

November 2007

the Coyote HOWLER



SECOND ANNUAL CERRO COSO COLLEGE ASTRONOMICAL BARBECUE & STAR PARTY HUGE SUCCESS!

The Second Annual Astronomical Barbecue & Star Party was held Oct. 19 at Cerro Coso College. This family event was sponsored jointly by the College and the Cerro Coso Community College Foundation. The event served as a public outreach in astronomy, and supports the development of the "Dr. Alex Shlanta Astronomical Observatory," including maintenance of related equipment.



The barbecue dinner was held on the College Library's front lawn. Hamburgers and hot dogs were barbecued and served by grillers Mayor Chip Holloway, Councilman Dan Clark and City Parks & Recreation director, Jim Poněk.

"Yesterdaze" a popular local musical group

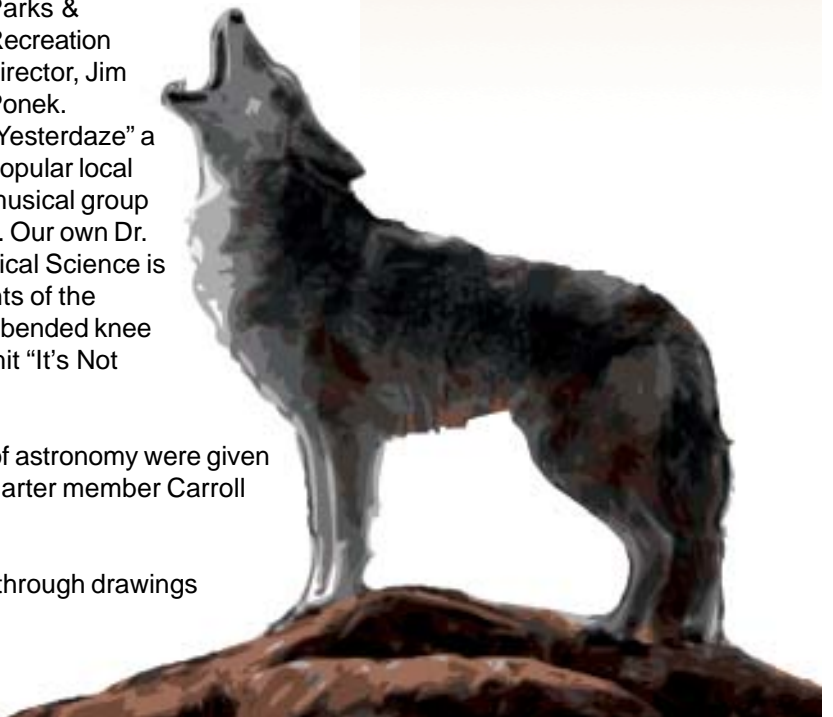
provided musical entertainment during the evening. Our own Dr. John Stenger-Smith, Professor of Chemistry/Physical Science is an active member of the band. One of the highlights of the evening occurred when Stenger-Smith got down on bended knee with out stretched arms and sang the Tom Jones hit "It's Not Unusual" to Dr. Mary Retterer!

A narrated slide presentation and a brief overview of astronomy were given by China Lake Astronomical Society's (CLAS's) charter member Carroll Evans inside the College Library.

There were over 30 gift baskets & prizes given out through drawings conducted during dinner.

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The Star Party at the observatory began at 7:30 pm. The Cerro Coso bus ran continuously from the Library parking lot to the Astronomical Observatory and back with automotive instructor Larry Board at the wheel.

Major stars and constellations were pointed out. There were approximately 10 different telescope stations set up inside the Observatory compound for public viewing and explanations of what is seen by CLAS members and Dr. Alex Shlanta. Our thanks to the many individuals and businesses who donated prizes, food, beverages, loaned equipment and gave monetary support to make this a successful event. Sincere thanks go out to the Foundation board members, faculty, staff, administrators, and students of Cerro Coso for their support to make this event astronomical!!

A stellar time was had by all!



CERRO COSO COLLEGE PRESENTS SPEAKER ON ASTRONOMY

Dr. Kartik Sheth from California Institute of Technology, the Spitzer Science Center, and the Combined Array for Research in Millimeter-Wave Astronomy (CARMA) near Big Pine, gave a talk at the Cerro Coso Community College Eastern Sierra College Center, Bishop Campus on Thursday, October 25, 2007. Dr. Sheth's presentation entitled, "Bars in the Universe" began at 4:00 p.m. in Room 176. The College co-hosted this speaker series in the field of Astronomy.

If you were to look out on a clear night and count all the galaxies outside our Milky Way - what would they look like? How would you begin studying them? What is the most common type of galaxy? Dr. Sheth addressed those questions and gave a preview of extragalactic research with an emphasis on what we can accomplish with telescopes like CARMA in combination with other ground- and space-based telescopes.

Dr. Sheth did his undergraduate studies at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. He received his Masters in Physics from the University of Minnesota and a Masters and Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of Maryland. He is a postdoctoral fellow with the Owens Valley Radio Observatory Group at Caltech. He spends his spare time volunteering for Peace over Violence in Los Angeles.



