

The Bulletin – The monthly publication of the Indiana Astronomical Society

November, 2007
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www.iasindy.org



The Bulletin

**Note the General meetings move to Holcomb Observatory.
Please do not go to the Link. It will not be open**

The November General Meeting, November 10, 2007 7:00 PM Holcomb Observatory on the Butler Campus

Unfortunately our speaker that we had planned for will not be able to attend. I plan to lead a discussion about the IA. What we did this last year and what went right and what went wrong. Where we are going and what we need to do to make us into an even better club. Bring your ideas. I plan to talk about some program changes that we are contemplating and some field trips that we are planning.

I hope you come as we need your feedback.

If we have time we may take in the planetarium program.

The Pres

New Comet Becomes Spectacular – 17P/Holmes

Here's an impression from an AAVSO observer:

I must say that in my 39 years of observing, this comet may be the most astonishing thing I've seen in the sky! I had about a 1/2 hour view this morning between 1:30 and 2 am, and the view through the scope, first at 130x then 203x, caught me completely off guard. I may even have gasped! Through the spotter, it appeared light orange in colour - not at all like any star I'd seen, then at telescopic powers this huge 'planetary nebula' appeared unlike anything I've ever seen. The central part was flesh coloured, and the outer part was a strange red-blue, or weird turquoise colour. Since the description of the view was not preconceived, I immediately got the impression of a parabolic surface like a reflection off a curved hubcap, not even associating this 'shape' with a comet. But that's what it looks like. Thinking about it for a minute, are we seeing the comet nose on? Is the 'central fleshy part' really the coma, and the 'outer part' the tail seen from the front? Bizarre! Beyond the very circular and distinct 'tail', which has quite a distinct 'edge' (in the bright moonlight with a hugely bright skyglow) I got the impression of faint wings to the east and west, and 'shadows' north and south. In the nuclear area, I could not see any jets or irregular bits. It all seemed mostly homogeneous dropping to the edge. I didn't have enough clear sky at any one time to do a mag estimate, but man, is this thing obvious in the sky at

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between 2.5 & 3 mag. I hope it keeps up for a while so everyone can see this! If you haven't heard, it's 'flaring' from 17th mag up to 3rd! (Richard Huziak)

David Williams

Vic and I had the 15" outside last night to view 17P/Holmes. We had viewed the comet through our 10x50's but this was the first time for the Obsession. It probably was best viewed through the 24 Panoptic at 72X. The comet filled about half of the field of view (.95 degrees). I also used the 13 Nagler T6 (133X) and the comet almost completely filled the field of view (.65 degree). We both agreed on what we saw through our 65 year old eyes. The western edge appeared to be quite round while the eastern edge, while still round, seemed to have some raggedness to it. The core appeared to have a small "spike" radiating toward the east. There were definitely some concentric rings that surrounded the core and the further you looked from the core, the nebulosity became more diffuse. To describe the comet as looking like a very large and bright planetary nebula is quite apt.

John Switzer



Photo courtesy of John Mahony of WVAS

Revision of the Bylaws is Approved

At the October general meeting, the revisions of the IAS Bylaws proposed by the Board were approved by the general membership by unanimous vote. The main result of this vote is that

elections will be held at the December general meeting. Candidates for office will be announced next month.

Elections Are Coming

Man time flies! It is getting to be that time of year when we elect officers and Board members. Elections are in December (if the new By-Laws are in place). This year you will be electing the officers, President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and three Board members. The Board has established a nominating committee to develop a slate of officers and Board members. If you have interest in running for an office or know someone who would be good, please let one of the members of the Committee know and we will place you on the ballot. You have to be a member in good standing to run for a seat. This is your chance to provide leadership in the Society and direction of its activities.

Nominating Committee:

Jeff Patterson – KB9SRB@hotmail.com

Brian Murphy

Thad Hatchett

The Pres

The Board meets on Thursday after the General meeting and we meet downtown Indianapolis at 7PM.

