Announcements

- **Reading Quiz due tonight!** The Reading Quiz for Week 8 (“Week8_quiz”) is due tonight, Tuesday, October 30, by 11:55 PM.

- **Second midterm exam on Thursday:** The second midterm exam will be taken in class this Thursday, November 1, during our regular class time. All of the details about the exam format and content are given in the handout, “Second Midterm Exam Guide”, available at the course web-site: http://sciences.sdsu.edu/~leonard/astro101. Here are the highlights:
  1. The exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions.
  2. You have the full class period (1 hour, 15 minutes) to complete the exam.
  3. No calculators are permitted (or needed).
  4. There will be a seating chart in effect for the exam; please do NOT take your seat until told to do so.
  5. Please bring the following to the exam:
     a. One ParSCORE FORM No. F-289-PAR-L scantron form. These may be purchased at the campus bookstore and are pink in color. (Note: Many SCAN-TRON forms look similar; please do NOT purchase the F-288-PAR-L form – it looks similar to the correct form, but is in fact much wider and has different information on it.)
     b. A number 2 pencil and a good eraser!
     c. Your official “Exam cheat-sheet” (detached from the end of the “Exam Guide” handout), with your name at the top, and all the information you want handwritten inside the box.

- **Solutions to on-line reading quizzes available.** Just a reminder that fully worked out and explained solutions are available for all past on-line reading quizzes. I believe that these are useful to look over, even if you got a 100% on the reading quiz itself, as they often provide additional insight into the topics. They can be accessed either at the course web site (pdf version) or at the textbook web-site (simply click on the “Assignment/Tests” tab and then “print blank assignment” to print the solutions for any quiz).

- **Reminder: Extra question & answer session tonight.** This evening (Tuesday, October 30) I will hold an extra help session in Rm. 216 of the physics-astronomy building (i.e., the regular classroom for the 11 AM class) from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. Come armed with all questions that have cropped up during your studying!

- **Thursday office hour canceled.** I will not be holding an office hour this Thursday, November 1.

**Reading Guide and Homework Assignment**
(Note: No on-line reading quiz for this week’s assignment)

Most of the material covered during Tuesday’s lecture is contained in chapters 8 – 12 (and the beginning of Chapter 13) of the text, for which no formal readings are assigned this week. As discussed in class, be sure to look over the Powerpoint slides (Reader pages 70 – 73) to review the essential material that was covered in class. The textbook reading assignment for this week is limited to a few sections from the end of Chapter 13, which lead up to our next major topic: The deaths of stars. Note that none of this week’s
formal reading assignment covers material that is contained on Thursday’s exam, which is limited to the material up to and including the first Reader slide on page 70 of the Reader. So, if you wish to begin this assignment after Thursday’s exam, that is fine!

1. **Text — Sections 13.4.3 and 13.4.4: Mass Loss from Giant Stars and Cosmic Recycling.**
   Read here about the last phase of existence for stars that are born with less than about 8 times the mass of the Sun. Bottom line: These stars swell up to become *giant stars*, and push out into the interstellar medium a substantial amount of their gas, forming beautiful *planetary nebulae*. (Note that the reading from the first parts of Chapter 13, on the evolution of *main-sequence stars*, is optional; again, we covered the essential bits of it in class.)

2. **Text — Sections 13.5.1 and 13.5.3: The Evolution of More Massive Stars: Making New Elements and Approaching Death.**
   Here you read about the last stages of life for those rare stars that are born with a mass greater than 8 times the mass of our Sun.

3. **On-line tutorial:** On the “Week10_tutorial” section of the textbook website, look at the *Active Figure* called “Stellar Evolution of High and Low Mass Stars”. This shows the evolution of both low- and high-mass stars. Notice the two major differences: High-mass stars evolve *faster*, and are able to fuse *heavier* elements (right up to iron), than low mass stars. These applets were demonstrated in class on Tuesday.

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(Isaac Newton (L) and Archangelo Corelli (R), c. 1690.)