

FOCAL



POINT

Issued by the

MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

- : SUMMER, 1986 : -

CALENDAR:

Sat., Jun. 21 - Full Strawberry Moon.

Sat., Jun. 21 - Summer begins, 11:30 A.M. CDST.

Sat., Jul. 19 - Annual MAS Family Picnic, 2 P.M. - ? at observatory.

Mon., Jul. 21 - Full Buck Moon.

Mon. thru Sun., Aug. 4-10 - ASTROCON '86 - Baltimore, MD.

Fri. thru Sun., Aug. 8-10 - Annual weekend campout at Kettle Moraine State Park, Greenbush.

Tue., Aug. 19 - Full Corn Moon.

Wed., Sep. 3 - Sep. FOCAL POINT deadline.

Obs. Gathering - First Wed. of each month - at obs., 7:30 P.M.

Saturdays - Observatory maintenance and improvement. Help wanted.

Call 475-9418 or 258-5626.

Sat. Nights - Members Night at the obs. See keyholder list on last page.

ELECTION RESULTS: Members present at the May Election-Meeting elected Matthew McNeely, Frank Roldan, Sally Jo Trummer, and Dr. Richard Wiesen to the board of directors. The board then recessed to elect Dan Koehler president, Dr. Richard Wiesen vice president, Karen Wesener secretary, and Jim Toeller treasurer. Gerry Samolyk and John Asztalos will continue as observatory director and assistant observatory director in that order.

We must appreciate the above people moving into their new positions or continuing in their present ones by giving them all the support they need and ask for. At the same time we must appreciate those who are stepping out for their time and efforts, for the great job of work done to keep the Milwaukee Astronomical Society moving ahead and up.

WITH SYMPATHY: The Milwaukee Astronomical Society extends condolences to the families of Don Grenda and Darrell Moore.

Don Grenda died April 27. He was a member since 1978. Don served as a board member and on the 26" Telescope Committee for many years.

Darrell Moore passed away April 4. He was a member since 1936 and was honored as a Founder Member in February, 1986. Darrell contributed much as an active Society member during his many years and did much work on construction of the "B" telescope building.

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS ARE Paula Brookmire, Milwaukee; Barbara Freudigman, West Allis; Robert Gibson, Racine; George Kutner, Jr., Brookfield; Paul and Kathleen MacAveny, Greenfield; Timothy Roberts, Sussex; Duane Runnells, Milwaukee.

ASTRONOMY SERIES SCHEDULE UPDATED: (With my apologies!)

The popular Amateur Astronomer's Series will be held again this year beginning in June. This series is geared to rank beginners, or people who just want to brush up on a few things. While they do not concern the science of astronomy, but address the immediate needs of MAS members who wish to use the Observatory's telescopes, or get more out of their own scopes.

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS: This is your chance to get involved! Even those who aren't sure which end of a telescope to look into will "know more than the average bear" when they finish. Last year, one member had never touched a telescope until that summer when she earned the coveted Messier Certificate for locating & observing 70 objects! YOU CAN TOO!

The AAS series is one of the many benefits of your \$30 dues. Ask anyone who has attended in the past if they didn't think it was a pleasant and educational time. They will be held on the following saturday nights at 7:00 pm at the MAS observatory rain or (star) shine! Workshops will be held after the 1 hour meeting for demonstrations & hands-on learning. Bring your telescope or binoculars to all classes so you can use them! Any questions call Lee Keith at 961-8752. BE THERE, ALOHA!

The following schedule SUPERCEDES the schedule in the May Focal Point!

Date	Title
6/21	Reading the Celestial Roadmap Workshop: Bring your equatorially mounted scope to learn to "polar align" it with the north pole! Also, bring any type of star chart you use and learn to read it!
6/28	The Small, the Faint, and the Diffuse: Finding Celestial Objects Workshop: Use telescope or binoculars to find sky objects!
7/12	Beginner's Guide to Occultation Timings (Brian Cieslak)
7/19	What's Your Power? Finding Magnification & Field of View. Workshop: Find your field of view by timing a star.
7/26	Collimation & Cleaning of a Newtonian Telescope Workshop: Bring your newtonian mirror in to be cleaned!
8/2	Observing the Planets (Terry Ross)
8/16	All The Extras: Accesories For Your Telescope. Workshop: Fighting light pollution with nebular filters.
8/23	Beginning Astrophotography (John Asztalos)
8/30	Telescopes: To Build or Buy, Which & Why (Peter Smitka)
9/6	Observing Variable Stars (Gerry Samolyk)

RESERVE SATURDAY, JULY 19, for the annual MAS membership picnic. All MAS members, their families, and friends are invited. It will be held at the New Berlin observatory on Observatory Road from 2 P.M. until ?.

