



# Observer

Newsletter of the Racine Astronomical Society

[www.rasastro.org](http://www.rasastro.org)

Spring 2009

## The General Meeting is on April 18th ~

The General Meeting is on April 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30PM, at the Modine Benstead observatory. If the skies are clear we will open a scope for observing after the meeting.

## Astronomy Day is on May 2nd ~

We will be open from 2PM until 5PM for solar observing, and from 8PM until 11PM for night-time observing. The RAS will be providing Chili and Pizza during the break between observing sessions.

## Vince Condella visits the Modine Benstead Observatory ~

As you all may know we celebrated the International Year of Astronomy on April 2<sup>nd</sup> - April 5<sup>th</sup>. What you might not have known is we contacted Vince Condella from Fox 6 News to do a Plug for us. Well it turned out that he not only wanted to do a plug for us he wanted to do the 5 & 6pm weather segments from the observatory on Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He arrived at the observatory at around 4:45pm and the news crew followed shortly after.



Vince did multiple small takes during the 5 & 6 o'clock news, and one long one. The long take was inside the large dome with the 16" scope and Ron Jones as the spokesperson. Ron did a great job talking about the history of the observatory and some of the things you can see with the scope.

## Vince Condella visits the Modine Benstead observatory (continued) ~



During the 6 o'clock news he also did an interview with Dave Mogensen inside the small dome with the 14" scope. Dave did a great job explaining a little bit about Astrophotography to Vince and some of the things you can see with the scope.

We all had a great time with Vince when he was not doing the weather. He stayed at the observatory until around 7pm. He told us he was going to come back to one of our open houses and would enjoy looking through our scopes. We hope to see him soon.

~ Tim Tadysak ~

Pictured (Left to Right): Andy Scarpa, Brooke Tadysak, Ron Jones, Noah Tadysak, Tim Tadysak, Carla Chalker, Dave Mogensen, & Vince Condella



A copy of the broadcast is available for viewing at the observatory.

## IYA 2009 ~

With "100 hours of Astronomy" behind us, IYA 2009 is moving forward. There will be more IYA 2009 related events throughout the year.

For more info about IYA 2009: <http://www.iya2009.org/general/>

## The Galileoscope ~

As a part of the IYA 2009 celebration, an inexpensive but high quality telescope is being manufactured this year. The telescope is similar to the telescope that Galileo used 400 years ago. For more info on the Galileoscope or to order some, see: <https://www.galileoscope.org/gs/>

Save this event calendar! The next newsletter is scheduled for July.

## 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)
- 25 - Summer Star Party

### August

- 15 - 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

### 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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