



# Cleveland Astronomical Society

[www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org](http://www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org)

## Thursday, Oct 1, 2009 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 49<sup>th</sup> Street (turn onto Whittlesey Way to reach Center), Cuyahoga Heights (216-206-1000)

### Speaker: Dr. George W. Collins II

Resident Astronomer, Cleveland Astronomical Society

## Who Named The Constellations and How Did Hipparchus Discover Precession?

How are these two questions connected? How did Hipparchus manage to discover a phenomenon that takes 26,000 years to happen in one human lifetime? The standard answer in more textbooks is that he used observations from 200 years earlier. Archie Roy of the University of Glasgow suggests another option: that he had access to data that was 2000 years older than Hipparchus. We shall look at this and see how the two questions are related. We'll examine how Hipparchus got the answer right to the extent that Ptolemy several hundred years later gave him credit for the discovery. We shall also look at some of the implications of precession on the cosmology of the time and the result which may have manifestations even today.

High School Teachers interested in bringing two students, as our guests, please contact Bob Sledz, President, at 440-333-7827 or [sledzbob@yahoo.com](mailto:sledzbob@yahoo.com) by the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting date.