You bring your favorite food and goodies, we'll furnish free beer and soda. Extra charcoal and grills should be available if needed.

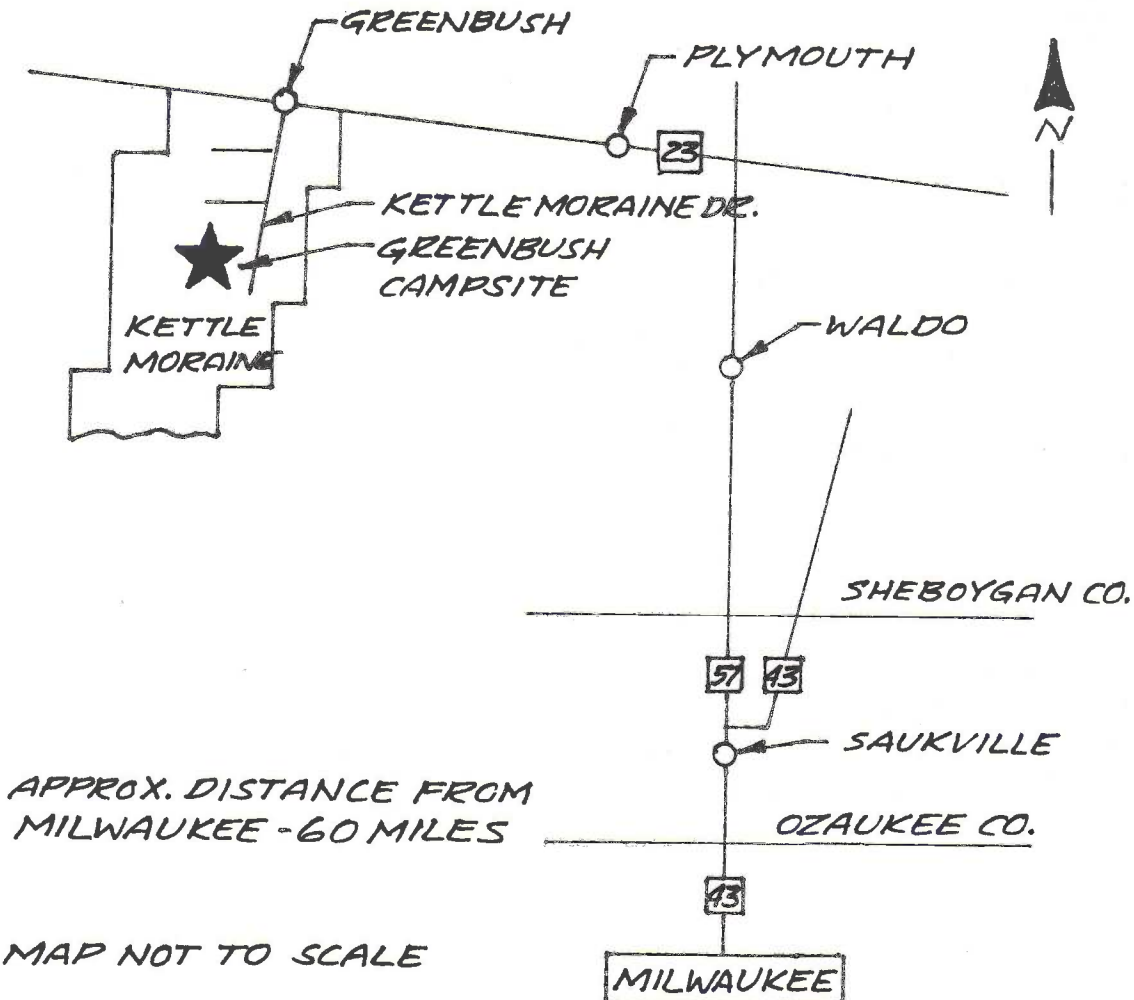
Upon entering the grounds, show your membership card so that you will be eligible for the door prize drawings. Get your door prize tickets from picnic chairman Nick Nichols. You must be present to enter and win. Nick and wife Jeannine will begin the drawing at 5 P.M. SHARP!

