

October, 2003  
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www.iasindy.org



# The Bulletin

## Pig Roast October 11

**The Annual Pig Roast will be at the Link Observatory October 11, beginning at 5:00 P.M. The meat, drinks and utensils will be furnished by the Society. Please bring a side dish and an appetite. Mike Kirsch will be cooking pork, chicken, and hot dogs.**

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## **October General Meeting - October 11 7:00PM at the Link Observatory**

### **CCD Imaging**

#### **Mr. Bill Conner of the IAS**

Bill and Doug Sangunetti have been working hard to break into the daunting world of CCD imaging. Both have been doing quite well in various competitions. For most of us this is an area that is difficult to learn and master. Bill will present beginner-level techniques, review image processing, and discuss equipment choices. Bill will show his work and field your questions."

### **Astrofest is a great success**

*Article submitted by Jeff Patterson.*

The Annual Trek to Northern Illinois

It was a beautiful day Thursday when I loaded up the motor home and headed for Kankakee for our annual trek to Astrofest. I got off a little early and immediately ran into a traffic jam on SR37. About a dozen of us from the IAS met up and set up camp in our usual spots. Ran into

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old friends from all over the central US. That is the good thing about star parties in that you meet and make many new friends. Betsy and Doug Brown were celebrating a 34<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary that weekend and they decided to join me in the motor home as I had plenty of room. Thursday evening we set out to have a good meal. Ask Brian Murphy if he knows a good restaurant in Kankakee. Hint: They did not get their dinner and the manager gave them a rain check. The scopes came out and everything was set for the evening. Rain was predicted for the evening but did not show up until we had all tucked in for the night after a good night of observing. What followed was three beautiful nights for observing. Hey! Guys! Winter is coming . It was cold. Mars was pretty muddy but it was nice. There were about 900 participants this year. The skies are not fantastic but it is a nice party and we always have a lot of fun. Always need someone to run us out of the vendor's areas. Ask me about the new flashlight that has no batteries. You just shake it. As you know I am a equipment geek. Bill Conner won the astrophotography contest for deep sky objects with his CCD image of M-57. Congratulations Bill. Plan to come next year and join in the fun. I know one guy who will be back. Have Thad show you his new JMI 6" Binoscope. He won it as a door prize. Wow!!!! Needless to say he was a little thrilled. Congratulations Thad.



## **New Members**

The IAS would like to welcome the following new members:

Tom Lindley Indianapolis  
Timothy Groth Indianapolis  
Brad Honn Spencer  
Bob Thomas Indianapolis  
Jack Segner Danville

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Simon X Auclair Mooresville  
R. Craig Davis Indianapolis  
Cris Deis Indianapolis  
Ryan Tobin Indianapolis  
John Thomas Indianapolis  
Richard Waddington Indianapolis, IN

You old members seek out these guys and show them the ropes> Get them involved.

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## **Mars Watch**

*Article submitted by Jeff Patterson*

Observing Mars continues to be interesting but difficult. The polar ice cap is about gone. The diameter of the disk has begun to get smaller but it is still a great object and will be for at least another month. Orange or yellow filters bring out the detail. Look for Saturn early in the morning to add a little spice in your life.

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## **James Woods Lectures in the Science and Mathematics Series at Butler University**

### **Jill Tarter to Speak as Woods Lecturer Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Atherton Union Reilly Room**

Jill Tarter, physicist and director of the SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute, will speak as part of the 2003\_04 J. James Woods Lectures in the Sciences and Mathematics Series on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Atherton Union Reilly Room. Dr. Tarter will discuss SETI: Science Fact, Not Fiction. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Tarter holds the Bernard M. Oliver Chair for SETI and is director of the Center for SETI Research at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, Calif. She received her bachelor of engineering physics degree from Cornell University and her masters degree and a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of California, Berkeley. Tarter served as project scientist for NASA's SETI program and has conducted numerous observational programs at radio observatories nationwide.

Dr. Tarter has published scores of technical articles, has been elected to many professional societies and has served on a number of scientific advisory committees. Her work has brought her wide recognition in the scientific community, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from Women in Aerospace and two Public Service Medals from NASA.

