

The Bulletin – The monthly publication of the Indiana Astronomical Society

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The Bulletin



The December General Meeting, December 20, 2008 7:00 PM Holcomb Observatory

Annual Christmas Party and General Election Night

Our annual Christmas party will be held at the Holcomb Observatory beginning at 7:00 PM. Angie Molt and Paula Magar are preparing the treats. Please bring a dessert. There will only be a short business meeting to get the elections done but then it is time to have some good food and chat with our friends.

Election Night December 20, 2008

According to the By-Laws of the IAS, the IAS elections will take place during the Annual Meeting to be held December 20, 2008 at the Holcomb Observatory on the Butler campus. The meeting begins at 7:00PM. All members in good standing and their spouses are eligible to vote. If you cannot attend, you may mail a signed absentee ballot to the Secretary. Absentee ballots must be received prior to the election. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member at the time of the election. All nominees must agree to serve prior to the election.

Offices shall be filled by election by majority vote of the membership at large at the annual meeting. Votes by absentee ballot shall be recognized provided the signed absentee ballot is received by the Secretary before or during the annual meeting. Votes by proxy will not be recognized.

The Report of the Committee on Nominations

The following slate of candidates have been received and candidates have agreed to run.

President -

Jeff Patterson

Vice President and Program Chairman -

Doug Brown

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Treasurer:
John Shepherd

Secretary:
Betsy Brown

Board of Directors (Two to be elected)
Bill Conner
Greg McCauley
John Molt
Brian Murphy

Report presented by Jeff Patterson
Nominating Committee

If you cannot attend the meeting on Election Night, please vote absentee. We need your participation.

Absentee Ballot

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Treasurer: _____

Secretary: _____

Board of Directors (vote for **Two**)

Signed: _____

Mail ballot to
Betsy Brown, Treasurer
1546 Trace Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Absentee ballots must be received prior to the election

Meet Your Candidates

President

Jeff Patterson – I joined the Society in 1994 when I had bought a used Celestron C-6 Newtonian and wanted to learn more about the sky. I thought that a Society would be a good way to learn from others. A friend of mine who was a member of the IAS invited me to a meeting at Butler and I was hooked. I truly enjoy the many friendships that I have had with IAS members and members of other societies. I now have friends all over the country that I look forward to meeting each time I go to a star party. I have served many positions in the Society; Editor of the Bulletin, Board member several times, Secretary, Vice President and Program Chairman and President. I have been involved and am deeply interested in public outreach. I love to show kids their first view of the Moon or Saturn. I am an avid star party goer and you will generally find me at local and regional parties with my Dob looking at the faint fuzzies. Next year, I plan to develop a program observing the planets and the moon. If elected, I will work hard next year with the new opportunities at the Link in its preservation and expansion of its programs as well as expanding our programs at McCloud.

Vice President and Program Chairman

Doug Brown - When I was 10 years old, I developed a real fascination for astronomy, thanks to my fourth grade teacher. In the mid-1990's, that interest was rekindled and I joined the IAS. This was a great move as I have enjoyed many IAS activities: the meetings, outreach programs, and observing at Link, McCloud, and at dark sky sites. I am an amateur telescope maker and have made several Dobsonian telescopes -- I am now finishing a 15in. I have been on the IAS Board for about 7 years. I helped rewrite the New Members Brochure, hoping to encourage our new members to become more active in the Society. I have worked at the outreach events and think these programs make a valuable contribution to the public. I would like to see us work to get more of our members to participate in outreach and observing events. As vice president and program chairman, I would like to expand our base of outside speakers to appeal to a variety of astronomical interests.

Secretary

Betsy Brown - I started coming to the general meetings of the IAS about 10 years ago with my husband, Doug. I don't have a science background, so you can imagine how surprised I was to learn how much I liked astronomy and the club. I really enjoy going to IAS events and participating in our outreach programs. I always get a bang when a kid looks at Saturn for the first time and says "cool"! When observing, I use a small Dob and like the challenge of finding globular clusters, nebulae, and other deep sky objects. It has been fun going to star parties and meeting other amateurs, and I hope to go to many more star parties in the future.

Having served as the IAS secretary for the past three years, I also helped edit the New Members Brochure. If re-elected, I would be happy to serve as the club's secretary for another year.

Treasurer

John Shepherd - I first began attending the IAS in 1968 when Dick Schlegel, a co-worker, told me about the Society when it was meeting at Indiana Central (now Indianapolis University). I attended for about one year until I started at Purdue. I rejoined in 1999 and since then I have served as treasurer for 4 years. My main interest is observing and the study of cataclysmic variable stars from both a taxonomic and etiologic perspective.

