CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY NEWS
AND ANNUAL REPORT

ART AND SCIENCE COME TOGETHER. THIS IS ONE OF OBSERVATORY'S CLASSIC TEACHING TOOLS, A CELESTIAL SPHERE. IT REPRESENTS A UNIQUE VIEW OF THE HEAVENS AS SEEN FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN. THE SPHERE, ILLUMINATED BY THE LATE AFTERNOON LIGHT OF THE AUTUMNAL EQUINOX, CAPTURES THE SUN'S RAYS DISTORTED AS THEY PASS THROUGH THE 1870'S ANTIQUE GLASS OF THE HERGET BUILDING. THIS IS JUST ONE OF THE MAGICAL MOMENTS THAT MAKES THE OBSERVATORY COME ALIVE FOR OUR VISITORS. PHOTO BY COC DIRECTOR & UC DAAP GRADUATE CRAIG NIEMI.

CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BY CRAIG NIEMI

It sure seemed like 2008 flew by in a blur so we went back through the calendar to see if we could find out why. What an incredibly busy and productive year it was for the Observatory!

We started off 2008 with the final restoration project for the 1873 Herget building. Work included refinishing the floors on the main level, installing additional electrical circuits to the office to accommodate more staff, installing new bookcases to match the originals and recreating the original faux stonework that once decorated the interior. The artisans contracted for the project were recommended by the Cincinnati Preservation Association and what a remarkable job they did. Hammonds Hardwood Floors refinished the original pine floors to their original glory, ICS Building Restorations crafted the new bookcases that will house the Museum's collection and Deco Works did a remarkable job preserving and recreating the faux stonework. The three projects combine to make a stunning and memorable impression on all our visitors. While less visible to the project, but equally important was the work by Brennan Electric and the crews from Ferguson Moving who treated the Observatory and its belongings with such care. The work was generously funded by the Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr. / US Bank Foundation. If you haven't had the chance to visit you should. You'll marvel at the results. This was the last major part of the renovation project that started over 10 years ago. A great many people have spent untold hours and much effort in bringing about the re-birth of the Observatory. We thank you and the community thanks you. As recognition of that hard work than began a decade ago the Observatory was awarded the Cincinnati Preservation Association's 2008 Rehabilitation Award for an important job well done.

The dust had literally still not settled when in May the Observatory hosted the first-of-its-kind workshop; "The Vintage Observatory; Thriving in the 21st Century". Conference participants gathered from more than a dozen states (and South Africa) to learn how the Cincinnati Observatory was able to take a dilapidated and mostly forgotten observatory and turn it into a vibrant and exciting place of learning. As hoped, the energy from the conference has spawned continuing interest in the preservation these national treasures, with the Detroit Observatory hosting the next workshop this coming May.

The Summer Solstice featured the ground-breaking for the Paul Nohr Memorial Sundial project. Months of planning, design changes and surveying came to fruition when Paul's wife Pam, representatives of RWA Architects and Dallman & Bohl General Contractors and Congresswoman Jean Schmidt turned those first shovels full of dirt. Work progressed under the watchful eye of Andy Corn (RWA) and Paul Callard (DBGC). Our thanks to both gentlemen for their professionalism and dedication in making Paul's memorial a reality. I'm sure I did my fair share of driving them both crazy as we tweaked the final shape of the earthworks that border the sundial. It was important that the sundial site not diminish the awe-inspiring first impression of the Herget building our visitors experience as they come up the drive.

As it took shape you could tell that the sundial was going to be a unique space and educational tool while preserving the beauty of the campus as a whole. Even prior to the recent dedication ceremony school groups were already using the sundial. Best of all they were interacting with it just as was hoped. Our thanks to everyone who contributed funds and lent their expertise to Paul's sundial! Just like our historic telescopes, the sundial will be a key piece of our education programs for generations to come.

The Outreach mission of the Observatory never skipped a beat even with all the work being done, inside and out. Our innovative programs served just shy of 21,000 with half the total being students. While continuing to build the Observatory as "the" source for astronomy and space science information for the media, Dean has also expanded the role the Observatory plays in public outreach and professional development for teachers. Dean was heavily involved in planning for the entire U.S. for the International Year of Astronomy and the Observatory's spirited IYA kick-off event last January. After Roger Burgess took his second retirement from teaching (grandchildren will do that), Dr. Terry Flesch came onboard as Observatory Astronomer. Terry has been a tremendous addition to our talented teaching staff.

The Observatory continues to build collaborations with Cincinnati's other exceptional education providers including the Cincinnati Nature Center, iSpace, The Museum Center, Cincinnati Parks, the Hamilton County Park District, Cincinnati State, Xavier University and many colleges within UC. Initiatives that the Observatory partners with include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), STRIVE, Leave No Child Inside of Cincinnati, The Great Outdoor Weekend, Cincinnati Public Schools 5th Quarter and more. The Observatory will continue to develop existing collaborations while actively seeking new partners to advance students understanding of math and science.

New Observatory programming included the 3rd Wednesday Lecture Series which offers advanced or in-depth explorations of a wide range of astronomy related topics. The talks are given by the Observatory's own staff as well as professionals from Cincinnati's science and education community. The Observatory received Astronomy Magazine's "Out-of-this-World" outreach award for the innovative 40 Galileo's; the Starry Messenger Project. Inspired by the 400th anniversary of Galileo's universe changing invention and the 40th anniversary of Apollo 11, 40 Galileo's will award up to 40 high-quality telescopes to education partners who will bring the excitement of learning directly to their communities. The response so far has been remarkable with a host of great new ideas coming forward.

The Observatory worked with the Ohio College of Applied Science and the UC Physics department to celebrate 50 Years of Computing at UC. Observatory director Paul Herget was an early acquirer of the new IBM punch card computing machines and quickly adapted them for astronomical work. Mt. Lookout celebrated their 100th anniversary with telescope viewing on the square. That was followed by another great Luminaria Night in conjunction with the Mt. Lookout Civic Association. The 2008 Humanities Lecture Series featured two terrific speakers with Thane Maynard and Roxanne Qualls presenting to full houses. The list just goes on.

Thanks to our volunteers and the unbelievable numbers of hours (over 7,500) they selflessly give to the Observatory we've been able to maintain and grow all our existing public programs; Astro Evenings, Planet Days, History Sundays and tours and continuing-Ed classes. We've said it before but it always bears repeating; the Observatory could not serve the community at anywhere near the capacity it does without extraordinary contributions of your time, skills and passion.

2008 was another great year of support from the community. Your membership dues, contributions and in-kind support are critical to the Observatory's continuing success. Thanks to generous foundation and donor support over the past decade (the list of Observatory members, individual and foundation supporters appears at the end of the annual report) we we're able to move forward in 2008 and are positioned for an expansion in programs and staffing. The Observatory is going to re-invest a portion of our savings into additional teaching, development and office staff.

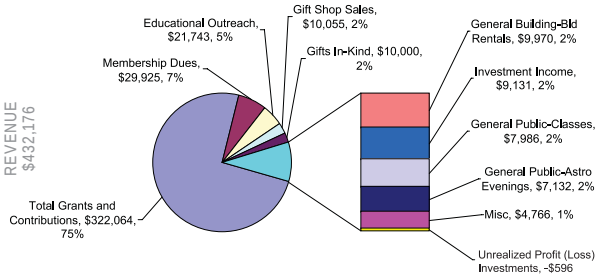
We know 2009 has been a year of difficulties and challenges but we hope the positive impact you've made to the community through the Observatory will garner your continued support. While our vision for the future is limitless we do face challenges. Due to the severe budget reductions at the State level the University of Cincinnati may be forced to cut off all financial and in-kind support of the Observatory. And while the Observatory hasn't seen it (cross our fingers), individual contributions and memberships to non-profits are expected to fall because of the current economic environment. No one's crystal ball can tell what may be lurking around the corner, but thanks to the prudent investment choices by our Board, a visionary yet sustainable long-range plan and your continued support the Observatory is well positioned to continue to move forward.

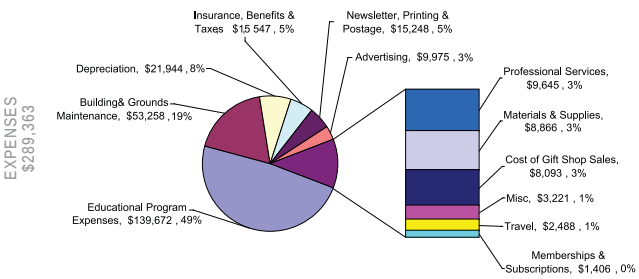
Our thanks again to the Observatory's hard-working staff, our members and tireless volunteers, the COC trustee, vendors and contributors, all who contribute in their own significant way to truly make the Cincinnati Observatory Center a treasure.

But one question, does it seem like 2009 is flying by?

COC STAFF

- Craig Niemi, Executive Director
- Dean Regas, Outreach Teacher
- Dr. Terry Flesch, COC Astronomer
- Richard Hamilton, Staff Scientist
- John Ventre, Volunteer Historian
- Dr. Michael Sitko, Volunteer Astronomer





CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY CENTER

A MESSAGE FROM COC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Observatory thanks you for opening up this Annual Report & Newsletter. Each year, we take advantage of the Observatory's May edition of the newsletter to expand our normal monthly format to include more information about our accomplishments and activities of the last year.

The Observatory has many facets: Educational, Scientific, Astronomical, Historical, Architectural, as well as a gathering place for our Community. The articles you will find here discuss not only the fundamentals of the 2008 fiscal year, but also highlight many aspects of the Observatory and our stewardship.

More than anything, though, this Annual Report & Newsletter offers our sincere appreciation for your interest and support. We have worked hard to keep the Observatory vital and valuable to our community. Please know that we have enjoyed every minute of it.

Thank you for being there for the Observatory. Our intention is to make sure the Observatory is meaningful for you and for generations far into the future.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Observatory Center

Charlie Schiff
Board President

Oliver "Bud" Baily
Ass't Secretary

Andrew Park

George Strietmann
Vice President

Bill Ernst

Greg Hand

Lib Stone

Scott Gainey
Treasurer

Jeanette Fisher

Basil Rowe

Denny Young

James Steiner
Secretary

Dr. Michael Flick

Dr. Michael Sitko

IN THIS ISSUE

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

OPERATIONS

NEWS AND REPORTS

FRIENDS OF THE OBSERVATORY

A WORD FROM FOTO PRESIDENT, DALE ZOLLER

Most days I can be found reading a book or magazine on my lunch break at work. The reading material usually has something to do with science, whether it is astronomy, earth sciences, paleontology, etc. Co-workers frequently ask what I find so interesting about science. The main reason I find science fascinating is that it is a story of change. Scientific knowledge is not confined by dogma – theories can be created, revised, even overthrown as new discoveries are made, as opposed to twisting or ignoring new information in order to fit a story that is not allowed to change.

Until Copernicus and Galileo enlightened us, the rigid theocracy of the Dark Ages insisted that Earth was the center of the universe. Observation and rational thought showed us our true place in the solar system. Before Einstein developed his theory of general relativity, Newton's laws were all that was needed to describe the motions of everything in the universe. While Newton's laws got us to the Moon and back, we now understand how massive objects can warp space, and that time and space are interconnected. Until Edwin Hubble determined that the fuzzy objects in the night sky were actually other galaxies far outside our own, it was thought that the Milky Way encompassed the whole universe. Now we know ours is just one of billions of galaxies that are all moving away from each other. Prior to Alfred Wegener's developing his hypothesis of continental drift (what we now call plate tectonics), we thought of the earth's features as being more or less static. We now know that the continents have shifted over the eons by the process of ocean floor spreading, and also understand why earthquakes happen and how non-volcanic mountain ranges like the Himalayas can be formed (and continue to grow). When I was a kid, dinosaurs were thought to have been big, dumb and lethargic tail-draggers. As more and more types of dinosaurs are discovered and analyzed, the evidence shows they came in all sizes, and many were active, fast and cunning. Currently, there is a conflict between relativity (the realm of the very large) and quantum theory (the realm of the very small). String Theory may reconcile the conflict and provide a Theory of Everything!

Because new scientific discoveries are constantly being made, trying to keep up with it all can seem daunting. Previously accepted explanations for how the world works are sometimes revised or even totally rewritten. However, new discoveries that teach us more about the world around us is precisely what makes science so captivating.

CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY NEWS
AND ANNUAL REPORT

Publisher: Cincinnati Observatory Center in partnership with the Friends of the Observatory

3489 Observatory Place, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208
Phone: (513) 321-5186 www.cincinnatiobservatory.org

ASTEROID TRACKED IN SPACE, ITS REMAINS RECOVERED ON EARTH

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

A startling sight greeted the faithful in the Nubian desert of northern Sudan as they emerged from morning prayers on October 7, 2008. White smoky streaks hovered in the air above them, forming ghostly patterns in the morning skies. Faced with this strange phenomenon, the Sudanese villagers did what any citizens of the 21st century would do in such circumstances – they took pictures with their cell-phones. And that is how the impact of asteroid 2008 TC3 – the only asteroid to be tracked in space before striking the Earth – was recorded for posterity.

Read more online at: www.planetary.org

▲ *Searching in the Desert*

University of Khartoum students line up to search for the remains of asteroid 2008 TC3 in December 2008.

Credit: Mauwia Shaddad

◄ *Streaks in the sky*

This image of asteroid 2008 TC3 exploding in the atmosphere above northern Sudan was taken with a cell-phone by a local resident on the morning of October 7, 2008.

Credit: Mauwia Shaddad

HEATING THE SOLAR ATMOSPHERE

EDITED BY FRANK HUSS

The temperature of the Sun increases markedly as one moves from its surface to the outer layers of its atmosphere (the corona) -- from about 6000 degrees to a million degrees Celsius. Curiously, although a variety of magnetic waves flow through the solar atmosphere, they do not carry enough energy to generate the corona's extreme heat. In a Report in the 20 Mar 2009 Science Jess et al. reported the detection of Alfvén waves -- high-velocity, twisting magnetic waves that have long been hypothesized to heat the solar atmosphere, but have not before been unambiguously detected (listen to the related podcast interview with lead author David Jess). Using the Swedish Solar Telescope in the Canary Islands and optic techniques to remove the blurring due to Earth's turbulent atmosphere, the team was able to obtain high-resolution images of the solar surface and observe oscillations coming from a large group of magnetic bright points about 430,000 square kilometers in area that bear the signatures of Alfvén waves. The team surmises that the waves are driven upward from the sun's photosphere (its visible surface) in the form of a flaring tube to the bottom of the corona 5000 kilometers above. As noted in an accompanying News story by R. A. Kerr, the team calculates that there are enough bright point groups on the surface of the sun for the Alfvén waves to heat the corona to its observed million degrees.

