



Cleveland Astronomical Society
Thursday, April 7, 2005 Meeting Announcement

6:30-7:00 pm: Snacks and soft drinks: 7:00 pm.: Buffet dinner: 7:45 pm: Talk

Leonard Krieger CanalWay Center, Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation
Cleveland Metroparks, 4524 E. 49th Street, Cuyahoga Heights

"Properties of our Milky Way Galaxy:
The Local Region and the Local Quadrant"

Dr. Earle Luck

Chair, Astronomy Department, Case Western Reserve University

Following Dr. Morrison's March talk about the more distant Andromeda Galaxy, this month Dr. Luck brings us back to our own galaxy. The *Local Region* of the Milky Way, roughly defined as the region within 100 parsecs of the Sun, is the standard of normalcy by which other regions of our galaxy are judged. Most of its stars are similar to the Sun and, like the sun, about 5 billion years old. In contrast, the Milky Way's *Local Quadrant* comprises about 1/3 of the galactic disk. Dr. Luck will examine what we know about Local Region stars, particularly, their chemical content and history implied by chemical content. Then he will extend his discussion to the Local Quadrant, showing how the spatial distribution of disk elements relates to what we know about the Local Region, spiral arms, and processes affecting the evolution of the elements in the Milky Way as a whole.