Just check these prizes! - two planispheres; 1 Wil Tirion "Sky List 200 ATLAS;" 4 astronomical flashlights; a 7.4 Tele Vue Plössl eyepiece worth \$100; 2 pairs of binoculars (7x50, 10x50); 2 fine books on how to build your own telescope by Richard Berry; 1 "Astronomy Through Telescopes" book; a \$25 gift certificate; a 25mm 1¼" Plössl eyepiece; 3 subscriptions to "Deep Sky," "Astronomy," "Odyssey," and "Telescope Making;" 3 Uranus wall posters, and still more.

Y'all come. Feel free to bring your own telescope and whatever project(s) you're working on.

ANNUAL STAR-PARTY CAMPOUT: The more hardy of you who like camping as well as astronomy will have a good opportunity to enjoy both. Bring your tent and telescope to the Greenbush group camp site in the northern Kettle Moraine State Park (see map below). The date is Friday through Sunday, August 8-10. The sliver of moon, the Perseid meteors, and clear skies should provide great viewing.

Contact John Asztalos for full information at 258-5626.



FRANK ROLDAN HAS BEEN RE-ELECTED as chairman of the North Central Region Astronomical League.

Frank wants to hear from any member who has ideas, suggestions, or complaints about the League. Call or write him at 5585 Balsam Ct., Greendale, Wis., 53129 (423-0210).

OBSERVATORY NEWS: Bad flooring in the quonset building has been replaced. We have received 300 more trees from the DNR for new or replacement planting. There was a good turnout at the First Wednesday Gathering in April. The people present informally discussed general topics, did some viewing, and had a good time. These meetings are for all members, novice or experienced. Come on out!

A REMINDER: ASTROCON '86, the Astronomical League's 40th Annual National Convention, will take place Aug. 4 through Aug. 10, 1986, on the campus of Notre Dame College in Baltimore, Maryland. With all the recent space and science achievements, and the meeting site only two miles from the Space Telescope Science Institute, ASTROCON '86 promises to be quite interesting.

Frank Roldan (423-0210) has complete information packets concerning location, routes, housing, meals, field trips, papers, displays, banquet, etc.

OPEN HOUSE REMINDER: Our New Berlin facilities will be open to the general public on June 27; July 11, 25; Aug. 8, 22; and Sep. 12; all Friday nights. Quonset hut programs begin at 8 P.M., and there'll be viewing through telescopes, skies permitting. However, our facilities will be open regardless of the weather.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST FOCAL POINT until September. May you have an enjoyable summer. The next general meeting will be on Friday, Sep. 19.

MEMBERS NIGHT KEYHOLDERS: (PLEASE SAVE).

Jun. 21 - D. Harris	964-1428	Aug. 9 - T. Ross	784-2093
28 - L. Keith	962-2856	16 - G. Samolyk	457-9418
Jul. 5 - D. Koehler	662-2987	23 - T. Schmidtkunz	784-0253
12 - N. Nichols	542-2055	30 - P. Smitka	785-0926
19 - A. Penikis	354-9708	Sep. 6 - V. Tangney	327-7976
26 - J. Pfannerstill	475-6494	13 - W. Tuerck	782-2844
Aug. 2 - F. Roldan	423-0210	20 - R. Wiesen	781-4757

DIRECTORY:

Pres. - D. Koehler, 662-2987 V.P. - Dr. R. Wiesen, 781-4757
Sec. - K. Wesener, 961-8752 Treas. - J. Toeller, 352-7144
Obs. Dir. - G. Samolyk, 475-9418 Asst.Obs.Dir. - J. Asztalos, 258-5626
FOCAL POINT Editor - L. Simandl, 933-3052
Special Observatory Activities Scheduler - B. Cieslak, 679-9663
MAS Observatory - 18850 W. Observatory Rd., New Berlin - 542-9071

SEPTEMBER FOCAL POINT DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.