Snake River Skies

October 2005 Volume 9 Issue 10

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Yearly membership is \$20 per person or family and \$10 per student. Sponsor memberships are \$100. Do not miss our next meeting and be sure to bring a friend or many friends this Saturday October 8, at 7:00 pm. And Don't be late.

Candace Wright will present an interesting presentation on Gravitational Lensing. This promises to be our most interesting meeting of the year.

Candace Wright is from Tucson Arizona and majored in Physics at Princeton University. She received her PHD in Astronomy from Boston University. There Candace worked as a researcher for a couple of years and as great luck would have it she and her husband moved to Twin Falls, Idaho.

Gravitational Lensing is a phenomenon that results from light traveling through space-time

that has been warped by the presence of mass. Images formed by those light rays become distorted in some way. Astronomers can use the distortions to learn about the mass that caused the warping in the first place.

Candace is currently the Astronomy teacher at Twin Falls High School.

This Friday October 7 come the Herrett Center and listen to Chris Anderson's talk "The Milky Ways Galaxies, the Local Group. The talk starts at 7:15 pm and at 8:15 weather permitting there will be star viewing. See how bright the images are with the newly cleaned mirror in the Centennial Telescope.

Partial Lunar Eclipse and Viewing Monday October 17

Get up early on Monday October 17 and view a Partial Lunar Eclipse. The Centennial Telescope will be open from 5AM to 6:30 AM for the public for this event.

Not as impressive as a total Lunar Eclipse The Eclipse stars about 5:34 am to about 6:32.

Mars will be Opposition on the night of October 29

The Centennial Telescope will be open for this event also from 9 p.m. October 29 to 1:00 a.m. October 30 2005.

The timetable is:

Mars rises 7:01 pm

at 9 pm it is 20

at 10 pm it is 32

at 11 pm it is 43

at 12 pm it is 52

At 1 a.m. it is 60

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November meeting is our Annual Business Meeting

Bring your ideas for the coming year and be ready to nominate new officers and newsletter editor for the coming year. Unfortunately due to aging equipment and other commitments I will be unable to continue in that capacity in the coming year.

If anyone has something for our next newsletter covering any of this years events please send them to me by the first week in November and I will include them. Remember I am still on a dial up and have a 10 year old computer so no large files please.

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