

PAA Meeting on October 3, 2025

The **Monthly Meeting** of the **Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA)** will take place **October 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: Is the **Magnitude Scale**. If you were to gaze upward on a clear night, away from the light pollution of an urban setting, you would be able to witness a multitude of stars. Upon closer inspection you would notice that some stars are brighter than others. To measure the brightness differences of stars, astronomers developed a numerical system to quantify them. In this month's Novice Astronomy Class we will take a look at the **magnitude scale** and how you can use it yourself under the stars. We will explore why stars are brighter than others. In addition, we will consider how sky conditions influence the brightness of stars and how you can begin using the magnitude scale to accurately estimate their brightness.

In the hands-on portion of the class we will consider the implications of what a **Universe without supernovae** would be like.

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.**, **Zoom presentation** by **Brett Joseph Cohen**, owner/operator of **“The Interstellar Collection”**. He works directly with meteorite hunters, scientists, universities and collectors from around the world to make available high quality, museum-grade meteorite specimens. Brett will introduce us to and answer questions about, meteorites in his **Meteorite 101** 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.