Duties of the various offices

(1) The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and ensure that the purposes of the meeting are accomplished. The President shall annually nominate the Editor of the monthly newsletter (*The Bulletin*), the Web Supervisor of the official website, the Associate Web Supervisor, the Observatory Manager, the Loaner Program Coordinator, the Public Events Coordinator, the Librarian and the Astronomical League Correspondent. The nominations will be ratified by the Board of Directors. The President will be responsible for communication with Indiana University.

(2) The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall act as Program Coordinator. The Vice president's principal responsibility is to obtain speakers or to develop a specific program for each of the general meetings.

(3) The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Business/Board meetings, initiate such Society correspondence as shall be directed to the Secretary, and ensure that records of the Society's business are maintained in permanent form.

(4) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies belonging to the Society. The Treasurer shall collect dues from the members, keep accurate records of all transactions and hold Society funds ready for disbursement at the order of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall also maintain insurance documents, file annual corporate papers as may be required by the Indiana Secretary of State, and prepare and submit all required state and federal tax returns. In addition, the Treasurer shall

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update and maintain membership, Friends of the Society and IAS Astronomical League databases.

(5) There are seven Directors on the Board. They and the officers of the Society are the governing body for the Society.

It is really a lot of fun and doesn't take a lot of time to hold any of the offices. I would like to see more new faces running for office. We have a lot of new blood in the Society and maybe you have ideas that would make it a better place.

The Pres

Girl Scout Camperee

(Morgantown, IN – October, 2007)—Indiana Astronomical Society members, Thad Hatchett, Dave Hollinberger, Gilbert and Janena Janek, Jon Williams, Gerald Venne and Ken Reynolds contributed their time, talent and enthusiasm during the Camperee during the weekend of October 6 and 7, 2007 at Camp Gallahue near Morgantown, IN.

From 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM, October 6th, 19 Troops from the Woodland Girl Scouts of Central Indiana learned the parts of a telescope and binoculars, solar observing, rocket building, paper airplanes, solar oven cooking, decorating star cookies. These programs gave almost 200 girls the opportunity to be a leader, try something new, and make friends. Staff members, led by Kathy Ashworth also came away from their experience with a greater understanding of children and a renewed spirit.

The Indiana Astronomical Society set up five telescopes and several binoculars on the Camp Gallahue Dam for a great evening of observing that will help the girls achieve their Astronomy Merit Badges. They had to find and identify at least 5 constellations; Ursa Major, Ursa Minor, Cassiopeia, Pegasus, Cygnus. Find the North Star (Polaris) and learn how it is used for navigation. Learn which planets are visible to the naked eye. The only one that was visible during the evening was Jupiter. However at 6:30 in the morning, the girls that could make it up received a fantastic treat; Venus, Saturn, and the star Regulus were all visible to the naked eye all gathered around the Moon while Mars was in the nearby vicinity. So, they got to see four out of the five naked eye planets. The only one that was not visible was Mercury.

Ken Reynolds

TLSP

Twin Lakes Star Party 2007

Held Oct 6 through 14 at Pennyrile Forest State Park in western KY proved once again to be a very nice event. Of the 8 nights in attendance 7 were virtually dusk to dawn observing.

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Those in attendance included Mike & Sandy Wolford, Dan & Debbie Mitchell, John & Vicky Switzer, Doug & Betsy Brown, Jay Simmons, Terry Steadham and John Molt. About 75 people attended this year – a few more than in the past.

The star party started off with hot, humid conditions and almost shirtsleeve observing weather for 2 nights, light rain, then into the lower 40's for an evening and back to moderate temperature by the end. Dew wasn't real heavy but present most evenings. This was my first star party dealing with a skunk – just 1 evening with it wondering through but alarming to those who've been 'exposed'. Deer visited almost every afternoon in an adjacent field on trips to the Lodge for an occasional meal out we'd see young deer in and around the parking lot not the least bit afraid. As in the past I found numerous 'walking-stick' insects around.

For outdoor enthusiasts there's plenty to do from fishing and boat rental at the nearby lake, golf within the park and hiking trails in the adjacent woods. Most days I relaxed, listened to a presentation, visited or worked on equipment (Thanks to Danny, Mike & host Dave Paessler).

If you've the opportunity to attend it's a great event with good skies, a lot of Dobsonian telescopes and hosted by generous people.

