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March 28, 2020

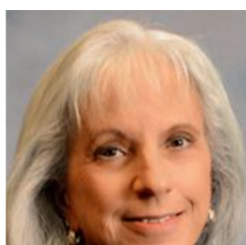
Dear IDSDC Friends,

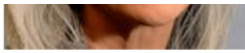
Like most events, the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Festival scheduled for today (Saturday, March 28) was cancelled. Naturally, we were disappointed that this fun, educational event couldn't be held after much effort and planning were invested.

Fortunately, the tech savvy Board members of our companion organization, the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association, said, "The show must go on." Thanks to them (especially Vicky Derksen, Debbie Clason, Clayton Corey, Ted Blank, and others), we are happy to present to you the opportunity to enjoy, in the comfort of your home, the:

### **2020 Virtual Dark Sky Festival**

The festival consists of a series of awesome video segments that you can choose from as well as a silent auction. All video segments for the Virtual Dark Sky Festival are now posted on the dark sky website <https://fhdarksky.com> and will remain available for an extended period of time. The following are some of the people you can hear from followed by an outline of the segments that make up this unique online experience.

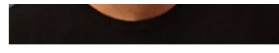




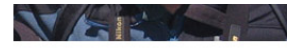
Mayor Ginny Dickey



Scott Adams



Mark Derksen



Ted Blank



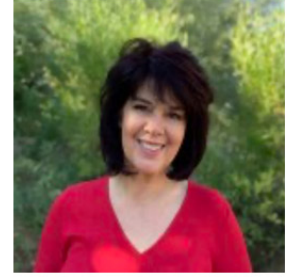
Dr. Mario Motta



Ranger Amy Burnett



Clayton Corey



Debbie Clason

## SEGMENT 1

- Welcome from Mayor Ginny Dickey
- Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association- Scott Adams, President
- Dark-Sky Lighting Tips- Mark Derksen, Board Member & owner of Dirk's Electric
- What to See in the Night Sky Right Now- Ted Blank- Board Member & NASA Solar System Ambassador. Note: Checking out the night sky could be a safe and educational outdoor activity in these times.

## SEGMENT 2.1

- *Adverse Health Effects of Light at Night* by Dr. Mario Motta, member, Board of Trustees, American Medical Association

## SEGMENT 2.2

- *Project Apollo: How Mankind Got to the Moon* by Ted Blank, NASA Solar System Ambassador & Board Member of FHDSA

## SEGMENT 2.3

- *Charles Juels: Discovering Asteroids from a Fountain Hills Backyard* by Ted Blank
- *Fountain Hills Library Telescope Lending Program & Other Resources* by Shelley Reddy

## SEGMENT 3

- *The Impact of Light Pollution on Local Wildlife* by Ranger Amy Burnett

## SEGMENT 4

- Announcing the winners of the Student Art Contest
- Announcing the winners of the Astrophotography Contest
- *Tips for Getting Started in Astrophotography* by Scott Adams, FHDSA President

So, go to the website <https://fhdarksky.com> and choose the segments you'd like to watch. For the silent auction, which ends at 9pm, click [HERE](#) and select "View Items" at the top. We hope you enjoy these offerings and that this virtual festival will at least be a partial substitute for the real one.

We look forward to a return to normalcy. In the meantime, stay healthy.

Board of Directors,  
International Dark Sky Discovery Center

Joe Bill, President

Ted Blank, Vice President

Nancy Bill, Secretary/Treasurer

Scott Adams

Jerry Butler

Clayton Corey

Vicky Derksen

Walt Franklin

Alan Magazine

Lisa Miller

Tony Pistilli

Jay Schlum



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