### **Rochester Academy of Science**

# BULLETIN



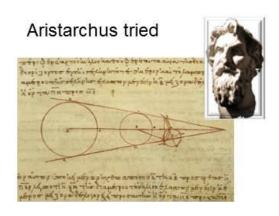
"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"

April, 2012 - Vol. 66, #4

Rochester Academy of Science Spring Lecture www.rasny.org.

### Who Measured the Solar System?

Presented by Dr. Michael Richmond



and so did



### How did they do it?

Find out what happened between the days of the Greeks and the Age of Exploration and how we measure distances today. Learn how you can repeat an historical experiment this June.

7:30 PM. Wednesday, April 11, 2012. Free. Rochester Institute of Technology. Gosnell Building 8. Room A-300. Parking Lot U.

### President's Message

Jutta Siefert Dudley

The board of directors and I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Lecture! Please visit <a href="www.rasny.org">www.rasny.org</a> to download the poster you see above and e-mail it to your friends. A social hour featuring pizza will be held afterwards.

### ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE BALLOT FOR JUNE 2012 – MAY 2013 OFFICERS

Please vote for each office. Note there are TWO Directors' slots to fill.

OFFICE	NAME	V	WRITE-IN CANDIDATE
President:	Jutta Siefert Dudley, Ph.D.		
Vice President:	Jeff S. Gutterman, P.E.		
Membership:			
Treasurer:	William Hallahan, Ph.D.		
Secretary:	Eric Drum		
Member, Board of Directors	Helen Haller, Ph.D.		
Member, Board of Directors	Frank Bov		
Bylaws amendment: Current wording: CHA appoint directors to fill vacancies occurring ar annual meeting, at which time the directors e Shall the words "for the duration recurrent Chapter IV Section 5?	mong the elected Directors. Such appolected to the positions vacated shall ta	ointed o	directors shall serve until the next se.

Completed ballots can be mailed to the RAS post office box, or delivered in person at the RAS Spring Lecture on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Rochester Academy of Science, PO Box 92642, Rochester NY 14692-0642

### Reminder of the Annual Election of Officers and Directors

Another ballot appears in this Bulletin, in case you have misplaced the March issue. Ballots will be counted at the Annual Meeting just prior to the Spring Lecture April 11<sup>th</sup> at RIT and results announced. You may give your ballot to a leader at a Section meeting or mail it to the PO address on the ballot.

### **Science Exploration Days**

For over 40 years, Science Exploration Days has been providing enrichment opportunities for students in the Rochester area. Founded and organized by the Central Western Section of the Science Teachers Association of New York State (CWS-STANYS), the event brings together people from the community, industry, and academia to share their scientific expertise and science-based technology with secondary students. Through seminars and a large exhibit hall, the young people can choose to become acquainted with research, concepts, applied technology, local natural history, and various topics beyond the standard curriculum.

Hosting the event is St. John Fisher College. Presenters, exhibitors, and teachers with students will be welcomed on campus Friday, May 11th. Over 2000 students are expected for the one-day school program this year (it was a two-day affair in previous years). The exhibit hall will be open during the school program and the previous evening, Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup>. The evening program is open to the public between 7 and 9 p.m.

The Rochester Academy of Science is an important presence at Science Exploration Days, especially in the exhibit hall. Interesting, hands-on exhibits by the Sections teach and enlighten visitors of all ages. They might also entice those who are scientifically curious to join the RAS.

You are encouraged to participate

in this upcoming event by helping your Section prepare an educational, interactive exhibit. Bring your children along to enjoy the evening program!

The coordinator of RAS section exhibits is Karen Wolf, RAS Board Director.

Jutta Siefert Dudley RAS President CWS-STANYS SED Committee

#### **Bulletin Editor Wanted**

The Bulletin Editor has stepped down so we need a replacement. The Astronomy Section is under agreement with the Academy to do the job in return for funding. The Editor is responsible for gathering articles, layout, and the timely e-delivery of ten issues per year to the printer. Attendance at BOD meetings is encouraged. It's a great opportunity to become acquainted with the entire Academy and contribute to the organization. Contact Lori Englund or Jutta Dudley for more information.

# EVENTS for April, 2012

For updates to events, check the Academy website, http://www.rasny.org, and Section websites.

#### **APRIL RAS EVENTS**

#### 03 Tuesday FOSSIL MEETING

7:30 PM in the Downstairs Meeting Room of the Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Paul Chiminici will speak about digging in the Rochester Shale for Silurian trilobites and other fossils at Caleb's Quarry. Contact Stan Spector at Stanspec@aol.com or 585-461-1272 for more information.