Board of Directors

Bill Conner - The impending impact of comet Shoemaker-Levi with Jupiter in 1994 rekindled my long standing interest in astronomy. A public star party, hosted by Butler, was listed in the Indy Star, so I attended and became acquainted with members of the Indiana Astronomical Society. As a result, I joined the Society and I received help with my decision to buy a basic telescope. I will always be indebted to the experienced amateurs in the Society who helped me get started. I have served the Society as Vice President and the Board of Directors for 9 years. I enjoy the challenge of astroimaging and observing so I frequently attend star parties where I can set-up my gear for a week. I also enjoy fellowship with other amateur astronomers. I'm "handy," so I usually try to participate in projects like the barn raising at McCloud and I manufactured the mirror grinding table tops for the Society. Outreach has been a significant part of my participation over the last six years and I coordinated the Society's participation in star parties for Indy school children and the Children's Museum for many years. Recently, I directed an effort to determine the Society's interest in becoming a member of the Astronomical League. The positive response resulted in membership and I volunteered to be the Astronomical League Correspondent and Awards Coordinator. In this capacity, I write "ALCor Observations" articles for *The Bulletin*. It is my desire to strengthen our current programs that are so highly valued by our members and seek out new areas of general interest.

Greg McCauley – Born in Kokomo, In. Am a relatively new but avid member of the IAS. I am married and have four grown children. I graduated from Kokomo High School and attended Indiana State University majoring in Aerospace Technology and Purdue University majoring in mechanical engineering. I am currently CEO and General Partner at Advanced Imaging in Carmel, IN (Medical Diagnostic Imaging Services). I was a NASA contractor for the Apollo Lunar Program at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, TX from 1970 to 1973. I worked on Apollo 15-16-17 in Mission Planning and Analysis for the Lunar Rover Team and in engineering support for Mission Control for those 3 flights.

Future aspirations relating to astronomy: In the process of developing a one hour lecture and PowerPoint presentation on A History of Manned Space Flight. I will probably offer a historical overview of the missions but focus on connecting the dots between the original technology development requirements for the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo program and its eventual evolution into today's world showing the investment was worth it for our society. It will be an exciting project for me that I am looking forward to

developing and delivering. I will be offering this lecture to local middle schools and high schools as an educational tool in the spring of 2009.

John Molt - John is married to Angie, father of Bethany (18) and stepfather to J.D. (24). He is a self-employed arborist and past President of the Indianapolis Landscape Association.

John was born in Chicago, raised in Indianapolis and Carmel and a friend to nature, (mostly insects and small animals). He is not much of a sports enthusiast except for NASCAR and hockey – played until injuries were too frequent (early 40's). His father (Jack) has similar interests though with more passion and is also an arborist. His mom (Nancy) is a retired chaplain and minister in the United Methodist Church. His brother (Tom, wife and son) live in Bloomington, and the nature vein runs through them as well.

An observant and caring wife, Angie, awakened a passion within John like no other hobby before (much to her dismay - just kidding!). Angie noticed how often he glanced upward but never mentioned the interest. For Christmas in 2001 she surprised John with a small refractor. As soon as possible he went out in search of the moon. After that first night he wasn't able to get the moon and telescope to cooperate so the little (but now cherished) instrument was returned.

A web search that Holiday period revealed organizations with persons interested in astronomy too, and, much to his surprise there was a society meeting within a few miles of home! The Indiana Astronomical Society meeting being held at Holcomb Observatory a few weeks later changed his life to say the least. Many friendly faces that night for someone so new was welcoming (Thanks to Jeff, Brian, Gary and Ron that night).

Over the next few months nearly every event was attended by John at which he probably asked silly questions. Very good information was offered such as to reading, keep looking up and perhaps starting off with binoculars.

That spring John saw a galaxy that helped swayed his decision – deep sky views with a 15" Dobsonian would be the ultimate instrument forever (so he thought and exclaimed to his trusting wife). Eventually (11 months later) it arrived and was carted to Link, Holcomb, schools and parks and then a Star Party - AstroFest 2002 - John was hooked! Camping, late nights, astro stuff, food and door prizes! Since that time he's attended star parties in many locations near and far with his faithful friend Terry. Talking for hours of planning trips and adventures and even more hours traveling just talking astro stuff.

Part of one's dedication to any hobby or community lies in being of service to others - in John's case, Board Member, Equipment Loaner Program director and public events supporter. As each gives, we receive.

Brian P. Murphy - Brian P. Murphy is a life-long resident of Indianapolis. He attended Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, and received his BA (Philosophy/History) from DePauw University in 1982. While there he lettered in football and was named to the Phi Gamma Delta All-American team.