NASA'S GREATEST MISSION?

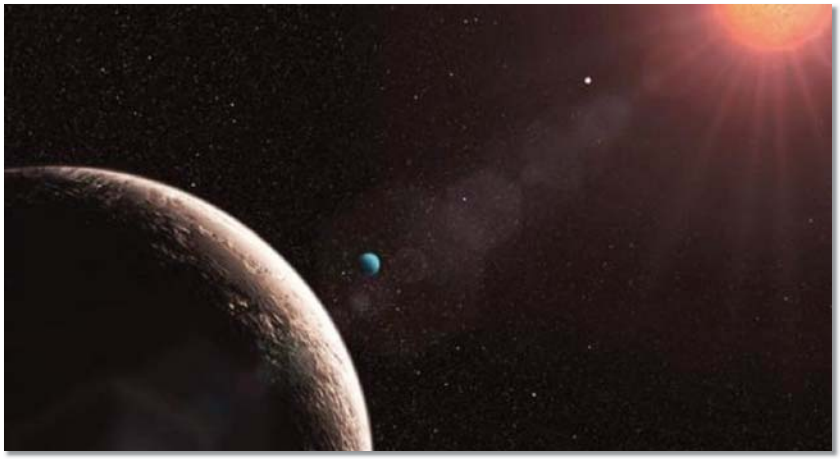
EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) has reached the final round of NASA's Mission Madness tournament where it is competing against upstart SPB, the Super Pressure Balloon, for the title "NASA's Greatest Mission." We endorse SOHO. Since the observatory was launched more than 13 years ago, it has revolutionized solar physics and the art of space weather forecasting--and the plucky spacecraft is still going strong. Vote now and help propel a spaceweather favorite to the championship: http://mission-madness.nasa.gov/

Rosaly Lopes sent us reports from The Planetary Society's members trip to view the Aurora Borealis in Alaska from March 19 to 25. Lopes is Lead Scientist for Geophysics and Planetary Geosciences at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and an investigation scientist on the Cassini Titan RADAR mapper team. Her main research interests concern volcanoes in the solar system, especially on Earth and Io.

The Aurora Borealis plus the eruption of Redoubt…what a trip!

Read more online at: www.planetary.org



ASTRONOMERS CLOSER TO EXOPLANET "HOLY GRAIL"

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

In the astronomical equivalent of meeting someone who reminds you of yourself, scientists have discovered a planet outside the solar system that weighs just twice as much as Earth.

The relatively small size of the new planet, dubbed Gliese 581e, prompted Grenoble Observatory astronomer Xavier Bonfils to call it "the least massive exoplanet ever detected" in a press release.

That seems an odd reason for celebration until one considers the behemoth sizes of other exoplanets.

The largest, named TrES-4 and found — quite appropriately — orbiting a star in the Hercules constellation, is roughly twice the diameter of Jupiter, which itself could house 1,000 planet Earths. Corot-7b, the previous smallest-exoplanet designee, is twice the size of Earth and about five times as heavy.

Not one of today's Gliese 581e stories even mention Corot-7b, which after its discovery in February was all the rage. Oh, the fickleness of interplanetary celebrity!

Read more online at: www.wired.com

MARS EXPLORATION ROVERS UPDATE

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

Spirit Breaks Rove Record, Opportunity Sees Endeavour's Distant Rim

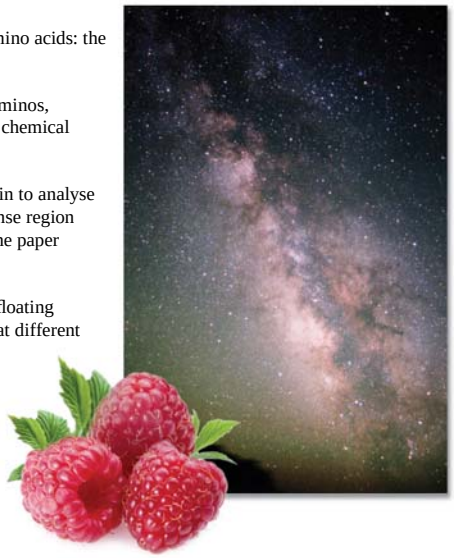
The Mars Exploration Rovers logged a memorable March, with Spirit finally making some serious tracks and setting a new driving record for a five-wheeled rover, and Opportunity getting a first glimpse on the distant horizon of its next big attraction, Endeavour Crater, as it crossed a geologic boundary into a new field of "blueberries."

Read more online at: www.planetary.org

ASTRONOMERS FIND MILKY WAY 'COULD TASTE OF RASPBERRIES'

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

Astronomers testing a giant dust cloud at the heart of the Milky Way have found that it might taste of raspberries, according to reports.



Scientists were searching space for evidence of amino acids: the basic chemicals from which life is created.

They told that, despite failing to locate any such aminos, they did find a substance called ethyl formate, the chemical responsible for the flavor of raspberries.

The astronomers used the IRAM telescope in Spain to analyse electromagnetic radiation emitted by a hot and dense region of Sagittarius B2 that surrounds a newborn star, the paper reported.

Radiation from the star is absorbed by molecules floating around in the gas cloud, which is then re-emitted at different energies depending on the type of molecule.

While scouring their data, the team found ethyl formate as well as evidence for the deadly chemical propyl cyanide in the same cloud. The two molecules are the largest yet discovered in deep space.

Read more online at: www.telegraph.co.uk

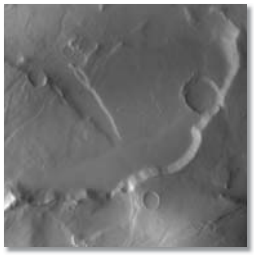
ASTRONOMY

NEWS AND PHOTOS

DAWN JOURNALS: SAFELY PAST MARS

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

Now boosted into a new solar orbit courtesy of Mars, Dawn continues its interplanetary journey. The spacecraft is healthy and coasting, keeping its main antenna pointed to Earth, as it will for most of the next three months. After that, it will resume its familiar routine of devoting most of the time to gently thrusting with its ion propulsion system, with only a short period each week for communications.



Following the last log, as the probe succumbed to the gravitational pull of the red planet, its trajectory gradually began to change. Flying true to the plan, Dawn swooped close to Mars and then left it behind on a new course, having taken advantage of Mars's gravity.

Read more online at: www.planetary.org

LOOKING FOR AN ANCIENT PLANET

EDITED BY BILL CARTWRIGHT

For the first time, NASA spacecraft have traced the 3D shape of solar storms known as coronal mass ejections (CMEs). It turns out the most ferocious storms resemble something from a French bakery. Read today's story to find out what:

NASA's twin STEREO probes are entering a mysterious region of space to look for remains of an ancient planet which might have orbited the Sun not far from Earth. If they find anything, it could solve a major puzzle--the origin of the Moon.

Read more online at: www.science.nasa.gov

40 GALILEOS

BY DEAN REGAS

In 2008, the Observatory staff was brainstorming ideas for a major project for the following year – after all 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy (IYA). IYA is a global celebration of astronomy and its contributions to society and culture, highlighted by the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo. More than 120 countries are participating in order to stimulate worldwide interest in astronomy. Our Board President, Charlie Schiff, thought of the idea that we could award telescopes as a way to put more amateur astronomers in the community – a way to extend our educational reach to a new crop of stargazers. But how many telescopes should we give out? Although we would have loved to give away 400 telescopes, 40 seemed more in our budget.

