

BOBFEST 2022

REGIONAL GATHERING OF
AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

SATURDAY MARCH 19TH

Brought to you by:



Welcome to the 30th Annual Regional Gathering of Amateur Astronomers, AKA: BoBfest 2022!

When Bob Eskridge became president of the Cleveland County Astronomical Society in 1992 the club staged the first installment of its annual Regional Meeting of Amateur Astronomers, affectionately known as "BoBfest" the following year.

Cleveland County Astronomical Society hosted BoBfest for more than a decade at Gardner Webb University until it was decided to move the location to Hickory, NC.

In 2017 the Catawba Valley Astronomy Club hosted the 25th annual BoBfest for the first time at Catawba Science Center. Since its inception, BoBfest has been free and open to any and all who have an interest in astronomy. For 30 years now, BoBfest has been a place for regional astronomers to gather and share in their mutual love for the stars and beyond.

We hope that you enjoy your time here, and leave feeling inspired and enlightened to further your pursuit into amateur astronomy. Thank you for visiting!



Schedule of Events

8:30 am - Doors Open

9:30 am - Welcome Announcements

9:45 am - Keynote Presentation #1 - John O' Neal

10:30 am - Club Announcements

10:45 am - Keynote Presentation #2 - Dan Caton

11:30 am - Lunch & Solar Observing

1:00 - 1:45 pm - Table Top Talks Round #1

2:00 - 2:45 pm - Table Top Talks Round #2

3:00 - 3:45 pm - 30th Anniversary Celebration - BoBfest History

4:00 pm - Door Prize Awarding and Golden Dumbbell Award

4:30 pm - Closing Remarks



Food Truck Vendors on North Lawn:

Hickory Sandwich Shop

J.J. Lange's Beatz and Eatz

Dipperz Mini Donuts

Additional Activities



Family Activities Room - Room #1

From 10:30 - 1:00 pm, join CSC Staff for family-friendly activities all about space!

Solar Observing - North Lawn

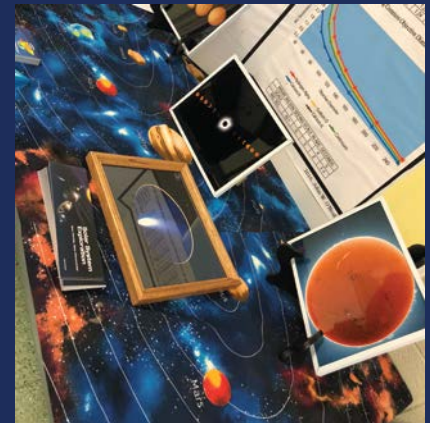
Join us on the North Lawn of the Salt Block for solar observing! (*Weather permitting*)

