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Rochester Academy of Science
BULLETIN

"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences" February, 2011 - Vol. 65, #2

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ABOUT THE **ACADEMY** - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization which has been promoting interest in the natural sciences since 1881, with special focus on the western New York state region. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science. Dues are minimal for the Academy, and are listed in the membership application. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.



For applications and/or more information contact Jutta Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Road, Pittsford, NY 14534; by telephone 385-2368; or by e-mail <JuttaSD@aol.com>.

The *Academy* Internet web page is <http://www.rasny.org>

The *Astronomy Section* Information phone number is (585) 987-5330. The *Astronomy Section* Internet web page is <http://rochesterastronomy.org>

This "**BULLETIN**" is produced monthly, *except July and September*, by the *Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science*. The editor is Bob Crumrine, 3 Timway Court, Fairport, NY 14450 Phone (585) 265-5292 (days) and (585) 425-7448 (evenings), e-mail <editor@rasny.org>

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Charles P. Spoelhof

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of long time RAS member and Fellow Chuck Spoelhof. During his long and storied career at Eastman Kodak, Chuck led major initiatives that contributed abundantly to fields of space exploration, national security, optics and astronomy. He also contributed his many talents and wisdom to the benefit of the Astronomy Section during the reorganization in the early 1990's and many fascinating presentations over the decades. He contributed greatly to the Corona spy satellite program and the Hubble Space Telescope. He was ASRAS Chairperson from 1960-1961, and he and his wife Kay hosted many ASRAS winter gatherings at their home. Chuck was named an RAS Fellow in 1994. He will be greatly missed.

*Bob Crumrine – Editor,
Rochester Academy of Science
Bulletin*

I got to know Chuck starting back in the 70's as a member of the ASRAS and then later worked in his area at Kodak in the late 80's. To say that Chuck was intelligent is an understatement. In addition he was a very skilled manager as illustrated by his success at Kodak. He was always interesting and informative and



*Chuck Spoelhof left, and brother John at RocheSTAR Fest 2010.
Photo © Bob Easterly*

one could learn a lot from him. I got to know him best during the ASRAS reorganization in the early 90's. Chuck was very involved in the reorganization effort and his experience and wisdom had a very positive influence on the outcome. It felt a little strange to be the chairman of the group and have Chuck in the planning meetings. He had so much more wisdom than I as to how things should go, he should have been in the lead. And yet in his gentle way he was very helpful and supportive and that gave me some comfort to know he was there. It's rare that one person posses so much knowledge, skill and wisdom and uses it for so much good.

Chuck has had a positive influence on many of the good things that have happened early on in ASRAS. He will be missed on many levels.

*Rick Albrecht – Past President
Astronomy Section , Rochester
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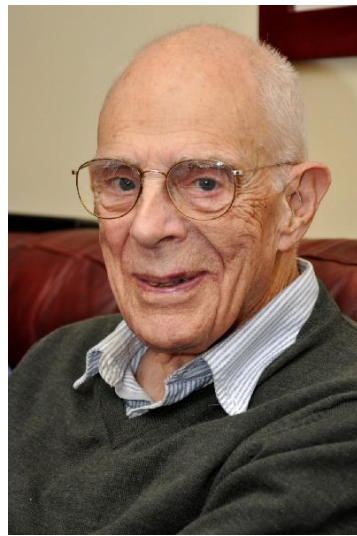
Obituary, *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, December 19, 2010:

Mr. Charles Peter Spoelhof, aged 80, of Grand Rapids formerly of Rochester, NY, went to be with his Lord on Saturday, December 18, 2010. He was preceded in death by his sister, Carolyn (Harold) Veldkamp. He is survived by his wife, Cornelia "Kay" Spoelhof; children, Beth

(Stephen) DeVries, Philip (Patricia) Spoelhof, Gordon (Colleen Lynch) Spoelhof, Ronald (Renee) Spoelhof, his brother John (Jo Mae) Spoelhof, and sister Roberta (Benjamin, deceased) Bruinooge. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Pearl Bloemendaal, Jeanette Miedema, Trudy (Ken) Split, Gary (Delores) Maliepaard; nine grandchildren, two (plus a third expected) great grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Charles worked for Eastman Kodak from 1954-1986 as an optical engineer and retired as a Vice President. He was recognized as a National Reconnaissance Pioneer in 2000 by the National Reconnaissance Office for his work at Eastman Kodak. In 1981 he was elected to the National Academy of Engineers. After he retired, he worked on the commission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. He then taught and consulted at several colleges, especially Calvin College in the engineering department, where he was recognized as a distinguished Alumnus in 2006. He traveled the world with Kay to all 50 states and seven continents. He also enjoyed astronomy. He moved to Grand Rapids in 2008 from Rochester, N.Y. The funeral service will be held Wednesday at 11:00 AM at Raybrook Manor Chapel, with visitation from 9:30 AM until the time of the service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Charles and Cornelia Spoelhof Engineering Scholarship or Calvin College General Scholarship Fund.

