



Astronomy Club of Akron

Presents

Friday April 24, 2015 at 8:00 P.M.

Dr. Ralph Harvey

**Associate Professor of Earth, Environmental and
Planetary Sciences, Case Western Reserve University**

Title: Antarctic Meteorites: Sifting the sands of the Solar System

Abstract: Since 1969 nearly 50,000 meteorite specimens have been systematically recovered from the East Antarctic ice sheet, more than 20,000 of these by the US Antarctic Search for Meteorites program. These samples have done more than fill the larders of museums and research institutions; they have fundamentally changed our understanding of the solar system. Antarctic meteorites are the only reliable, continuous, and readily available source of new planetary material, naturally swept up by the Earth as it cascades through space, and revealing the fundamental building blocks of the solar system.

Bio: Ralph P. Harvey is an Associate Professor of Geological Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. A graduate of Beloit College with a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh, he has been the Principal Investigator and field team leader for the US Antarctic Search for Meteorites program since 1991. He is an author or co-author on more than 100 publications on diverse topics in the planetary sciences, ranging from micrometeorites to icesheet dynamics to the history of Mars. He is a principal investigator in NSF's Office of Polar Programs as well as NASA's Cosmochemistry and Mars Fundamental Research programs. He is a frequent contributor to science instrument and landing site definition panels for NASA's Mars Exploration Program. He was recently a member of the preliminary examination team for the STARDUST sample return mission, and both an asteroid and an Antarctic mountain now bear his name.

Join us **Friday, April 24, 8:00 p.m.** and learn how meteorites from Antarctica provide insight into the universe, help tell the history of the moon and Mars, and reveal untold secrets waiting for scientists to decipher.

Meeting Location: Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center
725 Portage Lakes Drive
Akron, Ohio 44319

Event is free to the public. No reservations or tickets required. Plenty of parking.
Please visit our website for more details: <http://www.acaoh.org/meetings/2015/2015-04-24.htm>

