



Introduction to the 2026 Hartness House Workshop August 13, 2026



The Springfield Telescope Makers (STM), founded in 1923 by Russell W. Porter (the artist who drew the famous cutaway drawings of the 200" Palomar telescope), hosts the Stellafane Convention, a gathering of amateur telescope makers and amateur astronomy enthusiasts, which has been held, in Springfield, Vermont, since 1926.

<http://stellafane.org/>
http://www.astrosurf.com/re/russell_porter_glass_giant.pdf

For more than a decade, in association with the Convention, the STMs have held the "Hartness House Workshop" (HHW). This daylong event is attended by, typically, fifty to eighty amateur astronomers and a few professionals. The workshop is held at the historic Hartness House Inn (originally the home of James Hartness, machine-tool industry magnate and early patron of Stellafane) and Observatory. All modest proceeds from the event are donated to the support of Stellafane.

<http://www.hartnesshouse.com/>

The event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., is comprised of "daytime" and "evening" sessions.

The "daytime" session consists of (1) breakfast, lunch and coffee (all day), (2) a series of nine talks on various astronomical topics and (3) some free time for the attendees to mingle and discuss what they have learned.

The "evening" session consists of (1) a banquet and (2) a key-note presentation. A cocktail hour is scheduled in-between the two sessions.

Most presenters and attendees then go on to attend the Stellafane Convention proper.

You can read a brief article about the HHW at ...

<http://stellafane.org/news/news2020.html#HartnessHouseWorkshop>

The workshop in 2026 is scheduled for Thursday, August 13th, which will be followed by the Stellafane Convention on the 14th and 15th.



If you have any questions, please contact Dan Lorraine (DWLorraine@aol.com) or Thomas Spirock (tspirock@gmail.com).

The Springfield Telescope Makers at Stellafane