By John Molt



Annual Hog Roast a Great Success

Well Mike Kirsch got out the old cooker and we had a fantastic time. It is great to see the new faces and we all got a chance to sit and talk. It was a beautiful Fall day. We want to thank Mike for his effort. This has become one of our top events where we just have fun. It is great to visit with old friends over a piece of perfect tenderloin or ribs cooked to perfection. If you missed us this year let's do it again next year.



Field Trip to Kirkwood –

After the hog roast we sojourned down to Bloomington to tour through the Kirkwood Observatory. If you were not able to make it you really missed a treat.. Unfortunately, it was cloudy and we were not able to observe. IU has recently remodeled the observatory and it was beautiful! Some of Caty's staff showed us the telescope and how the dome works and gave us a history of the observatory. In addition we got a tour of their solar exhibit where they do public outreach programs. After the tour of Kirkwood, we were invited to go to the control center in Swain Hall where IU collects their data from the WIYN site at Kitt Peak. The camera on the observatory was on and the view from Kitt Peak was beautiful! The astronomer explained her project and showed us how they have multiple detectors on the camera on the telescope so that she can collect spectroscopic data. The sensors are controlled by the computer and located at each point of interest in the field. She then collects data simultaneously from each of the detectors.

We would like to thank Caty and her staff for a most interesting tour. The cookies and coffee were good as well.

Our next trip is probably Cincinnati Observatory. Please stay tuned and try to make that one as well.

The Link Mirror Has Left the House –

How do you remove a 400 pound mirror from an observatory? With a lot of muscle. IU astronomy department personnel and three from the IAS spent about a half day to remove and transport the mirror to a waiting van. It will be sent to Claussing for recoating. It should be back in about 6 weeks.



The floor of the observing deck has been sanded and refinished and it looks beautiful! The IAS and Tom Borlik shared the expenses. Thanks Tom. When you see him. Thank him for what he has done for the Link. Without his diligent work we would not have this great place to observe and use.

While the renovation is going on, the observing deck will be closed to the membership and public. The scope will be out of balance and we do not want to see anyone or anything get hurt!!!

Observing Report Down Under

This is a report from Dave Kreige of Wisconsin on his recent observing trip to Australia. I had an article a couple months ago about their trip and one that is coming up. If you can GO!

If you are a serious deep sky astronomer I can't urge you enough to see the Southern sky. I just got back from a week at the Timor dark site in Australia. It's about 250 miles northwest of Sydney in the Warumbungles. Just down the hill from the 3.8 meter Anglo Australian telescope. There were seven of us from the States. Four Cheeseheads (Scott Tannehill, Don Wyman, Scott Jamieson, myself), John Hoey from California, and the Rose bros Bob and Larry from Virginia and Georgia. All of us big scope owners. The Aussies had one 25 and two 18s for us to use. All set up and just waiting for darkness. In addition I took down a new 18" Ultra Compact to use and later deliver to a customer in Melbourne. Had four fantastic nights observing out of six. Two of them were a 10 for transparency AND seeing. I've been observing for 25 years and have never had both so good on the same night, let alone two nights in one week. Andrew Murrell measured a 21.5 on the Dark Sky Meter at 1 am when the Milky Way was circumferential around the horizon. Above the equator we really have the poor side of the sky when it comes to objects. NGC 1365 over head looked like a Ninja weapon in my 18 UC. The LMC and SMC were crossing the meridian and my favorite targets. There are so many objects in these two areas you can spend months observing them. H2s, blue clusters, globs. I logged a dozen in the SMC and at least 40 in the LMC. After awhile I just gave up and enjoyed cruising around and getting lost in the fields. These are not faint DSOs either. Easy to see raw and with a UHC they are beacons of light. 47 Tuc in my opinion is a more exciting globular than Omega. Golden green brilliant spray that fills the FOV in the 13 ethos. The Spiral planetary, 8 Burst, Cleopatras eye, Spirograph all up high and clear. The Sculptor Dwarf was easy to see in the 18 UC. 253 was kick ass bright and huge. It filled the FOV at 150X with the Ethos. I degraded my right night vision on it. The Fornax cluster was dazzling in Dobsons hole. In my opinion only the Virgo cluster is better.

