

September 3, 2009

Astronomy Camp Instructors:

First, I would like to start off by saying “Thank you!”, and that I had a great time at the Astronomy Camp – *it was a blast!* I never thought stars were that important until I went to camp.

I was really scared because I didn’t know a lot about astronomy before going to camp; the only thing I really knew about was the zodiac signs. But little did I know when I got there, some of the things we had looked at in the (Ella Sharpe) planetarium were about the signs, planets ... basically the whole universe.

What I thought was so interesting about astronomy camp was the hands-on experience and looking through the telescope. I loved that fact that we had to stay up all hours of the night to observe at what’s going on with our stars and how they work.

The thing that I really enjoyed was when we had to make our PowerPoint on what we had learned. And when we got the choice to talk about what we learned, I decided to talk about the 13th zodiac sign. I was so surprised. I never knew that we even had a 13th sign at all or that it was called Ophiuchus – which means Man who has the power of healing and the great knowledge of medicine. The Ophiuchus holds the snake, which is the symbol of the medicine. Unlike the other 12, the Ophiuchus is referring to a real, live human.

Also I learned that each and every star has a story to tell. So hearing and learning about everyone else’s project was cool because my friends taught me something also – like that without Jupiter, the Earth would be destroyed because Jupiter pulls back many of the asteroids that are heading for Earth. So there are so many things that I have learned, and if I have the chance to do the camp again, I would love to because it’s not just fun, it is educational, too!

Finally, I would also like to thank the people who take their time to show us what’s really happening up there – So thank you!