

# Southern Skies

Volume 39, Number 2

Journal of the Southeastern Planetarium Association

Spring 2019




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☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆  
☆ EDITORS SOAP BOX ☆  
☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Mel Blake  
Department of Physics and Earth Science  
University of North Alabama  
Florence, Alabama



We have an action packed issue this time, leading up to the annual meeting in South Carolina, which is looking to be a great event to start the summer. The deadline is fast approaching to register for a talk or workshop. Also very important is the silent auction that takes place at the meeting. Generous members give items or services and a silent auction is held to sell the items. The money goes to the professional development fund that SEPA provides to help members defray the costs of attending the meeting. Everyone should consider donating something, big or small to this cause. You don't have to be attending the meeting to contribute. See the details on page 32.

Also important are the changes to some of the SEPA by-laws that determine how we operate. You should have been notified about these changes and can get them from SEPA. Members will be asked to vote on these changes at the annual meeting. So take a look at them and think over whether you support them or not. All members get to decide!

Speaking of changes, our long-time coordinator for Virginia, Kelly Herbst, is stepping down from the position as soon as a replacement is found. He has done a great job over the years and I for one thank him for his efforts. So if you want prestigious job of state coordinator, volunteer!

Another change is very welcome. It is not too often that a new planetarium is commissioned, but that is what has happened at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville. The Rocket Center has replaced their old IMAX system with a modern True 8K projector and E&S Christie 4K RGB laser system, with an impressive 248 seats (can you say "SEPA Hosts?"). David Weigel has moved from the Christenberry Planetarium at Samford University, in Birmingham to become the director there. He will do a great job and I am sure we all wish him the best of success.

As usual, send in your stories and articles. The Southern Skies is only as good as your contributions. If you have a hack or fix for a planetarium problem or sage advice on what to do - or not to do - share it with SEPA!

Thanks to Adam Thanz for the beautiful cover art by Cassie Rose. If you have photo or artwork that you think would be a great cover, send them to me!

Mel Blake

### Submit your Articles!

Do you have a great activity to engage your audiences? Have you devised a cool gadget or do-it-yourself upgrade that you would like to share? SEPA would love to hear about it and share your knowledge.

We can receive electronic files in most any format. Graphics can be received electronically or in hard-copy, including slides or photos, and will be converted to digital with sufficient resolution.

Submission deadlines: Jan 1 (Winter), April 1 (Spring), July 1 (Summer), Oct 1 (Fall).

# IPS REPORT

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The IPS Council will meet in Reykjavik, Iceland on June 22nd and 23rd. A full slate of business awaits the delegates as this will be the final, off-year council meeting before radical governing changes are implemented.

## Vision 2020

The initiative chaired by SEPA's own, Jon Elvert, has labored over the past 4 years researching major changes to IPS with the purpose of increasing growth and increasing benefits and services to members. In-depth information about the pending changes is published in the March 2019 issue of The Planetarian.

## IPS 2020

The Tellus World of Science in Edmonton, Canada will host the 25th IPS Conference, June 18 to June 25, 2020. For conference details, sign up for the IPS 2020 e-newsletter at <IPS.twose.ca>

## IPS 2022

Two sites have submitted bids for the 2022 IPS conference. Comprehensive information about both invitations is contained in the December 2018 issue of The Planetarian.

Houston, TX  
Space City  
Proposed dates are July 4 to July 8, 2022

Saint Petersburg, Russia  
ART Technology Ltd.  
Proposed dates are June 22-26, 2022

## 100th Anniversary of the Planetarium

A year-long Centennial celebration of the world's first modern planetarium projector will take place in 2023. Contact Bjorn Voss, director of the LWL-

Planetarium in Munster, Germany <bjoern.voss@lwl.org>

## IPS Awards and Fellows nomination

Awards for IPS, to be presented at the 2020 conference, will be voted upon by Council at this summer's meeting. For details, see page 15 of the March 2019 issue of The Planetarian.

I will attend and represent SEPA at this year's IPS Council meeting. Please contact me prior to June 22 to discuss any issues that are relevant to IPS business.

I encourage you to visit the IPS Website for more information about IPS and its many initiatives; [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org).

You can obtain IPS membership forms from IPS Treasurer Ann Bragg at [ann.bragg@marietta.edu](mailto:ann.bragg@marietta.edu), myself at [johnhare@earthlink.net](mailto:johnhare@earthlink.net), or at the IPS Website, [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)



# BOOKENDS

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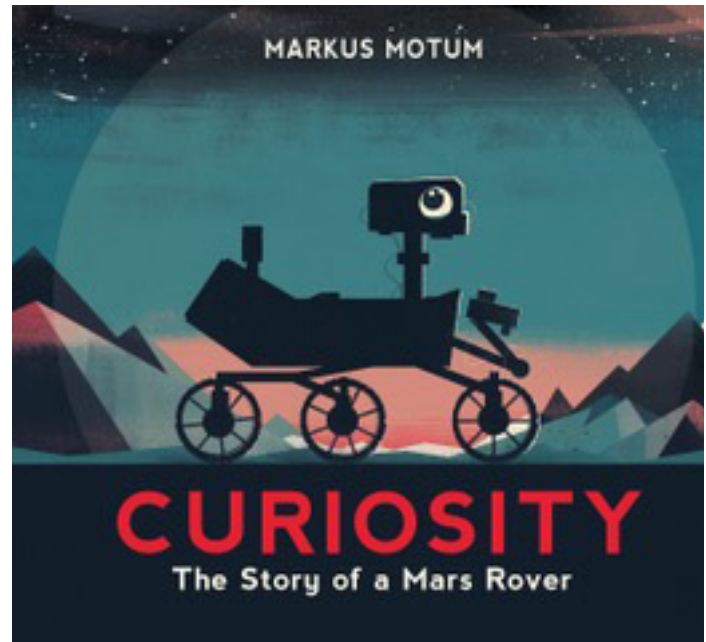
Book Review: *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover*  
reviewed by Robin Byrne

Continuing in my theme of reviewing children's books, this time it is *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover* written and illustrated by Markus Motum. Motum's training is in illustration, with no real science or engineering background. That imbalance is, unfortunately, apparent in the book.

The story begins with why we travel and explore space. It then goes into human exploration and the Apollo moon landing. That leads to the difficulties of sending people as far as Mars, and why we use robotic spacecraft, instead. Next we see how the rover was designed and built. The launch and trip to Mars are shown, and then the incredible landing. It ends with how *Curiosity* does science on Mars, and what the future holds.

Geared for children ages seven to eleven, the illustrations are gorgeous. Motum's style has an angular feel that is well-suited for depicting spacecraft and the technical components involved with sending a rover to Mars. The launch illustration is designed for you to turn the book and view vertically, which works very well. There's a definite retro feel to the images that I truly enjoy. Very "Space Age."

However, Motum's lack of science background comes across in the writing. He was very conscientious to getting the information correct, which I appreciate. But his lack of background means that he didn't do a very good job of simplifying it for his target audience. The upper end of his target group (ten or eleven year olds) will be fine, but younger kids will get lost in the terminology and phrasing. They'll still appreciate the pictures while being read to, but Mom and Dad may want to just read snippets from each page rather than all of the text. I also have a problem with the solar



system illustration that depicts all of the planets on one side of the Sun, and very close to one another, while the text talks about how the planets move at different speeds and only rarely line up. That page sends very mixed signals to the kids reading it, and I can guarantee they'll remember the incorrect picture rather than the correct words.

