

SPRINGBOARD GROUP EE NOVEMBER 2011

REMEMBER to call Eric Scribner, group leader, if you cannot attend.
781-891-8285

Thursday, Nov. 10 7pm to 9pm

Meet at Zaftigs at 335 Harvard St. in Brookline near Coolidge Corner [Green line –C train]. Tonight we will have a great dinner together in honor of Thanksgiving. There is more than turkey at Zaftigs! Please bring \$5 to help pay for the meal.

Thursday, Nov. 17 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Meet in front of the information booth at the Harvard Sq MBTA stop-Red Line. Tonight we will take a bus to the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics 60 Garden St., Cambridge, MA, 02138, (617) 495-7000. The public talk and viewing tonight is about planets. Please bring a snack and dress for the weather

"What is a Planet?" David A. Aguilar, CfA

To many people, it seems science is always changing its mind. One day caffeine is good for you, and the next day it isn't. One day Pluto is a planet, and the next day it isn't. It used to be so simple to answer this basic 3rd-grade question: What is a planet? It's a round body, illuminated by the light of the star it orbits. Now there is confusion when answering this question, even among astronomers. This is due to new technologies, new discoveries. How did this happen? Why all the confusion? Why did Pluto get demoted?

Why doesn't the current "official" definition of a planet stand up to recent discoveries or apply to the rest of the Universe? Tonight will be an interesting evening indeed!

Saturday, Nov. 19 7pm to 9pm

Annual Springboard Costume Party-post Halloween! Meet at the YWCA in Central Sq in Cambridge [7 Temple St 617-491-6050]. There should be a flyer in the mail soon.

Future events- Holiday Shopping: 12-11-11 / 12 to 5pm Providence Place
Holiday Party: 1-14-12 / 6 to 9pm Teacher Union Hall
Movie Night: 2-12-12 / time? Coolidge Corner Theater