

PAA Meeting on April 3, 2026

The **Monthly Meeting** of the **Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA)** will take place **April 3rd** 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 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 our **Solar System Series** to focus on the **“Asteroid Belt”**. **Asteroids** have captured the imagination of astronomers for centuries. Through a telescope, they are tiny points of moving light. Most of them orbit quietly in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter and preserve clues about how planets formed billions of years ago. They come in all sorts of sizes, from small to gigantic, with some large enough to be worlds of their own. Some occasionally wander close to Earth as **near-Earth objects**. Join us to explore how these ancient space rocks help scientists uncover the history of the solar system and why they may play an important role in humanity's future in space.

During the interactive segment of the class, we will examine how **tenacious life** can be and its ability to exploit **extreme environments**.

Tune in to be enlightened! If you are even remotely interested, be on-line by **6:00 p.m.** to see what you can learn about exploring 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 **PAA President, Peter Curley**, Redo on **controlling your Seestar (smart-scope) with your PC**. Smart-scopes like the Seestar are becoming the wave of the future and many of us can learn a lot from any form of “hack” to make our observing platforms better and easier to use. This should prove to be an interesting presentation.

Whether joining us on-line or in-person you will not be disappointed and you will learn a lot! 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. 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.