

**January Meeting @ Downtown Museum
7:30 pm - January 20th, 2017**

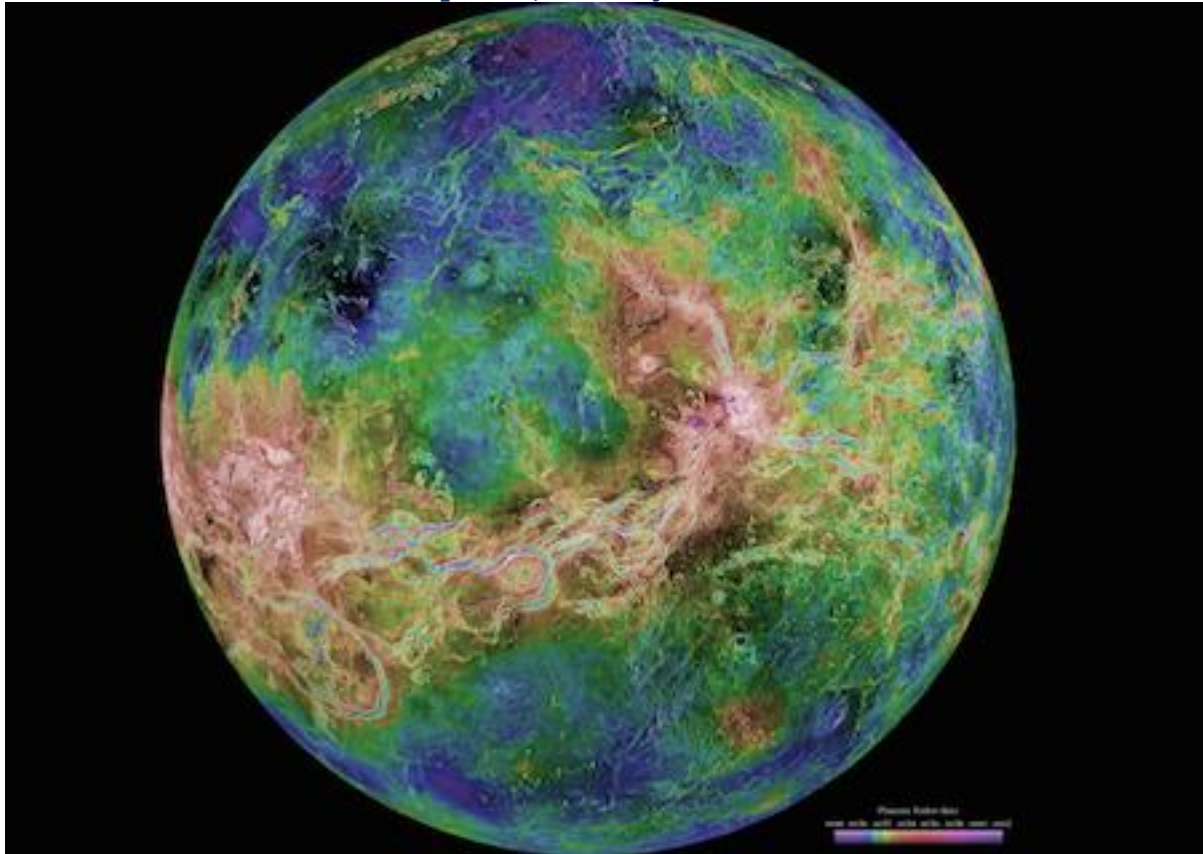


Photo compliments of Space Place by NASA

This is a combination of images taken by the Magellan spacecraft. The colors have been altered so you can see all the differences in Venus's surface. Magellan used radar to get information about the surface of Venus, which we can't normally see because of the thick, cloudy atmosphere.

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The EAS newsletter, Observer, is published monthly. Anyone wishing to contribute articles or photos may mail them to the club's PO Box: EAS, PO Box 3474, Evansville, IN 47733, or e-mail them to the editor at: dasiceman@yahoo.com

The **Evansville Astronomical Society (EAS)** is a non-profit organization fully incorporated in the state of Indiana. It has, as its primary goal, the advancement of amateur astronomy. Founded in 1952, the society seeks to:

- 1... maintain adequate facilities for its members and the public in order to extensively study the skies and
- 2... promote an educational program for those who wish to learn more about the science of Astronomy.

