



## Introduction to the 2025 Hartness House Workshop July 24, 2025



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](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 and Observatory, including the Hartness-Porter Museum of Telescope Making. All modest proceeds from the event are donated to the upkeep of the ATM Museum and Stellafane, in general.

<http://www.hartnesshouse.com/>  
<http://stellafane.org/history/early/museum-home.html>

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, (3) an open house of the ATM Museum and (4) 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. The keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Stephen Sekula, an astrophysicist who works at the SNOLAB. His presentation is titled: "Catch a Dying Star: Neutrino Astronomy and the Next Galactic Supernova". Dr. Sekula will discuss an early warning system that uses the neutrino, an elusive but essential subatomic particle, which will play a key role in the forecast and complete observation of the next galactic supernova. Note that Dr. Sekula will also give the key-note presentation at the Stellafane Convention proper, on Saturday night. However, his presentation at the HHW will be distinctly different from that presentation.

You can read a brief article about the HHW at ...  
<http://stellafane.org/news/news2020.html#HartnessHouseWorkshop>

The workshop in 2025 is scheduled for Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, which will be followed by the Stellafane Convention on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.



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

*The Springfield Telescope Makers at Stellafane*