Since 1996 Brian has served as president of Monument Realty and Management Companies. These companies specialize in commercial real estate development and property management. He is a licensed Indiana Real Estate Broker, licensed Indiana

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Appraiser, and a member of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors. Brian is an advisor to the Indiana Council on Outdoor Lighting Education.

Brian lives on the northeast side of Indianapolis with his wife and four sons. He is active in his church and its school.

Brian was drawn to astronomy at the age of 13 during the visit of much publicized (but ultimately a fizzle) Comet Kohoutek. He first joined the IAS in 1973. He renewed his interest in astronomy and rejoined the IAS in 1994 during the approach of Comet Shoemaker-Levy. He enjoys the tranquil beauty of observing, and the camaraderie of IAS membership. Brian served for several years as the IAS VP and Program Director

Librarian

We are still in need of a librarian. If you are interested in the position please contact me.

The Pres

IAS Calendar of Events for December

December 20 - General meeting and Christmas Party at Holcomb Observatory

Upcoming Star Parties and Registrations

Winter Star Party – February 21-28, 2008- The party is sold out. Tickets are generally available on Astromart and elsewhere.. Check www.scas.org or call the registrar at 386-362-5995. This party is always sold out and you need to get a ticket early. This is a premium party and the weather is generally fantastic in the Florida Keyes in February.

Smokey Mountain Stargaze Just outside Smokey Mountain National Park - TBD. This is a new party. Should be pretty that time of year.
<http://www.smokymtstargaze.com/index.php>

Tennessee Spring Star Party - Fall Creek Falls State Park TBD
<http://www.personal.bna.bellsouth.net/s/p/spsmith/default.htm>

Mid-South Stargaze TBD
The Observatory is one mile southeast of the Natchez Trace Parkway at French Camp. French Camp is about half-way between Jackson and Tupelo, Mississippi, at Natchez Trace mile marker 181. Mississippi <http://www.rainwaterobservatory.org/stargaze/index.htm>

Indiana Astronomy Day (IAS/PGO) - TBD
<http://jmmahony.home.insightbb.com/pgo/schedule.html>

Apollo Rendezvous – Dayton, Ohio June 12-13,2009
<http://mvas.org>

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Texas Star Party West Texas April 19-26, 2009. This is a premier party with very dark skies and a great site. Just a long way. Online registration will open November 15.

www.texasstarparty.org

Tennessee Spring Star Party – April 24-26, 2009

Cherry Springs Star Party Cherry Springs State Park, PA June 18-21, 2009

<http://www.astrohbg.org/s4>

Heart of America Star Party MO October 15-18, 2009

<http://www.hoasp.org/>

Nebraska Star Party – July 19-24, 2009- North Central Nebraska - This is a premier dark site and has fantastic observing. However, the weather is brutal. Temperatures can reach 105-110 degrees. However you can cool off in the shade of the tree. All activities will be at the Snake Creek Campground again this year. (I wonder why they call it Snake Creek). No activities will be at the resort. <http://www.nebraskastarparty.org/>

EPOCH 2009 - The 21st Century Midwest Star Party July 21-26, 2009
Beaver City, Indiana. This is a new star party put on by 20-20 Telescopes.

<http://www.2020telescopes.com/EPOCH2007.html>

JEPC Star Gazing Event IL Date To be announced

<http://www.mikewolford.com/JEPC%20Event.htm>

Indiana Family Star Party Camp Cullum, Frankfort, IN July 23-26, 2009

<http://jmmahony.home.insightbb.com/pgo/starparty/>

Black Forest Star Party PA Date To be announced

<http://www.bfsp.org/starparty/>

Twin Lakes Star Party – October 15-18, 2009

This is an excellent star party located in western Kentucky. One not to miss
If you know of events coming up let me know and I will get them in the Bulletin

ALCor News

Astronomically Related Holiday Gifts For Loved Ones

As amateur astronomers there is no end to our wish list for astronomical goodies that come under the primary limitations of: “How much can you lift?” or “How much can you afford?” Let’s turn this around and see what may be out there that would be appropriate for your spouse, kids or grandkids. I’m facing this challenge, and during my searches I have come across some interesting items.

For little ones, I’ve found a night light in the form of a turtle or lady bug. It is a stuffed toy with a hard shell that projects star patterns on the ceiling of a darkened room. Stars

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are projected in blue or green light with red available as a night light. The light is timed to go out after 45 minutes so the child can enjoy the scene and drift off to sleep without you having to go in and turn it off. I have viewed the star pattern, but the constellations are not the familiar ones, except Leo. The lack of brighter stars marking the constellations makes it difficult to sort them out from the background stars. I was able to find one at Kits and Kaboodle up at 146th Street in Carmel, but it may be easier to find them on the web under the search term “Twilight Turtle”.

For grade school kids there are great books by Terrence Dickson such as “Exploring the Night Sky” and “The backyard Astronomer’s Guide. These books give you an opportunity to mentor them before they drift off to other worldly things. For the younger ones, search the web for “Top 10 Astronomy Books for Kids.” The high schoolers, if you can pry them away from their cell phones and computers, there are Sagan’s books such as “Cosmos” or “Pale Blue Dot.” There may be some astronomy related computer games, but I have not had the opportunity to search for them.

For the lady of the home, I ran across a great piece of jewelry at the Winter Star Party. It is ear rings or a pendant in the form of a constellation. They can be had in sterling silver or gold filled with the stars represented by clear cubic zirconium stones or you can opt for colored stones that match the color of the stars in the constellation in question. Just determine the sign of the zodiac that your spouse was born under and order one from AstroGizmos at shop.astrogizmos.com. No they didn’t pay me to tout their wares. Good luck with your search for meaningful gifts.

Observer’s Corner

Logging Observations

This is an article written by David Paessler of the Western Kentucky Astronomical Association. Many feel that if you do not log your observation, you “have not seen the object”. Many of us, me included, don’t log our observation because of the time consumption. To win awards by the Astronomical League, one needs to learn to log our observations. As you begin to log your observations you will actually “see more” as you observe

I think the first thing that puts people off to AL lists is the requirement to log observations. This is not nearly as difficult as imagined. As minimum requirements go, it is not difficult.

First off would be the date, not hard at all.

Second would be the time of observation, either in local time or UT. We will keep that local to keep things simple. I used UT on the Herschel II list and it definitely added to the complexity.

Third is power used, again not a big challenge. Divide your telescope focal length by the eyepiece focal length. Be sure to use consistent units of measure. If your focal length is 2000mm and your eyepiece is 20mm you are using 100x power.

Fourth is instrument used, this is a brief description of your telescope or binocular used for the observation. An example would be 8" reflector, 9x60 binoculars, 16" dob.

Fifth is seeing/transparency. This gets a little more technical. You can start with a very simple scale of 5 units from Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, and Excellent. After observing for a few months, you can get an idea of what the night is without much difficulty. If the moon is full, scattered clouds are blowing by, and the humidity is near 100%, you will only see a handful of stars in the sky, the Milky Way is invisible and most dso's will look awful in the telescope, this is poor skies. In the other extreme, consider a night with no moon, crystal clear skies, the Milky Way is blazing overhead, you see many more stars than usual such that picking out the constellations is difficult, and dso's are marvelous in the scope, this is an excellent sky. Only the Herschel II requires a separate entry for seeing and transparency. In that case, seeing can be judged on the same poor-excellent scale by how stable the atmosphere and the image is in the scope. Another guide is how much power can be used before the image falls apart. Twinkling stars is a good sign of poor to fair seeing. Transparency can be judged by how faint a star can be seen naked eye. I reported this value as limiting magnitude of the faintest star seen. If only 3 stars can be seen in the little dipper, you have mag 3 skies. If all of them can be seen, then the skies are mag 5 or better.

Sixth and the one that keeps most people away from logging their observations is a description of the object. This is simply a verbal description of what you see in the eyepiece. Start off with defining the object type: galaxy, open cluster, etc. Then describe what you see. This could be a very simple description or very complex, depending on the list you are working on. Looking back at my Messier log, M1 is defined as "a large fuzzy patch, no detail other than gradually brighter middle, irregular shape". M29 is described as "large and small stars, very open". Then there is the infamous description of M76 for the binocular Messier as "if it was brighter, I could have seen it". At the other end of the scale is the Herschel II description of NGC 5861 as "Galaxy, large diffuse oval, brighter central area, averted vision shows several stars embedded, same field as NGC 5858".

If you are still unsure of how to describe objects, the Herschel II observing book from the Astronomy League gives guidelines for different object types. I will summarize them here. Remember these are only general guidelines to help you pull out details from what you see. If you really don't want to have to describe things, the Lunar List and Double Star List do not require descriptions of the objects.

Galaxies

Can it be seen directly or is averted vision required?

What is the overall shape?

Is the core noticeable? compact, stellar.

Can detail be seen in the galaxy? mottling, bright or dark patches or lanes.

Are the outer edges sharp or diffuse?

Are any other deep-sky objects visible in the same field? if so identify them.

Globular Clusters

Can it be seen directly or is averted vision required?

Is the core bright, compact, or not distinguishable?