So, I'm left in a quandary. Beautiful pictures versus technical writing. What age group should be targeted? My inclination is to say that this is not going to be appropriate for younger kids, but upper elementary school would be a good audience for it. And, honestly, adults who appreciate picture books and just want a brief overview of the mission will also enjoy it. So, not an overwhelming endorsement, but a qualified recommendation for *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover*.

References: *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover* by Markus Motum, Candlewick Press, 2017

# GOTO

## Commitment.

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GOTO is proud to announce that Mark Webb, Theaters Director at the Adler Planetarium for 23 years, has joined Ken Miller on the GOTO U.S. team. They are committed to helping you make the future of your planetarium the best it can be.

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GOTO HYBRID PLANETARIUM  
**ORPHEUS**



*We may already be friends, if not let me introduce myself, I'm Mark Webb. I'm still using Chicago as my home base in my new role representing GOTO in North America. Please feel free to contact me or say hello the next time we meet at a conference. If you are visiting Chicago let me know and we can try to meet up, maybe even visit the Adler together. If you are thinking about renovating your planetarium, or building a new one, let me know about that too because I would like nothing more than to listen to your plans.*



*For details, please see my self introduction on Goto's website.*

*Mark Webb*

*Sincerely,  
Mark Webb*



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# News From the SEPA Region Spring 2019



## Cape Fear Museum in Cape Fear, NC

**Barbi Baker Reports:** Join the Cape Fear Museum, Carolina Beach State Park, Cape Fear Astronomical Society and many other community partners for a fun-filled evening of stargazing and astronomy-themed activities on Friday, April 12 from 7 to 10 PM at Carolina Beach State Park, 1010 State Park Road. This year's theme, The Moon and Beyond, celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. At this FREE event, participants can go on a laser-guided tour of the stars and planets, get up close views of the Moon, enjoy indoor stargazing and more!

Here is a link to our website: <https://www.capefearmuseum.com/programs/starparty/>

## Robeson Planetarium in Lumberton, NC

**Ken Brandt reports:** As you know, we re-flooded thanks to Florence. Partially because of that, the IPS' Architect Tim Barry is using us as a case study for how to design and rebuild a planetarium. If you get the *Planetarian*

magazine, look for the recurring series Outside Space.

In inflatable news, we have seen over 2,000 students and teachers this year in the inflatable. The Robeson County Partnership for Children has been so much more than generous in offering me the use of their multipurpose room to inflate the dome in.

We celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, and will mark the occasion with retired astronaut Bill McArthur returning home to Robeson County on July 11th. He'll speak to an auditorium full of people who want to hear about him, his missions, the 50th anniversary of Apollo XI, and the latest update from about the rebuild.

Lastly, the Rising Phoenix Robeson Planetarium Advisory Board has been meeting since November of 2017, and we now enjoy 501.3c tax-exempt status for prospective donors for the rebuild of the planetarium. A capital campaign will be starting soon.

## News from the Ingram Planetarium in Sunset Beach, NC

**Katherine Hunt Reports:** Ingram Planetarium was very happy to reopen their adjacent science center in late winter, and while there are still some facility changes in the future, they are completely functional again. The team at Ingram wants to extend a big thank you to Jack Dunn from South Carolina State Museum who gave us access to his Abbey Road laser show to raise funds for both science hall repair and school outreach that was a necessary need after the severe weather events of last year. We had an amazing turnout, not only selling out of the scheduled show, but we were able to have a second run.





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We are, as of this update, gearing up for another exciting North Carolina Science Festival. We will be doing both full dome and hands-on events at the planetarium and are excited to involve our sister facility in the festival more this year. The North Carolina Science Festival is sponsoring one of our program offerings at both facilities, we are so thankful for the opportunity through the festival and its sponsors to really upgrade our robotics programming in 2019 for the festival and beyond!



Margaret C. Woodson Planetarium in Salisbury, NC

Neil Pifer reports: It's an exciting time of year to be celebrating Spring in NC! We are again hosting a NC science festival event including 5 planetarium shows on April 6th. But what I wanted to write about is that we are co-hosting a star party with the Rowan Public Library on April 12th for the second year in a row. This partnership between the planetarium and the public library has been mutually beneficial because their market penetration into our families is about 10 times larger than the planetarium mailing list. The library has also appreciated our experience in working with school groups, homeschooled, and all science curricula. I encourage all of you out there to make a partnership with another non-profit in your region and co-host an event. You will increase your attendance and have allies for more events in the future!

Western North Carolina News

Submitted by Gary Lazich

Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS) in Asheville offers three "Star Stories" shows in its Star Dome every Sunday afternoon. On March 10 and again on March 24, AMOS provided hands-on astronomy activities and por-

table planetarium shows for the parent-child group Hold My Juice Box in the Highland Brewing Company's event space. Off-campus activities for spring include co-sponsorship of A Conversation with Bill Nye - Extreme Weather (April 1) and participation in the Asheville Mini Maker Faire on April 6.

Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI) invited guests to view the "Super Blood Wolf Moon" January 19-20. The campus will open to the public from 1 pm to 7 pm on April 6, 10, 17, and 24 as well as on May 1, 4 (Space Day), and 18. Tours begin at 1pm and 3pm and planetarium shows begin at 2pm and 5pm. Stargazer's Journeys (including dinner, sunset viewing from the Optical Ridge, and telescope viewing from the Sky Deck) will take place (weather permitting) on April 6 and 17 as well as on May 15.

Mayland Community College's Earth to Sky Park in Burnsville will participate in the statewide ScieNCE Festival Star Party on April 13 beginning at 6:30pm. Activities include tours of the Park, groundbreaking for a new planetarium at 7pm, and observing through the largest public telescope (34") in North Carolina along with other telescopes operated by the MCC Astronomy Club in the Park's Bare Dark Sky Observatory.

**LOUISIANA**

*contact: Jon Elvert  
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Lafayette Science Museum  
Lafayette, LA

Dave Hostetter reports: Lafayette Planetarium Curator Dave Hostetter was fortunate enough to make a trip to Australia back in December, including one clear night under the jaw-dropping skies of the Outback. This is a trip recommended to anyone who can stand 16 hours in an airplane!

Lafayette got a good view of the lunar eclipse in



# MARS

ONE THOUSAND ONE



"From the day that we were born we were destined to be together in this room today..."



### Advertise in Southern Skies!

Rates and submission formats for advertising space in SEPA's quarterly journal *Southern Skies* are:

#### Rates Dimensions

\$25 Quarter page

\$50 Half page

\$100 Full page

\$125 Inside Cover

10% discount for 4 issues

Ads accepted on a space available basis. Ads must be camera ready and conform to dimensions listed. Payment must accompany advertisement order, made payable to the Southeastern Planetarium Association (send payment to Secretary/Treasurer Patsy Wilson). The underlying mission of our advertisements is to promote resources, products, and services related to the planetarium profession. SEPA reserves the right to refuse advertisements.

