



Astronomical Society of the Pacific

2008 SPRING FUND DRIVE

April 2008

Dear Friend of the ASP:

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) has a rich tradition of promoting astronomy dating back to our founding in 1889. Building on this history, the ASP focuses on our mission, our cause — to advance science literacy through engagement in astronomy. As a member, benefactor, and friend, you are a valuable part of this cause and I invite you to renew your commitment to improving science literacy by making a gift to the ASP's Spring Fund Drive.

One of the key ways in which we advance the cause of science literacy is by providing professional development training and resources for those engaging in astronomy and space science education and public outreach. The ASP is at the intersection of multiple networks, such as amateur astronomers, scientists, and formal and informal educators. Through leveraging these networks we directly support those on the front lines of astronomy and space science education. The enclosed flyer provides information on the ASP's networks and some of the many resources we provide educators that are made possible because of your support.

Though these networks, we believe astronomy can be the spark which motivates students to develop an interest in the sciences — and we have a history of success. In 2006, the ASP surveyed in-service teachers participating in Project ASTRO. Ninety-one percent indicated the program assisted them in correcting common student misconceptions in astronomy or science in general. Also, sixty percent said that as a result of the Project ASTRO experience they did teach more science in their classroom. This is just one example of the success of the ASP educational activities supported by your gift.

Your partnership with the ASP allows us to implement our mission, advance the cause of science literacy, and support those serving our children. Please consider renewing your commitment to improve science literacy through the engagement in astronomy by making a gift today.

Sincerely,

James G. Manning
Executive Director

P.S. You can stay up-to-date with the ASP and learn more about how your gift makes a difference by subscribing to our free monthly e-newsletter at: www.astrosociety.org/pubs/newsletter.html