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Andrew Murrell was a wealth of deep sky knowledge. Nobody stumped him with any NGC/IC numbers. He'd rattle off the item along with cool "what it is" descriptions. Used the Argo to find nearly everything as familiar constellations are upside down and below minus 30 dec forget it. Got an excellent view of the Homunculus at dawn. The coolest yellow orange color not seen in any other deep sky object. Saw his upper torso and at times his tongue sticking out. I could go on and rub it in some more. But I'll finish by saying if you ever have the chance to view the Southern sky GO FOR IT.

DAVE K

ALCOR OBSERVATIONS

by Bill Conner

FINDER SCOPES AND 1x REFLEX SIGHTS

An appropriate finder scope and/or reflex sight can make your search and location of objects much more enjoyable. Reflex sights project the image of a retical on the sky to guide you toward your desired object.

Most commercial telescopes come with a simple straight-through finder with magnification from six to nine power and objective lense from 30mm to 50mm. The inverted image can be a challenge to newcomers since the image doesn't match the star chart unless you turn the chart upside down. Movement of the telescope is backwards from a binocular view standpoint so zeroing in on an object can be a challenge. Us old timers like to brag about how we can go through the gymnastics of mentally inverting the view and cide confused newcomers, but we are not particularly happy with the darn things.

The IAS has replaced the standard 6 x 30mm finders that came with our loaner scopes with 1x reflex sights to lessen the confusion. This is the best type of sight for aiming the telescope at the Moon, planets, or a bright star to start your star hopping to the desired object. No more squinting, inverting and wondering if you have the right star to start with. Add a reflex sight to your telescope and enjoy!

Most modern 1x reflex sights come with variable illumination for the reticle. The retical can be a dot or series of concentric circles. These sights have an advantage in that they have a wide field of view and can be easily aligned with the telescope. The "Telrad" sight has been around for a long time and it is durable. Mounting it is just a matter of using double sided tape and "carefully" aligning/sticking the base on the side of your telescope. The Telrad can be easily removed from its base for storage or transport. There is another stick-on sight called a "Quick Finder by Rigel Systems. It looks like a 1 3/8" square, 5" high black plastic box and can be easily removed from it's base. The Quick Finder's advantage is that it is very light in weight so it won't unbalance a small dobsonian telescope like the heavier Telrad can. A relative newcomer is a reflex sight by Garrett Optical. It is made of metal and is very rugged. It has multiple, selectable reticles and it can be dovetail mounted in place of a standard finder scope. Televue makes a red dot reflex sight with a flip-mirror for right angle viewing.

As to finder scopes, there have been some nice developments over the past few years. It is now possible to purchase an "Erect Image" finder in both the straight-through and right-angle varities. The view is the same as if you were looking through binoculars. Also, there is now a two thumbscrew finder mount that simplifies the alignment process.

Instead of a three thumbscrew ring it has a spring loaded support in place of the third thumbscrew. The two thumbscrews are located 90 degrees apart so it is just a matter of an up/down, left/right adjustment instead of juggling three to six thumbscrews on the old double ring mounts.

A 7 to 9 power, straight through, 50mm finder works well for most people star hopping through a faint star field for an even fainter object. A right-angle, finder is best for Dobsonian scopes as it can be located near the eyepiece and doesn't require you to "crane" your head around or smash an ear on the telescope tube to look through it like the straight-through finders do.

Now for some features to look for:

- A quick release dovetail attachment makes set-up and take-down much easier.

- As indicated above, a two thumbscrew, spring loaded finder mount is much easier to align.

- A variable illuminator makes it possible to see guide stars and a dimmed retical at the same time.

- Separate focuers for the retical and the field of view are nice to have.

- A rotatable retical on right-angle finders is appropriate if you switch between azimuth-elevation (fork) and RA-DEC mounts. This way you can align the crosshairs with the motion of the scope.

- A rotatable finder diagonal is needed if you use a single right-angle finder on several scopes that have attachment points at different radial angles.