Swap Tables - Room #7

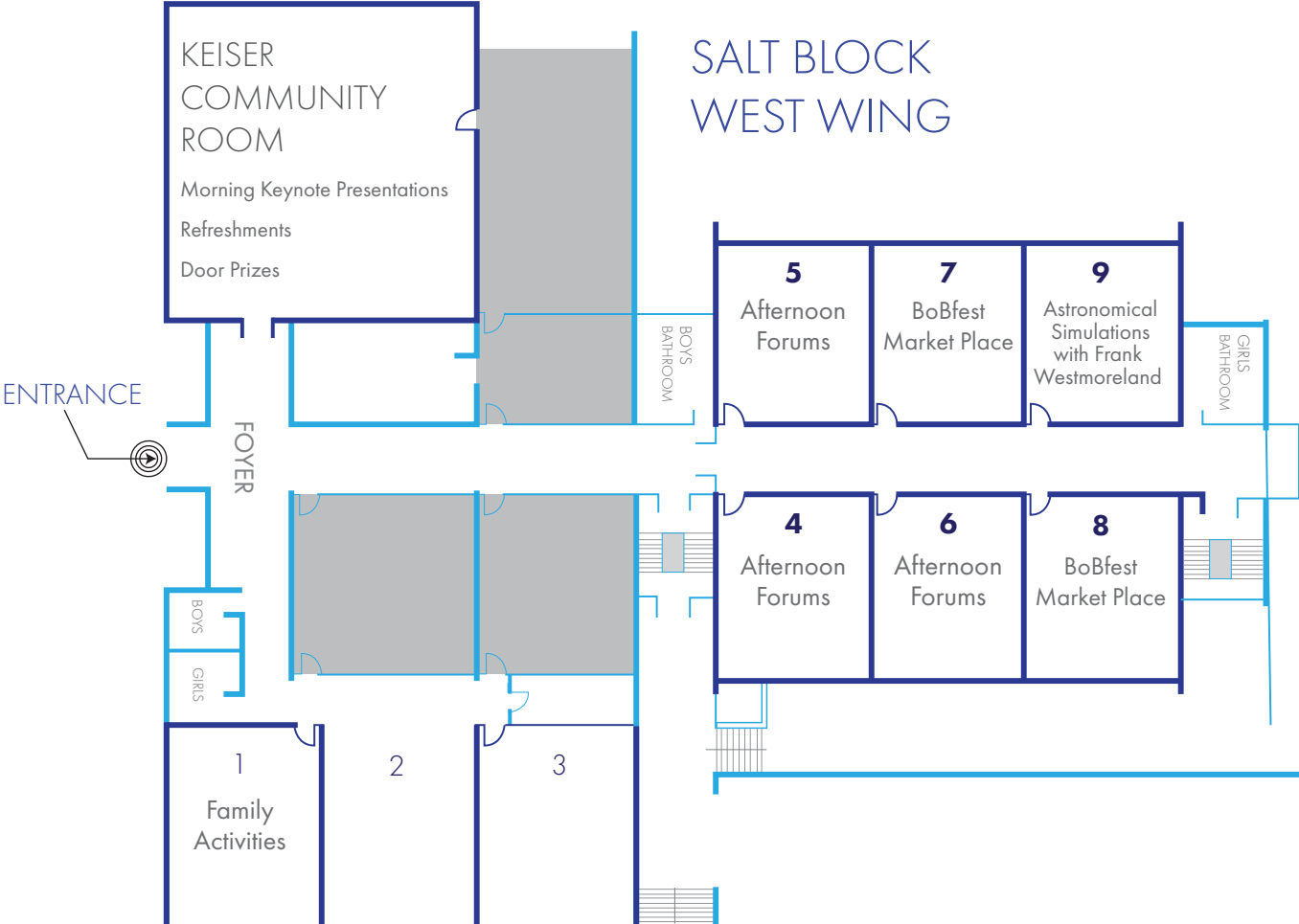
Are you looking for some extra astronomy items? Do you have too many 25mm Plossls? Check out the swap tables and explore the vast universe of astronomy doo-dads, thing-a-majigs, and what-nots!

Astronomical Simulations - Room #9

Check out Frank Westmoreland's unique display and see astrophotography like you never have before!



Map of West Building



Keynote Speakers



JOHN O' NEAL

I'm an Amateur Astronomer - and so are you!

9:45 am Keiser Community Room

Join John O' Neal, NC Stargazer on a trip back through time & space as he relates the myriad of events and happenings that influenced and molded him into the amateur astronomer he was as a youth, and where he hopes his astronomical endeavors & colleagues might steer him in the future.

John O' Neal, NC Stargazer is a NASA SOLAR SYSTEM AMBASSADOR who travels around the US giving presentations such as this one to raise awareness of amateur astronomy and to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM) values in our youth as well as in the adults whose sphere of influence reach these future leaders of tomorrow.

DAN CATON

Light Pollution Trends: The Threat form LEDs and Satellite Constellations

10:45 am Keiser Community Room

Astronomers face new challenges to observing from new LED street lights and many new constellations of small satellites that ruin astro photos. Dan brings us up to date on the latest developments. This presentation will be presented via Zoom.