### Paul Campbell Fellowship Award Nomination Form

Nominees must have been a member of SEPA for at least ten years, and they must display qualities in each of five areas, as represented by the five-pointed star shaped award: integrity, friendship, service, knowledge, and vision. Please submit this form to any SEPA Council member.

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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*continued from page 9*

January, with over 100 people braving freezing temperatures for a view.

We expect a busy summer with the Apollo 50th anniversary. In addition to a mini-exhibit that includes information about all four Apollo flights in 1969, there will be a slate of activities for July 20 (tentatively dubbed “Apollo-Palooza”) and Apollo-related planetarium programs throughout the summer.

This year is also the Lafayette Science Museum’s 50th birthday, and museum-wide events are planned. Among other things, planetarium staff will partner with the Lafayette Public Library for special programs related to their summer reading program and the opening of a new library branch, and there are very tentative discussions about partnering with the Hilliard Art Museum of the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in September for a presentation about the architect who designed the Museum’s original building. In addition, a local digital arts business is developing an interactive tour of the original building including going “into” the original planetarium. Early versions look amazingly real, and the Museum will use the final version as an exhibit. With Curator Dave Hostetter having been at the planetarium for 39 years now, he and Collections Curator Dr. Debbie Clifton are recording an extensive oral history of the planetarium and its operations to go with the traditional planetarium equipment and documents now going into the Museum’s accessioned collection.

**Irene W. Pennington Planetarium**  
**Louisiana Art & Science Museum**  
**Baton Rouge, LA**

**Jay Lamm reports:** We started the year off with our first ever live theatre production under the dome. Theatre Baton Rouge approached us to help create visuals for not only their live stage production of *Silent Sky* but also for a special performance in the planetarium space. Props, costumes, and actors were relocated to our planetarium theater to use our immersive environment to present Lauren Gunderson’s play like never. As the performance ran its length, every scene was fleshed out with imagery that fit the mood, setting, and ambience. We transported our guests to the

deck of an ocean liner with rolling waves and starry sky, out to the edge of the Magellanic clouds, and even back home to the Harvard Observatory where the actors spent most of their scenes. We brought up the stars as they appeared in the time of the early 1900s as well as highlight specific stars and deep-sky objects as the cast mentioned them by name.

Not only was it an excellent, one-of-a-kind show for our guests, but it was also an excellent introduction to our planetarium theater—and all the possibilities it has to offer—for our new President & Executive Director, Serena Pandos. Serena replaces Carol Gikas, who retired at the end of January after leading LASM for 39 years. Serena joins us from McAllen, TX, where she served as President and Executive Director for the International Museum of Art and Sciences (IMAS). Serena Pandos brings over 15 years’ experience in museum leadership roles, including 8 years at IMAS and 3 years at the Laredo Center for the Arts in Laredo, TX.

Jason MacMorran, Chairman of the Search Committee and past Chair of the LASM Board, stated, “Serena brings an excellent set of skills that includes programming work with artists, fundraising expertise, strategic planning, close ties working with her board, and experience developing strategies for community engagement.”

In February, we did our Valentine’s Day presentation of “Romance in the Stars.” This romantically-themed, live presentation tells three tales of love that can be found in our nighttime sky: The Weaver Girl and the Cowherd, Venus and Mars, and the story of Perseus and Andromeda.

As soon as Valentine’s Day wrapped up, we welcomed the Constantinides New Music Ensemble back into our planetarium for a special presentation of original music by students and professors from LSU’s School of Music. A live, real-time visual animation segment, customized for each song by the planetarium producer, accompanied the work by each composer and group. It was indeed a unique visual-music experience.

Sadly, as March approached, we had to say farewell to our Facilities & Systems Manager, David Kors,

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who retires after 16 years at the Louisiana Art & Science Museum. David started off in the planetarium before it even opened back in 2003. David served as both Technical Director of the planetarium as well as Facilities & Systems Manager of the building. David always made sure that everything was working properly, backed up, maintained, calibrated, and in tip-top shape. We all will certainly miss him - not only as a colleague, but also as a friend.

As March ended, we had yet another widely successful Engineering Day, welcoming over 850 visitors to the museum. It has always been one of our most popular events. This fun-filled festival featured 25+ interactive stations showcasing a wide array of engineering and design specialties for all ages. We arranged a special line-up of planetarium shows that focused on the theme of engineering, particularly the large-format film *Dream Big: Engineering Our World*.

There's still quite a lot to look forward to here. In May, we have the Star Wars-themed "May the 4th Be With You" day. We'll celebrate with a very special showing of our very own, in-house production of *The Worlds Within Stars Wars*. This full-dome show examines the fictional worlds presented in Star Wars and takes a critical look at some of the real-world counterparts that are out there.

Also, in May, we'll be celebrating National Astronomy Day with out-of-this-world activities and special planetarium shows. We'll also see the return of the *Pink Floyd eXperience* and *Laser Beatles*.

Rounding things out, we all look forward to a new exhibit that will be on display in our Universe Gallery. Astrophotographer Connor Matherne will have many of his deep sky photos on display in *Astral Visions: Photographs by Conner Matherne*, which will be linked to our OmniGlobe. Each print will be coupled with a map on our interactive OmniGlobe screen, displaying where in our Milky Way Galaxy these objects can be found for our guests.

# FLORIDA

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## The Emil Buehler Planetarium Seminole State College of Florida

**Derek Demeter reports:** We hosted a very successful "Moon Week" celebration the week of January 14 through the 21. We kicked things off with a small observing event at the E. Ann McGee Student Center at 2 pm Monday, January 14. Many students, faculty, and staff stopped by to take a look at the Moon during the day. Many were surprised they could see it! It was a beautiful and clear day. Justin and I even got to see a bald eagle land in the pond and catch a fish. Unreal! On Tuesday, January 15 we hosted a panel entitled "Unsung Heroes of Apollo". This evening event was a lot of fun to put together.



We worked with the American Space Museum in Titusville and planetarium veteran and ASM employee Marc Marquette to get some really cool speakers for the evening which included Apollo veterans Bob Giffen and Wyck Hoffler. Bob Giffen worked on the Gemini for North American Aviation (later Rockwell) and the Apollo program for Rockwell, and later on the

*continued from page 14*

Shuttle with Lockheed and United Space Alliance. Wyck Hoffler served as a flight surgeon for the astronauts of Apollo. Both men were amazing storytellers. This event was hosted by our own Justin Cirillo and he did an amazing job. We packed the planetarium for this event. Many people went home with autographed space memorabilia and we gave away some swag bags including free tickets to the American Space Museum and planetarium.

