.9	20:03:56	10°	WNW	20:06:06	17°	NNW	20:08:16	10°	N	visible

Date	Brightness	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
	(mag)	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
17 Jun	0.7	21:01:42	10°	N	21:02:27	13°	N	21:02:27	13°	N	visible
18 Jun	1.5	21:36:53	10°	NW	21:36:58	11°	NW	21:36:58	11°	NW	visible
19 Jun	-0.7	20:36:47	10°	NNW	20:39:21	28°	NNE	20:39:21	28°	NNE	visible
20 Jun	0.3	19:37:14	10°	N	19:38:59	14°	NNE	19:40:43	10°	ENE	visible
20 Jun	0.6	21:12:50	10°	WNW	21:13:55	19°	WNW	21:13:55	19°	WNW	visible
21 Jun	-2.2	20:12:15	10°	NW	20:15:22	70°	NE	20:16:22	39°	ESE	visible

Date	Brightness	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
	(mag)	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
22 Jun	0.3	20:49:19	10°	W	20:51:01	16°	SW	20:51:01	16°	SW	visible
23 Jun	-1.3	19:47:59	10°	WNW	19:50:59	42°	SW	19:53:32	13°	SSE	visible

Planets Visible in the Sky

The internet has been ablaze with excitement about the upcoming so-called "parade of planets" on the morning of 3 June. In fact, several planets will be above the horizon just before dawn that morning, as you can see in the chart below. However, seeing several planets in the sky is not rare, and they are always "in a line" as the solar system is shaped like a disc. Nevertheless, by all means, you should have a look in the morning, but you can only realistically hope to see Saturn and Mars with your eyes due to the glare of the Sun. A far more satisfying "parade of planets" will be visible after sunset on Feb 20, 2025. We'll remind you closer to the time...

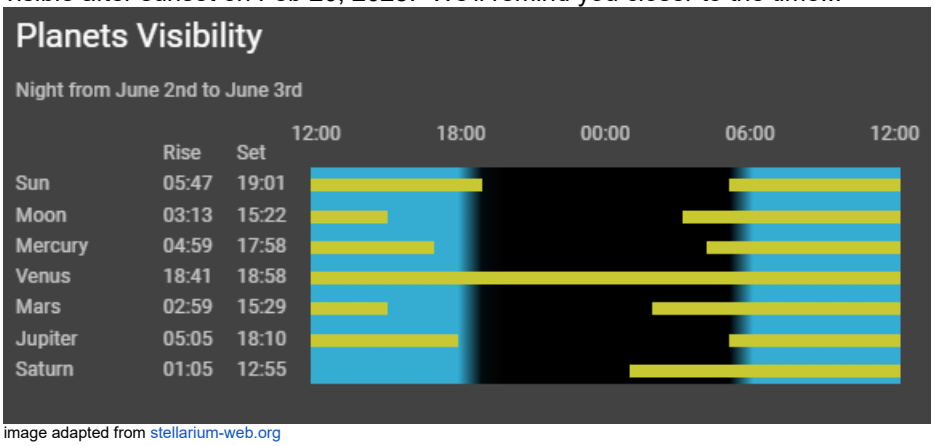

image adapted from stellarium-web.org

CIAS Membership

If you are interested in joining the CIAS, speak with any of us at our public events or drop us an email. All are welcome!
Annual dues are 15KYD for adults and 5KYD for children. Membership allows the use of club equipment and inclusion in our internal messaging. Members can also reach out to the public as volunteers at public events and special activities for more specific audiences, such as schools or other organisations.

Best regards,
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Tiyen Miller
President

Cayman Islands Astronomical Society

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