



FOCUS

Vol. 62, No 9, January 2018

DELAWARE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 8:00pm
Topic: “Astronomy at the Top of the World”
Speaker: Jim O’Leary, Maryland Science Center
At the Mt. Cuba Astronomical Observatory

DAS Members,

I hope you enjoyed a peaceful and pleasant holiday season. We had an excellent holiday party in December with lots of sweets, goodies, good conversations, and an astronomical swap meet. We all had a really good time! Recently we have had several nice clear nights, but unfortunately it has been bitterly cold and the weather has been a little crazy. We have had a series of school closings and cancellations due to the weather. The crazy part has been that on several occasions the bad weather has come during the day, and then there is a gorgeous clear night afterwards. But I have not gotten to enjoy it because I would have to shovel the snow or chip at the ice to find a spot to put out my telescope. So I personally have not been doing much astronomy outdoors and instead have focused my efforts on doing astronomical programming and working on my equipment indoors so that when the weather improves, I will be ready to go. Hopefully in the next month there are some nice warm spells with clear skies, so that we can get out and enjoy the beautiful winter skies.

I hope you can join us at our January meeting where we will be learning about “Astronomy at the Top of the World” from Jim O’Leary from the Maryland Science Center!

Rob Lancaster
DAS President



Board Meeting Agenda

1. Review of Minutes from Last Meeting—Bill McKibben
2. Treasurer’s Report—Diana Metzger
3. Updates on the ongoing club projects



Upcoming Events and Activities Extended

	January 16, 2018 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm DAS Monthly Meeting
<i>Topic: "Astronomy at the Top of the World"; Guest Speaker: Jim O'Leary of the Maryland Science Center.</i> Board meeting at 7PM, all are welcome; General Meeting at 8PM. Download The FOCUS for full club details and more information.	
	January 19, 2018 - January 20, 2018 Astrophotography Special Interest Group (AP-SIG) Meeting
The exact date, time, and activity depend on the weather and will be announced 1-2 days ahead via DAS YAHOO GROUP email and by direct email to AP-SIG members.	
	January 20, 2018 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Delaware Museum of Natural History - Winter Constellations
Presentation in the lecture hall about the Winter Constellations, followed by viewing the night sky through telescopes. Contact Ted Trevorror, DAS Education Chair, at edt750@verizon.net with any questions.	
	January 23, 2018 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm DAS' Astronomy Workshop at Mt. Cuba Observatory
Come to the Astronomy Workshop at Mount Cuba. Share your astronomy interests, talk about and do astronomy! Held EVERY Tuesday except during Monthly Meetings, special events or an emergency. If it's a clear sky we can observe at the Sawin!	
	January 30, 2018 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm DAS' Astronomy Workshop at Mt. Cuba Observatory
Come to the Astronomy Workshop at Mount Cuba. Share your astronomy interests, talk about and do astronomy! Held EVERY Tuesday except during Monthly Meetings, special events or an emergency. If it's a clear sky we can observe at the Sawin!	
	February 6, 2018 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm DAS' Astronomy Workshop & Book Club Mtg at Mt. Cuba Observatory
Come to the Astronomy Workshop at Mount Cuba. Share your astronomy interests, talk about and do astronomy! Held EVERY Tuesday except during Monthly Meetings, special events or an emergency. If it's a clear sky we can observe at the Sawin! Plus , the <i>DAS Book Club</i> will discuss Kepler's Witch by James Connor.	
	February 9, 2018 - February 10, 2018 Astrophotography Special Interest Group (AP-SIG) Meeting
The exact date, time, and activity depend on the weather and will be announced 1-2 days ahead via DAS YAHOO GROUP email and by direct email to AP-SIG members.	
	February 13, 2018 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm DAS' Astronomy Workshop at Mt. Cuba Observatory
Come to the Astronomy Workshop at Mount Cuba. Share your astronomy interests, talk about and do astronomy! Held EVERY Tuesday except during Monthly Meetings, special events or an emergency. If it's a clear sky we can observe at the Sawin!	
	February 20, 2018 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm DAS Monthly Meeting
<i>Topic: "Richard Feynman"</i> , settling the gravitational wave debate 60 years ago; Guest Speaker: Paul Halpern, PhD. –Board meeting at 7PM, all are welcome; General Meeting at 8PM. Download The FOCUS for full club details and more information.	

