

December 2011



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club

<http://www.charlotteastronomers.org>

Next Meeting: Friday January 18, 2011

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Myers Park Baptist Church

Address: 1900 Queens Road

Reminder No Meeting in December

Just a reminder, there is no Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club meeting in December. The next meeting is January 18 at our new meeting location in Myers Park Baptist Church. Maps showing the location and parking are included on pages 2 and 3 of the newsletter.

The reason we do not meet in December is because we have a Christmas party in lieu of the meeting. Accordingly, a BIG THANK YOU goes to Charlie & Gwen Clayton for hosting CAAC's Annual Christmas Party. Their kindness and warm hospitality together with the member's special holiday goodies made this year's party a truly special event. Thanks to everyone who helped make this celebration a great success!

Here's hoping that you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a happy and prosperous new year. We look forward to seeing everyone at the January 2012 CAAC meeting.



Happy Holidays.



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club Meeting Location Announcement

New Year – New Meeting Place!

The January 2012 club meeting will be at a new meeting location:

Myers Park Baptist Church, 1900 Queens Rd, Charlotte

[across from Queens University].

Room:

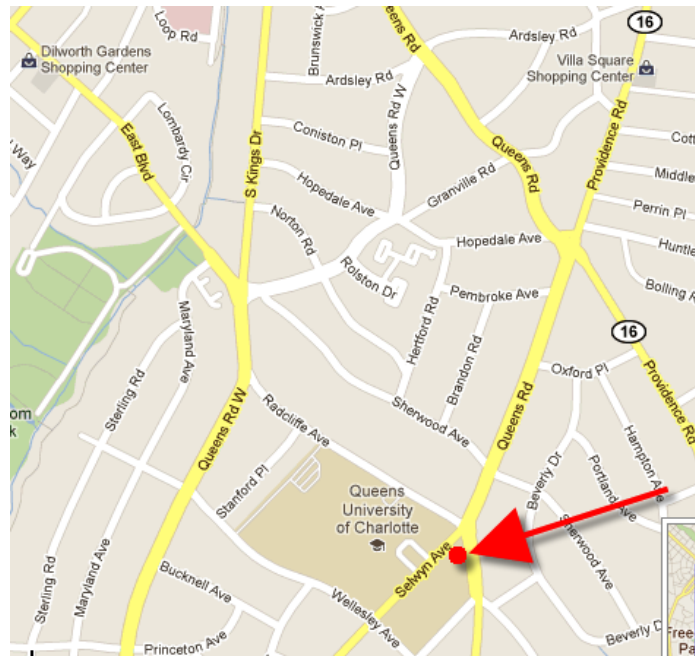
- Park your car, walk to the separate brick building (Education Bldg) immediately behind the church sanctuary. Go through the doors and down the staircase one flight or access via elevator.
- Large room with round tables with chairs at the tables plus additional chairs if needed.
- Stage with pull down screen and built in sound system
- Nice restrooms available down the hallway

Parking (see other side of this page):

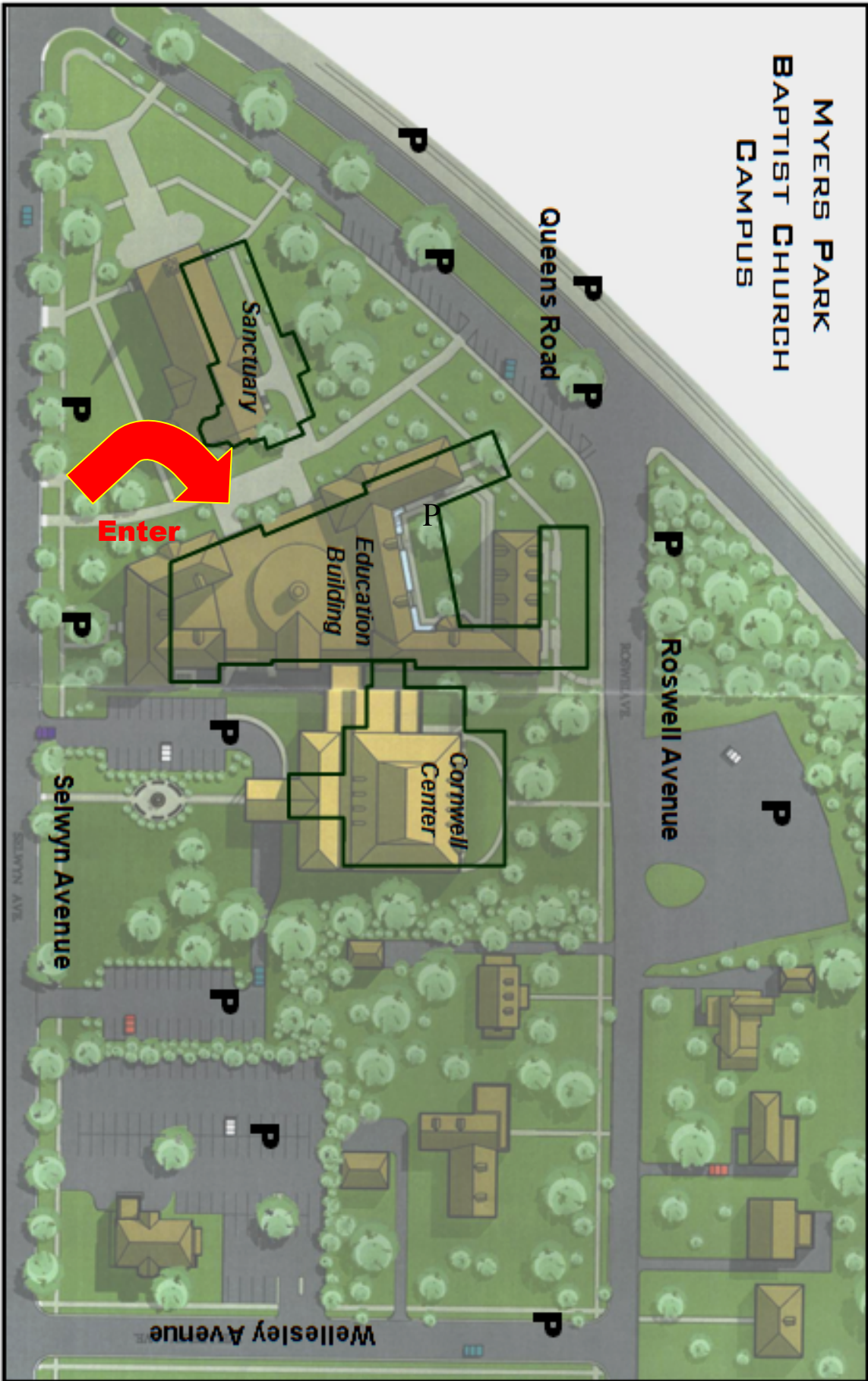
- Street parking
- Additional parking in church lot about a block away

