



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

Next Meeting: Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Myers Park Baptist Church

Address: 1900 Queens Road

### **“An Introduction to Celestial Navigation”**

Quick... How would you find your position on land or sea before the advent of global positioning satellites? How do you find your position with only a knowledge of the heavens, their relationship to the earth and some basic instrumentation? No satellites, no Garmin, no smartphone required!

Terry Jednaszewski’s presentation for our meeting is entitled “An Introduction to Celestial Navigation”. He will explain the basic theory of marine navigation and how the sun, moon, and selected stars and planets are used when outside of near coastal waters to obtain a ship’s position. He will bring along his venerable old sextant and show how that along with an accurate chronometer and a couple of standard publications are used to navigate the oceans. He will also touch on how astronauts can also use celestial navigation in a pinch, such as Apollo 13 did.

Terry began his study of celestial navigation in 1966 during his first year as a student at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. During four years at the Academy, he was sent to sea on working merchant ships for a year where he was able to practice navigation, including celestial navigation. After graduation from the Academy in 1970 Terry worked as a ships officer, working his way up to captain on tankers prior to becoming a harbor pilot in 1980. After piloting ships on Tampa Bay for nearly 34 years he retired in 2014 and moved to western North Carolina where he has kept busy with volunteer work and photography.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I received the item below from Laura McLeod. I have signed us up to receive free tickets for this early showing. Please see below for information, trailer and how to get your free tickets.  
Ken Steiner

By way of introduction, my name is Laura McLeod and I am a regional representative at Allied Integrated Marketing. Allied represents a variety of entertainment, hospitality and lifestyle clients and I am contacting you today on behalf of one of those clients – a film studio, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox is excited to announce its new film based on a true story, **HIDDEN FIGURES**, opening nationwide on **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Additional information about the film can be found below and you can watch the trailer: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=RK8xHq6dfAo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RK8xHq6dfAo)  
In advance of the theatrical release, we are hosting an advance screening on **Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00PM at Regal Phillips Place**. We would love to invite the **Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club** to attend and help us spread the word about the film.  
Please note that seating and passes are first come, first serve. The passes and the screening are both completely **free** in exchange for helping us spread the word about the theatrical release of HIDDEN FIGURES.

See below for the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club general download link. I have allotted 40 Admit Two passes: CHARLOTTE – Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00PM at Regal Phillips Place  
<http://www.gofobo.com/zqWjH85385>

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FROM THE TREASURER:

Dues for the new CAAC club year that began October 1st are due now. If you have not already renewed, and would like to continue your membership, please use our online site to renew and pay via debit or credit:

<https://mkt.com/charlotte-amateur-astronomers-club>

You would enter your address and contact information as part of this process. This will enable us to update our records if there are any updates for you.

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FROM THE SECRETARY:

**CAAC Christmas Party**

Well folks it's almost that time of year again! Charlie and Gwen Clayton are once again kindly offering their beautiful home and generous hospitality to us for our annual Christmas dinner event. This year's festivity is **Saturday, December 3<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. The Clayton's address is 306 Riverton Road, Matthews, NC 28104. It is extremely important to RSVP if you plan attending with number of guests and which covered dish you will be bringing. Please RSVP to 704-821-9891 or email your intentions to: [charlieclayton@windstream.net](mailto:charlieclayton@windstream.net). We are looking forward to seeing everyone again this year!

**SAVE THE DATE:**

The 31st annual Southern Star Astronomical Convention will be April 27-30, 2016 at beautiful Wild Acres Retreat. More information will be coming at a later date!

Are you interested in serving on a committee with the CAAC? There are some open spots for welcoming and mentoring new members. We are receiving a lot of interest and need more members to help answer questions/emails/etc for prospective and new members. Please email [info@charlotteastronomers.org](mailto:info@charlotteastronomers.org) and let Ruth know you would like to help out! The club usually gets 1-2 emails per week that we could use help with!

Register with the [Night Sky Network](#)

It is imperative that all members of the CAAC join the Night Sky Network (NSN). Many of the clubs outreach activities are 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>

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#### Updates from GHRO

#### Saturday, November 26th, CAAC Star Party

CAAC members and their guests are invited to CAAC's owned and operated Gayle H. Riggsbee Observatory (GHRO) near Taxahaw, SC on Saturday, November 26th. Bring your own telescope, use a club backyard telescopes, or one of the permanently housed telescopes. If you're new to the club or new to astronomy, come on down before sunset, the observatory can be little challenging to find in the dark. Even better, come down before 4pm, view sun through our H-Alpha Solar scope, have dinner, then stay and observe the night sky. There are always have members willing to give tour of the night sky. No left over turkey, then grab some tasty BBQ from JoJo's Backyard BBW on your way to the observatory.

If weather looks cloudy in Charlotte, it may still be clear the observatory. For current weather conditions check our sky camera at <http://charlotteastronomers.org/weather/> You can also call the observatory at [704-909-0604](tel:704-909-0604) for a recording of current event information.



[CAAC Weather - Home - Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club](#)

[charlotteastronomers.org](http://charlotteastronomers.org)

Mint Hill, NC Live Local Weather Station -  
Servicing the Charlotte/Metro Area

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GHRO Information (see <http://1drv.ms/1m2wPUu>)

Visitor Information: On same link above you'll find "Visitor Information" sheet with directions to the observatory. If bringing guests, share rules such as back into parking with lights facing away from the observatory.

Alarm System: For direction on building alarm system watch "How UNLOCK" and "How LOCK" training videos.

Telescope Guide: For members comfortable with telescope operations, the link above also includes instruction booklets on GHRO 8", 16", and 24" telescopes. The booklets cover startup, scope alignment, and shutdown procedures. Booklets and alignment stars are located at each telescope.

GHRO Room Heaters: If you're last one leaving for the night remember to turn off the kitchen and/or class room heaters. Simply press and hold the On\Off switch on the remote controls.

Chris Skorlinski, Director Gayle H. Riggsbee Observatory (GHRO)  
[704-996-4215](tel:704-996-4215)  
ChrisSkor@Hotmail.com

#### CAAC CONTACTS

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Public Outreach Coordinator	To Be Filled	