INFORMATION ON DAS MEMBERSHIPS AND MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

DAS MEMBERSHIP

- DAS membership dues are \$30.00 per year and due on November 1 for all members.
- There is no need to renew membership until the treasurer contacts you during the membership renewal drive starting in mid-October.
- New members joining at various times of the year may be eligible for a prorated dues amount.
 - \$20 when joining March-May
 - \$10 when joining June-August
 - \$30 for joining September-October through November 1 of the following year.

SKY & TELESCOPE MAGAZINE

- The DAS offers subscriptions to *Sky & Telescope* at a discounted rate of \$32.95 per year.
- Call S&T magazine at 800-253-0245 and mention the club's name to receive the discount

ASTRONOMY MAGAZINE

- The DAS offers subscriptions to *Astronomy* magazine at a discounted rate of \$34.00 per year.
- Subscriptions to *Astronomy* will be processed by the club for the first subscription year only.
- Your subscription expiration date should be displayed on the mailing label on your magazine.
- Renewals can be handled by all club members on the *Astronomy.com* website using the following steps:
 - a. go to www.astronomy.com
 - b. select the 'customer service' link in the upper right corner
 - c. select the 'renew your subscriptions' link
 - d. enter your customer number (found on the mailing label), postal code, and the renewal code of 'RCLUB040' and click 'continue'
 - e. follow the remaining steps from there.

NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Please review the membership and magazine information above carefully.
- PLEASE fill out the membership form below completely.

NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please be sure to review the **Membership** and **Magazine** information above **carefully**.

Please make checks payable to DAS and forward to:

Diana Metzger, Treasurer, 604 Baldwin Lane, Wilmington, DE 19803



Membership \$30.00/20.00/10.00

Astronomy Magazine \$34.00

Total:

Name _____ Email Address _____

Street Address _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Notes _____

For questions or concerns, contact Diana Metzger, DAS Treasurer at (302) 290-2108 dmetzgermd@gmail.com

DAS CONTACTS Please Call Any of Us With Your Concerns or Problems

Board Members

Officers:

President: Rob Lancaster -- RLancaste@gmail.com -- also Webmaster

Vice-President: Jeff Lawrence -- Jeff@DelAstro.org -- (302) 668-8277 -- also, Program Chair

Secretary: Bill McKibben -- BillMcK21921@comcast.net

Treasurer: Diana Metzger -- (302) 290-2108 -- DMetzgerMD@gmail.com

Board Members at Large:

Bill Hanagan -- (302) 239-0949 -- hanaganw@verizon.net -- Astro-Photography Special Interest Group (AP SIG) --
Amateur Telescope Making Special Interest Group (ATM SIG)

Amy Hornberger

Dave Groski

Standing Chairs:

Publications: Joe Neuberger -- JRNeuberger@gmail.com -- (302) 723-2734 -- also *FOCUS* Newsletter, articles & Photo
Contributions & Submissions

Observatory: Jack Goodwin -- (610) 457-2945 -- Jack_Goodwin@yahoo.com

Education: Ted Trevarrow -- (302) 593-7949 -- edt750@verizon.net

Library: Maria Lavalle and Sue Bebon Astronomical League Coordinator--K Lynn King -- klynking@verizon.net

Observing Chair: Greg Lee Nominations Chair: Amy Hornberger -- aehornberger@gmail.com

Elections Chair: Nico Carver -- (302)353-2448 -- nicocarver@gmail.com

Meeting Date:	Speaker & Topic:
January 16 2018	Jim O'Leary -- "Astronomy at the Top of the World"
February 20 2018	Paul Halpern -- "Feynman"
March 20 2018	Preston Smith -- "Traveling With Your Scope"
April 17 2018	Member mini-talks
May 15 2018	Dinner Meeting - TBD
June 19 2018	TBD

The Last
Word. . .



The nights are long, but it is cold out there!

Stay warm!

- The DAS Board