



**From The Editors**

It didn't take long for Spring Fever to take root in Milwaukee—a great time to start thinking about Saturday observing at the Observatory, First Wednesdays and taking out the 'scopes and such for some impromptu group observing. Keep looking up!

To help spread the word about MAS, our 1993 Flyers will be available soon. We've made a few changes this year: a more eye-catching cover and moving the open house schedule to the front. These are intended to be handed out or mailed to people you come in contact with that have expressed an interest in our Open Houses and/or learning more about the MAS. You can get some at the next meeting or at the Observatory or by calling me at 476-6986.

—Tom Gill

**Annual Banquet Replaces April Meeting**

Our Annual Banquet is the featured event this month. The banquet will be held on Friday, April 23 at Klemmer's Williamsburg Inn 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave. in Milwaukee. If you plan to attend and have not already signed up, **send in your registration forms by Monday April 19th.**

Following dinner, Dr. Doug Duncan of the Adler Planetarium in Chicago will be describing and *demonstrating* some of the amazing discoveries made by the Hubble Space Telescope. As always, even if you cannot attend the dinner, you are welcome to attend the program at no cost. The schedule is:

Cocktails	5:30 p.m.
Dinner	6:30 p.m.
Program	8:00 p.m.

Note: Tom Renner will be out of town so if you are registering near the deadline, please mail your forms to Marty Brunet, 2329 Hughes Lane, Waukesha, WI 53188, phone 544-1342. For anyone who has misplaced the form sent with the February Focal Point, you can use the shortened form on the back of this issue.

**LOOKING AHEAD: ASTRONOMY DAY IS MAY 1st.** Volunteers are always needed. If you can help out, contact Lee Keith at 425-2331. To the "regulars": let him know you if you are coming so he knows the number of helpers.

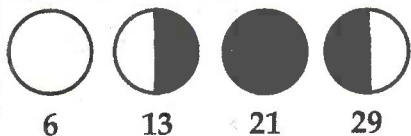
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**Calendar of Events**

- April 7, Monday ..... **MAS Board Meeting**  
7:30pm at The Observatory
- April 23, Friday ..... **Annual Banquet (see above)**  
Also Deadline for next *Focal Point*  
Also a Graze (call Gerry Samolyk for information)
- May 1, Saturday ..... **ASTRONOMY DAY**  
2 - 10pm at the Observatory
- May 5th, Wednesday ..... **First Wednesday Meeting**  
7:30 at the Observatory
- May 10, Monday ..... **MAS Board Meeting**  
7:30pm at The Observatory
- May 14, Friday ..... **8:00 pm Program-Meeting**

*Saturday Nights—Member night at Observatory—Call key holder*





## Library News

### ANNOUNCING: An Outstanding Offer From The Astronomy Book Club!

You probably have seen their ads in Astronomy or Sky & Telescope. Enrolling members only pay \$1.00 for each book they choose, plus shipping and handling. They agree to purchase 3 additional selections over the next 12 months at a savings of 15% to 30% off publisher's prices.

If you have ever entertained any thought of becoming a Book Club member, **THE TIME IS NOW!**

- Newly enrolled MAS members or their friends may choose 4 books from the COMPLETE 1992 Science Book Catalog, not just from a limited edition.
- The MAS Library will receive 3 books for sponsoring one new member or 7 books for two new members.

For your convenience, and because I think this offer has such potential benefit to the Society's Library, I will be at the Observatory on Saturday, April 24 (the day after the banquet) from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. This will give you an opportunity to ask any questions and to look through the Book Club's Catalog. If you need more information, don't hesitate to call me at 321-0918.

—Sally Waraczynski

## Board Meeting Notes - For February 1993

### Treasurer's Report:

Checking	\$309.54	Endowment Fund	\$53,692.72
Savings	<u>\$1,498.73</u>	Stock Fund (1/14/93)	<u>12,097.44</u>
Total	\$1,806.27	Total	\$65,790.16

**Observatory Director:** Gerry Samolyk reported that ice damage to "A" Dome was repaired. The furnace is not running, and may require a new filter. The "B" Dome limit switch has been sticking due to cold weather. We tabled the talk of purchasing a snow blower this year and have decided to pay to have the lot plowed each time it snows.

**Light Pollution:** Brian Ganiere talked with New Berlin city engineer. He said he said there is no current activity in Westridge Development, but there are plans for a new golf driving range. Suggestions were made to have members who are New Berlin residents to write to city Planning Commission, and to have members of all communities watch their local papers for lighting issues.