Dr. Tarter is deeply involved in the education of future citizens and scientists. In addition to her scientific leadership at NASA and SETI Institute, Dr. Tarter is the principal investigator for two curriculum development projects. The first, the "Life in the Universe" series, created six science teaching guides for grades three through nine. Her second project, "Voyages through Time" is an integrated high school science curriculum on the fundamental theme of

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evolution. Dr. Tarter is a frequent speaker for science teacher meetings and at museums and science centers, bringing her commitment to science and education to both teachers and the public.

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## **Orchids and Onions**

An orchid to Bill Conner for his dedication to the outreach programs. This is a tough job to do week in and week out. Thanks Bill.

An orchid to Schoppy for his persistence in finding a replacement spring for the Dome. He has located a manufacturer who will make the springs for us at no cost other than shipping. Thanks Garry.

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## **Notes from the Pres - Do You want to be President, Secretary, Board Member, etc?? The IAS Needs You!! Elections are Coming**

Have you ever thought about the direction you would like to see us going in the Society? Do you not like what's going on? Do you want a change? Would you like to mould the Society? Well it is that time of year when we begin to think of elections. The Board has appointed a nominations committee and by October we need to have a slate of nominees. The Committee consists of Doug Brown, John Molt, and Brian Murphy. We really do need you to nominate a slate of people to be the leaders of the society next year. The Officers need to be elected every year and the board members serve 3 year terms. So there are two board positions to be filled. If you like to lead, contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee. The only criteria is that you be a member in good standing, been a member for at least a year, and are willing to attend the Board meetings.

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## Observer's Corner Fall is Coming

Well it is here. As I was looking up at Astrofest I noted that Pleiades was coming up early. Our old friend Orion was high in the sky. This is my favorite time of the year. It is comfortable and there are no mosquitoes. Come on out. Observing will be good through the winter now.

The Pres

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## McCloud Nature Park - A Dark Site for Observing

*Submitted by Mike Wolford*

Hey, when was the last time that you actually saw the Mag 5 stars in the little dipper? Or noticed that one of the stars in Draco's tail is actually a group of four? Or actually even noticed that there **are** stars between the Big Dipper and Polaris? Well, come on out to McCloud Nature Park and see for yourself! McCloud Nature Park is located in Hendricks County and just recently opened. It is 230 acres of --- well --- Nature!!! Those of us who have been out there have been well received and the welcome mat is in place for us when we want to go back.

The interpretive naturalist has requested that we come out for new moon and show the sky to the public. A few of us have been out there for the last two new moons, and have had a few small but very inquisitive groups each time.

It's only 30 miles from the intersection of I-465 and I-74 Off of SR-75. Curious? Come and join us on New Moon Friday.

Call, or e-mail Mike Wolford for further information. 317 445-2173 e-mail: [mwolford@ccrtc.com](mailto:mwolford@ccrtc.com)

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## 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.

To place an ad contact

To place an ad contact

Managing Editor

Jeff Patterson

1780 S. Morgantown Rd.

Greenwood, IN 46143

317 882-8055

e-Mail: [JMPSR@Iquest.net](mailto:JMPSR@Iquest.net)

WANTED: 6" f/5 Newtonian primary mirror, completely made. Will consider a 6" f/5 Newtonian OTA, but prefer mirror alone. Contact Mark Bradbury, e-mail only. NO PHONE CALLS. e-mail: [sn1996bk@yahoo.com](mailto:sn1996bk@yahoo.com)



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For Sale: Meade 201XT CCD Autoguider. Like new, Complete, in original box, Cost \$400 new Asking \$187 Fritz Kleinhans [Starman@iupui.edu](mailto:Starman@iupui.edu)  
317 274-6904 (W)  
317 290-1689 (H)

For Sale: Celestron C-5 with tripod, astromaster(installed), power pack/inverter, cases, filter, eyepieces, and lots more. \$1500 Call: Paul at 317 888-1605

For Sale: Like new Orion Skyview Deluxe 6" EQ Newtonian with Polar alignment scope, Padded case, premium 25mm and 9mm Plossl eyepieces, and moon filter.  
Please call Tammy at (317) 8942437 or E-Mail [jeffandtammy0506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeffandtammy0506@sbcglobal.net)