The program was dubbed the "40 Galileos, Starry Messenger Project," in honor of Galileo's achievements and his first major astronomy publication (which is also the Cincinnati Observatory's first publication), Starry Messenger. The telescopes we would give away would be 8" diameter reflectors – much nicer than a starter scope. However we did not just want to give these fine instruments away. There was a catch. Applicants must attend two training sessions with Observatory staff and volunteers and conduct public programs with their telescope prior to getting them. We wanted to make sure that the telescopes would be used and used for a long time to come in the tri-state - to essentially have 40 Galileos out there sharing the universe with the public.

Applicants needed to submit a plan of how they were going to use their telescopes with their communities. They needed to outline their goals, the partnerships they would hope to involve or create, and the audience they hoped to reach. We received many applications from teachers and schools, but also from community centers, libraries, scout troops, neighborhood groups, and even singles' groups. A panel of five astronomers close to the Observatory will decide on the recipients in mid-April. Once selected the winners have attended the classes and conducted their starparties, they will officially be awarded their telescopes on September 11, 2009 at our opening ceremony to ScopeOut 2009 (which occurs on September 12).

The project has been so well received locally and nationally. The 40 Galileos was the winner of Astronomy Magazine's annual Out-of-this-World Award and a $2,500 prize. Our program was selected from over 40 clubs from around the country, and two from outside the United States. News of the award appeared in Astronomy Magazine and they have agreed to run follow-up articles by Dean Regas to appear on their website.

We hope that you follow the progress of this ambitious project and if you are interested in helping support the 40 Galileos with your time, expertise, or financial support please contact Dean Regas at 513-321-5186.

FOTOKids

BY DEAN REGAS

This is my third year coordinating FOTOKids and I feel like we've got a great group of students. This astronomy club for kids aged 8-14 meets on the first Friday of every month. Our goal this year is to recreate the observations and discoveries of Galileo when he first looked through his homemade telescope 400 years ago. In January FOTOKids received a packet called Galileo Pages to be filled out throughout 2009. On each page they are to record observation made at the Observatory during normal meeting nights as well as during their own stargazing at home. In February and March we noted the changing size and phase of Venus and the mountains and craters on the Moon. In the coming months we will document Saturn's odd shape (through Galileo's primitive scope he thought that the ring were ears on the side of the planet), investigate sunspots (if the sun ever gets some), and chart the movement of Jupiter's four largest moons.

A Future Astronomer

In addition to our main project FOTOKids is planning field trips and starparties. Last year we visited the Wolff Planetarium in Burnet Woods and the newly opened NKU Planetarium. Many members have expressed an interest in having a camp out and star gaze over the summer. Plans are in the works so please stay tuned for more adventures in FOTOKids.

INTERESTING FACTS AND LORE

ABOUT THE CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY

The Cincinnati Observatory is over 160 years old. Being around this long, some interesting things are bound to happen to you. Here a few fun facts to drop at your next cocktail party:

- The shape of the Pringles potato chip was inspired and designed by Observatory Director Paul Herget in the 1950's.
- The Cincinnati Observatory was the first professional observatory in America.
- Houses one of the oldest professional telescopes in the world still in operation (stop by and look through it for yourself!).
- An American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Historic Aerospace Site.
- The city of Cincinnati changed the name of Mt. Ida to Mt. Adams after former President John Quincy Adams came to Cincinnati to lay the cornerstone for the Observatory.
- The U.S. Weather Bureau begun at the Observatory under the Observatory's Director Cleveland Abbe.
- The Observatory was designed and built by noted architect Samuel Hannaford who went on to build Music Hall and City Hall.
- The Cincinnati Observatory was the Minor Planet Center for the entire world. This means that our Observatory kept track by plotting and publishing all of the asteroids and comets "discovered" throughout the world.

Pictured Above: Observatory Director Paul Herget (left); the 1873 Cornerstone (top-right); Cincinnati Seen From Mt. Adams, 1852;

OUTREACH FOCUS

BY DEAN REGAS

Clermont Northwestern Students Exploring the Paul Nohr Sundial

In 2008, the Outreach Program got a tremendous boost with the addition of Dr. Roger Burgess on staff. He brought his many years of teaching experience to the Observatory and helped expand the program. Dr. Burgess has now entered true retirement and moved to Massachusetts with his wife.

To help fill Dr. Burgess's shoes and expand our programming to college-level students, we hired Dr. Terry Flesch in January 2009. A long time presenter and volunteer, Dr. Flesch was a natural choice to become part of the Observatory staff. With a partnership with Xavier University, Dr. Flesch hopes to teach college-level courses at the Observatory in the fall.

We presented over 200 programs to schools in 2008, both at their schools and as field trips at the Observatory. Our reputation for creative and educational programs has spread at we have welcomed many new schools and teachers into the Observatory experience. But I especially appreciate the relationships we have built up with our "regulars" – the teachers that work with us every year. Although our impact is most often seen in how we inspire students, I have witnessed the influence we have on teachers and getting them prepared and motivated to teach astronomy.

The COC is a proud participant in the International Year of Astronomy (IYA). In January we helped kick-off the year in the US by sending a webcast live from the Mitchel Dome to the conference of the American Astronomical Society in California. One of the marquee events of the year is called 100 Hours of Astronomy, where there was multiple astronomy events going on around the world between April 2-5. The COC offered free admission for all school field trips on those days, held Saturn Saturday and Sun Sunday, and brought telescopes to public venues and sidewalks (Sidewalk Astronomy). No, we were not open for 100 consecutive hours, but it was a great display of the variety of programs we offer as well as a testament to the dedication of our great staff and passion of our volunteers who make things run.

EDUCATION

OFFERINGS AND REPORTS

UC COMMUNIVERSITY

CLASSES AT THE OBSERVATORY

Dean Regas Leading a Group Exercise

An easy and fun way to learn more about astronomy, and a host of other exciting topics, is to enroll in one of the many UC Communiversity classes. You can choose from a wide variety of classes which offer hands-on enrichment experiences for adults of all ages.

Coming up this summer are five Observatory classes, including 3 new topics.

June 22nd:
COC presenter and Cincinnati State faculty member Terry Endres presents "Tools of the Astronomer". A look at some of the innovations in astronomy and the instruments that have led to our present day understanding of the universe around us.

July 14th:
COC Outreach Astronomer Dean Regas presents his always popular, "Star Gazing 101". Dean reveals the imaginative figures we call constellations and the simple tool that you can use to them and more in the night sky.

July 27th:
COC Astronomer
Dr. Terry Flesch tells the story of the "Dance of the Gods". The ancients Greeks called them the Wanders and for millennia the motions of the Earth, Moon and planets were not understood. Dr. Flesch looks at the individuals whose work revealed the true path of the planets and the Earth's place in the universe.

August 5th:
Longtime Observatory presenter Basil Rowe explored "Comets & Meteors". Just in time for the fabulous "shooting stars" meteors of Summer learn the nature and secrets of these bits of space debris and mysterious comets that visit often from the farthest reaches of the solar system.

August 24th:
COC Historian John Ventre brings to life the "Observatory's Antique Telescopes & Instruments". A multidisciplinary look at the instruments used by Cincinnati's 19th and early 20th century astronomers. The instruments themselves are works-of-art and the astronomers who used them were working on the cutting edge of science.

