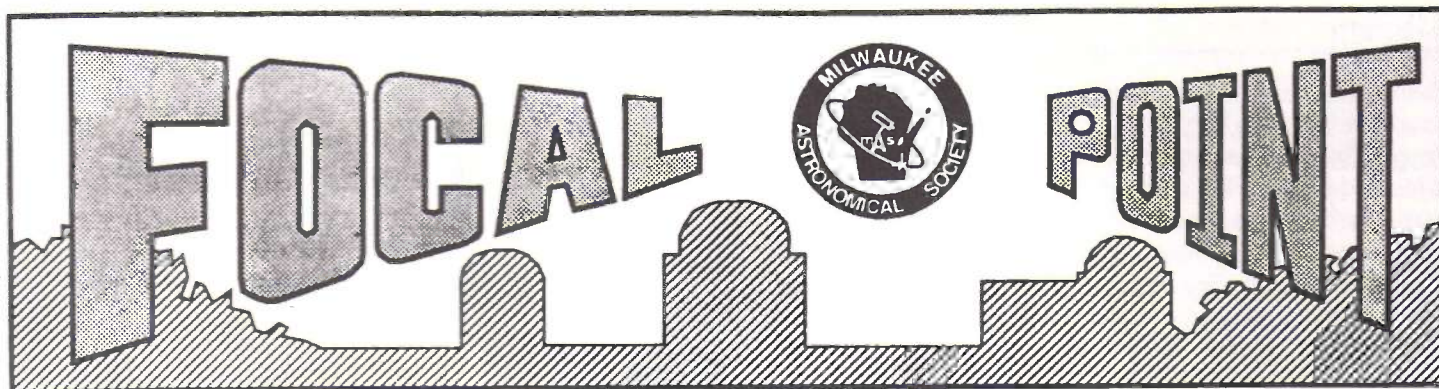




Newsletter for the

*Milwaukee Astronomical Society*

Summer 1991

## From The Editors

Summertime once again: High overhead, flows misty the Milky Way with its glimmering globulars. A wonderful time to participate in MAS activities which include: Open Houses at the Observatory, Summer Campout and our Annual Picnic. We are diligently working to make sure that this year's picnic is fun for all. Hope to see you there!

This is the last *Focal Point* until September—deadline is August 23. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer. The next general meeting is on September 20th at the Observatory.

*Matthew McNeeley & Tom Gill*

## Clean Up—Help Wanted

Saturdays are the day for Observatory maintenance and improvements. Help is wanted and needed! Call Gerry Samolyk at 529-9051, Paul Borchardt at 781-0169 or the Observatory at 542-9071.

### Saturday Nite Keyholders

|         |                   |              |
|---------|-------------------|--------------|
| July 13 | Terry Ross        | 784-2093     |
| July 20 | Tom Schmidtkunz   | 784-0253     |
| July 27 | Gerry Samolyk     | 529-9051     |
| Aug. 3  | Frank Roldan      | 608-787-1730 |
| Aug. 10 | John Pfannerstill | 475-6494     |
| Aug. 17 | Peter Smitka      | 785-0926     |
| Aug. 24 | Virgil Tagney     | 327-7976     |
| Aug. 31 | Jim Toeller       | 352-7144     |
| Sep. 7  | Richard Wiesen    | 781-4757     |
| Sep. 14 | Paul Borchardt    | 781-0169     |

## Summer Calendar of Events

- July 11, Thursday ..... Total Solar Eclipse  
(5% of disk covered in Milwaukee)
- July 22, Monday ..... MAS Board Meeting  
7:30 at the Observatory
- July 27, Saturday ..... MAS FAMILY PICNIC  
at the Observatory
- August 6-9 ..... Astronomical League National Convention  
Amherst, Mass.
- August 7, Wednesday ..... First Wednesday Meeting  
7:30 at the Observatory
- August 9-11 ..... Summer Campout  
Wildcat Mountain State Park
- August 19, Monday ..... MAS Board Meeting  
7:30 at the Observatory
- August 23, Friday ..... Deadline for *Focal Point*
- September 4, Wednesday ..... First Wednesday Meeting  
7:30 at the Observatory
- September 6-8 ..... ASTROFEST
- September 9, Monday ..... MAS Board Meeting  
7:30 at the Observatory
- September 20, Friday ..... Program Meeting  
8:00 pm at the Observatory

## Summer Open Houses

July 19; August 2, 16, 30; September 13 & 27; October 11

Saturday Nights—Member night at Observatory—Call key holder

## Library News

Thanks to a donation from Jim Mayer, we now have What Do You Care What Other People Think?, a very special biographical account of early life influences and his part in the investigation of the Challenger disaster as told to Ralph Leighton by Richard Feynman. Feynman, who died in 1988, was a physicist and educator with the philosophy that "doubt and discussion are essential to progress into the unknown."

Also from Jim Mayer is Cosmic Dawn: The Origin of Matter and Life by Eric Chaisson, a quietly logical and non-technical cosmological book. Born from a universe of seething radiation, life now contemplates itself and knows that the essence of evolution is change.

Were there actually two neutrino bursts from Supernova 1987A? Did the event create first a neutron star and then a black hole? One of our recent purchases is End in Fire by Paul Murdin (1990) which tells of the excitement of discovery and the ongoing studies which seek to characterize specifically the life and dramatic death of the star SK-69 202.

-Sally Waraczynski

## May Election Results

Elected to the Board of Directors: Wanda Berner, Martin Brunet and Martha Kelty. Elected as officers were: Richard Wiesen, President; Matthew McNeeley, Vice President; and Dorothy Kube, Secretary; and Dan Kohler, Treasurer. The officers ask for your input and support to make the coming year a successful one for all members.

## Dues Coming Due

Renewal forms sent with September Focal Point. Also an opportunity to order magazines, calenders, etc. Fee structure:

- \$40 Regular (16 + over)
- \$40 Family (\$1 ea. additional person)
- \$30 Non-resident
- \$25 Junior (under 16 as of 9/1/91)

## New Members

The MAS Board recently announced the following new members:

Jody Dulberg—Milwaukee

Erich Schmidt and

Melinda Illingworth

—Milwaukee

David Sherman—Milwaukee

Welcome to MAS, one and all!

## Summer Campout

Enter the land of the giants! Dave Kriege, owner of Obsession Telescopes (The Big Ones: 20" and 25" diameter) has reserved group camping at Wildcat Mountain State Park for August 9-11. All members are welcome. The site is about 3 hours from Milwaukee and there is plenty to do for the entire family. Contact Dave at 1-648-8284 for info and directions.

## Astrofest 1991

September 6-8 at Camp Shaw-Wa-Na-See, Kankakee, IL. Sponsored by the Chicago Astronomical Society. MAS usually has 20 or so members and at least that many scopes attending this premier Midwestern Star Party. Join in the fun! Contact:

Astrofest  
PO Box 596-A  
Tinley Park, IL 60477.

## For Sale

Classic C-8 Telescope with Adjustable Field Tripod, like new. Value of over \$1500, sell for just \$849. Contact Matthew McNeeley at 354-5347 for details.



## MAS INFORMATION

### MAS OFFICERS

President Dr. Richard Wiesen  
781-4786

Vice President Matthew McNeeley  
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  
392-2799

### FOCAL POINT Staff

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

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

### MAS Observatory

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