

# PAA Meeting on March 7, 2025

Please post the following in your appropriate media venue in time to help us advertise our upcoming “**Hybrid Meeting**” (**in-person, virtual & online**). We are welcoming people back to our great meeting facilities at the Riverview Zoo, but if you would prefer an online experience it will still remain an option.

The **Monthly Meeting** of the **Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA)** will kick off a New Year and will take place **March 7th**, as a “**Hybrid Meeting**”, both **online** and **in-person** at our traditional physical location of the **Rotary Education Centre/Guest Services Building, Riverview Park Zoo**. Nothing can stop the spread of information and knowledge by the members of the PAA, including our ability to accommodate those that can't physically be at the meeting. Our work around involves using a Zoom platform. **To participate** via Zoom, just make sure that **in advance**, you opened a (free) Zoom account on whatever iPhone or tablet or device you wish to participate with and then **contact** [https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom\\_register.php](https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom_register.php) for the **password and link** to our evenings classes and presentations. If you wish to participate in-person you are more than welcome to do so at the Zoo.

Our “**Novice Astronomy Classes**” are focused on the practical aspects of learning about astronomy. You will be introduced to astronomy related subjects at a very basic level, but in a logical sequence. In this month's Novice Astronomy Class we continue with “**The Basics for a Night of Visual Observing**”. We will take a look at the basics for a night of visual observing. At its most simplistic, simply stepping outside and looking up is all that is needed. We will review how to prepare for a successful observing session, how to choose a viewing location, the modest equipment needed (no telescopes required) and guides to get oriented and acquainted with the night sky. An indispensable tool will be your planisphere. Don't have one? No problem! In the hands-on portion of tonight's class you will be provided with everything you need to make your own. For those joining online using Zoom, a link to the file will be provided so you can join in too. Whether you are just beginning your astronomy journey or a seasoned veteran, there will be something for everyone.

If you are even remotely interested, be on-line by **6:00 p.m.** to see what you can learn about the Universe around you. The classes will run about 45 minutes each session, before our regular meeting resumes. There's no obligation to stay for the meeting that follows, but you are more than welcome to if you wish.

Shortly **after 7:00 p.m.** we will have a presentation by our Vice-President, Brian Colville on the Sun and our “**Current Solar Cycle**”. Brian spends a lot of time and energy studying and imaging our closest star. Prepare to be amazed at the information and images that Brian will present in his talk about what the Sun is doing and what it is showing us as it ramps up to the next Solar Maximum in its eleven year Solar Cycle.

Whether joining us on-line or in-person you will not be disappointed and you will learn lots! Why not check this out? You don't need to be a member to see this presentation or anything else listed. The price is right...it costs you nothing but your time.

The **Sky This Month** will be posted on our club website for all to access.

There will also be the usual opportunities to have your questions answered, at no charge. All we ask is that you either come and see us in person at the Zoo or register in advance at [https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom\\_register.php](https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom_register.php). This is an all-ages meeting and the venue is totally barrier free at the Zoo, or just relax at home and “live and learn” as they say. Also, you don't need a telescope to participate, but a curious mind helps.

Keep looking up,

Rick Stankiewicz  
Publicity Director,  
Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA)