The Bulletin – The monthly publication of the Indiana Astronomical Society

July, 2008
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The Bulletin

The July General Meeting, July 26, 2008 7:00 PM Goethe Link Observatory

Star Hopping

One of the most frustrating and challenging parts of our hobby is being able to find objects in the sky. Thad Hatchett will present his techniques and "secrets" on how he star hops to objects in the sky without the use of setting circles and computers.

Telescope Clinic

If you have questions or need help with your telescope or techniques, our more experienced members may be able to help you. Bring your scope and after Thad's presentation, we will try to help you with your individual problems. We can help with collimation, set up, alignment, observing etc. Come on out and we will have fun together.

IAS Calendar of Events for July

July 2 Board Meeting
July 12 – NAG at McCloud
July 26 - General meeting and observing at the Link
July 30 Board Meeting
July 31-August 3 Indiana family Star Party

New Astronomers Group Meeting

McCloud Nature Park
7:30 pm - July 12, 2008
The next monthly meeting of the Indiana Astronomical Society's **N**ew **A**stronomers **G**roup for will be held on **Saturday, July 12 at McCloud Nature Park starting at 7:30 pm**.
Weather permitting there will be an observing session using IAS member's telescopes and binoculars following the meeting.

THE NAG MEETING WILL BE HELD - RAIN OR SHINE.

Topics for this month:

- Observing the July Evening sky
- Reading a Star Chart

- The Summer Pointer Stars
- The Summer Triangle
- Our Solar System
- The Deep Sky – Sagittarius (The Tea Pot)
- _M8 – Lagoon Nebula
- M17 – Omega Nebula
- M20 – Trifid Nebula
- M21 – Open Cluster
- M22 – Globular Cluster
- M23 – Open Cluster
- M25 - Open Cluster
- M55 – Globular Cluster
- Celestial Fireworks – Meteor Showers
- A Beginners Introduction to the Telescope
- Question and Answer Session

The purpose and intent of the NAG is to introduce new astronomers to observing the night sky. All types of observing will be discussed including naked eye, binocular and telescope.
If the weather cooperates, following the meeting, IAS members will have telescopes set up and attendees will have an opportunity to view some of the night sky objects discussed during the meeting.

NAG Dates for 2008

Please mark your calendars for the NAG dates this year
Saturday July 12, 2008
Saturday August 9,2008
Saturday September 6,2008

Indiana Family Star Party/GREATCon 2008

July 31 – August 3

The IAS is, once again, co-sponsoring the Indiana Family Star Party. This is held at the Prairie Grass Observatory on the grounds of Camp Cullom just outside of Frankfort, Indiana. We are again responsible (with help from the Muncie Astronomy Club), for the check-in/registration booth and we need volunteers to help run that booth. We will check in pre-registered attendees and collect fees for at-gate registrants and walk-ins.

For Friday and Saturday I will set up two-hour time slots and plan to have at least two people in the booth at all times. The booth will be open for Registration on Friday from 4:00pm to 10:00pm and on Saturday from 10:00am to 12:00pm. There are other registration times that the booth will be closed but others will take care of registering during these times at the Information Office.

If you are interested in helping just e-mail me with your name and phone number and if you have a time preference. I will do my best to accommodate these preferences. Information about this event can be found at

http://home.comcast.net/~jmmahony1/PGO/starparty/index.html, including the registration form. Note that pre-registration is discounted but the deadline is postmark by July 21.

Gerald Venne
IAS Public Events Coordinator
gvenne@iquest.net

Observer's Corner

At the Texas Star Party we had a list of globulars in Sagitarius and Scorpio to look for. I found it to be a lot of fun. You will find that they vary from very small smudges to huge fuzzies. Next time you are at a dark site look at these and check out how they vary. Some are too low to see from Indiana but it is a good list.

"Globular Glory"

Object	Type	R.A.	Dec	Con	Size	Mag
NGC 4590	Glb	12 39.5 -	26 45	Hya	12.0	7.7
NGC 5139	Glb	13 26.8	-47 29	Cen	36.3	3.5
NGC 5466	Glb	14 05.5	+28 32	Boo	11.0	9.0
NGC 6205	Glb	16 41.7	+36 28	Her	16.6	5.7
NGC 6341	Glb	17 17.1	+43 08	Her	11.2	6.4
NGC 6218	Glb	16 47.2 -	01 57	Oph	14.5	6.8
NGC 6254	Glb	16 57.1	-04 06	Oph	15.1	6.6
NGC 6266	Glb	17 01.2	-30 07	Oph	14.1	6.7
NGC 6273	Glb	17 02.6	-26 16	Oph	13.5	6.7
NGC 6293	Glb	17 10.2	-26 35	Oph	7.9	8.2
NGC 6304	Glb	17 14.5	-29 28	Oph	6.8	8.4
NGC 6333	Glb	17 19.2	-18 31	Oph	9.3	7.6
NGC 6093	Glb	16 17.0	-22 59	Sco	8.9	7.3
NGC 6121	Glb	16 23.6	-26 32	Sco	26.3	5.8
NGC 6139	Glb	16 27.7	-38 51	Sco	5.5	8.9
NGC 6388	Glb	17 36.3	-44 44	Sco	8.7	6.7
NGC 6441	Glb	17 50.2 -	37 03	Sco	7.8	7.2
NGC 6541	Glb	18 08.0	-43 42	CrA	13.1	6.1
NGC 6553	Glb	18 09.3	-25 54	Sgr	8.1	8.1
NGC 6624	Glb	18 23.7	-30 22	Sgr	5.9	8.0
NGC 6626	Glb	18 24.5	-24 52	Sgr	11.2	6.8
NGC 6637	Glb	18 31.4	-32 21	Sgr	7.1	7.6
NGC 6656	Glb	18 36.4	-23 54	Sgr	24.0	5.1
NGC 6723	Glb	18 59.6	-36 38	Sgr	11.0	7.2
NGC 6809	Glb	19 40.0	-30 58	Sgr	19.0	6.4

IAS LIBRARY:

The IAS library is available at the Link Observatory. Tom Borlik has graciously donated bookcases and we have converted the bunkroom into a library.
Our complete list can be found (http://www.iasindy.org/memonly/iasfiles.php, which is password protected).