Is it highly or loosely concentrated?

Is any part of it resolved into stars, averted vision or not, or does it show mottling, or stars resolved at the edges?

Are any other deep-sky objects visible in the same field, if so identify them?

Open Clusters

Is it easily distinguished from the background stars, is it well defined?

What is the overall shape?

How many stars can you count in the cluster?

Are the stars concentrated in any one area?

Is the cluster fully resolved or is background nebulosity noticed?

Are there areas where stars are absent in the cluster?

Are there any brighter stars in the cluster and do any stand out in color?

Are any other deep-sky objects visible in the same field, if so identify them?

Open Cluster/ Nebulosity

Can both the cluster and nebulosity be seen with direct vision or is averted vision required or filters needed?

What is the overall shape?

Are the outer edges sharply defined?

Are the stars concentrated in any one area?

Is the cluster embedded in the nebulosity or is there a distinct separation?

Is any part of the nebula brighter or more concentrated?

The December Sky

December Sky Features from Stars and Planets by Ian Ridpath, Starry Night and various internet sites.

I set Starry Night to December 6, 2008 at 10:00 PM viewing from Indianapolis, IN
Auriga

Abbreviation Aur. Highest in the sky at 10:00 pm December to February

Auriga represents the driver of a horse-drawn chariot. According to one myth, he is Erichthonius, a legendary king of Athens. However, there is no explanation in mythology for his depiction in the sky with a goat and its kids on his left arm. The goat is marked by the constellation's brightest star, Capella (Latin name meaning "she-goat").

Excerpt from <http://www.seds.org/MESSIER/>

During the years from 1758 to 1782 Charles Messier, a French astronomer (1730 - 1817), compiled a list of approximately 100 diffuse objects that were difficult to distinguish from comets through the telescopes of the day. Discovering comets was the way to make a name for yourself

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in astronomy in the 18th century -- Messier's first aim was to catalog the objects that were often mistaken for comets. Fortunately for us, the Messier Catalog became well known for a much higher purpose, as a collection of the most beautiful objects in the sky including nebulae, star clusters, and galaxies. It was one of the first major milestones in the history of the discovery of Deep Sky objects, as it was the first more comprehensive and more reliable list: Only four or five objects were initially missing because of data reduction errors, which could be figured out later though. Today's versions of the catalog usually include also later additions of objects observed by Charles Messier and his collegial friend, Pierre Méchain, but not included in his original list. The study of these objects by astronomers has led, and continues to lead, to important, incredible discoveries such as the life cycles of stars, the reality of galaxies as separate 'island universes,' and the possible age of the universe.

The purpose of these web pages is to provide a complete guide to the 110 objects recognized as the standard Messier catalog. More importantly, we would like to generate interest in astronomy, the night sky and the universe beyond us, and to encourage a sense of wonder and exploration.

We also hope that these pages may be useful as a reference for amateur astronomers.

As you look East above the horizon, the December sky will introduce you to a few of these Deep Sky Objects:

M35 (Gemini) Alt 43° AZ 93° a large and bright open cluster

M37, (Auriga) Alt 51° AZ 85° this naked eye cluster is a joy to observe an undoubtedly the best open cluster in Auriga.

M38 (Auriga) Alt 57° AZ 83° just visible with the naked eye and easy to see with binoculars.

The Hyades, (Taurus) Alt 58° AZ 129° a large, loose, V-shaped star cluster easily visible to the naked eye.

M45 (The Pleiades) (Taurus) Alt 70° AZ 136° also easy to see with the naked eye.

December Meteors

The Geminids reaching a maximum on December 13th

Go to this site for more information on the Geminids:

<http://meteorshowersonline.com/geminids.html>

[Ken Renolds](#)

Link Activities for December:

None planned

McCloud Activities for November–

None planned

Observing Activities

We are able to go to the Link, Prairie Grass Observatories, and McCloud Nature Park at non scheduled times if they do not conflict with reserved activities:

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For those interested in going to The Link Observatories for observing call Gary Schoppenhorst 1 317 297-1405.

For those interested in going to Prairie Grass Observatories for observing call Hoppe at 1-765-296-2753.

For those interested in going to McCloud to observe, please call the park caretaker, Jim Holtsclaw, at the park office 765 676 5490 before 4PM on the day you want to go out. He will give you permission to be there at night and cut off the lights.

Recent New Members

Seek out these new members and welcome them and see if there is anything they need.

Dan and Debbie Mitchell (Barabbas the English mastiff's Mom and Dad)
Bloomington, Illinois.

IAS LIBRARY:

Our complete list can be found (<http://www.iasindy.org/memonly/iasfiles.php>, which is password protected).