To register call 513-556-6932 or visit www.uc.edu/ce

CLOCKS OF THE CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN VENTRE, VOLUNTEER HISTORIAN

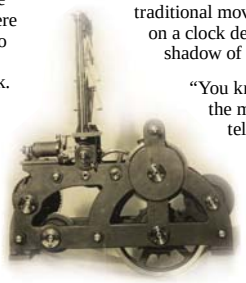
The Observatory has an impressive array of historical time pieces. Each one is significant in its own right including its own distinct purpose. John Ventre, the Observatory's historian, sheds some light on their uses, history and technical mastery.

"John, there are some very interesting vintage clocks displayed throughout the Observatory. What are their significance to astronomy and the Observatory?"

The accuracy of typical astronomical observations is dependent on recording the exact time of its acquisition. Ever since the Merz & Mahler telescope was first used in 1845 to record an astronomical sighting the time of the observation was simultaneously recorded. The Observatory's astronomical, vintage clocks were the first quality clocks in the city, and they also were used to keep time for the city. You can't operate an Observatory without a quality clock.

"They are beautiful, stunning craftsmanship to the naked and untrained eye. But…how do I ask this?…they look like normal clocks—with a familiar face and hands and such—but I can't tell time on them, I can't read them. It's like they're in another language. What's going on here?"

In the 1800s it was traditional for astronomical clocks to have three faces, one for hours, one for minutes and one for seconds ("secondary-minute" face is where the term "seconds" evolved). Since the astronomers were principally interested in using their clocks for recording their accurate observations they needed the minute face and second face to be larger, hence easier to read in a darkened observatory, than the hour face. On our four principal clocks the minute face is the largest, the second face in smaller, and the hour face is the smallest. In order to use our clocks to tell time you need to start reading the smallest dial first (hours), and then progress to the largest face (minutes), and then end by reading the intermediate sized face (seconds).



The term "clockwise" referring to the traditional movement direction of the hands on a clock derived from the motion of a shadow of a sundial, left to right.

"You know, thinking about it, the main 16 inch Alvin Clark telescope has an impressive collection of gears and weights connected to its base—it's tracking system. Is this basically a clock?"

Yes, the Clark telescope does have a clock in it.

The clock assures that the telescope tracks its celestial target across the sky in an accurate, timely manner-sidereal time. "Sidereal" is a Latin term that refers to stars. Our telescopes track their celestial objects at the same rate that stars drift across the sky. Sidereal time is very similar to solar time, the method of time keeping that we use to regulate our daily lives, but the two systems are out of synch with one another by about four minutes a day. You can hear the Clark clock ticking—a mesmerizing, relaxing beat—when you are in the Clark Observatory dome and the manually wound telescope is working.

"It sounds like an unbelievable amount of upkeep; a "bajillion" moving parts. How in the world do you keep them in good working order?"

When the clocks need some tender loving care I telephone our friends at AWCI (American Watchmakers and Clockmakers Institute). Jim Lubic, the Executive Director and Lauri Penman the Clock Instructor have been supporters of the COC and its clocks since 1999. Lauri Penman, probably the worlds expert at clock making and repair and an Englishman, came to America to work at the then AWI. Laurie is the man who spent two and a half years restoring the COC's four principal clocks.

HISTORY

ACCOUNTS AND PRESERVATION

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEMORIAL FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSON

PAUL NOHR (1939-2006)

Cincinnati remembers Paul Nohr as the heart the Observatory. His smiling guidance inspired students—both kids and kids-at-heart alike—to discover wonders about the world around them. He gave them the means to pursue them through his caring restoration of the historic telescopes and his unselfish sharing of his considerable knowledge. As a memorial to all he gave to the Greater Cincinnati community we honor Paul with this extraordinary sundial, totaling over 50 feet in diameter, constructed on the grounds of his beloved Observatory.

Tom Busemeyer Displays His Working Model of the Nohr Sundial

While deceptively simple in appearance the key to the sundial – the analemma – is what makes it such a surprisingly elegant yet sophisticated teaching tool. Paul's sundial teaches much about our place in the solar system by marking the daily motion of the sun; the annual equinoxes and solstices. It reveals the tilt of the earth's axis and the shape of the earth's orbit around the sun. The sundial is interactive with student's and visitor's shadows marking the date & time. Earthworks, reminiscent of Ft. Ancient's ancient mounds, border the sundial creating a unique outdoor classroom.

Today, Paul's legacy guides our ambitions. We aim for excellence in our education programs while maintaining the integrity of our history. Paul set high standards for both. Our appreciation is eternal. Paul's memorial is stalwart and permanent, and is being explored daily by visiting school children, a reminder of all of his contributions to science education and history.

Paul's dedication to the Observatory, the Observatory's beloved telescopes, and his extraordinary love of teaching will remain treasures in our collective memory of Paul. His commitment to education inspired many of the teachers who now share his passion for the sciences with their students. As an Observatory supporter you can be proud that your contributions to the Observatory will carry on Paul's legacy of furthering science education throughout Greater Cincinnati.

Groundbreaking

We'd like to thank everyone who lent their considerable expertise to this extraordinary project. Your passion and dedication to the project speaks highly to your professionalism and service to the community. We're confident the community will repay your generosity many times over.

- RWA Architects, Inc.
- Dallman & Bohl General Contractors, Inc.
- Evan's Landscaping
- City Iron
- Joseph Day Concrete
- Hicon, Inc.
- Pinnacle Engineering
- AEG Irrigation
- Nordloh & Associates
- Zins Plumbing
- Gilson's Engraving, Inc.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SUN-DAY SUNDAY SUNDAE
MAY 17, from 1-4pm

What do astronomers do during the daytime? They stare at the Sun... safely.

The Sun is the star attraction on this Sunday and you can learn all about our nearest stellar neighbor. Sun-day Sunday Sundae includes hourly programs about the Sun, tours of our historic buildings, and safe viewing of sunspots and solar flares out of our 1843 telescope (weather permitting).

As a special treat we will also have free sundaes for those in attendance. Cost: $5 per person. Advance reservations are required – space is limited.

Please call the Observatory at (513) 321-5186 for more information on reservations.

STONELICK LAKE STAR PARTIES
MAY 23, at dusk

Bring telescope, binoculars or just yourself for a night under the stars (Weather permitting). For directions or for more information phone Scott Naylor at (513) 575-5556.

Vintage Observatory Conference Attendees

USING YOUR TELESCOPE CLASSES
MAY 30, from 1-4pm

Did you just get a telescope and can't seem to make it work? Is there an old telescope collecting dust in your closet just waiting to be used by a knowledgeable astronomer?

Here's your chance to become that knowledgeable astronomer – or at least get started. Using Your Telescope will teach you step by step how to get your telescope ready for viewing and essential tips to finding objects in the night sky.

Bring your telescope, a friend or family member, or just yourself to begin exploring the heavens above. Cost: $40 per telescope (includes admission for up to 3 people)

Please call the Observatory at (513) 321-5186 for more information on reservations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1	FOTOKids Youth Astronomy
May 2	Saturn Day
May 4	"Saturn" UC Communiversity
May 6	COC Annual Meeting
May 7	FOTO Monthly Meeting
May 10	History Tours
May 17	Sun Sunday
May 20	3rd Wednesday Lecture "Massive Star Clusters"
May 24	History Tours
May 30	"How To Use Your Telescope"
June 4	FOTO Monthly Meeting
June 5	FOTOKids Youth Astronomy
June 6	End of School Open House
June 8-12	X-CEED Teacher's Workshop (Xavier)
June 14	History Tours
June 20-21	Apollo Rendezvous (@ MVAS)
June 27	"How to Use Your Telescope"
June 28	History Tours
July 2	FOTO Monthly Meeting
July 3	FOTOKids Youth Astronomy
July 11	40th Anniversary of Apollo 11 (@ CAS)
July 15	3rd Wednesday Lecture "A Compact History of an Expanding Universe"

EVENTS

MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

ABOUT FOTO

Friends of the Observatory (FOTO) is the support group and amateur astronomy club affiliated with the Cincinnati Observatory Center. FOTO provides staffing for many of the observatory's programs. Membership is included when joining the Cincinnati Observatory Center.