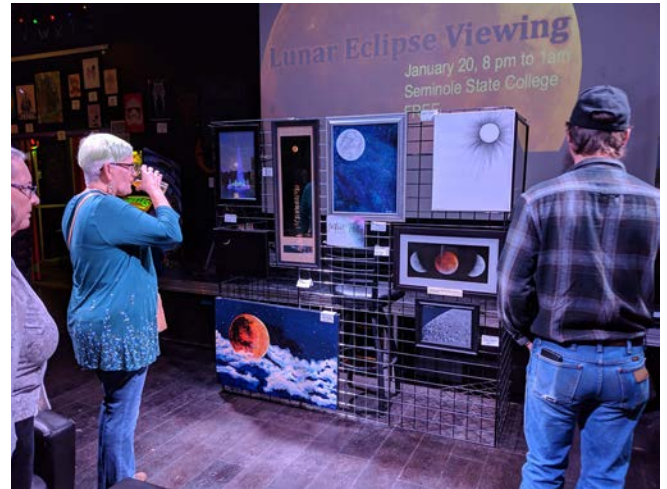


On Wednesday, January 16 we had Dr. Addie Dove with the University of Central Florida's Planetary Science program come out to speak about her work on several Lunar Science missions. She was a great speaker and another packed house for the event. We had a young astronomer in our audience that absolutely loved the talk. Maybe he will come join us at Seminole State when he is ready to start his science career!

Thursday, January 17 we setup telescopes at Donnelly Park in downtown Mt. Dora to observe...you guessed it...the Moon. We also setup our cell phone telescope adapter for guests to photograph the Moon which was a huge hit. Even though this was directed to the community surrounding Mt. Dora, people drove all the way from places as far as 50 miles to see the telescopes.

Friday January 18 we presented three planetarium shows. Our first show was called "Luna" which explored the history, mythology, and science of the Moon. Our second show was called "Eclipse" which discussed the science of the eclipse and what people will expect. Our last show was a laser light show "Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon". It was awesome as we including full-dome flybys of the Moon and stars to enhance the show. All shows were sold out.

On Saturday, January 19 we held a special art show at Hourglass Brewing in Longwood. This was our A in STEAM event. Artwork included paintings and photographs. We held a contest where guests could vote for their favorite art and photographs. Winners of each category took home a gift bag including tickets to the planetarium, a Moon Week shirt, water bottle and stickers. The event saw over 150 people making it one of the most popular events at Hourglass. We also had several telescopes setup outside to observe the Moon. Justin did all the work getting artists to submit their work and lead the contest. He did a great job!



The grand finale of the week was our Lunar Eclipse Viewing Event on January 20-21. Security staff estimate over 6,000 people in attendance during the event. It was truly an amazing experience to watch this with so many people. We also gave everyone a chance to capture the eclipse using their cell phone with our cell phone adapter. We also had lots of telescopes provided by the Central Florida Astronomical Society.



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Domes up to 60 feet



## **MED**

## **XL**



## **4K XL**

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Laser Illumination  
54,000 Lumens  
4096 x 4096 Pixels  
Domes up to 80 feet





*continued from page 15*

College marketing staff were there to show their support and assist if any media showed up. We also had many Seminole State students come to volunteer during the event, assisting with handing out shirts, bags, running the telescope giveaway table, and aiding the telescope volunteers with bathroom breaks.



It was such a team effort and our facebook page is erupting with very happy individuals. I don't recall a single complaint during the event. There were so many amazing people that assisted in making this week possible. I want to start off with the staff of the College Relations and Marketing department for helping us with promoting the events, helping with social media posts, allowing us to use some camera equipment and event supplies, and so much more! I also want to thank the great security officers that helped us during the eclipse event. Also to the facilities staff helping us setup tables, chairs, and the custodial staff for helping clean up after the eclipse event.

I also wanted to thank Jan Lloyd for helping rally student volunteers for our events. A huge thank you to Addition Financial and the Alumni Association for coming out and helping during the event as well as sponsoring the event. Lastly a big thank you to the college administration for all their support in the planetarium and providing us the resources to bring these memorable experiences to everyone. I am sure I am forgetting a few people but seriously there were so many outstanding people who helped out.

**GEORGIA**  
*contact: David Dundee*  
*Tellus Museum*  
*Cartersville, GA*



**Bentley Planetarium - Tellus Science Museum, Cartersville**

**David Dundee reports:** After a very busy Christmas season. We rolled into the New Year hosting NASA New Horizons Mission scientist Mark Kotchte on January 4 to lecture to a packed house of almost 300 about the recent flyby of Ultima Thule. Then the January Total Lunar eclipse was beautiful and we hosted over 1,000 people that night. In February we hosted focus groups to give their feedback of the first showings of the new planetarium show from Spitz "*Birth of Planet Earth*". This is a project we have been working on with Spitz for several months. This March I began the first part of NASA "Universe of Learning" grant by doing a training of our planetarium pilots to further hone their skills in Astronomy. This winter after the close of our Christmas shows, we have been running "*To Worlds Beyond*" and "*Our Violent Planet*". For our younger audience we have been running *Zula Patrol: Under the Weather*. We have continued to run three live shows a day with our beautiful Sigma 1.5 skies and this has been further enhanced by an extended stay of the Minolta Sigma 4.8 K system. It's really an even more beautiful sky. I don't give those comments out easily in digital skies. But it looks great. See you all in June!

**Fernbank Science Center Atlanta, Ga.**

**April Whitt reports:** Author events have been a big part of planetarium programming this winter. Children's book authors have offered talks and Black History Month authors discussed their work and signed books.

March Madness hit Fernbank Science Center! We're partners with the Atlanta Science Festival,



*continued from page 17*

which ran for over two weeks this year. Science themed events and activities all over the metro area were part of the fun.

Fernbank hosted the “*Taste of Science*” event, with lectures about the science of food and tasting treats.

Snake Day drew lots of parents and children for live animal demonstrations, information from local reptile organizations, special planetarium programming and snake crafts.

Mike Mongo’s Student Astronaut Job Fair brought sixth graders into the planetarium for STEM activities.

And Trees Atlanta hosted a Big Screen Bloc Party screening of the film *The Jungle Book*.

Fernbank hosts the county elementary Science Olympiad competition. Dozens of schools send their teams of students and teachers to compete in a variety of categories: Starry, Starry Night, Weather or Not, Paper Rockets, Water Rockets, and this year’s new offering: Tennis Ball Catapult.

School and public attendance continues strong, as the school year winds down. I don’t know if other systems experience this, but school administration refuses all field trip requests that occur after the middle of April. Fernbank Science Center is part of the DeKalb County School system, so we’re still serving students.

This is also the time of year that schools put on their “Career Day” programs. Fernbank supports as many of those as staff-time allows, encouraging future scientists and knowledgeable folk in general.

And of course, planning and programming for this summer’s Apollo landing anniversary continues apace. Lunar exploration programs in the planetarium have been well-received, even by those for whom it is ancient history.

Fernbank Science Center hosted meetings of the

Atlanta Astronomy Club and the Georgia Nature Photographers group. The Atlanta Geological Society visits the center to study for their exams, as well. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Columbia, SC, in June

**Georgia Southern Planetarium, Statesboro, Ga.**

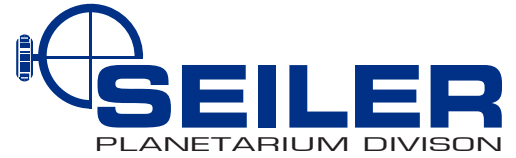
**Dillon Marcy Reports:** we are heading towards summer and preparing for the end of our spring semester. So far this semester we have had two events with Litchmond and Black Holes. This was our last year to present Litchmond, but luckily we have a replacement on the way. We were just given a grant by the Campus Live Enrichment Committee here at Georgia Southern that will provide us with the funds to get another music show for our students. We already have Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin, so we decided to go for a mix of bands and get Clark Planetarium’s Rock the Dome Classic. We will be showing it off in November, and if you are near Statesboro Georgia feel free to come by and see it.