Storage

- Will have storage to meet our needs



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST CHURCH
CAMPUS**



FROM THE OBSERVATORY DIRECTOR

In the event members would like to take advantage of tax-deductible gifts to the CAAC yet this year, we have a wish list of items the club can use at the GHRO. I would also remind those who have not yet funded their pledge to the strategic plan, this would also be an opportunity to get the donation on this year's tax deduction. Also be aware it does not appear that we will be receiving any funds from the Blumenthal foundations so additional donations to the strategic plan are always welcome.

If you are interested in donating any of the items below be sure to check with the me for specifics of the item and to confirm that someone else has not already donated a similar item.

A special thanks to all who have helped on the Strategic Plan and wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas Holiday.

GHRO Observatory Director's Wish List

Items recently donated:

- Coffee maker
- Air Compressor
- Refrigerator, Star energy rated
- 30 chairs for the general-purpose room

Items remaining on "wish list"

- Sky and Telescope Magazine CD Archive set
- Astronomy Magazine CD Archive set
- Gun Safe (for storage of high value items, not guns)
- Computer Desk
- Bookcase
- Tool box, roll around, drawer type, base and top
- Gas Grill, propane
- Sledge Hammer
- Shovel, spade
- Drill Press, bench top
- Ethos eyepieces
- Mallincam Video camera

CAAC Yahoo Group

Consider signing on to the Charlotte Astronomers Yahoo Group site:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/charlotteastronomers>

The Yahoo website is used to share information about local astronomical events, star parties, informal gatherings, and general information related to club activities among members. The group is open to all CAAC members.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Newsletter questions or announcements? Please contact Skip Copp via email at gcopp@carolina.rr.com or at (704) 568-3732 about newsletter-related matters. Also, if your email address changes, please notify Skip.

Visitors at the November Meeting: Omolara Fodeke, Bayo Fodeke, Nicole Fodeke, Mike Moss, Emory Moss, Shayla Rose Moss, Ken Dedrick, Keith Mehlretter, Dennis Kuntz, Alex Lind

New Members: Dennis Kuntz

FROM THE TREASURER

CAAC Annual Dues and Fees

\$35.00 - Family or Individual membership. Dues are pro-rated for new members joining in the middle of the year. Membership renewals are due each year on October 1st.

\$6.00 - Students up to 18 years of age.

\$10.00 - Observatory Fee. Payment of this fee allows the member unlimited access to and use of the club's observatory facilities and equipment after being checked out by the Observatory Director.

\$25.00 - Observatory Pad Fee. This fee is assessed to members that have a private observing pad or observatory on the club's property. Any member wanting to build a private pad or observatory should contact the Observatory Director.

Sky & Telescope and Astronomy Magazine Subscriptions

Discounted magazine subscriptions can be obtained through the club for the following price:

Sky & Telescope: \$32.95 per year

Astronomy: \$34.00 per year or \$60.00 for two years

Please make checks payable to CAAC and give them to Jim Gaiser, Treasurer, at a monthly meeting or mail to:

Jim Gaiser
8624 Lenten Rose Court #203
Charlotte, NC 28277

Club members are now able to renew their own subscriptions to S&T magazine via mail or phone. Members may mail in the renewal notices with payment or renew via phone using a credit card. Indicate on the renewal notice that you are a member of the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club. This is only for renewals! The club treasurer must still process new subscriptions and must annually validate a subscriber's membership in the CAAC. This revised process only applies to S&T magazine. The club rate for S&T subscriptions is still

\$32.95 per year. Subscriptions to Astronomy Magazine, both new and renewals, must still go through the club treasurer to obtain the discounted club rate.

FOR SALE ITEMS

Bring your items for sale to regular club meetings and display them if you wish. To include sale items in the newsletter, please contact Skip Copp at gcopp@carolina.rr.com or call (704) 568-3732 no later than the second Friday of each month. Ads will run for three months or until the item(s) is sold and may be renewed as desired.

CLUB CONTACTS

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