Larry A. Marcus

IU Kirkwood Observatory

The Observatory has closed for the Winter. Please visit our schedule at http://www.astro.indiana.edu/kirk_sch.shtml, for a list of dates and times. For updated weather conditions and closings, please call the Kirkwood Observatory Hotline at (812) 855-7736.

The IU Astronomy Department has an electronic bulletin to let people know about local astronomy activities and events. If you would like to subscribe, send an email to astdept@indiana.edu and we'll put you on the distribution list. Information about activities and events to be included in the e-bulletin should be sent to catyp@astro.indiana.edu.

Easy Listening:

Weekly podcasts are available at <http://www.astronomycast.com/> for those who love astronomy and want to learn, yet have no time (or desire) to do extra reading. They cover a variety of topics, and feature a different topic each week, so you can choose your flavor. The cast includes Fraser Cain, the publisher of Universe Today (<http://www.universetoday.com/>), and Dr. Pamela Gay, an assistant professor of physics at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. You do not need an iPod or portable device to enjoy these.

Mentor Program

We are reinstating the mentor program which will provide the new member with lots of information and help them assimilate into the Society. Thad Hatchett has volunteered to lead this program. We need your help. If you are interested in becoming a mentor please contact me at Jeff Patterson KB9SRB@hotmail.com or Thad Hatchett at astronomynut@sbcglobal.net. We will put your name on the list and assign a new person to you. Our goal is to retain people and make this hobby a lot more fun.

Do you have a question or need?

We are establishing a list of members who would be willing to receive calls for help on specific objects. If you have a specific skill and would be willing to help others please contact Jeff Patterson KB9SRB@hotmail.com.

Based upon the responses we received to your intro question recently, perhaps we should add a section to the bulletin naming those members who would be willing to receive calls for help on specific subjects.

William Conner (wmtconner@sbcglobal.net) - for CCD imaging and film photography.

Public Outreach Programs

Gerald Venne is our Public Events Coordinator. He will be responsible for coordinating Public Events for the IAS. He needs your help. Let Gerald know if you would like to show the public our sky.

We need people to help at Link and elsewhere. It is actually a lot of fun.

To schedule a public event contact Gerald Venne 1 317 826-2680 or Jeff Patterson at 1-317 882-8055.

Astro Ads

Are you changing or upgrading your equipment? Do you have or are you looking for astronomical materials and equipment? The Indiana Astronomical Society as a service to its members, will publish non-commercial ads at no charge. The ad will stay in the Bulletin for 4 months and may be renewed at the owner's request.

To place an ad, contact:

Bulletin Editor

Jeff Patterson
1780 S. Morgantown Rd.

Greenwood, IN 46143
(317) 300-0449

E-Mail: KB9SRB@Hotmail.com

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For Sale - I have a Orion Space Probe 130 mm focal length F/7.0 brand new about 5 months old used about 5 times. Comes with a protective case. 10mm 25mm with a 3x barlow, a solar filter for the sun, a moon filter 25% all filters are still in original boxes and a laser collimator. I have about 600.00 invested into it or more all bought from Orion company still under warranty. Asking 400.00 great for someone just starting out Chris Mendoza 317 731-4241 or my cell 317 654-9871

For Sale - Astronomy photographic prints for sale. The prints are displayed at <http://www.dougsastro.net>. 12" X 18" prints are \$25.00 and 8" X 12" are \$15.00. All of the images were taken by Doug Sanquetti. Most were taken locally near Cicero, IN but a few were taken at Star Parties. Any print on the web site may be ordered by contacting Doug at drsanqun@gmail.com

For Sale – Celestron 102mm F/5 acromat OTA. I purchased this scope to use as a finder but really do not use it. It would make a great first scope. \$175 Jeff Patterson kb9srb@hotmail.com or 317 506-0325.

For Sale – Tele-Vue Gibraltar mount and ash tripod. This is the older style but is in good shape and makes a fine alt/az mount. \$400 Jeff Patterson kb9srb@hotmail.com or 317 506-0325.

For Sale – Losmandy GM-8 mount and tripod. I have added a G-11 saddle that takes the Losmandy D dovetails. In addition I have the Losmandy tube extension that makes it a nice for use with refractors. Includes a Losmandy polar alignment scope. The mount is about a 1990 model and drives well and is in pristine shape. \$1200 Jeff Patterson kb9srb@hotmail.com or 317 506=0325.

For Sale –

Items for sale, let's talk about the price!

