Cleveland Astronomical Society

www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org

Thursday, December 4, 2008 Meeting Announcement

6:15—7:00 p.m. – Get acquainted and snacks
7:00—7:45 p.m. – Buffet Dinner (Reservations Required)
7:45—8:00 p.m. – Short Business Meeting
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: Roy Kaelin

Manager of Astronomy Education
Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Reach for the Stars with a Novel Telescope Design

For centuries, various types of telescopes largely developed from two basic kinds, namely, refractors (lens or dioptric telescopes) and reflectors (mirror or catoptric telescopes). Historically both kinds have had their advantages and disadvantages. Individual types appealed to different professional and amateur astronomers for perceived utility in mechanical operation and optical performance. Unique designs of telescopes, developed in recent decades, combine both lenses and mirrors (catadioptric telescopes). Catadioptric telescopes have resonated well with many astronomers for their convenience and portability. For over thirty-five years, Roy Kaelin has crafted optics for telescopes. He has made a working example of each of the popular reflector (mirror) designs. His latest work is an improved catadioptric system which combines the best features of both kinds of telescopes, linking the light-gathering power of a large reflector with the superior optics of a quality refractor. This engineering prototype, using the Mersenne-Nasmyth telescope system, offers an optical configuration that allows both relative portability and ease of operation while affording comfortable viewing with a flat field of view.