Our other show we have presented this semester was Black Holes by Clark Planetarium. In my time working here I have not seen the public so interested in one of our shows that was not a music show. The show sold out relatively quickly, and we have had multiple requests daily to make it a public event again. We still have two more shows this semester with Dynamic Earth and Led Zeppelin. This year with Dynamic Earth we received Earth and Astronomy Demos from NISE that we learned about at the last conference. The demos have been a success with our chapter of the Society of Physics Students whom are facilitating them at our events and groups.

I am looking forward to the conference this year in Columbia South Carolina. It is going to be a lot easier to get there from Statesboro than it was to get to Memphis. I learned a lot last year and look forward to seeing what other resources are available to our planetarium when I return. I am looking forward to the conference, and what all I still have to learn from everybody from teaching methods, resources, and overall how to make our planetarium better for the public. See you all in June.

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Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC Planetarium  
South Carolina State Museum  
Columbia, SC

**Liz Klimek reports:** Spring is in full swing here in Columbia, with lots of school shows and preparations for upcoming spring and summer break camps. The first quarter of the year was a blur of shows and special custom programming for museum events like Art Day, the annual Space Party for our AstroKids membership program, the annual 'Amore Under the Stars' Valentine's Day event, and the Lunar Eclipse.

First and foremost, however, we are in high gear preparing for the upcoming joint SEPA-MAPS conference. In case anyone's missed the announcements, the conference will be from June 4th-8th at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, SC. Karrie Berglund is organizing Mini-LIPS, which will be held on Tuesday the 4th just ahead of the start of the conference.

Registration is now open on the SEPA website. As things continue to come together, be sure to check it for updates regarding speakers, the agenda and other important information.

The opening reception will be at the South Carolina State Museum, after which delegates will be able to explore our three floors of exhibits, telescope gallery, observatory, and gift shop.

We have some amazing speakers lined up, including Dr. Patricia Craig, a local planetary scientist working with the Mars MSL mission to search for biomarkers in the Martian soil. Our Education Director Tom Falvey, will also tell us about the State Museum's rare antique telescope collection, which was donated by Robert Ariail. For the grand finale, our banquet Key

note Speaker will be retired astronaut, educator and author Clay Anderson.

There won't be a formal post-conference tour, but as a post-conference activity, those sticking around are welcome to attend a free organ concert performed by our Observatory Manager, Matthew Whitehouse. A professionally trained organist, he will be performing both his own astronomy-inspired pieces as well as works by William Herschel at the beautiful Trinity Cathedral in downtown Columbia.

The conference theme is "Small Steps and Giant Leaps." It is our hope that regardless of where you are in your careers, this conference will take you forward in the field in some way. The people you meet and the information you gather at these annual meetings are invaluable for professional growth, and we are working hard to ensure that this year's conference continues the tradition of making and fostering connections, inspiring new ideas, and providing new tools and resources. Whether you're a newbie simply wanting to meet your fellow colleagues or are a seasoned veteran about to take on a major project, these meetings exist so that we can all help each other take that next small step or that next giant leap.

See you all in Columbia!

**DuPont Planetarium**  
**Ruth Patrick Science Education Center**  
**University of South Carolina Aiken**  
**Aiken, SC**

**Gary J. Senn reports:** The DuPont Planetarium at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center (RPSEC) on the campus of the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) had a very successful lunar eclipse event on January 20. It was cloudy most of the day but cleared very well as the eclipse began and the sky stayed mostly clear throughout the event. We had people stay until after 2:00 AM, which might be a record for the ending of an event at our facility.

*continued from page 21*

In February, we showed: 1. One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure by the Adler Planetarium, Sesame Workshop, Beijing Planetarium, Liberty Science Center and National Science Foundation, 2. Magic Tree House: Space Mission by the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, and 3. Seven Wonders by Evans & Sutherland.

In March, we showed: 1. In My Backyard by CocalCola Space Science Center and Calgary Science Centre 2. Two Small Pieces of Glass by the European Southern Observatory and Supernova Planetarium, and 3. Cosmic Colors by the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium in cooperation with the Great Lakes Planetarium Association. In April we showed, 1. Magic Tree House: Space Mission, 2. Sunstruck from the Michigan Science Center, and 3. Seven Wonders.

Sunstruck is sponsored by the local company, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. We developed a motto for the sponsorship, "The Sun operates a nuclear facility at the center of our solar system, and SRNS operates nuclear facilities at the Savannah River Site." Seven Wonders is sponsored by Dr. Rose O. Hayes and family who are great friends of the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center.

We are planning our annual Family Earth & Sky Night on May 11. This is held on National Astronomy Day and includes Earth Day celebrations since Earth Day is usually close to National Astronomy Day. A variety of hands-on activities will be available from 6:30 - 9:30 to allow people to experience the wonders of earth and space science. Many activities will have materials people can take home with to remember this wonderful night. Live animals will be on display including snakes, turtles, alligators, and owls. Local amateur astronomers will host naked-eye, binocular, and telescope observing of the night sky. The Bechtel Telescope in the RPSEC Observatory will also be available for viewing. <http://rpsec.usca.edu/Events/StarParty/EarthSky2019/>

We are looking forward to the upcoming joint SEPA-MAPS conference being held at the State Museum in Columbia. We hope that you will plan to attend. Liz Klimek and the staff at the State Museum have a great event for us all to enjoy.

We are also looking forward to the 50th anniversary of

the moon landing. We are calling July 20 "Moon Day" at the suggestion of former DuPont Planetarium Director, James Mullaney.

**Settlemyre Planetarium  
Museum of York County  
Rock Hill, SC**

**Carole Holmberg reports:** Our 4th annual Harry Potter Science Saturday was the most successful yet, with over 1600 people in attendance. Having a successful social media campaign, particularly using Facebook, made a huge difference. I gave 20-minute live shows in the planetarium, pretending it was Wednesday at midnight and the audience members were students in a first-year astronomy class. We will be showing CAPCOM GO!: The Apollo Story from NSC Creative this summer as well as having a full slate of Apollo-related activities for Apollo Week (actually July 16- 24, from launch to landing). I will also be speaking about the Apollo program to 6 local libraries and our Museum Guild. The Charlotte-area Tumblebus will be here, showing younger children how to "Train Like An Astronaut."



**East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium.  
Prestonsburg, KY.**

**Steve Russo reports:** Some major changes took place here at the EKSC during the past several months.

Our Halloween event in October attracted over 1200 people for Trunk or Treat and our night sky and Halloween laser show in the dome.

In November, the Lt Governor of Kentucky visited the Science Center. Jenean Hampton holds a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and an MBA with concentrations in marketing, entrepreneur



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Passport to the Universe was developed by the American Museum of Natural History, New York ([amnh.org](https://amnh.org)) in collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Major support for new version provided by California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.

*continued from page 22*

-ship, and e-commerce. She served for 7 years in the United States Air Force, and helped form the Kentucky Aerospace Industry Consortium, (Kentucky is the nation's leading exporter of aerospace products after Washington State), and is a big proponent of STEM-based learning.