John Molt 1stargazer@indy.rr.com (317-989-1875)

- (2) Orion 'Ultrascope' 15 mm
- (2) Orion Plossls 9 mm
- (2) Vixen LV 15 mm
- (2) Unitron 'Monochro' 40 mm
- (2) ER ? 35 mm (probably cheap off brand)
- Vixen 30 mm (2 inch)
- Tele Vue 20 mm Nagler (2 inch)
- Tele Vue 40 mm Wide Field (2 inch)
- Vixen BT 80 Binocular Telescope
- Vixen Custom D mount/tripod (alt/az)
- Numerous 1 1/4" diagonals
- (2) camera tripods

For Sale: Large Format prints from YOUR digital astrophotographs. I got tired of taking my favorite digital astrophoto to a "big box" office supply store and getting back a large format image that had subjective colors on a brown background. So I bought my own printer! I will print your astrophotographs on glossy or matte paper stock or on glossy or matte canvas stock up to 44 inches wide by virtually any length. The printer has a built in spectrophotometer that guarantees the color recorded in the digital file is the color that will print. I am an astrophotographer and know what astrophotographs are supposed to look like. I will print

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astrophotos for any member of the ISA for \$8 per square foot on paper stock and \$15 per square foot on canvas stock. Minimum order is 2 square feet. Actual shipping charges are added for USPS or FedEx. My discount for FedEx is about 70% off list. Contact me at starkey73@mchsi.com to submit digital images and ask any questions. The invoice accompanies the shipment. Payment is due upon receipt of the print. If you don't like, don't pay for it. Personal checks are accepted.

For Sale - Lots of astronomy equipment

14" LX-200 GPS-SMT w/UHTC ,Peterson EZ Clutch & Buck's Gears.

Meade 14" Superwedge 07007

Meade DC Cord ETX/LXD/GPS 07043

14" AstroZap Dewcap

Meade 12mm MA rect w/cord 07065

Meade Giant Tripod, black 42-0100-03

Meade f3.3 CCD reducer 07567

Orion O-III Filter 1.25" 05581

Meade E/P, SP 26mm 1.25" Eyecup 07175-02

Meade 930: 2" Diagonal mirror UHTC 07223

Meade V/F, #554 8X50, Blue 8/10SC

Meade Focuser, Zero Image Shift 37-7280-00

Meade LPI, AutoStar Suite

Meade DSI, AutoStar Suite

2 ea. Meade DSI-Pro-II AutoStar Suite w/RGB Filters

Astronomical Image Processing Tutorials by Donald Waid

A Beginner's Guide to the Meade LX200GPS by Astrodeude

Moon Atlas CD

Edmund Scientific Astroscan Telescope 4 1/4" Dia., 4 1/8" (105mm) f/4.2, 17 1/2" (445mm) F.L. parabolic, 1/8 wave, borosilicate, aluminized and overcoated

Edmund Scientific 28mm 1.25" Eye Piece

Note: AutoStar Suite Version 3.0 w/Drizzle is available on LPI, DSI & DSI Pro-II.

If interested call Bob Westwater at 317.332.9471

Onions and Orchids

The Loaner Program

The Loaner Program has been helpful to those new to the hobby and others in need of observing equipment. We consider offers of equipment you may not have need for any longer.

Did you know you can borrow a scope or piece of astronomy equipment from the Society and take it for a test drive? The Society has a program where members who are trying to determine what kind of equipment to buy can borrow one of the Society's scopes for a month or two and see how they like it. John Molt is the chairman of the program and can arrange for your pickup and training on the use of the particular instrument. This is a great way to see what telescope you want to purchase. We have several scopes, eyepieces and binoculars to loan.

John Molt (1stargazer@indy.rr.com) or (317) 989-1875

List Server Online - Don't be left in the cold - Sign up!

This service is our main communication tool. The list server is accessible only by IAS members.

Being a member does **not** mean you are automatically entered into the “Members Only” section. If you are a new member, please go to the “Members Only” section and fill out an application. The webmaster will set you up and notify you that you can get into the system. Make sure we have your correct e-mail and you will have access for late updates to events and functions. Unless you opt out for the List server, you will automatically have access to it when you are approved for the “members only” section.

Note: The list server is for use of Society business. It can only be used according to the rules as outlined previously. Basically it is used to communicate astronomical information to the general Society that would be unique. Please do not send out information from websites that we all generally subscribe to. Also please note: Do not add the list server address to your general address lists. Our problems have generally come from this when a member sends out mail to all their addressees. Members abusing the service will be eliminated from the service.

