



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club
www.charlotteastromers.org

Next Meeting: Friday, June 20, 2014
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Myers Park Baptist Church
Address: 1900 Queens Road

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

IN STARRY SKIES: A HISTORY OF STAR GAZING

Presented by: Jim Craig

Jim Craig has been the director of the James H. Lynn Planetarium since November 1997. He more or less stumbled across the job following a visit to his father in Gastonia.

Over his working life, Jim has had a wide variety of jobs including computer salesman, restaurant manager, cowboy, cab driver and morgue attendant. After working part time at a planetarium in Eugene, Oregon, he realized that this was really what he wanted to do so he decided to go back to college. He received his degree in physics from Southern Oregon State College in 1993.



When he's not working, he enjoys numerous hobbies including ham radio, robotics, drawing, writing and building telescopes. His wife, Charie' (sha-REE) and his two college-age children, Devin and Kina, tolerate his obsessions and clutter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAAC Upcoming GHRO Star Parties

Saturday, June 21

Saturday, July 19

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. All members and their guests are welcome.

August Monthly Meeting

The club will be presenting our annual show-n-tell. If you'd like to give a short 5-7 min presentation on a piece of equipment, or a project you're working on, please contact the club's Vice President, Neil Easden (neileasden@me.com) to schedule.

Cosmic Camporee

The 2014 Cosmic Camporee is schedule for the weekend of Sept 26-28.

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).

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

A big thank you to all who attended the Dedication of the Club's Solar Observatory. The Benefactor and Honoree were both impressed with our facility and the warm welcome you afforded them. Folks are very impressed with the excellent view of the sun afforded by this instrument. It will certainly be a valued addition to the Club's Observatory (GHRO).



Solar Observatory Honoree and Benefactor

The next star party at the GHRO is scheduled for June 21. Operator training will be available at that time starting at 5:00 pm. Please let the Observatory Directory know if you wish to take part in the training. Additional details at the regular meeting.

The club has available **loaner telescopes**, see the Observatory Director if you would like to borrow one of these scopes.

Ken Steiner
704.953.3902
ksteiner30@gmail.com

CAAC CONTACTS

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Observatory Director
Public Outreach Coordinator

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