

**Subject:** [allemploy] FYI: 10 Mar - 24 Mar 2008 Biweekly Calendar of the ALMA Project at NRAO  
**From:** Al Wootten <awootten@nrao.edu>  
**Date:** 4/15/2008, 11:40 AM  
**To:** almasci@nrao.edu, alma-info@nrao.edu, anasac@nrao.edu, allemploy@nrao.edu

BIWEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE ALMA PROJECT at NRAO  
10 Mar - 24 Mar 2008

\*\*\*\*\* THIS FORTNIGHT\*\*\*\*\*  
Five years ago this month, the ALMA project reached the milestone of provisional acceptance of ALMA Vertex prototype antenna. The antenna had been delivered in May 2002 on a contract signed Feb 2000. The antenna remains at the ALMA Test Facility in everyday use. It remains one of the world's most accurate antennas.

-----  
Past issues of this Calendar may be viewed at  
<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmailcal/ALMACalendars.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

General Happenings

Sky: Mars gleams high in the southwestern evening sky, while Saturn looms in the southeast. Jupiter is in the southeastern morning sky until dawn drowns his light.

SCO: New Staff: Nick Whyborn (Lead Engineer), Pere Planesas (Test scientist) arrived to join the AIV team.

AOS (Array Ops Site, 16570ft altitude): Preliminary antenna foundation work continues.

OSF (Ops Support Facility, 9600ft altitude): Vertex Antenna No 2 Metrology subsystem testing, witnessed by P. Napier and N. Emerson began the week of March 3rd. and is going well. Antenna #2 panel installation is 100% complete. Miscellaneous items will be closed out by week of 24 March at which time servo system commissioning will begin. Antenna #3: BUS and pedestal have been mated and panel installation has started. The 2-antenna correlator at the OSF has passed initial tests. 1st ACA antenna (MELCO manuf. no.2): reflector panel adjustment and holography measurements have begun with help of AIV colleagues. The surface accuracy of the first ACA 12-m antenna already achieved less than 13 micron rms. The antenna tracking tests are also conducted for the antenna acceptance. 2nd ACA antenna (MELCO manuf. no.3): An SIS receiver (2mm) has been installed and used for First-Light observations of the ACA 12-m antenna.

AOC: BE Antenna Article (AA) #1 Provisional Acceptance In-house was held in Socorro 2008-02-26/27.

ATF: Good progress on TelCal/QuickLook implementation. ATF viability review held on 4mar08. ATF is viable through 1 June. Project requested that a proposal be written for an extension of about 3 months.

TUC: Optical Pointing Telescope PDR is scheduled for 1 April at Contractor's facility in Tucson.

NTC (NRAO Technology Center): Bill Shillue presented a paper at OFC2008 'Fiber Distribution of the Local Oscillator for the Atacama Large Millimeter Array.' The paper and slides are on edm.alma.cl at <http://tinyurl.com/yms4t2> (password protected). Assembly of the 4th and last subplot of TFB cards in the 3rd Quadrant of the correlator is in rapid progress.

ASIAA: Band 7 (.87mm) cartridge #3 and Band 9 (.45 mm) cartridge #3 have safely arrived at the EA FEIC.

NAASC: The ANASAC held a telecon meeting 14 March. Among the items discussed were the definition of an ALMA development plan and how best to prepare the NA community for the use of ALMA.

A calendar of NAASC events may be found at:

<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/naasc/calendar/calendar.php>

\*\*\*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*\*\*

Mar 14	ANASAC Telecon	--
Mar 26-9	The Cosmic Agitator-B Fields in the Galaxy	U. Ky
Mar 26	13UTA LMA Production Review Workshop	Netmeeting
Apr 1	Optical Pointing Telescope PDR	Tucson
Apr 1-3	ALMA Board Meeting	Chile

\*\*\*\*\* TECHNICAL NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* ALSO OF INTEREST \*\*\*\*\*

The Allen Telescope Array is accepting proposals from the general user community for the second half of 2008. Proposals are due April 18, 2008 at 5pm PDT.

A full set of instrument parameters and proposal forms is available at

<http://ral.berkeley.edu/ata/Proposal/Proposals.html>

-----  
The CARMA SUMMER SCHOOL at the CARMA site in the Inyo mountains this year June 22 - 28. Students will stay at the observatory for lectures, practical demonstrations, and observing projects. The lectures cover the basic theory of interferometer observations, data reduction and imaging.

- the application deadline is April 25

You can read a TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

[http://cedarflat.mmarray.org/observing/doc/instrument\\_desc.html](http://cedarflat.mmarray.org/observing/doc/instrument_desc.html)

and there is a tool to calculate the RMS noise:

<http://cedarflat.mmarray.org/observing/tools/rms.html>

PLEASE REPLY WITH YOUR APPLICATION BY 25 APRIL:

[mwright@astron.berkeley.edu](mailto:mwright@astron.berkeley.edu)

-----  
The Eleventh Synthesis Imaging Workshop will take place from June 10 through June 17 of 2008 in Socorro, NM. The school will comprise a week of lectures on aperture synthesis theory and techniques at a level appropriate for graduate students in astrophysics. Basic lectures on synthesis imaging, and advanced lectures on more specialized techniques, will be included. Practical tutorials demonstrating data collection, calibration and imaging of both VLA and VLBA data will be given. There will be a nominal registration fee, which will cover the cost of the meeting and a copy of ASP Vol. 180, "Synthesis Imaging in Radio Astronomy II", from the 1998 summer school. Please visit:

<http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/events/synthesis/2008/>

-----  
Registration is now open for "Transformational Science with ALMA: The Birth and Feedback of Massive Stars, Within and Beyond the Galaxy" A workshop to be held at the North American ALMA Science Center National Radio Astronomy Observatory Charlottesville, Virginia September 25-27 2008 Please see:

<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/php/meetings/massive08/>

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please send information for upcoming calendars by Friday evening of the preceding biweekly period to Jennifer Neighbours or Al Wootten via e-mail (jneighbo at nrao.edu or awootten at nrao.edu).

The calendar will be issued between late Friday and sometime on Monday by e-mail to all NRAO scientific staff members and anyone else interested. A specific mailing list, alma-info, has been created for anyone wishing to receive it.

Past issues are available at

<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmaimcal/ALMACalendars.html>

---

Allemploy mailing list

[Allemploy@listmgr.cv.nrao.edu](mailto:Allemploy@listmgr.cv.nrao.edu)

<http://listmgr.cv.nrao.edu/mailman/listinfo/allemploy>