Santa Clarita Community College District

College of the Canyons
CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS

Friday, May 1, 2015
7:30 – 10:00 pm
Carl A. Rasmussen Amphitheater
STAR PARTY PROGRAM

- **Campus Welcome and Theme of “Exploration”**  
  *Ryan Theule and Anthony Michaelides*

- **ASL Signing of “Counting Stars” by One Republic**  
  *Brittany Applen, ASL Club*

- **Exploring: Earth and Moon Rocks**  
  *Jason Burgdorfer, Mary Bates, Geography & Geology Clubs*

- **We Are All Explorers**  
  *Future Educators Club*

- **The Heuristic Phenomena: Experience**  
  *Astronomy & Physics Club*

- **Catapult Design Discussion & Competition**  
  *Astronomy & Physics Club*  
  *Chemistry Club*  
  *Engineering Club*  
  *Math Club*  
  *MESA-SHPE*

- **Martian Rovers – Model Rover Demonstration**  
  *Mr. Matthew Wallace, JPL*

- **Telescope Viewing & Exploration of Science Tables**  
  *Cougar Way, North of the Canyons Café*
A Little About Catapults

A catapult is a device which quickly releases stored mechanical energy to launch a projectile. The mechanical operation of the device is very similar to a crossbow; however, a catapult is generally too large to be carried by a person. Another critical difference between the crossbow and a catapult is the use of a swing arm to launch the projectile. There are a variety of catapult designs, each of which were developed to launch projectiles farther and harder as BC explorers/warriors battled each other. Catapults come in 3 basic designs, some of which look more like a giant crossbow and some of which utilize the swing arm. They include the Ballista, the Mangonel, and the Trebuchet (shown above).

MR. MATTHEW WALLACE

Mars 2020 Deputy Project Manager, JPL

Matt was the Flight System Manager for the Mars Science Laboratory project, overseeing the development of the spacecraft systems for the next Mars rover, Curiosity. Curiosity launched from Kennedy Space Center in November of 2011, and landed on Mars on August 5, 2012.

Matt graduated from the US Naval Academy, class of 1984, and served in the US submarine fast attack fleet. He obtained a Master’s degree at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and joined NASA at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California in 1991. He has worked on various robotic planetary missions, including four Mars rover missions. He managed the assembly, test, and launch operations team for the Spirit and Opportunity rovers, and led surface mission operations for the Opportunity Rover after it landed on Mars in 2004.
THANK YOU to the local astronomy clubs and their members for donating their time to this event:

The Local Group Astronomy Club of Santa Clarita Valley
Antelope Valley Astronomy Club
Burbank Sidewalk Astronomers

A SPECIAL THANKS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS:
A portion of food sales from this event have been donated by the Canyons Café to support the Dr. Ram Manvi Memorial Scholarship Fund. Dr. Manvi was the former Dean of Math, Science and Engineering at College of the Canyons and was instrumental in launching the campus’ initial Star Party event in 2009. Additional info is available through the COC Foundation.

ABOUT THE SANTA CLARITA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT:
The Santa Clarita Community College District serves a 367-square-mile service area in northern Los Angeles County. College of the Canyons, the single college within the District, serves more than 23,000 students per semester on campuses in Valencia, Canyon Country and online.

Located on a modern 153.4-acre campus in Valencia and 70-acre site in Canyon Country, the college offers classes during traditional fall and spring semesters, as well as summer sessions and five-week winter inter-sessions. Currently, 70 associate degrees and 80 certificate programs are offered.

College of the Canyons has maintained its status over the years as one of the largest employers in the Santa Clarita Valley and is a vital, enduring, cultural, educational, and economic force in the region.

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