



Skyscrapers Incorporated Presents

# AstroAssembly 2010

Friday, October 1 & Saturday, October 2  
at Seagrave Memorial Observatory



## Todd Kozikowski

**Measuring the Expansion of the Universe from the Backyard! (The Hunt for Supernovae)**

Topics of Todd's talk will cover: Anatomy of a supernova and why we search for them; Selecting target galaxies based on distance, morphology, luminosity, size, and inclination; Robotic telescope setup; Demonstration of software used; Data post-processing; and reporting a discovery.



## Rev. Robert Bachelder

**Protecting the Outer Space Environment**

Orbital space must be protected because it is a valuable natural resource, serving as home to satellites that are essential to communications, weather forecasting, Earth observation, and other activities. However, orbital space is becoming congested with debris, the results of the expanded utilization of space for scientific, commercial, and military purposes. The

2009 collision of a functioning U.S. satellite with a defunct Russian spacecraft underscores the importance of timely action to mitigate and remove debris from key orbits. It is time for humanity to enlarge its environmental perspective to encompass outer space as well as Earth.



## Ruben Kier

**Best Targets For Autumn Astrophotography**

Ruben Kier's lecture will focus on the choice of celestial objects for astrophotography, especially objects situated for imaging during the months of October and November. In choosing targets for imaging, amateur astrophotographers should seek out compositions that inspire the viewer. For most amateurs, the object should be bright enough to

image with an average CCD camera through a backyard telescope during a single evening. The target needs to be large enough to show detail, and high enough in the sky to be captured from northern latitudes. Choosing the right target for the season, sky conditions, and equipment keeps the process of imaging a pleasure. After all, a hobby should be fun!



## Bob Berman

**Light and Color in the Universe**

George Berkeley, for whom the town and campus were named, said, "The only thing we perceive are our perceptions." This means that the colors of the cosmos come partially from our own retinal biases. This colorful lecture, which includes demonstrations, examines the universe's "favorite" color, provides vivid demonstrations of color illusions, and makes

clear the four major quirks of human scotopic (low-light) vision upon which all astronomers rely. We'll also explore light's amazing oddities (e.g. the day sky is actually not blue but violet, most of the yellow we see is not yellow at all, but solely a mixture of green and red light, etc). While we're at it, we'll learn the only way that light is created, what it truly is, and how it delivers the electromagnetic force from distant empires.

### Friday Evening Informal Talks

Contact Steve Hubbard if you would like to give a talk

**A Fabulous Saturday Evening Reception** followed by a  
**Sumptuous Catered Banquet**

You must pre-register for this banquet

**Raffle & Door Prizes**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form and check (made payable to **Skyscrapers Inc.**) to:

Steve Hubbard  
AstroAssembly Registrar  
45 Church Street  
Auburn, MA 01501

(508) 832-8746  
cstahs@yahoo.com

Registrations at \$17.00 each

Registration cost is \$17 per person through September 15. After September 15, registration cost is \$20.

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet tickets at \$17.00 each

Banquet tickets must be pre-ordered. No tickets will be sold the day of the event.

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to give a short 20-minute talk on Friday evening:

Indicate the title of your talk below. AstroAssembly registrar Steve Hubbard will contact you via email to confirm your talk.

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