



Cleveland Astronomical Society Thursday, November 4, 2004 Meeting Announcement

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

At the CanalWay Center, Cleveland Metroparks, Off E. 49th Street, Cuyahoga Heights

Speaker: Dr. Donald Terndrup

Associate Professor of Astronomy, The Ohio State University

Main Research Interests: Properties of Stars, Stellar Evolution, and Milky Way Stellar Populations

"Cosmic Threats to the Earth"

Dr. Terndrup turns our attention this month to possibilities of two types of threats from space to Earth and its inhabitants: asteroid impacts and supernova explosions of nearby massive stars. One of these two events affects Earth about every 15,000 years. Dr. Terndrup will show that the large disruptions are quite rare, but that smaller events occur much more frequently. He will discuss current efforts and additional possibilities for protecting the Earth, including deterring "killer rocks." This brings to mind spectacular science fiction presented in the films *Armageddon* and *Cosmic Impact*. Come learn what an astronomer has to say on the subject, and ask your questions. Program Chair Bill Hayne asked Dr. Terndrup to inquire of the next dinosaur he meets, "Can you confirm the threat?"