

News Release

For Release: September 17, 2008

Contact: Chase Squires

Phone: (303) 871-2660

E-mail: Chase.Squires@du.edu



Celebrate the 400th anniversary of the telescope at DU's historic Chamberlin Observatory

DENVER — The University of Denver's historic Chamberlin Observatory co-hosts a day of celebration and exploration marking the 400th anniversary of the telescope on Oct. 4 with the Denver Astronomical Society and S&S Optika.

In early October, 1608, Hans Lipperhey filed a patent in Holland for the invention of a “tele-magnifying optical device,” which has become known as the telescope. Within six months, word of the invention spread to Italy, where Galileo Galilei was first to turn it heavenward and discover the craters on the moon, spots on the sun, the moons of Jupiter and other wonders.

Events:	<p>Oct. 4, 2-4 p.m.: Lectures by Galileo impersonator Jack Eastman, discussing Kepler's 1613 vintage telescope, at S&S Optika, 6579 S Broadway, Littleton (303) 789-1089.</p> <p>Oct. 4, 7-10 p.m.: Colorado Astronomy Day and Open House at DU's historic Chamberlin Observatory, located in Observatory Park, 2930 E. Warren Ave., four blocks east of University Boulevard, one block south of Evans Avenue. The facility is newly remodeled through a grant from the State Historical Society. In addition to the classic 26-foot refractor telescope views of Jupiter, the Denver Astronomical Society will provide a number of portable telescopes providing free viewing of celestial wonders for the public, weather permitting.</p>
----------------	--

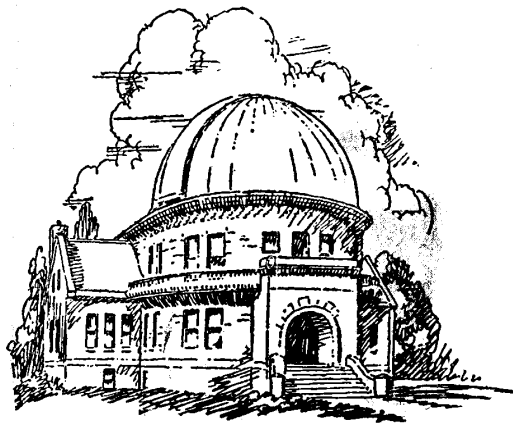
General:

Additional Open House events are scheduled at the observatory, sunset to 10 p.m., weather permitting, on Saturdays Nov.8, Dec.6 and Jan.3. The open house events offer great views of these sky events with DU astronomers and members of the Denver Astronomical Society. For information, call (303) 871-5172 or visit online www.du.edu/~rstencil/Chamberlin.

Astronomy Questions?

DU's Womble Professor of Astronomy, Robert Stencil, is available to answer questions about astronomy and the many negative effects of light pollution. He can be reached at (303) 871-2135 or via e-mail at rstencil@du.edu.

The University of Denver (www.du.edu), the oldest private university in the Rocky Mountain region, enrolls approximately 11,117 students in its undergraduate and graduate programs. The Carnegie Foundation classifies the University of Denver as a Research University with high research activity.



© University of Denver

These cosmic events brought to you by:

DU's historic Chamberlin Observatory

2930 E. Warren Ave, Denver CO 80208

(4 blocks east of University, 1 block south of Evans)

(303) 871-5172

www.du.edu/~rstencil/Chamberlin