

Bill Arden (2021)



Nov. 10, 2021: Celestial Navigation – Shakleton’s Way Home

Dec 13, 2023: The Star We Live With – Studying the Sun

A born and raised New Yorker, Bill moved to State College for the weather (and family) after 40 years in Minneapolis. He holds BS (NYU) and MS (Northeastern) degrees in Physics and an MBA (Boston U). In 2010, at the age of 63, he completed a master’s in astronomy by distance learning from James Cook University in Queensland, Australia and went on to five years of research modeling the Solar Corona. In his career, Bill worked as an engineer and manager in the areas of optics, lasers and mechanical testing. The last involved building machines to shake cars, airplanes and buildings until they fell apart; as he says, “It was like working in a toy store.” After 32 years in industry, Bill spent the next 12 years teaching International Management, Marketing, and Astronomy, first for two years at a community college and then 10 years at a private college in Minneapolis. Since retiring in the State College area in 2015 with his wife, Connie Sherman, Bill tore up his resume and has been active in the folk music and amateur astronomy communities. He took up the mandolin in 2022 and is a regular at the Tuesday Night Bluegrass Jam in State College. He's also an avid astrophotographer and has recently discovered that he can successfully shoot nebulae and galaxies from his townhouse back porch in Boalsburg.

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