

Raven Hill



Discovery Center —

—Where science, history and art connect

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Raven Hill Discovery Center is proud to be the 2005 Crooked Tree Arts Center eddi Award recipient for Arts & Cultural Organizations

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

NASA Jet Propulsion Lab names 2012 Solar System Ambassador

Raven Hill Discovery Center is proud to announce the appointment of Bryan Shumaker as a 2012 Solar System Ambassador. Sponsored by NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL), the Solar System Ambassador Program is a public outreach program designed to work with volunteers in communicating the excitement of JPL's space exploration missions to people in local communities all over the United States. As one of 500 Ambassadors from all 50 states, he will bring new and exciting opportunities to northern Michigan residents.



The Solar System Ambassadors Program of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory offers information about real missions that explore our solar system. Volunteer ambassadors throughout the country

are selected by JPL based on their backgrounds and on their plans for public outreach activities. JPL provides ambassadors with educational materials and training and is a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, Calif.

Shumaker is newly retired to the Boyne City area and an avid amateur astronomer. In the past, he ran a university observatory and taught physics and astronomy for a brief time. He has built several telescopes and has had several articles published, but mostly enjoys showing people the wonders of the night sky and how to use simple viewing aids such as binoculars and small telescopes. He also enjoys presenting information on new space missions, probes, and astronomy research in general.

Shumaker and other local amateur astronomers have recently formed the Northern Michigan Astronomy Club (NOMAC). The next scheduled NOMAC meeting is Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 7:30 pm at Raven Hill. Bring warm clothes, in case the skies are clear for viewing, after the scheduled program, which is on "What to Look for in a Beginning Telescope". Anyone interested in learning more about telescopes & astronomy and exploring the night skies is welcome to attend. For more information, check out NOMAC's website, www.nomac.net or call Raven Hill at 231.536.3369.