

PHYSICS

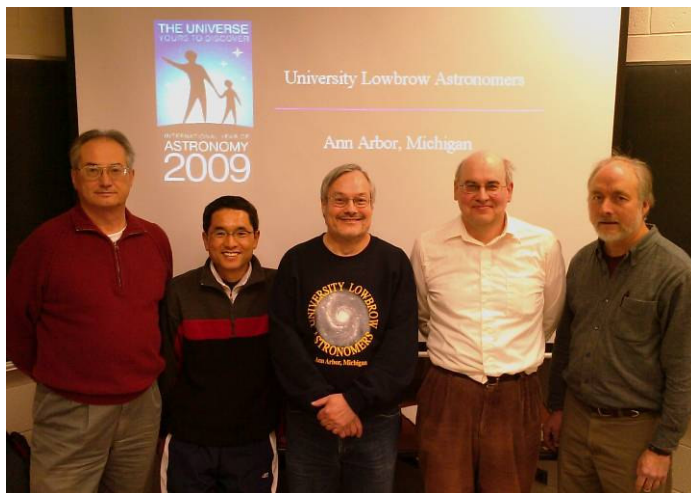
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



MARCH 14, 2009

PRESENTS

Today's Saturday Morning Physics Speaker



University Lowbrow Astronomers

Ann Arbor-based astronomy community

Amateur Astronomy: From Ann Arbor to the Universe

Astronomy is not just for the professionals. Everyone can explore planets, comets, star clusters and galaxies using backyard telescopes and binoculars. In this talk, the University Lowbrow Astronomers will show us how.

Short biography:

The University Lowbrow Astronomers is a diverse group of amateur astronomers, ranging from high school students to retirees, and beginners to experienced observers. The group is involved in many activities, which include stargazing and building telescopes.

From its beginnings in the late 1970's, the group has been open to both university and non-university members. In 1979 Dr. Joseph Patterson, then a post doc with the U-M Astronomy Department, proposed an agreement between the university and the Lowbrow Astronomers. In exchange for restoring and maintaining the observatory, the Lowbrows would receive full use of the 24-inch McMath Telescope at the Peach Mountain Observatory. This unique partnership has served as a catalyst for advancing amateur astronomy in southeast Michigan.

The Peach Mountain Observatory has fueled both the long-term growth of the Lowbrow Astronomers and its service to the community. For many years the group has conducted observing sessions for the public about twice a month, weather permitting. These sessions sometimes attract hundreds of visitors. Additionally, the Lowbrow Astronomers have conducted demonstrations and other events at the University of Michigan Exhibit Museum of Natural History, the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, as well as at other locations throughout southeast Michigan.

To join the club or for more information about club activities, see their homepage at
<http://www.umich.edu/~lowbrows/>

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Saturday Morning Physics

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