

# SARA Sections Update 2018

## Agenda

- Purpose of SARA Sections
- Organization of SARA Sections
- Volunteering
- Section Coordinators
- Timeline to Date
- Suggested Project



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## **Purpose of SARA Sections**

- Organize SARA like other national amateur organizations (e.g., AAVSO, ALPO) and professional organizations
- Sections more conducive to volunteering; database collection; strategic planning; posting of observation protocols; and personal member interests
- Helps maintain consistency and thoroughness throughout SARA website
- More member empowerment to create SARA's future
- Promote Cas A Observation Project and/or with RASDR



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## Organization of SARA Sections

- Wikipedia Approach: Living Documents
- Management and Professionalism Guidelines
- Tools and Resources
  - Listserv
  - SARA Sections Team
  - Internet/Research
  - Observing Protocols; Data Templates; Strategic Plans
- Beginner's Tab: Under SARA Section Introduction
- Six SARA Sections organized by related topics of Interest (POCs Posted)



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## **Volunteering**

- Get Involved, Share knowledge, Learn, Work with Others
- Help research/populate Section webpages with information
- Create Observing Guides; Help create Cas A project manual
- Develop/Update Data Collection Templates & Programming
- Promote Wikipedia Entry for SARA; write SARA Journal articles
- Assist with management and historic archive materials
- Participate in brainstorming meetings
- Offer Radio Telescope time and encourage partnership
- Review and interpret papers for amateurs



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## Section Coordinators

- Analytical Section: Stephen Tzikas
- Electronics and Instrumentation Section: Bogdan Vacaliuc
- Galactic and Cosmology Section: David Westman
- Outreach Section: Tom Crowley
- Solar System Section: Whitham D. Reeve
- Stellar Section: Skip Crilly

## Potential Partnerships and Stakeholders

- Several amateur organizations and universities



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## Timeline to Date

- Sections Created
- Meetings
- Cas A Proposal
- Cas A Paper (2017 April 3), by Dan Reichart (2013 Keynote Speaker):  
[http://www.gb.nrao.edu/20m/projdocs20m/FadingofCassA\\_MN469p1299\\_2017.pdf](http://www.gb.nrao.edu/20m/projdocs20m/FadingofCassA_MN469p1299_2017.pdf)
- SARA Journal article outlining process
- Pending: Guidance on methodology
- Pending: Volunteers



# SARA Sections Update 2018

## **Suggest Project: Citizen Science Database for the Fading of Cassiopeia A**

- Telescope: 40ft (15 years), 20m (3.5 years), L and X Bands
- Cas A: Primary calibration source (continuous need for accurate data)
- Cas A: Fade rate unsteady
- Methodology: Cas A Paper Models and Fits
- Database results for which amateurs can compare
- Cas A: Bright source for RASDR
- Evaluation of other potential targets: Tau A, Cyg A, Vir A, Rosette Nebula
- SARA grant recipients: Observe Cas A if relevant to the grant
- Volunteer Roles: Manuals, Templates, Database, RASDR Integration