*Ky Lt Governor with the Chronos.*

She is currently focusing her efforts on entrepreneurship, education, aerospace and aviation, emergency preparedness, military and veteran's affairs. She loved the science center and loved "playing" with our GOTO Chronos!

November also saw our Regional Science Fair attract over 200 people.

In January, we did a special planetarium presentation for the Kentucky National Guard, showing how Astronomy figured into the dates of significant military events. Using our GOTO Chronos, we were able to set up exact times and places for the Attack on Pearl Harbor, The Battle of Midway, D-Day, the dropping of the Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Desert Storm.

In January, we replaced our aging cove lighting with a brand new ChromaCove Medium Power RGBW lighting system. Ash Enterprises did the week long installation and the system has had rave reviews from the public and the media.



*Cove Lighting.*

In March we were closed for a week for the Installation of the NASA Exhibit: Hubble Space Telescope New Views of the Universe. This is the first time that this exhibit has been in the same venue twice, and the first time ever that Science On A Sphere was part of the exhibit. The parts to get Science on a Sphere to be part of the Hubble exhibit, were engineered by our local Ace Hardware here in Prestonsburg. The Hubble Exhibit will be here through May 18th. The EKSC ran over 10000 people through the exhibit when it was here for seven months in 2017.



*Science on A Sphere*

As I sit and write this on March 27th, the EKSC is celebrating its 15th Anniversary. Opened in 2004, yours truly has been the director here since July of 2011.

And remember Kentucky Planetariums, please send me your stories about all the things you are doing so I can put it in this column. Send me info at [srusso0002@kctcs.edu](mailto:srusso0002@kctcs.edu).



# TENNESSEE

contact: Adam Thanz

Bays Mountain Planetarium

Kingsport, TN

thanz@kingsporttn.gov



Bays Mountain Planetarium, Kingsport, TN

Adam Thanz reports: Greetings Fellow Planetarians!

## “Celestial Wonders” Back in Production

As you read this, we should be back to show production of “*Celestial Wonders*.” A show, due to its complexity and being able to mesh with our exhibits staff’s schedule, has been in production off and on for the last nine years. Yes, you read that right. Once we are closer to completion, I will share much more.

Slight Adjustment to Public StarWatch Observing Program Spring and fall highlight our public observing programs called StarWatch. They are at the observatories if clear or in the theater if cloudy. But, this season’s events have been moved to the dam. The road and grounds by the observatories is under construction adding much needed parking. Until that is done and safe to walk, we’ll observe from the dam. It’s the only other place in the park that has an open sky!

## Summer Library Programs

Now that summer is approaching, we’ve been contacted by a number of libraries to do off-premise programs as their theme is “A Universe of Stories.” I’m working on updating a presentation I made years ago called “Space Today.” It looks at the formation and evolution of NASA. We also have very large printouts on cloth of different rockets to scale with each other. [A huge thanks to Duke Johnson whom I learned about printing the rockets giant-sized for fun education. Hint: the SLS is about 7 tall.]

## StarFest 2018 Well Received

I’m happy to announce that our annual StarFest astronomical 3-day event went very well as usual. The theme was “Celebrating 200 Years of American Women in Astronomy.” Our four keynote speakers

were all women who do astronomy, but in different ways. Instead of talking about women from the past, I wanted to have women of today represent women in astronomy by doing what they do, astronomy. First up was Jennifer Sieben from Indiana University. She is an associate instructor and graduate student entering the field of professional astronomy. Then was Patty Seaton, famed dynamo of a planetarian from the H.B. Owens Science Center, MD. Most of you know Patty. She was able to use our star projector and have some fun discussing sky motions and the importance of the planetarium theater as an educational tool. On Saturday night, Caroline Simpson, Professor of Physics at Florida International University, Miami, FL spoke about dwarf galaxy research. You probably don’t know her, but she is a fellow grad student of mine and Robin’s back in the mid ‘80’s. It was great to see her again! Sunday morning ended the event with Carolyn Collins Petersen, Science Writer, CEO, Loch Ness Productions. You probably know her as well. Not only did she speak about science writing, she also shared some insight into America’s first female astronomer, Maria Mitchell. Of the many hits of the event, the T-shirt art was probably the biggest. Please see the art provided. We continue to attract a younger audience! About 38% were college-aged! Of course, we enjoyed planetarium shows, observing, lots of great food and drink, and the camaraderie of spending three days with like-minded friends.

## “Totality” in Spanish

A new accomplishment can be added to the list of Bays Mountain Productions, translation and modification of a show into another language. Our latest production was “Totality.” A full-dome show all about eclipses. We showed the program during the Pleiades Planetarium Conference last year to an amazed audience. I hope you’ve been able to see the show. The plan was always to translate the show to Spanish, but we needed to find the right person to do the job. We did! Francis Canedo is a professor in Spanish and a stickler for accuracy. The translation was the first part of the job. Then we needed to record the Spanish voice track. Unfortunately, one language can take more or less time to say the same thing than another language. We had to work a lot with the Spanish recording to make it work smoothly with our visuals. But, it worked out and sounds great! Also, we didn’t want to replace the voice for our Einstein character,

*continued from page 25*

so we did subtitles. That was another new facet of the project to overcome. Of course, the credits and poster had to be translated. I think it turned out well. If you are interested in the Spanish, or English, version of the show, let us know.

### SEPA / WAC 2018 Conference Proceedings

In my last entry to this column, I mentioned the proceedings for the SEPA / WAC 2018 Conference. They had been done, but awaiting a fix to a problem with Dropbox. Since then, it has been resolved. All SEPA members have full access to all these assets. They include photos, the group photos, PDFs of all the presentations, along with video recordings of the presentations and panel discussion. Contact Patsy Wilson, SEPA secretary/treasurer about it if you don't know how to access the files.

### Planetarium Shows Abound

Our main program is currently "Dark Matter Mystery." Starting in May, we'll be showing "First & Farthest" from Ott Planetarium. We'll follow both with a short star ID. The Apollo show will also include an update on the manned space program and the SLS. Our alternate show for April is an in-house production, "Exploring New Horizons." It's all about the New Horizons mission and Pluto. It will be followed by an update of the mission with the Ultima-Thule flyby. The alternate show for May-June will be "Appalachian Skies - Spring." A fully live star-ID show.

See you at SEPA 2019 in Columbia, SC!



*The art by Cassy Rose for the 2018 Bays Mountain StarFest event held at Bays Mountain each October.*



The Autozone Dome at  
The Sharpe Planetarium  
Memphis, Tennessee  
david.maness@memphistn.gov  
<http://www.memphismuseums.org/>

Dave Maness reports: Spring is definitely “busting out all over” here in Memphis. I started to see the first pollen build up on my car yesterday (March 28). This area has been called one of the worst for allergies. Fortunately I do not usually suffer greatly from it. Let the botanical orgy begin! They have no shame.

