

# HISTORY

## Roundtable est. 2017

{(usually) meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every other month at 6:30pm at the Greenwood Public Library}

### March's Topic: Astronomy

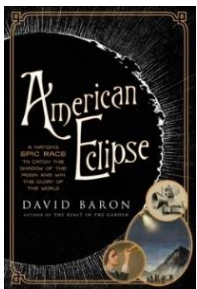
**Meeting Date:** Thursday, March 28th, 2024 at 6:30pm

Register at [www.greenwoodlibrary.us](http://www.greenwoodlibrary.us) or by calling 317-881-1953.

More info and handout at [www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable](http://www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable).

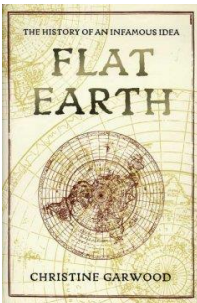
Read. Watch. Listen. Discuss. Read any non-fiction book, watch a documentary, and/or listen to a podcast pertaining to the history of Astronomy. Once you've read/watched/ listened to the item, come to the roundtable prepared to summarize your book/video/podcast for all the participants. Possible resources include (but are not limited to) –

#### Books:



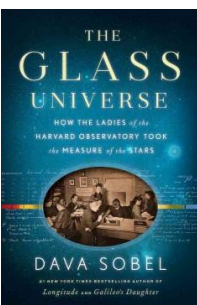
[American Eclipse: A Nation's Epic Race to Catch the Shadow of the Moon and Win the Glory of the World](#) by David Baron – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE; eAudio via [Libby](#)\* and [hoopla](#)\*

In vibrant historical detail, *American Eclipse* animates the fierce jockeying that came to dominate late nineteenth-century American astronomy, bringing to life the challenges faced by three of the most determined eclipse chasers who participated in this adventure.



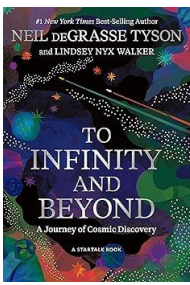
[Flat Earth: The History of an Infamous Idea](#) by Christine Garwood – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE Garwood; eBook via [hoopla](#)\*

Based on a range of original sources, Garwood's history of flat-Earth beliefs—from the Babylonians to the present day—raises issues central to the history and philosophy of science, its relationship to religion and the making of human knowledge about the natural world. *Flat Earth* is the first definitive study of one of history's most notorious and persistent ideas, and it evokes all the intellectual, philosophical, and spiritual turmoil of the modern age.



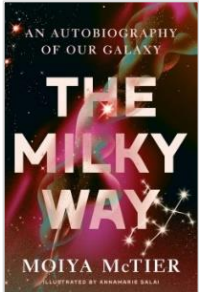
[The Glass Universe: How the Ladies of the Harvard Observatory Took the Measure of the Stars](#) by Dava Sobel – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE Sobel; eBook via [Libby](#)\*

In the mid-nineteenth century, the Harvard College Observatory began employing women as "human computers" to interpret the observations their male counterparts made via telescope each night. As photography transformed the practice of astronomy, the ladies turned from computation to studying the stars captured nightly on glass photographic plates. Sobel tells the hidden history of the women whose contributions to the burgeoning field of astronomy forever changed our understanding of the stars and our place in the universe.



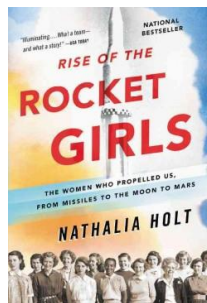
**[To Infinity and Beyond: A Journey of Cosmic Discovery](#)** by Neil deGrasse Tyson – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE Tyson; eBook via [Libby](#)\* and [hoopla](#)\*

This enlightening illustrated narrative by the world's most celebrated astrophysicist explains the universe from the solar system to the farthest reaches of space with authority and humor. No one can make the mysteries of the universe more comprehensible and fun than Neil deGrasse Tyson. Drawing on mythology, history, and literature—alongside his trademark wit and charm—Tyson and StarTalk senior producer Lindsey Nyx Walker bring planetary science down to Earth and principles of astrophysics within reach.



**[The Milky Way: An Autobiography of Our Galaxy](#)** by Moiya McTier – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE McTier; eAudio via [Libby](#)\*

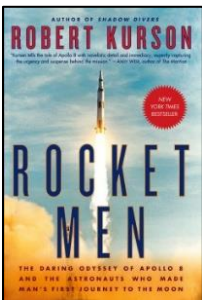
In this approachable and fascinating biography of the galaxy, an astrophysicist and folklorist details everything humans have discovered—from the Milky Way's formation to its eventual death, and what else there is to learn about the universe we call home.



**[Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, from Missiles to the Moon to Mars](#)** by Nathalia Holt – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE TRAVEL; eBook via [Libby](#)\* & [hoopla](#)\* and eAudio via [Libby](#)\* & [hoopla](#)\*

In the 1940's and 50's, when the newly minted Jet Propulsion Laboratory needed quick-thinking mathematicians to calculate velocities and plot trajectories, they didn't turn to male graduates. Rather, they recruited an elite group of young women who, with only pencil, paper, and mathematical prowess, transformed rocket design, helped bring about the first American satellites, and made the exploration of the solar system possible. Nathalia Holt's book tells the stories of these women—known as "human computers"—who broke the boundaries of both

gender and science.



**[Rocket Men: The Daring Odyssey of Apollo 8 and the Astronauts who made Man's First Journey to the Moon](#)** by Robert Kurson – NONFICTION SCIENCE SPACE TRAVEL Wiesel; eBook and eAudio via Libby\*

The inside, lesser-known story of NASA's boldest and riskiest mission: Apollo 8, mankind's first journey to the Moon on Christmas in 1968. A riveting account of three heroic astronauts who took one of the most dangerous space flights ever, from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Shadow Divers*.

## Videos:



**[Hubble: The Wonders of Space Revealed](#)** on Kanopy\*

The Hubble telescope has made more than 1.3 million observations and enabled over 15,000 scientific papers to be written. Its history has been dramatic. A triumphant launch that turned into disaster. Astronauts risking their lives to fix it. But ultimately, it's an invention that opened up the universe in unimaginable ways. This anniversary film

tells the whole story and meets the scientists and astronomers who use Hubble on a daily basis as well as astronauts from each of the missions that have serviced and updated it.



**[Stonehenge and Archaeoastronomy](#)** on Kanopy\*

Why were the motions of the Sun, Moon, and stars so important to ancient people? Investigate key astronomical directions noticed by all cultures. Then embark on your study of Stonehenge, seeing how it gave birth to the field of archaeoastronomy and to some very curious modern theories.