



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club
www.charlotteastromers.org

Next Meeting: Friday, May 16, 2014
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Myers Park Baptist Church
Address: 1900 Queens Road

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

DOWN TO EARTH ASTRONOMY: HOW ASTRONOMY AFFECTS GEOLOGY

Presented by: Dr. David Campbell

The Several Connections between Geology and Astronomy will be discussed such as terrestrial impact craters and their effects; how astronomical data and ideas give insights into the structure of the earth; and how astronomical events such as orbital variations affect life and processes here on Earth over geological time.

About the presenter:

Dr. Campbell has a BS in biology from Davidson, MS and PhD in geology from UNC, and did postdoctoral research at the University of Alabama. Before coming to Gardner-Webb to teach geology and biology, he worked at the Paleontological Research Institution, a museum in Ithaca, NY, primarily helping organize and identify fossil and modern snails and clams. Dr. Campbell's research includes DNA sequencing of modern mollusks, with an emphasis on rare freshwater species, characterization of fossil mollusk populations (especially some of those from deposits near Wilmington, NC), and overall studies on bivalve relationships. David's interest in astronomy is part of a general interest in nature. Also, his son Timothy (currently 9) is very interested in astronomy, so he has to keep up to answer his questions, besides those that arise as he teaches geology.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAAC Upcoming GHRO Star Parties

Saturday, May 3

Saturday, May 24 (Solar Observatory Dedication/Star Party)

Saturday, June 21

Monthly star parties are held at the club's **Gayle H. Riggsbee Observatory** in Taxahaw, SC, weather permitting. Contact the Observatory Director, Ken Steiner, for directions to the observatory. All members and their guests are welcome.

Solar Observatory Dedication/Star Party - Saturday, May 24

- 4:00pm Solar Observing
- 4:30 Dedication of Solar Observatory (benefactor and honoree to be present)
- 5:30 Burgers and Hot Dogs by Chef Jim Gaiser (bring your own side items) - Soft Drinks Provided
- Evening Star Party
- Great Opportunity for Camping

Please notify Observatory Director the number of persons for hamburgers/hotdogs (ksteiner30@gmail.com 704.953.3902)



FROM THE TREASURER

CAAC Dues + Observatory Support Fee

Club Year: Oct-2013 to Sep-2014

Full Year Membership / Renewals	Dues	+	Observatory	Total	Factor
Individual or Family	\$35	+	\$25	\$60	100%
Student To Age 18	\$9	+	\$6	\$15	25%

New Memberships Prorated At Time Of Joining	Dues	+	Observatory	Total	Factor
1 st Quarter: Oct-Dec	\$35	+	\$25	\$60	100%
2 nd Quarter: Jan-Mar	\$27	+	\$18	\$45	75%
3 rd Quarter: Apr-Jun	\$18	+	\$12	\$30	50%
4 th Quarter: Jul-Sep	\$9	+	\$6	\$15	25%

Observing Pads At GHRO:

--General Members Pad, Open To All: No Charge

--Fee For Members With A Private Pad: \$25/Year

Discounted magazine subscriptions can be obtained through the CAAC:

- Sky & Telescope - \$32.95 per year (savings of \$5)
- Astronomy - \$34.00 per year (savings of \$8.95), or \$60.00 for two years (savings of \$19.95)

Make checks payable to CAAC. Phil Foust, CAAC Treasurer, will accept them at monthly meetings, or they can be mailed to:

CAAC
c/o Phil Foust
449 Roselawn Place
Charlotte, NC 28211

FROM THE OBSERVATORY DIRECTOR

Telescope loaner program. Members may borrow one of the club's telescopes between meetings.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Register with the Night Sky Network

It is imperative that all members of the CAAC join the Night Sky Network (NSN). In the very near future, all of the clubs outreach activities will be managed by the NSN, as well as club communications (newsletters, event notifications, general email). The NSN is a wonderful tool specifically designed for amateur astronomy clubs like ours.

Membership allows you to contact other members via email, and receive last minute updates for outreach events via text message:

http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/club-apply.cfm?Club_ID=1468&ApplicantType=Member

Pre-Monthly Meeting Gathering

Several CAAC members gather at Panera Bread (601 Providence Road, just a few blocks from our meeting place) at 5:30 prior to the monthly meeting. Anyone interested in sharing a meal with them is welcome.

Newsletter questions, announcements, astronomy related items for sale, change of address - contact Steve Rogish (s_rogish@yahoo.com).

CAAC CONTACTS

President	Jim Gaiser	jegaiser@carolina.rr.com
Vice President	Neil Easden	neileasden@me.com
Treasurer	Phil Foust	philfoust@gmail.com
Secretary	Steve Rogish	s_rogish@yahoo.com
Observatory Director	Ken Steiner	ksteiner30@gmail.com
Public Outreach Coordinator	Neil Easden	neileasden@me.com