CERRO COSO REPRESENTED AT DESERT EMPIRE FAIR

Cerro Coso Community College was well represented at the Desert Empire Fair this year with three different exhibitions - the general college booth, the Automotive Hybrid Car booth, and the Students Intrigued by Technology (SIT) booth. It was a wonderful opportunity to talk about what we do at Cerro Coso. Between the three areas we had set up, fair visitors saw Cerro Coso at just about every turn! Many thanks to the huge group who worked on putting it together!

We had several activities going on throughout the fair. Club members set up a row of computers running the Linux operating system for fairgoers to try out. Visitors enjoyed watching our club members work on the machines on site and we even got several requests to fix computers.

Another activity was the LEGO sandbox. We had non-stop kids (and parents) putting together bricks to see what they could come up with. It was fun to watch kids, teenagers, and adults using their creativity to build interesting objects.

On one side of the booth, we set up several laptops using different operating systems so that visitors could see the differences. The Macbook running a cool little program called PhotoBooth was definitely the most popular. People would walk by and catch a glimpse of themselves on the monitor and stop to make silly faces. It was just like that Photo Booth bit that Jay Leno does on the Tonight Show!

Our ASCC President (and S.I.T. Club Treasurer) Robert Villicana had the opportunity to judge the Lego Building Contest, along with Sandy Smith, another club member.

Finally, the highlight of the weekend was the Build-It-Here contest. Each contestant was given a bucket of LEGOs or Duplos and had 30 minutes to build anything they wanted. Awards were given for Most Imaginative, Most Technical, and Cutest in each of the four age categories (2-5, 6-9, 10-13, 14-17). We had 27 kids involved in the LEGOs categories and 7 kids involved in the Duplo category. It was energetic, chaotic, crazy, insane fun and somehow we pulled it off. All of the kids got to take their bucket of LEGOs home (with a sticker that had the club and college name on it of course) and the winners were given certificates.





CERRO COSO BASEBALL'S 15TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENT

Cerro Coso Community College's Baseball Team is holding its 15th annual Christmas Tree Sale event, selling Douglas and Nobel Fir trees from 5 ft. to 7 ft. tall! In addition to Christmas Trees, small and large holiday wreaths and garlands are for the selling. All orders are due November 1, 2007 or before. This fund raiser helps to support Cerro Coso's Baseball Team.



CERRO COSO PARTICIPATES IN RELAY FOR LIFE (RFL)

The American Cancer Society hosted the Doris Owens Relay for Life – Oct. 6-7, 2007 and had another successful year. The City of Ridgecrest raised over \$150,000 and Cerro Coso Community College certainly contributed well to that total.

The Cerro Coso Clippers fielded a team of over 25 people: walking, running, going around in wheelchairs and tending our booth.

Our sponsorship goal this year was to "Go for the Gold" and indeed we did! Gold status required a donation of \$2,500 and Cerro Coso raised \$3,310.00. Another \$181.50 was raised during the event itself from the sale of candy, jewelry and an opportunity basket. This was a great year. Along with the Team Captain, Shelley Crabtree, Natalie Dorrell and Margaret Hunter shared the energy and support leading to the project's success! Our Recreational Vehicle host again this year was Dr. John Stenger-Smith. Our Nursing Team also joined us with a delicious array of goodies for sale to raise money for RFL as well.



Thank you, everyone who participated, donated money and supported our team – our Cerro Coso family!



TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY NIGHT

Cerro Coso Community College held its 28th Annual College and University Night on Thursday, October 17, 2007, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Cerro Coso College Student Center.

Current college and high school students, along with members of the community, were invited to meet representatives from various University of California and California State University campuses, as well as private/ independent colleges and universities, military services, and Cerro Coso programs.

According to Ms. Heather Ostash, Counseling Coordinator at Cerro Coso, "This event helps students make choices about where it is best for them to continue their education; it is an integral part of our transfer program."



CERRO COSO HONORS STAFF

The Professional Development Committee of Cerro Coso held a Service Pin Award luncheon on Friday, Oct. 5th. There were 91 employees listed to receive service pins ranging from 10-70 semesters and 5-30 years of service. Standing Ovation went to Lois Gonzalez-Bozarth and Joann Handeland for 30 years of service and to Susan Ernst and Shirley Helmick for 70 semesters. The day started with a guest speaker Jim Marteney who is a speech/broadcasting instructor at Los Angeles Valley College. Co-author of the critical thinking textbook, *Communicating Critical Thinking* and author of the book *Our groups/ Our Roles*. Everyone enjoyed his presentation. Lunch was served in the Student Center and Dr. Retterer, Jill Board and Jane Harmon made the award presentations.



POPCORN, PEANUTS, AND PROKOFIEV

On Saturday, November 3, 2007, at 7:00 PM, the Cerro Coso Community College, Kern River Valley Campus will host a Saturday Evening Concert, Popcorn, Peanuts, and Prokofiev.

Pianist, Helen Smoot, will perform music by J.S. Bach-Wachet Auf, Scott Joplin- Maple Leaf Rag, Vince Garaldia – Linus and Lucy, Carlos Gardel – El Dia Que Mi Quieras, Rachmaninoff – Barcarole, Robert Schumann – Fantasie, Prokofiev-Waltz from Cinderella Ballet, and Mozart/Liszt – Don Juan Fantasie.



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Eastern Sierra College Center

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ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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