

# Meeting Notice

November 2015

## Of the Rittenhouse Astronomical Society

### PRESENTERS:

**Eric Briggs ~ Spitz Incorporated**

**Joe DePasquale ~ Chandra X-ray Observatory**

The Society invites members, guests and the interested public to our upcoming meeting (students encouraged to attend.) FREE/ Open to public, no admittance fee. Membership not required.

### Topic Titles Tonight:

***Discovery of Super Nova PSN J13480490+6149153* & *Visualizing the X-ray Universe***

### WHERE:

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE  
222 20<sup>TH</sup> STREET & THE PARKWAY  
PHILADELPHIA PA

**WHAT:** Eric Briggs hails from Spitz Incorporated in Chadds Ford Pa. More supernovae are being discovered every year as technology advances. As a side effect, the astronomical naming convention used to sort supernovae has broken in an interesting way. The application of advanced telescopes on Earth and in space is "snapping" up many more supernovae. It is still possible for amateur astronomers to participate in discovering supernovae, with some similar technology. We will look at the new normal in this field, in which a single supernova discovery is no longer worthy of a name. But also in this reversal of fortune, young amateur astronomers can feel the rush of making scientific discoveries.

Joe DePasquale converts the rich datasets from the Chandra X-Ray Observatory into breathtaking view of the universe. He feels it to be a unique and rewarding challenge. He will give a brief overview of the Chandra program's development and touch on some of it's key discoveries while paying special attention to the processing behind the imagery.

**WHEN:** **WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2015** ~ Call to Order 7:15 PM

7:20 - Planet Report: D. Vacca // 7:30 - Celestial Highlights: T. Williams

7:40 - Eric Briggs- *Super Nova*

8:15 – President's Address

8:25 - Joe DePasquale- *Visualizing the X-Ray Universe*

9:10 - Observatory Weather Permitting

**Contact:** Info: 215-633-0604

[ttuu@comcast.net](mailto:ttuu@comcast.net)

Rittenhouse Secretary: Ted Williams

**Website:** <http://www.RittenhouseAstronomicalSociety.org>

**FaceBook:** RittenhouseAstronomy

### Mailing Address:

RITTENHOUSE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 283  
FEASTERVILLE, PA 19053-0283

### Tonight's Presenters:

**Eric Briggs** hails from University of Toronto and currently works in the Planetarium division of Spitz Incorporated as technical support and as a customer service representative. He is also actively involved with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

**Joseph DePasquale** prepares press materials for bi-weekly Chandra press releases, frequently interacting directly with scientists to find the best possible representation of their data. This often involves the processing of data from multiple observatories to create multi-wavelength composite images.

Eric Briggs



Joe DePasquale



### DATES TO REMEMBER:

#### **November 20, 2015**

Observing Opportunity – Mallon Planetarium  
Community Night- Methacton School District  
Members who volunteer to assist get a free planetarium presentation.

#### **December 18, 2015**

Observing Opportunity – Mallon Planetarium  
Community Night- Methacton School District

#### **December 21, 2015**

Hayden Star Party – Volunteers needed to assist with telescope views on the Terrace

### **January 9, 2016 SPECIAL EVENT**

#### **Dr. Robert Nemiroff**

**Astronomy Picture of the Day**  
Area astronomy clubs welcome  
& encouraged to attend.