

**Aloha VIS volunteers!**

It’s time to welcome in the new year! I look forward to working with you all as 2012 creeps in around the corner.

The volunteer program began over 10 years ago and it’s interesting to see the transformation from its early beginnings to the full-blown program it is today. We appreciate the time and hard work you all have done over the years!

Hope you all have a happy holiday season; remember to strive for the summit!

_Cheers,
Kim_

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**Kulia i ka nu`u.**

Strive for the summit.

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**Stargazing Volunteer Schedule for 1/1–1/15**

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>Agriculture Club</td>
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* - driver is needed!

Interested in coming up? Give us a call—we’d love to have you! If possible, let us know a week in advance.

If you need to cancel, please let us know asap. Mahalo!
Mauna Kea Community Spotlight

Do you know somebody who deserves a spotlight? Let us know who you think is an outstanding community member and why at mkvisnews@gmail.com.
Screenshot taken from Stellarium, dated 1/15/12

January Sky 2012

Hawaiian star and constellation names are identified according to information found at:

http://pvs.kcc.hawaii.edu/ike/hookele/hawaiian_star_lines.html
-and-
http://www.mauna-a-wakea.info/maunakea/J1_terms.html
-and-
courtesy of Leilehua Yuen from Hawaiian Culture Night lectures at the VIS.

Star names are in white (Western) and yellow (Hawaiian), while Hawaiian constellations and groupings are in pink.
**STUFF IN OUR SKY::: January 2012**

**THINGS VISIBLE ALL JANUARY**

Jupiter

Uranus

Great Nebula in Orion (M42, NGC 1976)

Horsehead Nebula (IC 434)

Andromeda Galaxy (M31, NGC 224)

Cone Nebula (NGC 2264)

Witch Head Nebula (IC 2118)

Double Cluster NGC 869 & NGC 884

Pleiades (NGC 1432)

Open Cluster M34

Open Cluster NGC 2232

Open Cluster NGC 2244

Open Cluster M41

Open Cluster NGC 1647

Open Cluster NGC 2362

Pacman Nebula (NGC 281)

Reflection Nebula M78

IC 2118, Witch Head Nebula

*Image credits: Bernhard Hubl*
Mount Rainier, located in Washington state. Mount Rainier is classified as a stratovolcano. Its rough face indicates its history and future potential for explosive eruptions.

Photo courtesy of: http://www.shannontech.com/ParkVision/MtRainier/MtRainier.html

Mauna Kea is a **Shield Volcano**

Shield volcanoes are noted for their gentle slopes, a result of the type of eruptions these types of volcanoes have. As its name implies, the smooth cone-like shape resembles that of a warrior’s shield. The shield volcanoes in Hawaii, including Mauna Kea, are the largest shield volcanoes in the world.

The viscosity, or “stickiness” of the lava has a lot to do with the kind of eruptions volcanoes produce, whereas viscosity of the lava will be affected by temperature, composition and gas content. High viscosity lava can produce violent eruptions, as seen in recent years like Mount St. Helens and Mount Pinatubo, where lava material collects over years and years, eventually erupting in large bursts. On the other hand, low viscosity produces constant, ebbing flows that are typically slow-moving, like those we see here on Big Island.

Resources:

http://www.stockton.edu/~hozikm/geol/Courses/The%20Earth/Content%20Web%20Pages/Mason/shield_volcanoes.htm

http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/Glossary/ShieldVolcanogetDescriptionShield_volcano.html

http://www.geology.sdsu.edu/how_volcanoes_work/Controls.html

Left: Mount Rainier, located in Washington state. Mount Rainier is classified as a stratovolcano. Its rough face indicates its history and future potential for explosive eruptions.

Photo courtesy of:
http://www.shannontech.com/ParkVision/MtRainier/MtRainier.html
A new year means Onizuka Day is coming up! It will be held on:

**January 28th, 2012**

Onizuka Day is a day to remember Ellison Onizuka, the first American astronaut of Japanese descent chosen to go into space by NASA. Born and raised in Kealakekua here on the island of Hawai‘i, he was one of the seven crew members on the 1986 Challenger mission, tragically dying in the space shuttle disaster. This year’s Onizuka Day happens to be the 26th anniversary of that day.

Onizuka Day will be held at **UH Hilo**, on the Lanai area. The VIS will have a table there – we are looking for **4 VOLUNTEERS** to help out with activities throughout the morning. If interested, please call or email us no later than January 15th.

For more information on events (Culture Night, Universe Tonight!, and Music Night), Mauna Kea, Hawaiian culture, programs at the VIS, and Picture of the Week, visit our website at:

http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/info/vis/

For current weather conditions on Mauna Kea, road closures, and to view webcams from the summit, visit the Mauna Kea Weather Center website at:

http://mkwc.ifa.hawaii.edu/