It has been over two years since our grand opening, so I chose to bring back our premier program. FireFall (from GEOGRAPHICS) returned to the AutoZone Dome at the Sharpe Planetarium for another run on March 16. We also changed out the Seasonal Stargazing to the spring version. School groups are coming in droves this month not only for the planetarium but to learn about their own city set to celebrate its bicentennial this year. Our exhibits department has spent more than a year researching, planning, and designing a one of a kind exhibit called “Making Memphis”. Be sure to stop in and see it if you are in town before it closes after October 20, 2019. The entrance is surrounded by a “Word Cloud” created with input from the public when they were asked for words to describe Memphis.



The exhibit follows Memphis history from the beginning. We have maps from some of the earliest land surveys, and several important artifacts like the first Holiday Inn sign.

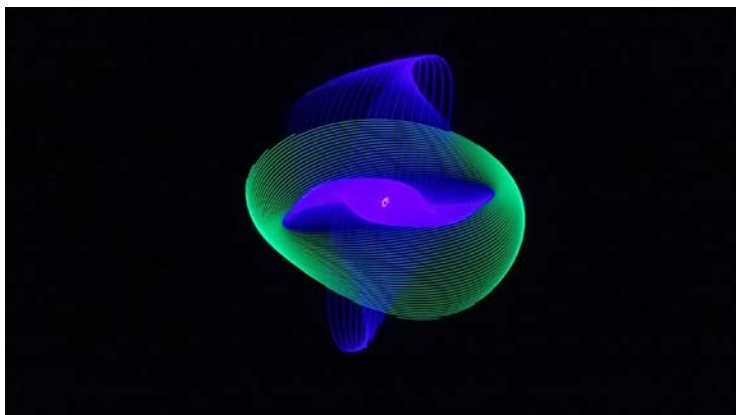


The exhibit wouldn't be complete without recordings from many iconic musicians and composers. About 3 hours of those recordings play continuously in the gallery.



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Laser shows continue on our “Fab Friday Nights”. Spring seems to have spurred people out of winter hibernation. Attendance started to pick up during the run of LFI’s Laser Beyonce’, on the first three Fridays of March. But Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon topped her best attended show, in its first Friday showing since December. Memphis is very diverse. It is hard to predict what will work best. We’ll soon see how Laser Country fares and then come back the standards with Pink Floyd’s The Wall.




Our summer feature will include Back to the Moon: For Good. It gives a very good look back at the space race through the final mission and then a hopeful message for the future that it continues to inspire in every new generation of scientists and engineers.

I hope to see you all at the next SEPA conference this June in Columbia, S.C.

Dave

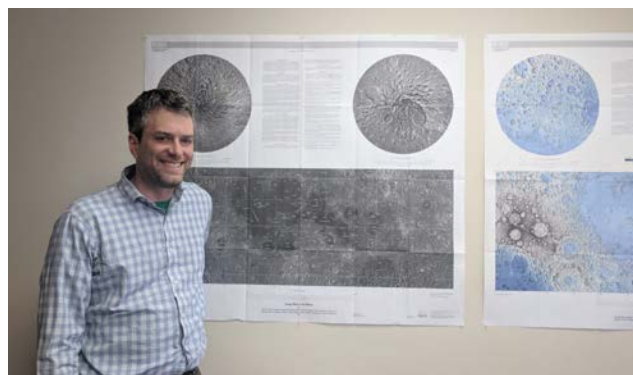


**ALABAMA**  
contact: *Mitzi Adams*  
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*mitzi.adams@nasa.gov*



Von Braun Astronomical Society, Huntsville, Alabama

Mitzi Adams reports: The Von Braun Astronomical Society (VBAS) continues to hold weekly planetarium programs in its facility in Monte Sano State Park. The theme for this year's programming is Exploration of the Universe, supporting the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing. Kicking off the year on January 5, was a program on Ancient Astronomy, and how the early science of the west shaped and provided a foundation for modern ideas. Presented by Mitzi Adams, attendance was excellent for that show, with 72 individuals; the planetarium can seat a maximum of approximately 100. Three weeks later, Dr. Naveen Vetcha presented the second part of that program, discussing the astronomy of ancient India and China. That program was also well attended with 60 individuals. Other topics of discussion in the planetarium have included Lunar Eclipses, Giants of Astronomy, Lunar Lava Tubes, Spring Skies, and most recently, the Moon. The program on the Moon was led by NASA planetary scientist Dr. Caleb Fassett, who regaled an audience of approximately 50 people with the latest research, news, and plans for lunar exploration. One audience member commented on a survey, “Excellent speaker tonight. Great idea to get local scientists as guest speakers.”



Dr. Caleb Fassett prepares for his Moon program for the VBAS planetarium.

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**Editors Note:** I heard they had some guy called Mel Blake from UNA Planetarium come talk about binary stars in February.

In addition to the planetarium, the VBAS facilities include a 21-inch telescope that was used to scout out lunar landing sites, a 16-inch Celestron, a solar-projection telescope, and multiple portable scopes.

More information on the Von Braun Astronomical Society including the planetarium schedule may be found here: <http://vbas.org/>.

Univeristy of North Alabama Planetarium, Florence, Alabama

**Mel Blake reports:** The first few months of 2019 have been particularly busy, with our annual servicing of our A3P taking place in January, as well as the lunar eclipse on January 20/21st. The eclipse was a great success; despite a temperature of 20 degrees, we had about 75 - 100 people brave

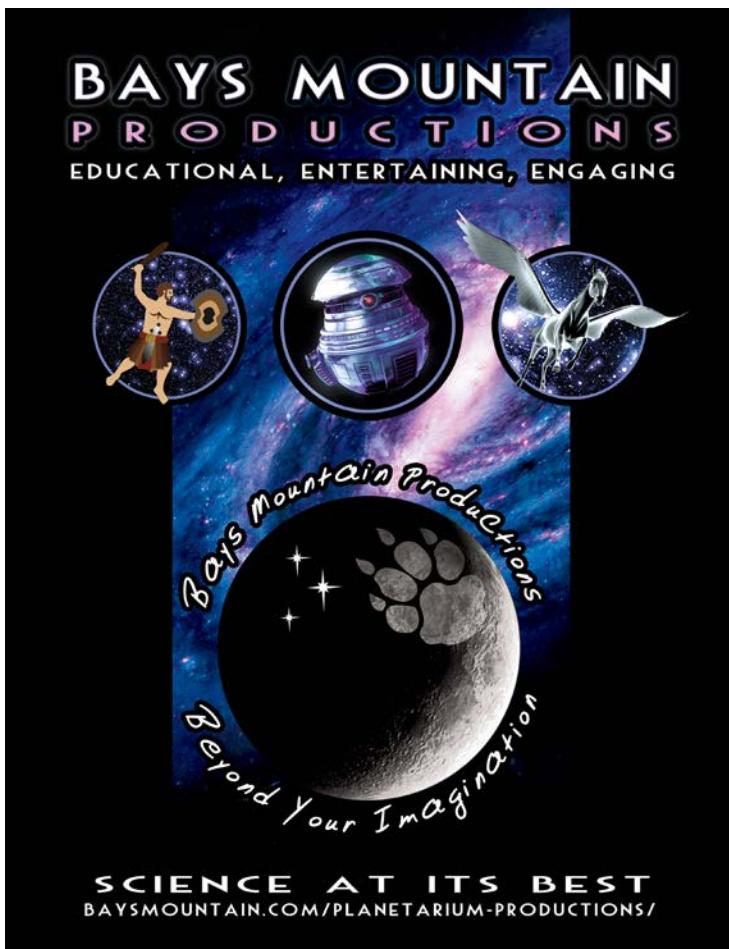
the weather to view the eclipse and take some photos of it as it progressed. Also in January we helped with two robotics competitions. The first was a VEX robotics competition, and the second the annual UNA Robotics competition. We also did a talk about binary stars for the UNA Institute for Learning in Retirement program on January 28th.



