

# FOCAL



# POINT

Issued by the  
MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

- : SEPTEMBER 1983 : -

#### CALENDAR:

- Fri., Aug. 26 - Public Open House - 8 p.m. at the observatory.  
Wed., Sep. 7 - First Wednesday Meeting - 7:30 p.m. at the observatory.  
ALL members welcome, especially recent joiners.  
Fri., Sep. 9 - Public Open House - 8 p.m. at the observatory.  
Fri., Sep. 16 - General Program-Meeting - 8 p.m. at UWMilwaukee.  
Fri., Sep. 23 - Board meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
Wed., Oct. 5 - First Wednesday meeting - 7:30 p.m. at the observatory.  
Fri., Oct. 21 - Annual Dinner Meeting.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM-MEETING: The first meeting of the Milwaukee Astronomical Society new year will spotlight Mr. Daniel Lentz, a project engineer with Tec-Systems, a high-tech industry located in De Pere, Wisconsin.

In addition to what promises to be an informative talk covering medical advancements, satellites, and jobs, Mr. Lentz will show slides on dividends from space. There will be a question/answer period following his presentation.

Members (new joiners especially), and guests are urged to

MEET - Friday, September 16, 8 p.m.

AT - The UWM Physics Bldg., Room 133, located on the corner of Kenwood and Cramer.

FIRST CALL FOR DINNER! MAS members and guests may make reservations now with Vice President and Program Chairwoman Eileen Korenic for the 15th annual MAS Dinner-Meeting which will be held Fri., Oct. 21, at the Tyrolean Towne House at 1657 S. 108th St., just south of Greenfield Ave. and Hwy. 100. There is ample free parking.

Our main speaker will be Dr. J. Allen Hynek who was a consultant for the major motion picture production "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Event times are:

- 6 p.m. - Cash bar in the Rathskeller (lower level).
- 7 p.m. - Dinner.
- 8 p.m. - Short meeting followed by the main speaker.

There is no charge if you prefer to attend only the meeting. For those attending the dinner a colored card will be issued at the door to indicate the dinner choice and to facilitate serving.

So, mark Fri., Oct. 21 on your calendar and let's all meet for a pleasant evening. Fill out the handy form on the last page and send it to Miss Korenic soon!

NEW NAME FOR THE MAS NEWSLETTER: You probably were surprized when you unfolded this newsletter and saw the new logo! Did you think the postman had made a wrong delivery?

Not so! This new nameplate design was chosen by the Board of Directors from dozens of entries submitted since the contest to rename our newsletter started in April, 1982. Since we now have three observing buildings, the name Double Dome was no longer adequate.

Past Program Chairman Dan Koehler submitted the winning entry. The art work was done by member John Wiesen. Frank Roldan and Brian Ganiere were in charge of the name-nameplate committee.

Thanks to everyone who submitted a suggestion(s).

OPEN HOUSE: The last two Public Open Houses will occur at the observatory on Friday, Aug. 26 and Friday, Sep. 9. Talks on these nights will feature deep sky objects, and general astronomy respectively. The programs start at 8 p.m.

Weather permitting, visitors may view many celestial objects through the Society's many fine telescopes.

The observatory is located at 18850 W. Observatory Road in New Berlin. Bring a sweater or jacket to help ward off the cold and mosquitos!

DUES TIME: The MAS fiscal new year begins in September. There's a handy form on the last page of this newsletter for you to fill out and mail at your convenience.

RENNER'S DISCOVER A NEW STAR! Tom and Carol Renner are focussing on their brand new seven-pound baby boy, Andy J., who was born on July 16. Everyone is doing fine.

Now there'll be something besides the stars to keep Tom up nights! Congratulations and best wishes from the MAS.

NEW MEMBERS: The Milwaukee Astronomical Society is pleased to introduce the following new members: David Luetzgen, Greendale; Holger Petersen and wife Mary Beth, Milwaukee; Raymond Prochazka and wife Katherine, New Berlin; and Jeff Wussow, Wauwatosa.

Everyone will be introduced at the September general meeting.

