



PRESS RELEASE

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“Astronomy at the Beach 2012: Astronaut Hero Drew Feustel Comes Home”

The end of September brings the sixteenth annual Astronomy at the Beach at Milford, Michigan's Kensington Metropark. This year, we will celebrate the last Space Shuttle missions to the Hubble Space Telescope and the International Space Station and discuss the future of the American manned space program. Our keynote speaker is two-time shuttle astronaut, geophysicist, and genuine American hero Dr. Andrew Feustel, who happens to be a native of Lake Orion. Drew's talks will explore his role as a spacewalking repairman on the final Hubble Servicing Mission and experiment installer on the International Space Station.

This year's Astronomy at the Beach will be held Friday, September 21, and Saturday, September 22, 2012 from 6:00 pm to midnight each night at Kensington's Maple Beach. We welcome the public to look through telescopes and binoculars provided by astronomy club members and provide a series of short presentations, ranging from how to choose a telescope to an introduction to astronomy. A STARLAB portable planetarium provides a view of the stars for kids rain or shine, and tours of the evening sky will be provided (weather permitting) to the public.

Astronomy at the Beach is Michigan's largest and best attended public astronomy outing specifically designed for kids, students and parents. Since its inception in 1996, Astronomy at the Beach has introduced thousands of participants to the world of science and astronomy through hands-on observing and evening lectures by both local and nationally recognized scientists and astronomers. AATB is brought to you by the Great Lakes Association of Astronomy Clubs (GLAAC) and the Huron-Clinton Metropark System. GLAAC is an association of southeastern Michigan astronomy clubs including Warren Astronomical Society, Ford Amateur Astronomy Club, Seven Ponds Astronomy Club, University Lowbrow Astronomers, Oakland Astronomy Club, Astronomy Club at Eastern Michigan University, and Sunset Astronomical Society.

For more information contact Kensington Metropark at (248) 685-0603 or visit our website at <http://www.glaac.org/>