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month, except June, when the annual EAS picnic is held. The society also sponsors monthly Open House events during the warmer seasons that afford the public an opportunity to tour the observatory.

EAS 2017 Officers and Contacts

President – Tony Bryan
812.827.3234

evansvilleastro@gmail.com

Vice President – Scott Conner

Secretary – David M Kube
740.223.6854

Treasurer – Ted Ubelhor

Counselors
Michael Borman
Ken Harris
Mitch Luman

Webmaster – Michael Borman

Program Director
Tony Bryan

News editor – David Kube
dasiceman@yahoo.com

For more information about the EAS or directions to the Observatory, please visit the club's web page:

www.evansvilleastro.org



Local Events and Information

EAS Schedule Update:

Please Note that we have a Regular Meeting scheduled for Friday, January 20th, 2017 @ 7:30pm. Location is to be at the Museum. Mitch Luman will be presenting.

EAS Update:

Please Note that we have a Regular Meeting scheduled for Friday, February 17th, 2017 @ 7:30pm. Location is to be at the Museum – Dr. Steinman-Cameron from IU will be presenting Life in the Universe.

EAS Update:

Please Note that we have a Winter Work day scheduled for 10am at the Observatory on Saturday, February 25th.

EAS Update:

Please Note we have our 1st PSW for the year scheduled at the observatory on Saturday, March 4th @ 7:30pm. Moon is at Perigee.

EAS Update:

Please Note that we have a Regular Meeting scheduled for Friday, March 17th, 2017 @ 7:30pm. Location is to be at the Observatory – Dr. Merlo will be presenting Active Galactic Nuclei.

EAS Update:

Please Note we have a members only observing session scheduled for Saturday, March 25th @ 7:30pm – Location is to be TBD.

Telescopes and accessories for sale...

As mentioned in last month's issue, Mike Borman still has some excellent telescope equipment and imaging accessories for sale. Some of the gear has already been sold. If interested, go to Mike's web page. Here is the link: <http://www.mborman.org/forsale.htm>

Two Stars Merge in 2022 and explode in Red Fury.



STScI

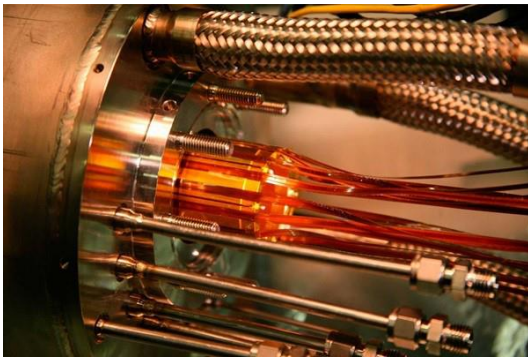
In 2022, there will be a spectacular sky show. Two stars will merge into one, pushing out excess gas into an Explosion known as a red nova. At magnitude 2, it will be as bright as Polaris in the sky, and just behind Sirius and Vega in brightness. The collision in the constellation of Cygnus will be visible for up to six months.

That's pretty impressive. What's more impressive: we've never been able to predict a nova before. But Lawrence Molnar, a professor of astronomy and physics at Calvin College, was able to find a pair of oddly behaving stars giving an indication of what might happen.

The objects, termed KIC 9832227, are currently contact binaries. Contact binary refers to two objects that are so close they are currently touching. The object was discovered by Kepler. The expected outcome is a merger between the two stars that will put on quite a show.

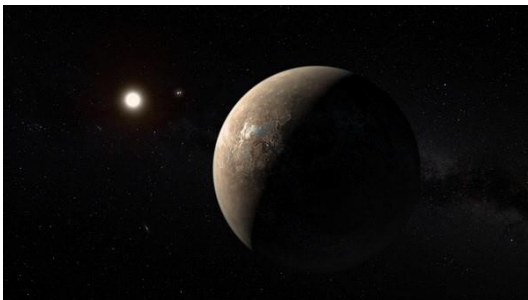
When matter and antimatter meet, they annihilate each other and leave only energy behind. The Big Bang should have created matter and antimatter in equal amounts, but today, our universe is dominated by matter, with very little antimatter present. Understanding why this asymmetry exists would be a significant step towards understanding the origin and evolution of our universe. However, naturally-occurring antimatter is often immediately destroyed when it encounters the universe's abundant matter. Today, particle physicists can routinely create antimatter for study at the CERN Antiproton Decelerator facility, which has led to several new breakthroughs in the characterization of antimatter.

