



days at
Dunrovin

March 2019



**Ranch
Talk**

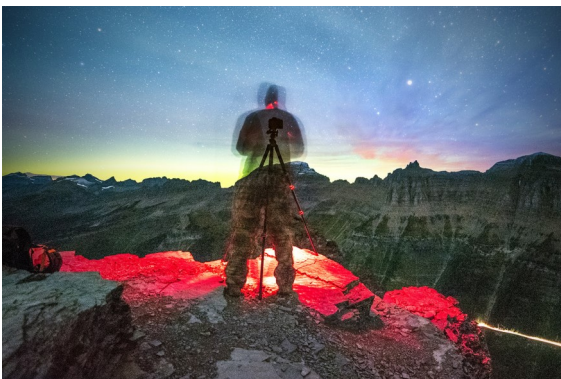


Science Lab: Montana's Big Sky at Night

Two Scientists Who Love to Share

John Ashley and Diane Friend go to extraordinary lengths to capture and share the beauty, mystery, cultural myths, and science of dark night skies.

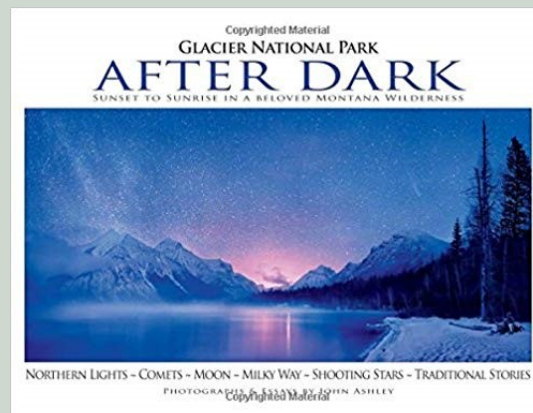
Many of us are old enough to remember when dark night skies were the norm, when all one had to do was to look up to feel the same immense sense of wonder and awe that night skies have evoked since the beginning of man's inhabitation on earth. Now, most people live where bright city lights interfere with the magic.



John Ashley is a wildlife biologist and artistic photographer who frequently turns to the night skies for inspiration. His relentless efforts to capture celestial phenomena in just the right position relative to Montana's varied and majestic landscapes has taken him deep into the wilderness of Glacier Park during cold winter nights. He presents many of his photos, relays Indian stories, and explains much of the science in his award-winning book, *Glacier National Park After Dark*, a book that took decades of being at the right place at the right time to complete.

John has been a tireless advocate for the International Dark Skies Initiative, working to help stop light pollution and protect the night skies for present and future generations. In conjunction with Canada's Waterton Lakes National Park, he has been instrumental in helping establish Glacier National Park as the first transboundary dark sky park, requiring the two parks to protect and improve the night skies and educate visitors to its importance.

See John's photo galleries at www.JohnAshleyFineArt.com.





Diane Friend's love of astronomy is matched only by her love of making it understandable by kids and adults of all ages.

With degrees in mathematics, astronomy, and geology, her work in solar physics at Boulder's High Altitude Observatory, and years serving as a lecturer in astronomy at the University of Montana, Diane brings a depth of knowledge to many her public education outreach activities.

Diane has lead and participated in numerous science education grants to built coalitions among diverse groups, including university and tribal college faculties, tribal members, and k-8 grad teachers to build, test, and disseminate culturally competent science lessons in physics, astronomy, and geosciences. She has taught classes for the Molli Livelong Learning Program for student over age 50, given public astronomy programs at UM's planetarium, and presented programs for numerous organizations such as the Glacier Institute, the US Forest Service, and the Montana Natural History Center.

Aurora Borealis



Milky Way



Schedule (Mountain Time Zone)

The Aurora Borealis and Australis

- **Thursday, March 14 at 2PM:** Broadcast with John Ashley and Diane Friend

The Milky Way

- **Thursday, March 28 at 2PM:** Broadcast with John Ashley and Diane Friend

Broadcast: Date:_____ **Time:**_____

Location:_____