



Obs~server

Newsletter of the Racine Astronomical Society

July 2008

www.rasastro.org

General meeting on July 19th ~

The next general meeting is on July 19th. We will be voting on a couple of items listed below and observing Jupiter after the meeting if it's clear.

Adler Affiliate Program ~

We will be taking a vote on joining the Adler Affiliate Program at the general meeting. Through this program the RAS and RAS members receive a number of benefits from the Adler planetarium including discounts on admission and memberships, invitations to special events, and opportunities to be involved in co-sponsored events that benefit both organizations. There will be some involvement required by the RAS and RAS members to maintain this relationship.

International Year of Astronomy (2009) ~

We will also be discussing and possibly voting on RAS involvement in the "International Year of Astronomy" celebration being planned by the Manfred Olson Planetarium (UW-Milwaukee). The cornerstone of this celebration is a multi-day Astronomical celebration called "100 Hours of Astronomy" from April 2-5. This is an international celebration. Our involvement would likely be coordinated with the Manfred Olson Planetarium plans, which intend to involve every major Astronomical association in southeastern Wisconsin and possibly northeastern Illinois. This would include a lot of advertising and possibly around the clock staffing at the observatory.

New members ~

Two new members joined the RAS in June. Both members have their own telescopes and have been out observing on a couple of nights. Tim Tadyak has an 11" Orion Schmidt Cassegrain on an Atlas mount, and Andrew Scarpa has a 5" Celestron Newtonian. Several of us have already enjoyed views through both scopes. Please join me in welcoming Tim and Andrew to the RAS. Welcome!

Filet orders for the picnic are due by August 4th ~

As we have in years past, the RAS will be ordering filet mignons for those who want them at the picnic. These will be cooked to order by Mike Zweifel and cost about \$6 each. The RAS will be providing burgers, brats, and hot dogs as always. Filet orders are due by the August 4th board meeting. Please send your order via e-mail to: rasastro@wi.net or leave a voice message on the observatory phone: 262-878-2774.

Quarterly Newsletters ~

The newsletters will now be sent quarterly during the months when general meetings are held – January, April, July, and October. Special announcements will be sent for club events (i.e. – picnic, star parties, etc.) and the nomination of officers at the December Christmas party. This newsletter will serve as the notification for our 2008 summer star party (see dates below). If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter please send it to me.

2008 Event Calendar

March

29 - Spring Star Party

April

5 - Spring Star Party (Rain Date)

12 - Work Party (9 AM)

19 - Work Party (Rain Date)

19 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)

25 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

May

10 - Astronomy Day

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

June

6 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

July

11 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

19 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)

26 - Summer Star Party

August

2 - Summer Star Party (Rain Date)

16 - Picnic

22 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

September

19 - Public Night (8-11 PM)

October

4 - Astronomy Day

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

18 - General Meeting (7:30 PM)

25 - Fall Star Party

November

1 - Fall Star Party (Rain Date)

15 - Work Party (9 AM)

22 - Work Party (Rain Date)

December

13 - 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://www.adobe.com/go/BONRM>

~Contact Information~

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