- Lastly, a correct image finder makes it easier to "drive" your scope to the next guide star or object while looking through the finder scope.

Now, is there a finder with all these features? After considerable research for a finder that would work with my "stable" of imaging scopes and a Dob, I found that only two right-angle finders are made with a full range of options, Antares and Stellarview, www.stellarview.com. For Antares, search on Google for "Antares Finder Scopes" and several dealers will be listed. Orion, www.oriontelescopes.com, imports a right angle correct image finder with some of these features. Celestron makes a 6 x 30 correct-image straight through finder.

Most dealers who advertise in *Sky and Telescope* or *Astronomy* magazines sell the 1x reflex sights. I note that Garrett Optical, www.garrettoptical.com, is running a special on their innovative reflex sight.

Don't forget to check Astromart, www.astromart.com, under classifieds/finders, to see the used finders that are available. Lastly, please email me if you happen to find a "superior" reflex sight or finder scope with lots of features.

Bill Conner ALcor

NAG Comes to an End for the Season

Well we have completed another year of New Astronomer Group meetings and they were a great success. Thanks to John and Vickie Switzer for running this program. They put a lot of time into this program and deserve your thanks. We will start planning programs for next year soon. If you have any suggestions please let us know.

IU Astro e- Bulletin

The IU Astronomy Department has started a new 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.

The Kirkwood Observatory

IU's Kirkwood Observatory Open for 2007

IU's historic Kirkwood Observatory has reopened for the 2007 season. The Observatory houses a 12" refractor built by Warner & Swasey in 1901. The f/15 doublet objective lens, designed for work on visual binaries, was made by John Brashear and produces excellent images when the seeing is good. The Observatory was renovated in 2001 and restored to its original condition, including a massive wooden dome. William Kopp, a machinist in the IU Astronomy Department, refurbished the telescope itself. More information about the Observatory is available on the Web at http://www.astro.indiana.edu/kirk_sch.shtml.

The Observatory is open each clear Wednesday night from now through mid-November. The hours are posted on the Web at http://www.astro.indiana.edu/kirk_sch.shtml, and a new "hotline" is available with current information about weather conditions. Call 812 855-7736 to find out if the Observatory will be open before driving to Bloomington.

The Observatory is located in Dunn's Woods, near the southwest corner of the IU campus in Bloomington. A campus map is available on the web at <http://www.iub.edu/~iubmap/>. Parking is available after 5 PM in the IU lot at the southwest corner of Indiana Ave. and 4th Street.

Gadgets and Gizmos

This is a new section to discuss new equipment. If you see something or have a new gadget let me know and we will get an article about it.

Meet Our New Members

The Society wants to welcome each of you and if you have any questions do not hesitate to ask.

John Lawrence

Mark Jordan

Fred Hanson

Jack Joswick

Donald Fisher

Christian Freitag

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Seek out new members out and see if you can help them out.

The Pres

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.

Upcoming Star Parties and Registrations

Winter Star Party – February 4-10, 2008- Registration has opened. 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 fantastic in the Florida Keyes in February.

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

Mid-South Stargaze 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>

Texas Star Party West Texas June 1-8,2008. 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

Cherry Springs Star Party Cherry Springs State Park, PA To Be announced
<http://www.astrohbg.org/s4>

Heart of America Star Party MO To be announced
<http://www.askconline.org/index.htm>

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 Date To be announced
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 Date To be announced
<http://jmmahony.home.insightbb.com/pgo/starparty/>

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Black Forest Star Party PA Date To be announced

<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 Kankakee, IL Date To be announced

<http://www.sas-sky.org/>

Twin Lakes Star Party Pennyville State Park, Western KY Date To be announced

<http://www.wkaa.net/>

Okie-Tex Star Party

Camp Billy Joe, OK Date To be announced

<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 Chairman. 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:

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(317) 300-0449

E-Mail: KB9SRB@Hotmail.com

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For Sale

Digital SLR and Film astrophotographers take note. Vixen R200SS-DG Astrograph for sale. Coma Corrector, Rings, 7 x 50 Finder, custom made Just-Cheney Dew Shield, 2" eyepiece adapter, Direct Wide Field adapter and f/7.5 telextender included. Film images of the Rosette and North American nebula, CCD images of the Helix and Eastern Veil on the IAS photo web site under Bill Conner were taken with this 8 inch f/4 widefield scope. Asking \$1,200 for over \$1,700 of quality equipment listed here.

