



SKYSCRAPERS INCORPORATED PRESENTS

# ASTROASSEMBLY 2009

Friday, October 2 & Saturday, October 3  
at Seagrave Memorial Observatory

## Ronald Florence

Author of "The Perfect Machine, The Building Of The Palomar Telescope."

Ronald Florence is a historian and novelist. Educated at Berkeley and Harvard, where he received a PhD in French and German history. Before turning to full-time writing, he taught at Harvard, Sarah Lawrence College, and SUNY; was a senior researcher at the Century Foundation; and was executive director of the New York Council for the Humanities.

## Thomas Levenson

"The (Criminal) Education of Issac Newton"

Professor Levenson is the winner of the Peabody Award (shared), New York Chapter Emmy, and the AAAS/Westinghouse award and currently the interim head of the Writing and Humanistic Studies department at MIT

## William Sheehan

"A Centennial Observed: E.M. Antoniadi and Mars"

William Sheehan is one of the world's leading students of the planet Mars. Sheehan's first book, "Planets & Perception", published in 1988, was a Book-of-the-Year Selection of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. Other critically acclaimed books include: "Worlds in the Sky" (1992), "The Immortal Fire Within: the life and work of Edward Emerson Barnard" (1995), and "In Search of Planet Vulcan" (1997).

## Mike Mattei

"Strange Cloud Formations on the Terminator of Venus."

Mike Mattei has been an active observer for many decades and a member of ALPO and AAVSO. He worked at Harvard Observatory's Agassiz Station (now Oak Ridge Obs.), and met his future wife (Dr. Janet Akyuz Mattei 1943-2004) at AAVSO. He became very active in optics and amateur telescope making, and later went professional, specializing in the fabrication of aspherical optics at Space Optics Research Labs, and Optical Systems and Technology Inc (O.S.T.I.). There he worked on optics for space exploration such as an Ultraviolet Telescope for Goddard Space Flight Center. Eventually Mike was asked to join the staff at Lincoln Labs to work on special Government 'Star Wars' projects using Laser Imaging Optical Radar Systems. He also worked at MIT's Wallace Astrophysical Observatory. He taught courses at University of Hawaii and spoke at local club events. Mike is possibly best known for his hundreds of nights teaching beginners the art and craft of mirror making at the ATMoB workshop in Westford, Massachusetts. He still works full time at Lincoln Labs, and continues to spend his nights searching for Novae for the AAVSO in his home-built observatory in Littleton, MA.

### 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

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.