#### 06 Friday ASTRONOMY GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM at RIT, Gosnell Science Bldg, Room A300. A short talk well be given by Joel Schmid presenting the results from the membership survey. The main talk will be presented by Dr. Ashish Basu, UR Professor, Earth and Environmental Sciences, about "Meteorites: Rocks from Space." Social time before the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. For information contact Lori Englund at lenglund@frontiernet.net

### 10 Tuesday MINERAL SECTION JUNIOR EVENT

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Brighton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room. Program will be "New York State Minerals" and "Collecting Safety." Door prizes and refreshments. Children ages 5-19 are welcome. To sign up, volunteer and for more info, please contact Nancy McCann at <a href="mineralpres@rasny.org">mineralpres@rasny.org</a> or 585-395-1713.

### 11 Wednesday ACADEMY SPRING PUBLIC LECTURE

7:30 PM at Gosnell, Bldg 8, RIT Lecture Hall A -300. See poster in this *Bulletin* for more information.

### 12 Thurs. ANTHROPOLOGY LECTURE

7:30 PM at Memorial Art Gallery. AIA Lecture "Sacred Spaces and Human Sacrifice: The Nasca Lines in their Cultural and Religious Context" by Prof. Christina Conlee. Contact Karen Wolf, 585-670-9709.

### 13 Friday PUBLIC STAR PARTY

8:00 – 9:30 PM. Northampton Park off of Route 31 between Spencerport and Brockport. Join the Astronomy Section and the public in enjoying the wonders of the night sky.

### 14 Saturday YOUNG ASTRONOMER MODIFIED MESSIER MARATHON

After 6:30 PM. Farash Center, Ionia. Young Astronomers will conduct their own Messier Marathon April 14th if clear. Bring snacks and any observing equipment (not required). We'll spot solar system and deep sky objects. If cloudy, alternate date is **April 21**. If cloudy again, come anyway for some fun activities. Watch e-mail and the website for decisions on sky conditions and postponement. Contact Carol Latta or Bob McGovern.

## 17 Tuesday NO MINERAL SECTION MEETING

### 19 Thursday ROCHESTER MINERALOGICAL SYMPOSIUM LECTURE

8:00 PM at the Radisson Hotel, 175 Jefferson Rd. (near RIT).

Free Lecture for all RAS members plus access to displays and dealers. "Minerals of Japan" will be presented by Alfredo Petrov. Sign in at conference desk in the back lobby for a name badge. The international Symposium continues through Sunday morning, April 22. For more information see previous RAS March Bulletin article or visit <a href="https://www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm">www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm</a>

### 20 Friday ASTRONOMY WINTER EDUCATION LECTURE #2

7:30 PM at RIT, Gosnell Science Bldg, Room 3305.

ASRAS member Uwe Unrath will present "The Nature of Light." Note the room is on the third floor. Contact Lori Englund

lenglund@frontiernet.net

### 25 Wednesday HERBARIUM WORKSHOP

1 pm – 4 pm. Basement of Rochester Museum & Science Center. We will be working on re-mounting and repairing specimens. No experience needed, we will show you how! If attending, please RSVP with curator Elizabeth Pixley at

epixley@rochester.rr.com or call 334-0977. Upon arrival at RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium.

#### 28 Saturday MINERAL SECTION GEM LAB VISIT

3:30 - 5:00 PM Mineral Section members are invited to visit Paul Cassarino's Gem Lab to see his minerals and jewelry. For more info contact Stephen Busschaert at mineralvp@rasny.org or 585-288-5683.

#### **MAY EVENTS**

#### 01 Tuesday FOSSIL MEETING

7:30 PM – Place TBD. Dr. Gordon Baird will speak on a topic TBD. Contact Stan Spector at Stanspec@aol.com or 585-461-1272 for more information.

### 04 Friday ASTRONOMY GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM at Farash Center, Ionia

**Rochester Academy of Science** P.O. Box 92642 Rochester, NY 14692-0642

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ROCHESTER, N.Y. PERMIT NO. 220

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ABOUT THE ACADEMY - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization that 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 @rasny.org>.

The Academy Internet website is http://www.rasny.org

This "BULLETIN" is produced monthly, except July and September, by the Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science. The Astronomy Section Information phone number is (585) 987-5330. The Astronomy Section Internet web page is http://rochesterastronomy.org

The Editor position is open. Contact the Astronomy President or Academy President to volunteer for this important position.

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