



Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club
www.charlotteastromers.org

Next Meeting: Friday, February 15, 2013
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Myers Park Baptist Church
Address: 1900 Queens Road

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

If you had millions of dollars to spare ... what kind of telescope would you build?

Presented by Dr. Bob Tyson

Dr. Bob Tyson is an Associate Professor of Physics and Optical Science at UNC Charlotte. Since the late 1970s, he has worked in the field of adaptive optics, the optical systems and detectors used to compensate for atmospheric turbulence. He has written 7 books on the topic including "Principles of Adaptive Optics" now in its third edition and a humorous book called "The Lighter Side of Adaptive Optics."



UPCOMING EVENTS

CAAC Upcoming Monthly Star Parties

Saturday, March 9

Saturday, April 13

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.

Southern Star Astronomy Convention, April 4-7, 2013

<http://charlotteastronomers.org/southernstar>

FROM THE TREASURER

CAAC membership year begins October 1st, and ends on September 30th. Dues for members joining after January 1st are prorated:

- **\$35.00** - Individual and Family
- **\$6.00** - Students, up to 18 years of age
- **\$10.00** - Observatory Access: Allows members unlimited access to and use of the club's observatory facilities and equipment following observatory training/familiarization by the Observatory Director
- **\$25.00** - Private Observatory Pad: Assessed to members that have a private observing pad on CAAC property

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. Jim Gaiser, CAAC Treasurer, will accept them at monthly meetings, or they can be mailed to:

CAAC
c/o Jim Gaiser
8624 Lenten Rose Court #203
Charlotte, NC 28277

FROM THE OBSERVATORY DIRECTOR

GHRO

I want to extend a big “thank you” to the folks who participated in the work day at the GHRO on Feb 2. We cleared the boundary lines, planted trees along the road, cleaned the observatories, leveled ground and added stone to low areas of the RV sites.

The base for the tower is in place and we hope to install the tower later this month. The internet antenna is installed and the weather station will also be part of the tower. We presently have application to NASA to be a part of their Fireball Camera network. We are also in the process of adding a computer server at the GHRO; we should have the weather station, sky cam and sky quality meter on line sometime in March.

The CAAC has several loaner telescopes for use by members; borrow at one meeting and return the following meeting. We have had two Dobsonian scopes donated and they are now available. One is a 6 inch and the other is an 8 inch to which I have added a Telrad finder and a zoom eyepiece. Both scopes are very basic but very easy to use.

Clear skies,
Ken Steiner

Loaner Telescopes

The club has loner telescopes for members; contact the Observatory Director to borrow these items.

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 Steve Rogish (s_rogish@yahoo.com) Ads will run for up to three months.

Accessories for Sale:

-Milburn Polished Aluminum Rings for 120mm diameter scope with rails for LX200-10	\$125
-Milburn Deluxe Equatorial Wedge for all LX200 scopes	\$450
-Milburn Counter Weight System with rail for LX200-10	\$150
-Crayford Microtouch Focuser	\$295
-Meade Deep Space Color Imager Pro II	\$525

Contact: Stan Smith
Phone: 864-882-9194
Cell: 864-710-9533

FROM THE SECRETARY

Last Meetings Visitors

Valerie Venetta, Jay Dickson, Brian Craig Reel, Bob Mattocks, Scott Wallace, Chris Bessey, Andrea Holland, & Kristin Davis

New/Returning Members

Bob Burke, Michael Causin, Dunia Causin, Bob Eskridge, Chris Fogarty, Sarah Goski, Judy Hoff, Eric Newell, Don Olive, Maryjo Prestridge, Derrick Reed, Jason Reeves, Wes Robinson, Avy Robinson, Michael Rudella, Vasant Shankarling, Thomas Van Dyke, Scott Walker, & Ivan Zugelj



Register with the Night Sky Network

The Night Sky Network (NSN) is a nationwide coalition of amateur astronomy clubs bringing the science, technology, and inspiration of NASA's missions to the general public. As a member club of the NSN, the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club has access to a number of resources designed to support our public outreach programs. Click the banner above, or use the link below to register:

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

CAAC on Facebook

Find the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club on Facebook. Navigate to www.facebook.com/CharlotteAstronomers, or use the search feature for "charlotteastronomers". Be sure to 'Like' the page, and you'll receive updates on your wall when new content is shared.



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. If you're new to the club, and would like an introduction to some of the folks that attend, contact Steve Rogish by email (s_rogish@yahoo.com), or see me at the monthly meeting.

Newsletter questions, announcements, change of address - contact Steve Rogish (s_rogish@yahoo.com).

CAAC CONTACTS

President	Mark Hoecker	mhoecker@bellsouth.net
Vice President	Robert Carl	rcarl@carolina.rr.com
Secretary	Steve Rogish	s_rogish@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Jim Gaiser	jegaiser@carolina.rr.com
Observatory Director	Ken Steiner	ken@steiner4.com
Public Outreach Coordinator	Robert Carl	rcarl@carolina.rr.com