Cern Scientists get First Glance of Anti-Matter.



CERN

Researcher want to Initiate Contact with Proxima Centauri b.



Artist's rendering of Proxima Centauri b.

You've heard of SETI, the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. It involves tuning in for alien radio signals or light beacons. But a group called METI International (short for Messages to Extraterrestrial Intelligence) wants to take a more proactive role by beaming out messages from Earth.

Douglas Vakoch, the former Director of Interstellar Message Composition at the SETI Institute, is launching the METI Initiative with one planet in mind: the recently discovered planet around Proxima Centauri, the closest star to Earth (and thus the closest exoplanet.)

Vakoch says that METI has more than a few targets in mind, there are a few advantages to Proxima Centauri b. "First, it's close to our solar system, keeping the time for a roundtrip exchange as short as possible," Vakoch says. "Second, some have suggested that this exoplanet is potentially habitable."

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Reg.Mtg 7:30pm Museum	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Workday 10:00am
26	27	28				

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Up and Coming Events 2016

Regular Meeting – Friday, February 17th @ 7:30pm @ Museum

Winter Work Day – Saturday, February 25th @ 10:00am @ Observatory

PSW – Saturday, March 4th @ 7:30pm @ Observatory

Regular Meeting – Friday, March 17th @ 7:30pm @ Observatory

Members Only Observing – Saturday, March 25th – TBA

Moon Phases

New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Third Quarter
February 26 th , 2017	February 3 rd , 2017	February 10 th , 2017	February 18 th , 2017

[Moon Phases courtesy of Time and Date.com](http://Time and Date.com)

EAS MEETING for December 16th, 2016

CALL TO ORDER - by President Tony Bryan @ 7:38pm with 22 members and 3 guests present.

READING OF MINUTES - Motion to accept the minutes from November 2016 meeting as published in the December Newsletter was carried by the attending membership.

UPCOMING EAS EVENTS

V. Pres., are there any up-coming special functions, Open Houses, (recent or soon)

Regular Meeting	Friday, January 20th	7:30pm @ Museum
Regular Meeting	Friday, February 17th	7:30pm @ Museum

VISITOR INTRODUCTION - 3 Visitors

TREASURER'S REPORT -

Finances are good. We purchased a 5 user online license for Quick Books online. Email links sent to officers.
45 Paid Members

SPECIAL PROJECTS -

RC8 Mount Project Under Construction and Scott is waiting for projects at work to subside to get time to complete the work.

Darkroom Renovation is underway and has stalled and propose that a scout group may help complete the project.

OLD BUSINESS

New officers were elected. The roster remained the same as before with the exception of the President and VP positions swapping. Tony Bryan is now President and Scott Conner is now VP. The 3rd counselor position which was tabled in November meeting to allow research as to which of the 3 positions was up for election need to be voted upon in this December meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

We need to finish our election of counselors. It was determined that Kent Brentons position was up for election. The membership voted Mitch Luman to replace Kent as the third counselor along with Mike Borman and Ken Harris completing the trio.

The next 2 meetings - January and February have been scheduled at the Evansville Museum. Time will be @ 7:30 for both meetings.

Well, as you know tonight this is the night that Scott Conner is presiding as President of the EAS. It has been a long run of 17 years. He is thankful for having the opportunity to serve all of us as our President. He had been an officer in the club since 1988. Scott will continue to be an officer as long as he is elected to do so. But as he ends his reign as president, he is excited to see who our next President is. Tony is an excellent choice to serve as President. Tony will make great strides in continuing the clubs goals of sharing our

hobby with others, as well as providing excellent facilities and programs for our members. Scott looks forward to continue serving as Vice President.

PROGRAM

The program for Tonight - Astronomy Quiz and Christmas Party

ADJOURN MEETING-8:48pm