FOTO's MONTHLY MEETING occurs on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Observatory Center. The meeting consists of 15-20 minutes of organizational business followed an astronomical presentation. Past subjects have included: *Bad Astronomy in Hollywood Films, Meteorites, The Gas Giants, How to Make a Sun Dial*, etc. The presentations are given by amateur and professional astronomers as well as experts in peripheral fields. Subjects are always announced in the monthly FOTO newsletters.

Following the monthly meeting, (weather permitting) members can open the O.M. Mitchel Observatory at the COC for celestial viewing or set up any of the portable telescopes on the lawn adjacent to the Observatory buildings.

The next **FOTO PLANNING MEETING** is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 6 pm at Panera Bread in Hyde Park Plaza. Open to all FOTO members, the meeting generally lasts a couple hours for planning future FOTO activities.

2009 3rd WEDNESDAY LECTURE SERIES

The popular 3rd Wednesday Lecture Series is an ongoing series of science related presentations for Observatory members, the general public, teachers, advanced placement high school and college students. The sessions allow for more in-depth or technical explorations of topics than you might hear in the regular monthly FOTO meeting, and while informal, are typically at the college level.

To match the wide ranging levels of astronomy and general science knowledge of the participants several evenings have been devoted to more general introductions to topics that form the background for more later more in-depth studies.

Presenters include the Observatory's own talented staff and volunteers as well as guest speakers from are universities and other science centers as a way of showcasing their research, programs and education opportunities.

Upcoming 3rd Wednesday topics and speakers include;

- Dr. Margaret Hanson, University of Cincinnati; "Massive Young Star Clusters"
- Terry Endres, Cincinnati State; "A Compact History of an Expanding Universe"
- Jeff Rodriquez, Anderson High School; "Cosmic Rays"
- Bev Ketron from iSpace (Interactive Science, sPace, and Aeronautics Center for Education)
- Dr. Brenda Hanke, Cincinnati Museum Center, "The Cincinnati Region: 450 million years of Landscape Evolution"

Every 3rd Wednesday 7-9 pm. Admission to the lectures is free for members and only $5 for non-members. Reservations are suggested.

THE CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY OFFERS OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THESE INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, BUSINESSES, AND FOUNDATIONS WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2008:

Nicholas P. Abel
Dobbs & Fleming Ackerman
Glen & Desire Adkins
AEG Irrigation
Eric & Josephine Africa
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Allen
Charley Allgood
Neha & Nikita Amberkar
American Watchmakers Institute
Donna & Bill Anderson
Jan Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Anning
Robert H. Anning
Steve J Anslinger
Jason Apking
Sarah Arlinghaus
Astronomy Magazine
Tim Auch
Michael Averdick
Bill & Cathy Bachelder
Oliver Baily
George Baker
Elizabeth Ball
Robert & Bethany Barton
Ron Bates
Diana Batsch
Celeste & John Baumgartner
Charles & Cynthia Baylis
John F Beary, III
Mark Bell
J. Dennis Bender
Caroline Hartog & Douwe Bergsma
Louise & Jerry Berman
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Bernstein
Eugene and Mary Bertke
John & Tricia Bevan
Anne Biederman
Brian Binion
Gregory J Bishop
Jack Bishop
Doris & John Blades
John Blanton
John Blasing
Nick, Sherri & Victoria Blenke
Ron Boenau
Bill Bohl
James & Amy Boland
Tom & Judith Bolenbaugh
Carla Boltz
Michael & Kate Bordner
J. Douglas Borton
David & Peggy Bosse
Cali Boswell
Fred N. Bowman
Janet Boyd
Brian & Kathy Brady
Herman E. Braun
Sara Breiel
Eric Brock
Kara & Timothy Broderick
Mike & Nancy Brown
Bruce Broxterman
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bruck
Andy Bruggeman
John P. Bruggen
Jaqualine S. Brumm
Robert Brunner
Slawomir J. Bucki
Carmel Buckley
Otto M. Budig, Jr
Otto M. Budig Family Foundation
Eric & Dolores Burdette
Dr. Roger Burgess
Timothy & Patricia Burke
Mary Burns
Tom Burns
Thomas Busemeyer
Ken & Susan Butler
James Caccia
Linda & George Callard
Paul & Karen Callard
Fred & Ann Calvert
Donald Campbell
Janet Canter
Nico & Rose Capurro
Anthony Capurro
William Y. Cartwright
William Castle
Frank Chaiken
Andrew Chun
Gene Chung & Kim Miller
John Ciliege
Cincinnati Astronomical Society
Cincinnati Preservation Association
City Iron
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Clark
Raymond R. Clark
Joan & Steve Claybourn
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Minnie Clements
Karen Clumpner
John Coff
Melissa Compton
Michael Connaughton
Larry & Nancy Cooper
Lesta Cooper-Freytag
Jo Ann Coors
Andy Corn
John & Stella Cottam
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Cox
Louise & Robert Crouch
Patrick Crowley
Melissa Culyer
Josh Cumby
Ronald & Hollyn Cunningham
John Curley
Jason Currie
Raymond & Mary Dasenbrock
The Montags
Dallman & Bohl General Contractors
Graham C. Davis
Richard Davis
Jean Davison
Joseph Day Concrete
Linda & John Deatrick
Mike & Lisa Debbeler
Mr. & Mrs. Rocco DeCioccio
Tim & Patricia Decker
Dennis DeHaan
Charles & Linda Dehner
Gerard DeMarco
Mariam & Sahle Demessie
Nicole Deutsch
Jeffrey Dobranski
Patricia Dobson
Judi Dooley
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Dorlac
Paula Dornbusch
Suzanne V Dortch
Hallie L. Dovich
Mr. & Mrs. Frank S. Duke
Duke Energy Foundation
Chris & Jeanette Duncan
Dr. Heather Duncan
Dr. Raynor Duncombe
Preston M Dunnmon
Donald & Katherine Durack
Jean Durbin
Jeff & Delora Eckerle
Timothy & Margaret Ehrman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ehrsam
David J. Eicher
Jeanne Emery
Terry Endres
Dr. Robert Endorf
Bill & Carroll Ennis
Bill & Margaret Ernst
Kevin Eustace & Family
Evan's Landscaping
Maria & Don Eynon
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fair
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fernandez
Chuck Fields
Jeanette Fisher
Bob & Mary Fitzpatrick
Eric & Cathlin Flamme
Robert & Ann Flanagan
John & Kathryn Flannery
Louisa Fleischmann
Noah Fleischmann
Terry R. Flesch
Dr. T. Michael Flick
Robert Flischel
Pete Foley & Marcia Cole
Mr. & Mrs. Ashley L. Ford
Ted Fowler
Charlie Fox
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fernandez
Louis W. Freese
Greg Friedman
Carol S. Friel
Lola & Jim Gabel
Michael Gabrelski
Scott Gainey & Michelle Lierl
Gamma Phi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society
The Garden Club of Cincinnati
Brian Garry & Keegan McNamara
James Garvey
GE Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. James Geers
Eugene L. Geier
Daniel & Anne Gentile
Judith George
George & Sally Gibbs
Karl & Maggie Gieseke
Robert B. Gilbert
Gilson's Inc
Jim & Kathy Glassmeyer
Julie Glassmeyer
Barbara Gloeckner
Dale Gloeckner
David & Carla Glos
Jack & Victoria Gluckman
Faith & Sylvan Golder
Steven J. Goldstein
Don & Lynne Goocey
Jack Gore
Christa Gorman
Lori Graham
Pam & Jakob Graydon
Jeffrey Greenberg
Brenda & Melvin Grier
Holly Griffin
Debbie & Robert Grimes
James & Susan Groen
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Groneman
Bob & Cathy Grosse
Guy C. Guckenberger
Mr. & Mrs. James Guilford
Mickie Gummer
Sandra Haas
Dan Haehnichen
Robert Hale
Mary & Richard Hamilton
Jeff & Lynne Hamner
The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr. / US Bank Foundation
Greg & Linda Hand
Dean & Valarie Hanley
Dr. Margaret Hanson
Linda Harbour
Mr. & Mrs. Kendall Harden
Marcia Hartsock
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Haverkos
Michelle, Madalyn & Joe Hayden
Thomas & Jeanne Hayden
Jack Hazen
Michael Heflin
Steve Hegge
Scott & Andrea Heile
Frank & Aileen Helfen
Robert Helmholz
David Hemmerle
Drew Henderson
Sue Henry
Marilyn Herget
Julia Hicks
Hicon Inc
Ian Hillenbrand
Lora Hillerich & Tracey Bunker
Kathy & Bob Hinklin
Kirtland Hobler
Sharie Hockl
Mary Lou Hoffar
Daniel J. Hoffheimer, Esq.
Christy & Scott Holland
Linda Homer
William Hopple III
Phyllis Hopple
Joyce A. Horner & David Ellsworth
Ervin & Diane Houston
Jeff Howe
Dr. Joan L. Howison
Greg Huber
Thomas Huenefeld
John & Carol Hughes
James A. Hulefeld
Richard E Hunter, Jr.
Nancy Hurst
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Huseman
Frank W. Huss III
Steve & Becky Hussey
Robert Hutchison
Jeff & Reda Hutton
Initiative for Catholic Schools
iSpace, Inc
John Isch
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Jandacek
Pamela Jarrett
Sybille Jemail
Meri Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Roland Johnson
David Jones
William Jones
Mr. & Mrs. William Joiner
Robert Joseph
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Juenke
Jeffrey Jakucyk
Charles Kamine
Mrs. Reuven Katz
John & Margie Keller
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Keller
Susan Kellogg
Gary Kepler
Kenneth & Kathleen Kihm
Linda E King
Anne E. Kirby
Jim & Carolyn Kite
Robert Kleesattel
Cecilia & Tom Kloecker
Charles Kohlhase
Tim T. Kloth
Catherine K Koehler
Steve Korach
Jan & Rob Krehbiel
Marilyn A. Kroll
Randy Krueger
Christina & Joseph Krumm
Majorie Kuck
Aaron Kuertz
Dan Kuntz
Robert & Mary Kurimo
Dr. Paul C. Lam
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lambert
Phil Lambing & Family
Michael & Barbara Lancor
Carol A. Lang
Walter Langsam
Dr. Glen Langston
Kevin Langston
John Lanier & Jane Garvey
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Leinhart
John Matulaitis & Siga Lenkauskas
Leslie Demoret & Ralph Perry
Richard Lee
Naomi Lewin
Steven & Robyn Lince
Paul, Lynne & Justin Lincoln
Jim Linne
Clay & Sharon Linstid
James & Nancy Linz
Nick Lloyd
Harold E Lockett
Dr. John Logsdon
Marc Lohrisch
Thomas Lombardi
Dale & Heather Lombardo
Dominic R. Lovaglio
Jim Lubic
Emilie Lubis
Eric & Diane Luczaj
Joan E. Luppino & John & Alex Vago
Linda MacDuffie
Gregory Macievic
Jane C. MacKnight
Paul Allen Maddix
Linda Lee Magee
Rob & Katie Magenheim
George Mahama & Kelly Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Maloney
Marilyn & Robert Mallow
Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Malloy
Rick Maloney
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Mancini
Mr. & Mrs. Perrin March IV
Perrin March III
Ron & Cathy Maret
Paul Markgraf
Bob Marrs
Lyn Marsteller & John Pinney
Frederick & Deanna Martin
David J. Mason
Ron A. Masters
Timothy & Peg Mathile
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Matt
Margery Mattox
Patti & Matt Maurer
Mike Mauch
Mayfield Clinic
Thane Maynard
David & Linda McBride
David & Sarah McCallister

Arthur & Carol McCardle
Robert McCarthy, Sr.
Constance M. McClure
Tom McDonough
John McHugh
Mr. & Mrs. Mark McGinnis
Dale McGirr
Cyndie McKee
Nale McKee
John, Lisa & Henry McKenzie
Russ & Jennifer McMahon
Sharon & Mike Meeker
Minnie Mehuron
Leroy Memering
John J. Merrick, Jr.
Frank Meyer
William R. Meyers
Stephanie Mihalek
Bonnie Miller
Gemma Million
Dave & Heather Mingo
Judy Miracle & Bernie Bissmeyer
Robert Mitchell
Dieter Moeller
Harry G. Moeller
Rodney & Susan Moeller
Margaret M. Moertl
Eitel Monaco
James & Ann Monroe
William & Kathleen Moorman
Nancy & Steven Moormann
Tim Morand
Paul Morgan
James Morrow
Betty Moscove
Mary Mullen
John Murdock
Laura Murrer
Brian & Kathy Murrie
Denise R. Mustain
Marshall & Wilma Mustain
James & Linda Marie Myers
Tom Navaro
Paul Scott Naylor
Linda Neenan
Joe Nelson
Jim & Marty Neumeister
Neusole Glassworks
John J. Schiff III
Tom & Marsie Newbold
Thomas & Christine Neyer
Craig & Valerie Niemi
Louis & Louise Nippert Charitable Trust
John & Karen Noble
Pam Nohr
David & Susan Noonan
Nordloh & Associates
Kathleen Norris
Kathleen & Ray Nunlist
Dan O'Donnell
Thomas J. O'Grady
Ohio Space Grant Consortium
Scott Oldfield
Stefan Olson
Irene Osterbrock
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Ottenjohn
Rachel Page
Richard, Virginia & Rob Palmer
Andy Park
Christopher Parrett & Mary Fitzpatrick
Doris Parsenios
Gil & Genie Parsons
Jean & David Patterson
Jay & Therese Paul
Lawrence M. Paul
Laura Peck
JoAnne & Poul Pedersen
David & Margaret Pellegrini
George & Jean Perbix
Roger & Belinda Perna
Roland Petalver
Matthew Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Petrie
Sally Pfetzer
Michael Phillips
Tony P. Picchioni & Family
Pinnacle Engineering
Maureen Pippin
Chad Planner
Robert Pope
Todd Portune
Margaret Possert
Robert Potvin
David A. Powell
Terry Powell
Carolyn W. Powers
Louis Prince
Roxanne Qualls
Gerald Ragland
Philip Raines
James & Bette Ramsey
Dr. Carter F. Randolph
Sue Ransohoff
Rosalind A Reade
Dean Reber
Becky & Stan Regas
Dean Regas
Karen S Reginelli
Susan Reid
Shawna Reifel
David Reininger
Matthew Brian Reuter
Robert & Karen Riccordi
Richards Industries
Mrs. Ellen Rieveschl
Sharon & Allen Riley
Sheila & George Riley
Jerry R. Rimele
Susan & Steve Rismiller
Mary Ritter
Peter Roberts
Sarah & Ron Roberts
David Robertson
Jeff Rodriguez
John Roebker
Alvin Roehr
Kathleen & John Rorris
Mr. & Mrs. Joel & Lisa Rosenthal
Janet & Bob Rosing
Basil & Diana Rowe
Gayle S Ruff
Robert Runge
Dr. Lori Rutherford
Lisa Ruttenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Ruwe
Douglas & Laurie Ryan
RWA Architects
Bruce & Karen Safriet
Frederic R. Sanborn
Margaret Sanders
Juan & Ann Santamarina
Robert & Suzanne Sartarelli
Frank & Becky Satullo
Saturn of Beechmont
Mr. & Mrs. Trey Savage
Melody Sawyer-Richardson
Joseph & Cynthia Scanio
Matthew R Schaefer
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Schaefer
Christine Schear
Jim Schiear
Jack & Lynn Schiff
Christine & Charles Schiff
Congresswoman Jean Schmidt
Bill & Stephanie Schmidt
David Schmidt

