



Cleveland Astronomical Society

www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org

Thursday, April 5, 2007 Meeting Announcement

6:15—7:00 p.m. – Get acquainted and snacks

7:45—8:00 p.m. – Short Business Meeting

7:00—7:45 p.m. – Buffet Dinner (Reservations Required)

8:00—9:00 p.m. – Featured Speaker (Free to public)

Leonard Krieger CanalWay Center

4524 East 49th Street (turn onto Whittlesey Way to reach Center), Cuyahoga Heights (216-206-1000)

Speaker: Dr. Karen Bjorkman

Professor of Astronomy and Associate Department Chair
Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Toledo

Young Stars in the Magellanic Clouds

The Large and Small Magellanic Clouds (LMC and SMC) are the companion galaxies to our own Milky Way. However, these irregular galaxies have very different properties from those of our Galaxy. Heavy elements like carbon and iron are much scarcer in the Magellanic Clouds than in the Milky Way. Interesting questions of stellar astronomy are: What effects do these different properties have on the star formation process and on the nature of the hot young stars that do form there? Dr. Bjorkman will describe some of the ways in which we are trying to learn about young stars in these unusual environments, using both ground and space-based telescopes. An understanding of how stars form in such environments may be important to unraveling the mysteries of star formation in the early universe, when heavy elements (heavier than helium) were extremely scarce.

High School Teachers interested in bringing two students, as our guests, please contact Bob Sledz, President, at 440-333-7827 or sledzbob@yahoo.com, if possible two weeks or more prior to scheduled meeting date.