For Sale: Orion 120st refractor with mount and tripod, dual axis drive. Less than a year old. Contact: Jerry Vessels at [jvessels@iquest.net](mailto:jvessels@iquest.net)

For Sale: Celestron 8" Dobsonian, metal tube \$400 Contact Jeff Patterson [JMPSR@Iquest.net](mailto:JMPSR@Iquest.net)

For Sale: Celestron "Comet Catcher" OTA 5.5"F5 Orange Tube \$250, Contact Jeff Patterson [JMPSR@Iquest.net](mailto:JMPSR@Iquest.net)

>For Sale: Astro-Physics 130 EDF f/6. Focal length: 780mm. Focuser: 2.7" Objective: 3 element oil spaced. Purchased new in 1999. No nicks or scratches. Comes with AP wood carrying case, AP rings and AP 2.5" focuser extension. \$3700  
Contact: Jim Rinehart 317-881-3475 or [jrinehart@spitfire.net](mailto:jrinehart@spitfire.net)

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## **Loaner Scope Program**

Did you know you can borrow a scope 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 scope 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 but Brian Murphy can arrange for your pickup and training as John recovers from his injuries. This is a great way to see what you want to use. We have several scopes and at this time there is no demand. Contact Brian Murphy at [bmurf@tcon.net](mailto:bmurf@tcon.net).

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## **List Server Now online**

The list server is now on-line for use of Society business. The Board has authorized Gary Schoppenhorst to add members addresses to this server. It can only be used according to the rules as outlined previously. Members abusing the service will be eliminated from the service. In this time of transition with the Bulletin, this service will be our main communication tool. The list server is in the "Members Only" section of the site and is accessible only by IAS members. You will be contacted by Gary Schoppenhorst with more information.

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The Pres

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## **October Board Meeting – October 16 - 7:00 PM**

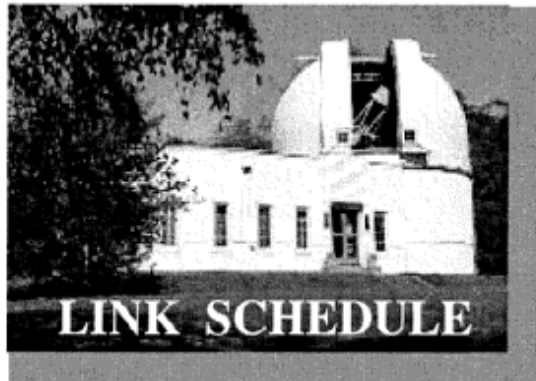
The IAS Board Meeting is being held at 430 Massachusetts Avenue in downtown Indianapolis. The building is at the point of convergence of Mass. Ave., Vermont and Alabama Streets. There is a Starbucks located in the frontage of the building. The coffee shop stays open late into the evening. Try to park 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, walk around the building to the left as you are facing Starbucks. You will cross Starbucks outdoor patio seating area and you will come to the double door entry into the building (this is the south building façade). These doors will be unlocked. Enter the lobby and ride the elevator (to your right) 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.

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### **Map to the Board Meeting**



## Link Schedule



### 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: J. Philip May (317)831-8387. DON 'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE YOUR REQUEST OR YOU MAY NOT GET ACCESS.*

Designated Link Observatory Key  
Holders

Jeff Patterson: 882-8055

J. Philip May: 831-8387

Tom Borlik: 849-4113

Gary Schoppenhorst: 297-1405

Brian Murphy: 841-851

Dave Williams: 769-7430

### Link Activities for October:

Pig Roast at the Link

General Meeting October 11

New Moon Group Meeting October 25

Observer's Meeting October 25

New Astronomers October 25

Link Training October 25



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## **Bulletin Stats**

### **Bulletin - Bulletin deadline on the 20<sup>th</sup> 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, acting editor

1780 S. Morgantown Rd

Greenwood, IN 46143

Phone: 317-882-8055

[JMPSR@Iquest.net](mailto:JMPSR@Iquest.net)