*The partial phase of the lunar eclipse.*



*The feild setup for the UNA robotics competition.*



The UNA Institute Learning Retirement group gave a

*continued from page 29*

In February we did our annual Valentine's Day program, where we decorate the planetarium and give away chocolates. The program discussed the constellations and binary stars, which are held together by mutual attraction! It was well attended by about 40 people. On February 15th the Shoals Astronomy Club and I went to the Von Braun Astronomical Society (VBAS) meeting in Huntsville, where we sat in on a planetarium show and I gave my talk about binary stars and research that could be done with the VBAS telescopes. We are hoping to begin a research collaboration with them on Be stars and other interesting binary stars, as well as coordinating some STEM outreach activities.



*Chocolates and the stars for Valentine's Day!*

Also in February I attended the Alabama Academy of Sciences (AAS) meeting at Tuskegee University and presented a talk "Creating Podcasts for Education and Outreach" to the STEM outreach section. It was well received, and I am hoping to work with other AAS STEM people to create podcasts for 365 Days of Astronomy, and for the AAS. I enjoyed the Carver Museum, the Civil Rights center and the Moton airfield where the Tuskegee Airmen trained.

March was unusually busy with booked programs, Women's history Month programs, and with preparation for a Spanish language program with our Modern Languages department. If things go well we hope to do regular Spanish programs at the planetarium. We plan to have the Spanish professors translate as I discuss the night sky, and then run a video about Saturn from NASA that is in Spanish. I also prepared a sky chart that was translated into Spanish for people to take home. Just before

spring break we helped with the UNA rocketry competition. For Women's History Month we presented the Bays Mountain Show "Comets and discovery", and did a lecture "Women in Astronomy: 2000 Years of Exploring the Universe". We also did a series of Facebook posts about women in astronomy. So a busy start to the year!

**REMEMBER  
YOUR STATE  
COORDINATOR!**

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# The U.S. Space and Rocket Center (USSRC) Opens the Intuitive Planetarium

Reported by Mitzi Adams

On March 1, the USSRC hosted a VIP opening of their new Evans and Sutherland digital planetarium. Creating a mood that evoked Star Trek the Next Generation's Ten Forward were blue lighting, finger food, a space-themed drink, and a robot. The new planetarium director, David Weigel, recently of the Christenberry Planetarium at Samford University in Birmingham, was on hand to welcome visitors and to carry out the program in the planetarium.

The evening's schedule included multiple vignettes to show off the capabilities of the new planetarium. First on the dome were three minutes from the 40-minute feature film Explore, which is currently being shown a few times a day. Next was an in-house-created theatrical performance called Galileo: First Light. This was a one-man performance, with the actor playing Galileo discussing how the use of the telescope to explore the sky has changed the world. Finally, Mr. Weigel completed the evening's offerings with a live tour of solar-system objects, Earth, Moon, Mars, Saturn, and Pluto. Following the planetary visuals was a display of the current night sky of Huntsville.

Not only is the planetarium being used to demonstrate astronomically interesting phenomena, it is a venue in which NASA scientists can present material that is augmented by the digital effects of the planetarium machine, as was demonstrated on March 26 when Dr. Martin Weisskopf discussed the Chandra X-ray Observatory and the discoveries made of X-ray emitting objects of the universe. Future offerings of this type could include discussions with planetary or Earth scientists, as well as briefings on the latest research in solar science and gamma-ray astrophysics.

The INTUITIVE planetarium, which replaces the USSRC's IMAX theater, uses a true 8k-LASER, planetarium-projection system, and sports an Evans and Sutherland Christie 4k-RGB-laser system. The theater contains 248 seats, under a 67-foot dome. INTUITIVE originates with a Huntsville-based research and technology company, Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation, which has partnered with the USSRC to provide the community with this versatile resource. Mr. Weigel adds, "In addition to daily programming, we are excited to offer live and interactive planetarium presentations on Friday evenings on an endless variety of topics."

For more information on programs in the new planetarium, visit this site:

<https://www.rocketcenter.com/INTUITIVEPlanetarium>.



Left David Weigel and guest. Middle, guests outside the planetarium. Right, view of the dome.

# SEPA Professional Development Fund Silent Auction 2019

The Silent Auction is a fun activity held at each SEPA Conference. SEPA members provide items to be sold to benefit the Professional Development Fund (PDF), which was set up by SEPA Council in order to help colleagues and interns who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend the conference or a workshop. If you think you are a good candidate please apply as soon as possible using the form on the [www.sepadomes.org](http://www.sepadomes.org) website. Also, check the website for information about SEPA/WAC 2018.

The auction is scheduled for Friday, June 7, 2019, the night of the banquet. Typically people may begin bidding during the mingling time before we sit down to eat. The clock deadline for bids will be announced that evening. Please bring cash or checks. And of course, all sales are final.

So think about what items you would like to donate and send or bring to this year's silent auction. Your contribution will ultimately help us grow our ranks and makes it a fun event. In the past we have offered books (some autographed), games, artwork, crafts (including a beautiful hand-made quilt, frame-able photos of the night sky, and some hand-tooled leather belts), musical CDs, gem and mineral samples, and even an actual piece of space memorabilia. I know there are some very talented people out there and some of the highest bids have been for hand-made works of art. Maybe there is something in your attic, on your bookshelf, or in your closet that you simply don't have the heart to throw away but would like it to go to someone who will care for it. If you think you can fill a whole table, my advice is to either package the items in groups or consider saving some of them for next year. If you have a skill that you would like to offer that is a service rather than a tangible item or if the item is too large to bring to the conference then please use the form below.

If you have an item you want to donate, but cannot make it to the conference or if your item is too large for luggage, consider bringing a photo or description of the item using the form provided below or the PDF version available on the SEPA website. Make sure you state any shipping requirements on the form. After the auction, you can make arrangements for shipping with the winner of the bid. If you're not sure about it for any reason, please contact me.

To all those who provided items and bid on items in the past, we cannot thank you enough. I hope to see you all at SEPA 2019 in Columbia, South Carolina!

Dave Maness: [david.maness@memphistn.gov](mailto:david.maness@memphistn.gov)  
The AutoZone Dome at the Sharpe Planetarium  
3050 Central Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38111  
901-636-2383



# SEPA SILENT AUCTION ITEM

(Use this form only if you cannot send or bring item to the conference, or you are offering a service or custom craft rather than a completed tangible object.)

Paste a photo, draw a picture, or describe your service in the space below.

Item or service:

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Describe shipping requirements if any (“shipping to be paid by...”):

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Offered by (your name): \_\_\_\_\_

Regional affiliation (If not SEPA then write WAC affiliate initials): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact method (Phone, Mail, Email, or other):

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