

# Racine Astronomical Society Membership Application

Thank you for your interest in the Racine Astronomical Society. Astronomy is an enjoyable hobby that can last a lifetime. Membership in an Astronomy club provides valuable resources to help you get started, as well as adding to the overall experience. Please read through the following information before sending in your application.

## Benefits of Membership

- The right to attend our Saturday evening members nights at the observatory. These are held weekly in June, July, and August, and bi-weekly in the spring and fall. There are no members nights in December, January, and February. On clear nights a key-holder will be available to set-up a telescope for observing. On cloudy nights this is a good opportunity to have questions answered and become more familiar with the Modine Benstead Observatory. The observatory has a library with a wide assortment of Astronomy books that members can check out. The club also has 2 beginner telescopes available for use by the general membership.
- The society has three Star Parties each year in the Spring, Summer, and Fall.
- The society has a picnic in August and a Christmas party in December
- The society meets quarterly at the Modine Benstead Observatory. These meetings are held on the third Saturday of the months of January, April, July, and October beginning at 7:30 PM. Weather permitting, Astronomical observing sessions are planned for the April, July, and October meetings. There is also a short meeting at the Christmas party. Members have a right to cast one vote at these meetings as applicable.
- Members receive the society newsletter, the "Obs-server", which contains specific information about the societies events. This is available via mail or e-mail.
- A one-year membership in the Astronomical League. This includes all of the publications that the Astronomical League provides to its members.
- Optional subscriptions to Sky & Telescope and Astronomy Magazines are available at a special group rate. E-mail [rasastro@wi.net](mailto:rasastro@wi.net) for further information.

## Keyholder Benefits

- Members who have demonstrated an active interest in Astronomy and have volunteered for club events over a one-year period may become eligible for keyholder status. This requires the approval of the Board of Directors. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated the ability to use a telescope, and an interest in promoting Astronomy to the public. Key-holders have access to society property and equipment for personal use or research in accordance with the policies established by the board of directors. More information about keyholder requirements is available at the observatory.

**Applications are only accepted by postal mail. This is necessary so that we can devote all of our resources to operating the observatory on our Open House nights.**

## How to Join

Membership in the Racine Astronomical Society is open to anyone age 16 and over. A check or money order for membership dues should be made payable to the Racine Astronomical Society and mailed to: Racine Astronomical Society, c/o Roger Kippenham, 3920 87<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha, WI 53142. Pro-rated rates are available depending on application date. Please e-mail [rasastro@wi.net](mailto:rasastro@wi.net) for more information.

<b>Membership Class</b>	<b>Dues</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
<b>Regular</b>	\$45 / year	Open to anyone age 16 and over.
<b>Student</b>	\$22.50 / year	Open to anyone age 16 and over who is a full-time student.
<b>Senior</b>	\$22.50 / year	Open to anyone age 62 and over.
<b>Patron</b>	\$90 / year	Open to anyone age 16 and over. The portion donated by the Patron member over the regular rate is tax deductible and can be designated by the donor for a specific purpose.
<b>Life</b>	\$1125	Open to anyone age 16 and over. A one-time dues payment of <b>\$1125.00</b> results in a lifetime membership to the society.
<b>Corporate</b>	\$1125	Open to corporate entities. A one-time dues payment of <b>\$1125.00</b> results in a 50-year membership in the society.
<b>Associate</b>	\$11.25 / year	Family members age 16 and over living at the same address as a Regular, Student, Senior, Patron, or Life member may join as Associate members. Associate members do not receive the subscriptions to publications provided by the Racine Astronomical Society, they would share these with the other members in the family.
<b>Junior</b>	Free	Family members under age 16 living at the same address of a Regular, Student, Senior, Patron, or Life member can be a Junior member. Junior members may only participate in society activities accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Please fill in the following information and return with the appropriate payment of dues.

-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check here to receive the societies newsletter “Obs-server” via e-mail instead of postal mail**
- Check here if you would like to receive e-mail communications about club events throughout the year**