Contact Bill at 812-828-0499 for more information

For Sale – Astro-Physics 400 German Equatorial Mount

Near new condition. Used less than a dozen times.

9 lb. Stainless Steel Counterweight

6 lb. Stainless Steel Counterweight

Wooden AP case

Encoders

NGC-MAX DSC Computer

\$1995

Contact: Jim Rinehart 317-881-3475 or jrine33@comcast.net

For Sale Omega DII Enlarger S/N: 62112 This is an enlarger that I have used for several years but it hasn't seen much service since I switched to digital photography. It has some dust and dings but is still quite serviceable. I am just trying to find a good home for this fine old enlarger. The Bogen adjustable easel and the developing tank are worth more than the asking price for the whole system.

Features:

6" glass condenser lenses

Filter Carrier with polycontrast filter set from 1 through 4 in 1/2 steps

Negative Carriers: 4x5, 3x4 35mm

Lenses: Beslar 50mm f/3.5, Kodak 51mm f/4.5. Elgeet 127mm f/5.6 [Colorstigmat]

42" high counterweighted column

18" x 27" wooden projection base

Includes:

New Bogen 8" x 10" Adjustable Enlarging Easel

New 4" x 5" Film developing tank

Buyer pays shipping.

Photos available on Astromart at:

http://www.astromart.com/classifieds/details.asp?classified_id=517465

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Donn Starkey

starkey73@mchsi.com

<http://www.starkey.ws>

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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

Onions and Orchids

A bouquet of orchids to Tom Borlik for his dedication to the renovation of the Link.

A bouquet of orchids to Mike Kirsch and his wife for cooking our hog again this year. Thanks Mike

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. Members abusing the service will be eliminated from the service.

Board Meeting – November 15, 2007 - 7:00 PM

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, but it will be locked. To get into the building, go to the shop Silver in the City. Tell them you are here for the astronomy meeting and go through the back door of the shop into the office building. We meet in the basement. Ride the

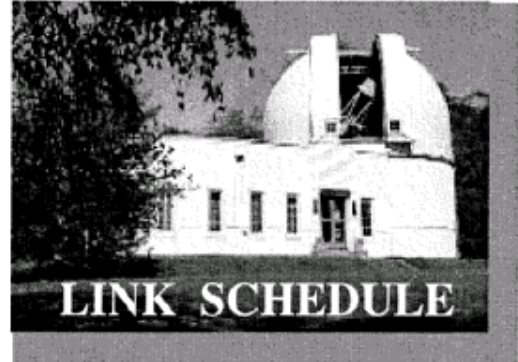
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elevator (around the corner to your left) to the basement. Turn right as you exit the elevator and go through the first door on your right. This is the conference/meeting room. If you need further assistance, please contact Brian P. Murphy, IAS Vice-President on his cell phone 716-8124.

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 November:

November 17 General Observing at the Link

No Planned activities at McCloud – See you next year

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: Brian Murphy (317) 841-8511

Secretary: Betsy Brown 1-317-872-4050

Treasurer: John Shepherd (317) 862-3442

Board of Directors

Gary Schoppenhorst (2009)

Gerald Venne (2009)

Thad Hatchett (2007)

Doug Brown (2007)

Bill Conner (2007)

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

November Calendar, 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 ☾	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 ●	10 General Meeting at Butler
11	12	13	14	15 Board Meeting	16	17 General Observing at Link ☾
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 ○
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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
- 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.

The Bulletin – The monthly publication of the Indiana Astronomical Society

Annual Regular Membership (\$25.00)	
Annual Student Membership (\$10.00)	
Astronomy Magazine Renewal (\$34.00)	
Sky and Telescope Magazine (\$33.00) (New Subscription)	
Astronomical League*	
Total Enclosed	

* If you want to join the Astronomical League please contact John Shepherd ((317) 862-3442) first to determine the amount of prorated dues required.

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.