



Observer

Newsletter of the Racine Astronomical Society

Fall 2009

www.rasastro.org

2010 Membership dues are due in October ~

Please remember to pay your dues for 2010.

Lawnmower donations are being accepted ~

We had to buy a new lawnmower for the observatory this year, which has been paid for almost entirely by donations from the membership. We are still several hundred dollars short of covering the entire cost without dipping into RAS funds. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation please contact a member of the board of directors, or send me an e-mail for further information. In return for your donation you will receive a donation letter from the RAS that is suitable for framing, but it's probably a better idea to just staple it to your tax forms instead.

The October General Meeting is on October 17th ~

The General Meeting is on October 17th, beginning at 7:30PM, at the Modine Benstead observatory. The program for the meeting will be the Fall Star Party (or cloud party).

The Fall Star Party is on October 17th ~

The Fall Star Party is on October 17th immediately following the general meeting. If it's cloudy, it will be a cloud party... Either way the RAS will be providing pizza for those who attend.

Galilean Day is on October 24th ~

As our final event for IYA2009, and our final open house for 2009, we will be celebrating "Galilean Day" on October 24th. We will be open from 12 - 3PM for Solar observing and from 6 -10 PM for night-sky observing. Depending on the weather, we will be giving away several Galileoscopes as door prizes to young people who come out, but the details need to be finalized. Thanks to Ritchie Falk for donating the Galileoscopes for this! We also will be providing hot cocoa free of charge during the night-time observing session if it's clear. There may even be a couple of Jack-O-Lanterns on the porch. Let's hope it's clear!

2009 Event Calendar

March

- 14 – Work Party (9 AM)
- 21 - Work Party (Rain Date)
- 28 - Spring Star Party

April

- 2, 3, & 4 - IYA 2009 (8-11 PM)
- 5 - IYA 2009 (12-3PM for Solar)
- 18 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)

May

- 2 - Astronomy Day
2-5PM (Solar) & 8-11 PM

June

- 12 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

July

- 17 - Public Night (8-11 PM)
- 18 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)

August

- 1 - Summer Star Party
- 8 - Picnic
- 21 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

September

- 25 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

October

- 3 - Work Party (9 AM)
- 10 - Work Party (Rain Date)
- 17 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)
- 17 - Fall Star Party
- 24 - Galilean Day
12-3PM (Solar) & 6-10 PM

December

- 19 - Christmas Party (7:30 PM)

~ From the Editor~

If you have submissions for the newsletter, questions, comments, or ideas, please send me an e-mail.

Also, if you are still receiving you're newsletters via postal mail and have access to e-mail you can opt to receive them in a PDF format via e-mail instead. You'll get them a little faster and save the RAS a few bucks. If you would like to change you're delivery method or receive a sample PDF newsletter, please let me know.

Dave Finch

The free Adobe Acrobat reader can be downloaded here:

<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

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