Larry A. Marcus

IU Kirkwood Observatory

Kirkwood Observatory on the IU campus is now open! The Observatory will be open every Wednesday night, weather permitting, until November, 2008. 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 reinstituting 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.

Upcoming Star Parties and Registrations

Nebraska Star Party – July 27-August 1 - North Central Nebraska - 950 miles 18 hour drive. 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 2007 The 21st Century Midwest Star Party Jul 29 - Aug 3
Beaver City, Indiana This is a new star party put on by 20-20 Telescopes.
http://www.2020telescopes.com/EPOCH2007.html

Indiana Family Star Party Camp Cullum, Frankfort, IN Jul 31 - Aug 3
http://jmmahony.home.insightbb.com/pgo/starparty/

Black Forest Star Party PA September 5-7
http://www.bfsp.org/starparty/

Astrofest Kankakee, IL September 5-7th, 2008
http://www.chicagoastro.org/

Prairie Skies Star Party – Kankakee IL – September 25-28, 2008
http://www.prairieskies.org/

Illinois Dark Skies Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area Il.
September 25-28 http://www.sas-sky.org/

Twin Lakes Star Party Pennyrille State Park, Western KY Sep 27 - Oct 5
http://www.wkaa.net/

Okie-Tex Star Party Camp Billy Joe, OK Sep 27 - Oct 5
http://www.okie-tex.com/

If you know of events coming up let me know and I will get them in the Bulletin

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

For sale: 2 Televue eyepieces
4.8mm Nagler
17mm Type 4 Nagler
(The 17mm Nagler is a 2" eyepiece)
Both for $250 obo
Contact: Jim Zdobylak 317-862-4715 or zobe1@aol.com

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 Sanqunetti. 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

Onions and Orchids

Thanks to Tom Borlik and Pete Kline for their tireless efforts to sand, stain, and reinstall the base board on the observing deck of the Link.

The Pres

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 in the "Members Only " section of the site and is accessible only by IAS members. Make sure we have your correct e-mail and you will have access for late updates to events and functions.

Being a member does **not** mean you are automatically entered into the "Members Only" section and the have the List Serve available. 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.

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 – Board Meeting July 30, 2008

The IAS Board Meeting is being held at 430 Massachusetts Avenue in downtown Indianapolis. The building is at the point of convergence of Mass. Ave., Vermont and Alabama Streets. There is a Starbucks located in the frontage of the building. The coffee shop stays open late into the evening. Try to park as close to Starbucks as possible, preferably in a metered space. On-street parking is free after 5pm. Handicapped parking is directly in front of Starbucks entrance. The main entrance to the building is to the right of Starbucks. We meet in the basement. Ride the elevator (around the corner to your left) to the basement. Turn right as you exit the elevator and go through the first door on your right. This is the conference/meeting room. If you need further assistance, please contact Brian P. Murphy, IAS Vice-President on his cell phone 716-8124.

General Meeting Dates 2008

The Board has made a major decision for the Society. In years past there have been major conflicts with star parties and other events and the General meeting which is held the second Saturday of the month. The Board has decided to "float" the date of the general meeting each year based on the phase of the moon. Basically the general meeting will be held close to third quarter moon. The dates of the general meetings will be published at the beginning of each year. We think this change will provide the following benefits:

1. Allow us to schedule NAG (New Astronomer's Group) meetings at McCloud on Saturday nights good for observing with the public.
2. Prevent conflicts with star parties that generally occur around the new moon which is early in the month in 2008.
3. Still provide observing opportunities at the Link during the Summer months.
4. We will continue to float the Observer's meeting at the Link to provide the best observing possible.

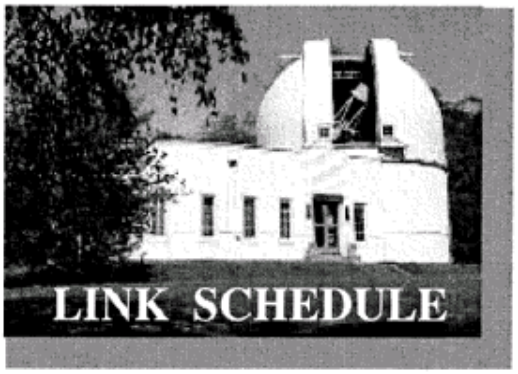
January through March - will stay on the 2nd Saturday at Butler
June 28 at Link
July 26 at Link
August 23 at Link
September 20 at Link
October 18 at Link (Hog Roast)
November 15 at Butler
December floats for the Christmas Party at Butler

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.

Link Activities for July:

General Meeting July 26

McCloud activities for July –

NAG July 12

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:

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.

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

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

Larry Marcus marcus@mwmacoustics.com 317 842-6658

Astronomical League Coordinator

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

July Calendar, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 ●	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 ☽	11	12 **NAG at McCloud**
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 ○
20	21	22	23	24	25 ☾	26 **General Meeting at Link** General Observing
27	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.

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: John Shepherd, Treasurer
4609 Callahan St.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

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.