Wanda Berner said that her company, Miller Bros. Heating and Air Conditioning, has donated about \$500 and a lot of time to keep our furnace running and we should replace it. A "scratch and dent" Lennox 100,000 BTU furnace (LP or natural gas) is available for \$1,304, with full warranty. (purchased by unanimous vote) Dan Koehler will explore costs for natural gas line to east wall of A building.

—From notes take by Brian Ganiere

## CUB Receipts = \$\$ for MAS: \$15 so far in '93

If you shop at CUB food stores, be sure to keep your receipts for the MAS. We receive 1% of the tape total for turned in receipts. You can drop them off at the Observatory. There is a box in the back office of the Quonset hut. Or, bring them to a meeting and I will collect them there. Or send them to me, Karen Wessener, at 8150 S. Legend Dr., Franklin, WI 53132.

Don't be shy about asking your friends, relatives and neighbors to save their receipts also. We have collected about \$15 for the MAS in the first quarter of 1993. This amount will increase as we collect more receipts. Any questions? Call Karen Wessener at 425-2331.

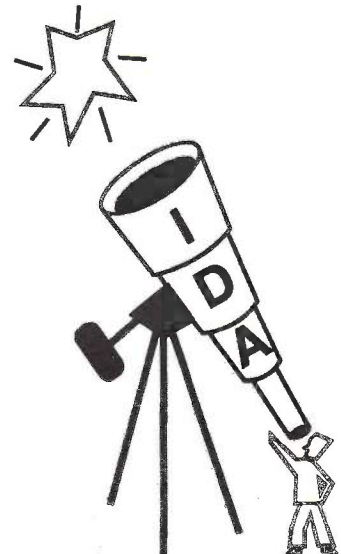
—Karen Wessener

## Last Chance-Starwatch

There is STILL time to complete and send your IDA Starwatch forms. See the January Focal Point for details or call Tom Gill @ 476-6986 to receive another form.

I did the exercise in about 20 minutes with 11 x 80 binoculars and I had fun trying to pick out the faintest stars on the chart. It will be interesting to do my own comparison in the years to come.

Last month I asked that you have all forms sent by April 15 to our Light Pollution Committee chair, Brian Ganiere, 2212 E. Stratford Ct., Shorewood, WI 53211. Brian will forward the charts to the IDA.



## Volunteers Needed for Open House Talks

Lee Keith, Open House Coordinator, is looking for members who would like to give a short 20 minute presentation for our upcoming open houses. (*Take it from me, it's a great way to learn a lot about the subject you choose to speak on!*—Tom Gill).

This is a great way to help out the MAS and provide public education. And it's also a lot of fun! We have a great slide collection to assist you (even some scripts) and a well-stocked library of pertinent and up-to-date information. You'll wow em! If interested, call Lee Keith at 425-2331.

The subjects are:

**May 1 - Astronomy Day: What are Amateur Astronomers?**  
(Special day/time: Sat, 2-10pm)

**July 23 - Explore Our Nearest Celestial Neighbor: The Moon**

**Aug. 6 - Faster Than a Speeding Bullet: Meteors**

**Aug. 20 - Heavenly Heroes: Constellation Myths**

**Sept. 3 - The Mysterious World of Planet X: Pluto**

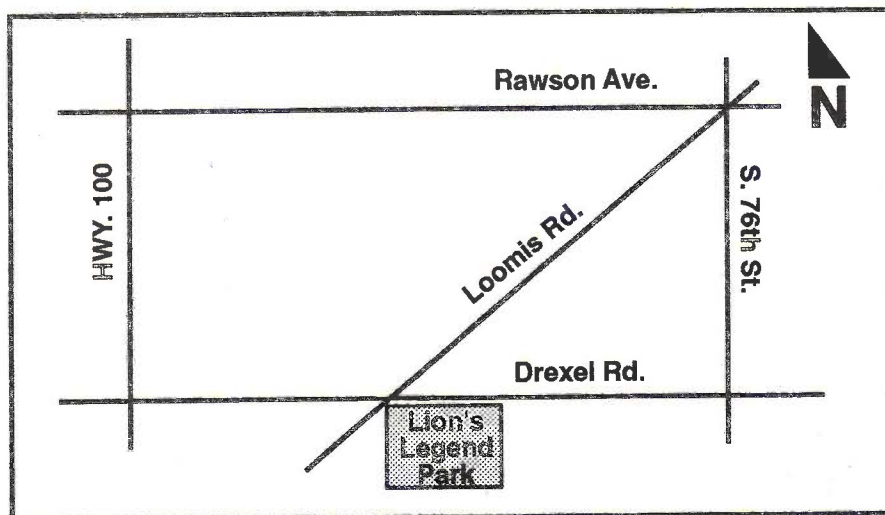
**Sept. 24 - The Beautiful River in the Night Sky: The Milky Way**