Board Meeting – There is no Board meeting in December

General Meeting Dates 2008 and 2009

December 20 Christmas Party at Holcomb Observatory

	NAG	General	Board
January		17-Jan	19-Jan
February		14-Feb	17-Feb
March		14-Mar	17-Mar
April		18-Apr	21-Apr
May	2-May 30- May	16-May	19-May
June	27-Jun	13-Jun	16-Jun
July	25-Jul	11-Jul	14-Jul
August	22-Aug	8-Aug	11-Aug
September	26-Sep	12-Sep	15-Sep
October		10-Oct	13-Oct
November		7-Nov	10-Nov
December		12-Dec	15-Dec



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Goethe Link Observatory Observatory Address

**Goethe Link Observatory
8403 N. Observatory Lane
Martinsville, IN 46151**

**Observatory 's Phone:
(317) 831-0668**

This schedule is being published to assure proper access to the Link Observatory for programs that are designed as observational, general education, astronomy conferences or amateur research projects. Training programs are tentatively scheduled for Saturday evenings only. Although other requests can over-ride these sessions. It is the purpose of this listing to prevent activity conflicts.

If you need to acquire use of the 36-inch telescope: remember two important IAS guidelines:
1) *There has to be two or more IAS members present.....*2) *contact the Observatory Manager: Gary Schoppenhorst (317)297-1405. DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE YOUR REQUEST OR YOU MAY NOT GET ACCESS.*

Bulletin Stats

Accessing the Bulletin

The current bulletin can be found on the website www.iasindy.org

Bulletin - Bulletin deadline on the 20th of every month

The monthly newsletter welcomes articles of local astronomical interest information and want ads:

Please submit to
The Indiana Astronomical Society, Inc
Jeff Patterson, editor
1780 S. Morgantown Rd
Greenwood, IN 46143
Phone: (317) 300-0449
KB9SRB@hotmail.com

Membership information

Contact any IAS officer or the Treasurer
John Shepherd (317) 862-3442

Link Observatory

Latitude: 39 degrees, 33 minutes North
Longitude: 86 degrees, 24 minutes West
Phone: (317) 831-0668
IAS Internet address
<http://www.iasindy.org>

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Executive Officers

President: Jeff Patterson (317) 300-0449

Vice-President and Program Director: Doug Brown (317) 872-4050

Secretary: Betsy Brown 1-317-872-4050

Treasurer: John Shepherd (317) 862-3442

Board of Directors

Gary Schoppenhorst (2009)

Gerald Venne (2009)

Tom Borlik (2010)

John Switzer (2010)

Ron Burgess (2010)

Marion Hakes (2008)

John Molt (2008)

Public Event Coordinator

Gerald Venne gvenne@iquest.net 1 317 826-2680

Library Committee Coordinator

Currently vacant

Astronomical League Coordinator

Bill Conner wmtconner@sbcglobal.net 1-812 828-0449

Membership Coordinator

Vicki Switzer vswitzer42@verizon.net 1 812-835-2251

December Calendar, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 1 st QTR 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Full Moon 	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 3 rd QTR 	20 General Meeting at Butler
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 New Moon 
28	29	30	31			

Membership Application to the IAS

Benefits:

Use of the Goethe Link Observatory
Formal monthly programs with guest speakers
Local and regional astronomical functions
Discounted Astronomy publications
New Moon observing activities
Access to IAS member experts and problem solving
The Bulletin monthly newsletter
Membership in the Astronomical League
Free admission to the Holcomb planetarium
Star party events and observing sessions

Please mark whether this is a new or renewal application

New

Renewal

Note: Magazine subscription renewals forms and payment must be submitted to the Treasurer in order to maintain publisher's club discount.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: () _____

E-Mail Address: _____

How do you want to receive the IAS monthly newsletter?

Downloadable from Website Hard Copy*

* Please note that hard copy costs the Society about \$1.50 per issue. Please consider this when selecting mode of receiving the newsletter.

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Annual Regular Membership (\$30.00)	
Annual Student Membership (\$10.00)	
Astronomy Magazine Renewal (\$34.00)	
Sky and Telescope Magazine (\$33.00) (New Subscription)	
Total Enclosed	

Make checks payable to: The Indiana Astronomical Society, Inc

Please complete Member Profile and include with the application

Mail Application to:

Vicki Switzer Membership Coordinator
2115 N. Private Rd 50 E
Centerpoint, IN 47840

Member Profile

Spouses Name: _____

Children's names and ages: _____

Education: _____

Occupation: _____

How many years associated with Astronomy? _____

Special astronomical interests or projects: _____

-

Equipment: _____

What can the Society do for you? _____

What can you do for the Society? _____

Note: Profile information is not a requirement for membership to the Society. This information is entered into the IAS database and is not given nor sold for solicitation purposes. It does provide for a brief welcoming article for new members and may be used by the society to match people with similar interests.