



Cleveland Astronomical Society

www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org

Thursday, September 4, 2008 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. Donald Terndrup

Associate Professor – Department of Astronomy Ohio State University

Program Director – National Science Foundation

Stellar Rotation and the Ages of Stars

Dr. Terndrup was unable to speak at C.A.S. last spring, as planned, due to a short-notice invitation to work with the new Large Binocular Telescope. In this first talk of our C.A.S. year, he will describe an ambitious new survey of stellar rotation conducted at Ohio State, in which the Large Binocular Telescope and other telescopes with diameters of one meter and more are used. As Sun-like stars age, their initial rapid rotation slows through the braking action of magnetized winds. Stellar evolution theory predicts strongly that all old stars should slow down at the same rate, regardless of initial conditions. This phenomenon could, in principle, be used as a clock for determining the ages of all unevolved stars in the Milky Way, not just those in clusters. Unfortunately, at this time, there is insufficient data to tell whether the theory is correct.

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