**Oct. 8 - Saturn: The Planet with "Ears"**

## MAS to go "On Tour!"

In extending the "Universal Tour" theme of the 1992 NCRAL convention, the MAS will bring their telescopes closer to the public to show them the universe in local parks. I have received permission from the Franklin Parks Commission to hold a star party at Lion's Legend Park at Loomis & Drexel Ave. in Franklin. The date is Wednesday, April 28th at 8:00pm (before our summer activities start and while it still gets dark at a reasonable hour). Local schools will be contacted so we need a large turnout of telescopes, especially if it is clear. Call Lee Keith at 425-2331 if you can bring a telescope. Other parks anyone?

—Lee Keith



## Saturday Night Keyholders

Apr 3	John Pfannerstill	475-6494
10	Frank Roldan	608-787-1730
17	Terry Ross	784-2093
24	Tom Schmidtkunz	352-1674
May 1	Gerry Samolyk	529-9051
8	Peter Smitka	785-0926
15	Virgil Tangney	327-7976
22	Jim Toeller	352-7144

## For Sale

**6" f/12 Astro-Physics Refractor.** With 2.7" Astro-Physics focuser, Astro-Physics 700 series equatorial mount with dual axis drives and hand controller, 2 stainless steel counterweights, quick release 6.5" hexagonal mounting rings, 60" Pier, dual axis drive corrector, 8 x 50 Astro-Physics finder with illuminated reticle, carrying cases for tube assembly and accessories. All used very little and in excellent condition. Retail, \$6000. Asking \$3000, you pick up.

Call Dave Kriege in Lake Mills @ 414-648-8284 home or 414-648-2327 work.

**Celestron C8, Classic with wedge** and all factory listed accessories plus adjustable rubber coated tripod. Never used—new condition with factory warranty. List of \$1996, for sale at less than dealer cost \$995.

Call Lou Graef 414-259-1500 work, 414-529-2805 home.



## Dan Koehler Appears on Cable TV

Have you checked out your local cable stations lately? You might be surprised to know that some have astronomical programming. Thanks to **Dorothy Kube** for sharing the following information about two local cable shows, the award winning "The Sky Tonight" (geared toward the casual and curious observer) and "The Starry Messenger" (interviews with people about astronomy and related topics).

The shows are a community service of The Wehr Astronomical Society, Franklin, WI. The Starry Messenger is moderated and produced by **Jim Kube**. Several MAS members have been guests of the show in the past and will be seen in future shows.

Featured in 3 upcoming episodes (April, May & June) is MAS member **Dan Koehler**, who will talk about Meteorites.

The cable companies and channels which carry the two shows are:

Warner (N&S) Ch 11B\*  
 Warner (Milw) Ch 49\*  
 Crown (West Allis) Ch 13A & Ch 30B  
 Crown (New Berlin) Ch 30

Programs change monthly, so check cable listings for day and time of broadcast. (\*Warner shows are M&F 10:00 am, Wed 10:30 am unless pre-empted by Shuttle flight coverage).

## MAS INFORMATION

### MAS Officers

President Dr. Richard Wiesen  
781-4786

Vice President Matthew McNeely  
354-5347

Secretary Dorothy Kube  
453-8858

Treasurer Dan Koehler  
662-2987

Obs. Director Gerry Samolyk  
529-9051

Ast. Obs. Director Paul Borchardt  
781-0169

Librarian Mrs. Sally Waraczynski  
321-0918

Assist. Librarian Mrs. June Regis  
962-0896

Program Dir. Tom Renner  
524-0932

### Focal Point Staff

Matthew McNeely (Editor)  
8200 N. Cedarburg Road  
Brown Deer, WI 53209  
354-5347

Tom Gill (Editor/Publisher)  
1391 N. 72nd Street  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
476-6986

### MAS Observatory

18850 W. Observatory Rd.  
New Berlin, WI  
542-9071

### MAS April 23rd Banquet Cocktails 5:30, Dinner 6:30, Program 8:00

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Selection:	Entree	#/Cost	Total
	Filet Mignon	___ @ \$18.00 ea	___
	Chicken	___ @ \$15.50 ea	___
	Orange Roughy	___ @ \$18.00 ea	___
	Total Enclosed		___

Make Checks Payable to: **Milwaukee Astronomical Society**

Mail to: **Marty Brunet**  
2329 Hughes Lane  
Waukesha, WI 53188

**Must Be Received by APRIL 19th**