Dan Caton is a tenured full professor of physics and astronomy, and Director of Observatories at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. His area of expertise is in the study of binary stars-pairs of stars that orbit each other. As the founding president of the North Carolina Section of the International Dark-Sky Association, Caton works to reduce light pollution in the state.

Table Top Talks & Times

Round #1 1:00 - 1:45 pm

Room #4	Advanced	Sam Choate	The Choate 3000 (or 4000) Observing List
Room #5	Advanced	Richard Wright	The Death of Auto Guiding
Room #6	Beginner	Joe Heafner	Low Cost and Free Astronomy Apps

Round #2 2:00 - 2:45 pm

Room #4	Beginner	Nora Coffey	A Sky Rangers Guide to Interactive Astronomy Education
Room #5	Advanced	Matt Harbison	Building a Mosaic with Today's Popular Programs
Room #6	Beginner	Corrie Ann Delgado	Journey Through the Stars

30th BoBfest Anniversary Talk - 3:00 pm

Join us in the Keiser Event Room for a A Brief History of BoBfest - Moderated by Joe Heafner. Talk will be held by BoB Eskridge, Tom English, and others to discuss the 30 years of BoBfest!

Millholland Planetarium Schedule

Located next door in the Planetarium & Aquarium Building!

* Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis

12:00 pm • From Earth to the Universe

2:00 pm • One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure

3:00 pm • From Earth to the Universe



Directions to LMO

From the North, Via U. S. 321

Travel south, and leave US 321 at the Startown Road exit.

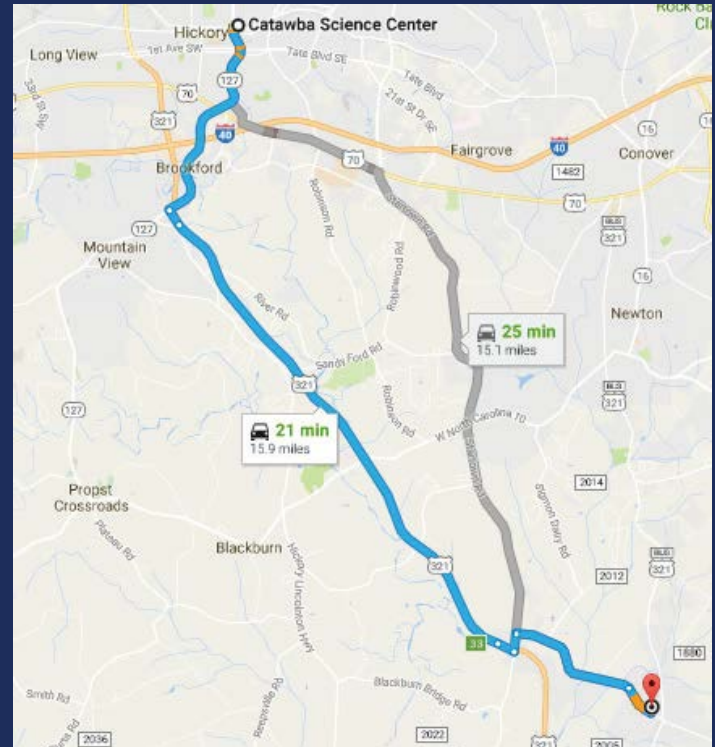
Turn left at the top of the exit ramp on to Startown Road.

Go to the stoplight and turn right on to West Maiden Road.

Travel several miles toward Maiden. Turn left at the first traffic light on to North C Avenue.

Travel one block. The observatory will be on your left. It is a small brick building inside a fenced in area.

The gate is just ahead on your left. Please park inside the fence.



Lucille Miller Observatory
North C Avenue, Maiden, NC 28650

Join us for observing at LMO after BoBfest!
Meet back at LMO at 7:00 pm