CONTRIBUTIONS

RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION

Richard & Susan Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. William Schmidter
Chris and Angie Schnetzer
Susan & Michael Schock
Stephen R. Scholl
Bruce & Lisa Schoolfield
Kirk Schrotel
Harold A. Schuck
Zelma J. Schulman
Dorothy & Carl Schulz
Charles & Sarah Seibert
Dr. Ken Seidelmann
Peggy Selonick
Ellen Sewell & Ralph Hubenet
Bob & Janie Shaffer
John M. Shepherd
Pat & Eddie Sheppard
Alfred & Carol Shikany
Dr. Gerald A. Shubs
Rebecca Shundich
Rosel & Nick Shundich
Gerald A. Siegert
Meta & Jay Sien
Betsy Neyer & Amy Simmons
Joseph F. Sims
Steve Sinden & Julia Indalecio
Bethany Sininger-Flege
Dr. Michael Sitko
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sittenfeld
Rob & Gaby Skully
Sky & Telescope Magazine
Skyler Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Corey Slais
George Slama & Margaret Drew
C. Randall Smith
Gabrielle Smith
Janet L. Smith
Jerry Smith
Seth Smith
Robert D. Southwick
Space Telescope Science Institute
Jeffry Spain & Nancy Simon
Randal & Marcy Spear
Michael & Julie Spohr
Kayla Springer
Rajandra Lei Steinberg
Dr. Jim Steiner
James Kathman & Sally Stephen
Carol & Mark Stephenson
Sharon Stern
Grant & Mary Stewart
Tony & Jessica Stieritz
Edward Stober
Michael Stoehr
Alex Stone
Elizabeth Stone
Donald & Sheila Storck
Lisa Storm
Bob Stothfang
Barbara Stough
Gary & Nancy Strassel
Jerry Stratton
Kathleen I. Straub
Gary D. Street
George Strietmann
Jennifer Strong
Chuck & Lisa Strubbe
Mrs. John L. Strubbe
Laura Strubbe
Mary L. Strubbe
Connie & Jack Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Sutphin III
Patricia J Sweeney
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Syzek
Ian Takaoka
Mr. & Mrs. David Taylor
Dorothea F. Ten Eyck
ElizaBeth TenOever Keller
Zaine Tepe
Suzanne Terwilliger
Mr. & Mrs. Richard B. Thoman
Joan & Charles Thomas
Len Thomas
Brent A Thompson
James L Thompson
Margaret A Thompson
Anne Timpano
Dean & Donna Trindle
Naomi Tucker Gerwin
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Tucker
Joyce Tull
Kara Uhl
Fred & Carolyn Unger
Eric Urbas & Family
Victoria Ustrekhova
Arnold Van Skaik
Adrian Vance
Anne Vanoy
John Ventre
Joseph & Darlene Verkamp
Samuel L. Vessel
Rita Voltmer & Robert Wendel
Christina Vuotto
Bill Wagner
Joyce Wainscott
Vernon Walatka
Vernon & Bernadette Walatka
Matt & Annie Wallace
Robert Wallenhorst
James Walz
Margaret Warminski
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Warren
Mr. & Mrs. George H. Warrington
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Waters
Stephen R Wavra
Elizabeth Weber
Linda Weber
Andrew Webster
WCET
Richard & Kathy Weimann
Margaret Weiner
Kent & Karen Wellington
Dwight Werren
Richard J. Wessling
Gary & Diane West
Pat & Penny Westrick
WGUC
Thomas Wicker & Robbin Palmer
Nathan Whitsett
Gary L Wilkins
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Williams
John Williamson
Mark Wilson & Katie Cook
Murray & Amy Wilson
Jeffrey & Sharon Wintring
Louis Witten
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Wochner
Janet & John Woeste
Stella Wojtczak
Kenneth E Wolf
Margaret & William Wolf
Diane Wood
XCEED -Xavier University
Lawrence Yates
Hwa Shain & Yisheng Yeh
Tony & Julie Yocco
Denny Young
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Young
Everett & Margie Yowell
Gregory Yudovich
Deborah J. Zai
Nicole Zatorski
James & Deborah Zeisler
Robert & Suzanne Ziemba
Alison Zimmerman
Zins Plumbing
Dale Zoller

CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY CENTER
FRIENDS OF THE OBSERVATORY

3489 OBSERVATORY PLACE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45208
(513) 321-5186 | www.cincinnatiobservatory.org

COC Mission:

The Cincinnati Observatory Center will promote the study and practice of astronomy among a broad audience, and assist professional and amateur astronomers, schools and universities to further their educational efforts on behalf of astronomy. While fulfilling this mission, The Cincinnati Observatory Center will maintain the integrity and heritage of an historic nineteenth-century observatory, including relevant artifacts illustrating the history of science and the applications of astronomy throughout the years.

In order to accomplish this mission, The Cincinnati Observatory Center will:

Promote public programming, and provide educational opportunities and resources for the public at large, school and university educators and students, and professional and amateur astronomers, including:

- Public astronomical viewing
- Classes and workshops
- Tours, displays, and presentations

Showcase the unique facility as "The Birthplace of American Astronomy" by continually maintaining and improving the buildings, grounds, and collection of historic artifacts, while striving to adopt and integrate the latest technology in fulfillment of our mission.

CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY NEWS
AND ANNUAL REPORT

COC Historian & Meteorite Expert, John Ventre Shares His Remarkable Collection

"Thank you for giving us a tour of the Observatory!

Billy said the old books about the planets were really neat. Keith really like taking pictures of all the telescopes and the neat things he saw. We thought it was interesting to find out how it got started. It is amazing people just handed over the money to pay for the first telescope and help with the building. We really like the pictures you gave us. We were showing all our friends at school what a cool observatory you have. The sundial was cool too.

We all thought it would be neat to come back for a night tour and look the stars and planets. We learned a lot from our tour and listening to all the things you knew about the history of the Observatory and people who founded it."

Billy, Keith, Alex, Brandon and classmates
Lawrenceburg High School Special Education Class Visit
March 19, 2009