FOR SALE: Meade 6" f/5 rich field telescope. Includes tube assembly with 6x30mm finder, 28mm wide angle Kellner and 12.5mm orthoscopic eye-pieces, Meade equitorial mount with drive and slow motion on both axes, and Vari-Guide right ascension drive corrector. Asking \$375 for all of the above items or \$300 without the drive corrector. Call Tom Schmidtkunz at 276-9675 (home) or 271-3011 Ext. 1656 (work).

ASTROFEST '83 is just the place for anyone interested in telescope making, observing, astrophotography, swapping, or things astronomical. It will be held from Friday evening Sept. 30 through Sunday, Oct. 2, 1983, at Camp Shaw-Waw-Nas-See near Kankakee, Illinois.

This year's main speaker will be Rollin Van Zandt of the Peoria Ast. Soc. His topic will be "Large Optical Telescopes of the Future."

Three special workshops will also be featured. One on telescope mountings will be conducted by Milwaukee Ast. Soc. member Richard Berry.

Please see the August, 1983 The Reflector, page 7, for complete details of Astrofest '83, or call MAS President Peter Smitka at 964-5316.

NCRAL ELECTIONS: The North Central Region Astronomical League elected Frank Roldan as vice chairman through 1983-84. Former MAS member Richard Wend was elected secretary/treasurer.

Larry Jahn of Napierville, Illinois was chosen as chairman and Robert Schmidt of Richfield, Minnesota was retained as regional representative.

<u>METEOR SHOWER:</u>	<u>PEAK DATE</u>	<u>MOON AGE</u>	<u>PEAK RATE/HR</u>
Draconids	Sun., Oct. 9	3 d	10

Best viewing is between midnight and dawn. Peak rate may occur a day or two before or after maximum. On any normal night, an observer should see between 5 and 10 meteors per hour.

MEMBER'S NIGHT KEYHOLDERS:

Aug. 27	J. Asztalos	258-5626
Sep. 3	L. Burazin	481-4852
10	R. Berry	442-4267
17	W. Collins	255-4169
24	G. Hall	786-8579
Oct. 1	C. Hessel tine	482-4515
8	P. Murn	464-1539
15	J. Pfannerstill	475-6494
22	F. Roldan	344-2354

Saturday night is member's night at the observatory. All members are invited to come out to observe, learn how to use the equipment available, or just chat. Call the keyholder the Fri. before his night - cancel Sat. if necessary. Keyholder should report anyway. He will also oversee tours during the week ending with his assigned night. Mr. J. Toeller (352-7144) will act on requests.

- : FULL HARVEST MOON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1983 : -

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Wednesday, October 5. Please notify the editor of items to be included in the October issue by this date.

DIRECTORY:

President - Peter Smitka - 785-0926  
Vice President & Program Chairwoman - Eileen Korenic - 541-3999  
Secretary - Brian Ganiere - 425-1384  
Treasurer - James Toeller - 352-7144  
26" Telescope Chairman - William Tuerck - 782-2844  
Observatory Director - Gerry Samolyk - 258-5626  
Asst. Obs. Director - John Asztalos - 258-5626  
FOCAL POINT Editor - LeRoy Simandl - 933-3052  
MAS Observatory - 18850 W. Observatory Rd., New Berlin - 542-9071

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DUES REMITTANCE

September, 1983

Please mark this tear-off and include it with your remittance made payable to Mr. James Toeller, 407 W. Mall Rd., Milw., Wis. 53217 (352-7144).

- \_\_\_\_\_ General Membership @ \$30.00.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership @ \$30.00 plus \$1.00 for each additional family member.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Resident @ \$20.00.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Junior Member (under 16) @ \$15.00.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to 26" (0.6m) Telescope Completion Fund

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address, zip, & phone \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for supporting the Milwaukee Astronomical Society.

DINNER REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of reservations

Dinner Choices (number of each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Boneless breast of chicken served on blended rice garnished with crab apple \$9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Bavarian Roast Sirloin of Beef served in burgundy wine sauce \$10.25

Dinners include fruit cup, garden salad, baked potato, rolls, butter, and coffee/tea/milk.

Prices include tax and tip.

Make check payable to Eileen Korenic.

\_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed

Mail check and reservation form to: Eileen Korenic  
7623 W. Wilbur Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53220

The deadline for reservations is Oct. 17, 1983.