



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club  
[www.charlotteastromers.org](http://www.charlotteastromers.org)

Next Meeting: Friday, Apr 17, 2015  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Place: Myers Park Baptist Church  
Address: 1900 Queens Road

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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### **The Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Scholarship Auction Drive**

This month we are holding an auction to fund a scholarship for a deserving UNCC physics student. This is the third time the club has held such an auction. The previous auctions held in 2010 & 2012 were both a great success. We have books, magazines, telescopes, eyepieces, DVD's, computers and many more items just waiting for the highest bidder.

Here are just a few of the items (with the minimum bid) that will be up for auction:

- Tasco 114 mm EQ-DH4 (4.5) Telescope Newtonian (\$80)
- Pentax Zoom lens 50 – 300X (\$10)
- 10" Mirror (\$100)
- Hubble Telescope Lenticular image (\$3)
- Week @ Ariz Dark Skies Astronomy (\$500)
- Equations written by John Dobson + signature (\$5)

So open up your wallets and come on out and bag some really nice stuff at a bargain price. You will be supporting a VERY worthwhile cause!

Bob Cantu and Tom Blevins will be your auctioneers for the evening. Note that we will only be able to accept cash or checks, no credit cards, in payment for items purchased.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### CAAC Upcoming GHRO Star Parties

Saturday, April 18

Saturday, May 16

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.

## FROM THE TREASURER

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### CAAC Dues + Observatory Support Fee

Club Year: Oct-2015 to Sep-2016

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 <sup>st</sup> Quarter: Oct-Dec	\$35	+	\$25	\$60	100%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Jan-Mar	\$27	+	\$18	\$45	75%
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter: Apr-Jun	\$18	+	\$12	\$30	50%
4 <sup>th</sup> 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

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Loaner scopes are available, contact observatory director (Ken Steiner) if you want to pick up at the monthly meeting.

## FROM THE SECRETARY

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### **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](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.

### **CAAC Apparel & Gear**

Visit our Lands' End Store – Follow the navigation bar link on our club website:  
<http://www.charlotteastronomers.org>

## FOR SALE

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### **For Sale or Trade:**

Celstron Sky Scout, excellent condition and includes the case and CD - \$90. Jim Sorrow can be contacted by phone 803-230-6989, or email [jimsorrow@windstream.net](mailto:jimsorrow@windstream.net).

Meade LXD55 AR5, 5" Achromat refractor with go to EQ mount and tripod plus a Minus Violet eyepiece filter. Tube is in good condition, just slightly faded, and gives great views. This is the sweet spot size, a 4" is not quite enough and a 6" is very heavy (I've had all 3). Asking \$600, was \$1,000 new. Tom Ifft, [sctom1@yahoo.com](mailto:sctom1@yahoo.com)

## CAAC CONTACTS

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President	Jim Gaiser	jegaiser@carolina.rr.com
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Observatory Director	Ken Steiner	ksteiner30@gmail.com
Public Outreach Coordinator	Neil Easden	neileasden@me.com