* * *



Steve Weber (photographer unknown)

Stephen C. Weber

It is with great sadness that I report of the recent passing of Stephen Weber. Steve passed away on December 22 after a short illness. Steve had been a very active member of several organizations. Among them he had served as treasurer for the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club for the past several years, right up until December.

A native of New Jersey, Steve came to Rochester to work at Kodak, where he had a long career as an engineer.

Both Steve and his late wife, Margaret, shared a lifelong interest in nature. They loved to camp in the Adirondacks and in the great western parks. Locally that translated into membership in the Rochester Academy of Science where Steve served as Chairman of both the Astronomy and Botany Sections and was selected a Fellow and President. He had also been a long-time Trustee of the Bergen Swamp Society. He served as President

of the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club in 1997 – 1998.

Steve had worked extensively on the trails at the Railroad Mills Sanctuary, including installing gutters to drain the Woodland Trail. He particularly enjoyed flowers and bird songs.

In his later years Steve lived at the Village in Greece where he led walking groups to both urban and natural settings such as Genesee Valley, Durand-Eastman, Black Creek and Oatka Creek Parks.

Steve was a very caring and active man and he will be greatly missed. A memorial service to honor Steve is planned for May near Lilac Festival time.

Julie Clayton – Vice President, Burroughs Audubon Nature Club

Steve Weber served as Vice-President of the RAS from 1963-65, President from 1965-67, and Treasurer from 1970-75. He was named a Fellow of the Academy in 1962. During the 1970's Steve and his wife Margaret graciously hosted monthly RAS Board meetings at their home. I especially remember the maps on the wall with pins identifying the many places Steve and Margaret visited in their travels. Steve also served as editor of the monthly RAS Bulletin for a number of years (especially in the pre-computer days!). Steve had a quick wit, was interested in a wide range of topics and was unfailingly gracious. He will be missed.

Elizabeth Pixley – Past President, Rochester Academy of Science

EVENTS for February, 2011

(For updates to events, check the Academy web site, <http://www.rasny.org>, or appropriate Section web site.)

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Tues 01 FOSSIL GENERAL MEETING

FOSSIL MEETING 7:30 PM Downstairs Meeting Room, Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave., "An Introduction to New York State Stratigraphy" by Harry deLahunta, Fossil Section Member. Learn where the fossils are! Refreshments. Visitors welcome. Please contact John Handley at fossil@rasny.org or call John at 585-802-8567 for more information.

Fri 04 ASTRONOMY GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM, RIT Gosnell Hall A-300 Lecture Hall. Dave Bradley and Steve Fentress will discuss "World Wide Telescope and Other Astronomy Software." For more information contact Lori Englund at 334-5744 or visit www.rochesterastronomy.org.

Thurs 10 RAS BULLETIN DEADLINE

Deadline for February, 2011 issue. Please mail input to editor@rasny.org

Sat 12 HERBARIUM

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Life Sciences section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC). No experience needed! Plan to come and help with this valuable collection – and see some interesting plants! Lunch is served in the RMSC

Cafe until 2 pm. If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to [Elizabeth Pixley](mailto:Elizabeth.Pixley@rochester.rr.com). Then, at RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person there to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or epixley@rochester.rr.com).

Tues 15 MINERAL GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM Downstairs Meeting Room, Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. The program speaker will be Nick Lamendola on "Snow Crystal Photography". Door prizes & refreshments. Visitors welcome. Check <http://www.rasny.org/mineral> for updates or contact Stephen Busschaert at sbusschaert@msn.com.

Wed 16 RAS BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM Brighton Town Hall, Stage Conference Meeting Room.

Sat 19 ANTHROPOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES

Field Trip to Mount Morris Dam for a lecture THE CRAIG COLONY; A PIONEERING FACILITY by Tom Roffe, Discover how the Craig Colony made an amazing impact on its patients & the local community of Sonyea, NY. Visitor Center on Saturdays at 1:00 P.M. William B. Hoyt II Visitor Center is located at 6103 Visitor Center Rd. in Mount

Morris, NY 14510; approximately 1.7 miles from Mount Morris and 11 miles from Nunda, off SR 408. We will car pool from the Double Tree Inn on Jefferson Road starting around 10:00 am, taking a stop on Nations Road to look for short eared owls and red headed woodpeckers. Bring your lunch. Call Karen Wolf 670-9709.

FEBRUARY NON-RAS EVENTS

Wed 09 RMSC SHULTZ LECTURE

7:30 PM Eisenhart Auditorium. Birds, People, and Science: Engaging the Public, Understanding the Natural World For more information please visit <http://www.rmssc.org/Experiences/FamilyPrograms/ScienceOnTheEdge/>.