### **Membership information**

Contact any IAS officer or the membership chairman

Larry Phillips

9413 South PR Black Hawk Hills Dr.

Edinburgh, In 46124

[llpastro@lightbound.com](mailto:llpastro@lightbound.com)

### **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 317 882-8055

Vice-President and program director Brian Murphy 317 841-8511

Secretary: Larry Phillips 317 729-2447

Treasurer: Dave Timmerman 317844-9431

### **Board of Directors**

Gary Schoppenhorst (2003)

Mike Kirsch (2003)

Thad Hatchett (2004)

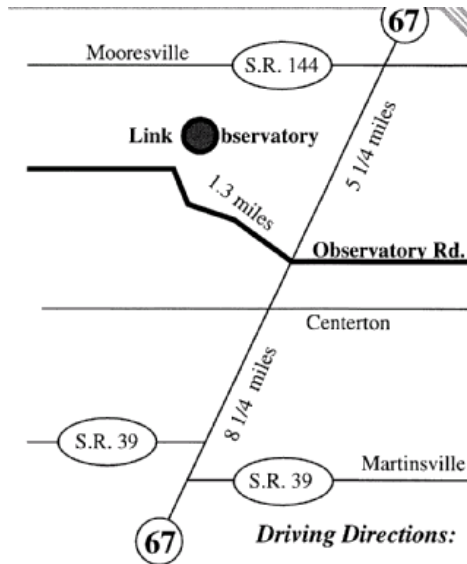
Doug Brown (2004)

Bill Conner (2004)

Marion Hakes (2005)

John Molt (2005)

## Map to the Goethe Link Observatory



**T**he Link Observatory is located 5 1/4 miles south of the S.R. 67 & S.R. 144 interchange in Mooresville. A diamond shape hi-way transportation sign will warn you of the approaching Observatory Road intersection. Turn right (west) up the steep hill and continue 1.3 miles to the observatory, where there is a one-lane drive on your right named: Observatory Lane. The driveway to the observatory is immediately to your right when you make your turn onto the lane. It's easy to miss; watch your odometer.

**October Calendar, 2003**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
			1	2 Fst Qtr Moon	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Full Moon	11 Gen. Mtg 7:00PM Hog Roast 5:00PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Lst Qtr Moon
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 New Moon New Moon GP Observer's Mtg Training
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Membership Application

- BENEFITS**
- \* Use of the Goethe Link Observatory
  - \* Formal Monthly Programs with Guest Speakers
  - \* Local and Regional Astronomical Functions
  - \* Telescope Making Classes
  - \* Discounted Astronomy Publications
  - \* New Moon Group Meetings at various dark sky locations
  - \* Access to IAS member expertise and problem solving
  - \* The *WZZZZZ*: Monthly newsletter with Astro-Classifieds
  - \* Informal Astronomy and Astrophotography Seminars
  - \* Access to the "Members Only" section of the IAS website
  - \* Free Admission to the Holcomb Planetarium
  - \* Star Party Events and Annual Messier Marathons



Please indicate by checking new or renewal membership  NEW  RENEWAL   
 on this application. The magazine subscription renewal notices and payment must be submitted to the IAS Treasurer in order to maintain the publishers' discount rate.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 How do you want to receive the IAS monthly newsletter:  
 U.S. MAIL  Download from the Website

Annual Regular Membership Fee:	\$20
Annual Student Membership Fee:	\$10
Astronomy Magazine:	\$29/yr
Sky & Telescope Magazine:	\$30/yr
Observers' Handbook: (when available)	
	TOTAL

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 Mail this Order Form to:  
**Dave Timmerman, Treasurer**  
 786 Woodview North Drive  
 Carmel, IN 46032

## Member Profile

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children's Names & Ages: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Education: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 How Many Years Involved With Astronomy: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Astronomical Interests or Projects: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Equipment/Computers/Telescopes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 What Can The Society Do For You: \_\_\_\_\_  
 What Can You Do For The Society: \_\_\_\_\_

Profile information is not a requirement for membership in the Indiana Astronomical Society. This survey is entered into the IAS data base and it is not given or sold for solicitation purposes. It does provide for a brief/welcoming article about a new member that may be published in the BULLETIN.