



www.milwaukeeastro.org
June 2009

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, September 18th, 2009
8:00 PM at the Observatory

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, June 8th, 2009
7:30 PM at the Observatory

The Public and Friends are cordially invited to all membership and board meetings

MAS PICNIC

Saturday, July 18th

4:00 PM at the observatory

Mark mid-summer, come rain, humidity, or shine
and if the skies are clear, astronomy at night.

Drinks and 'burgers will be provided

bring a dish to pass

Fall Season Public Open House Events

MAS members should arrive by 7:00 PM to help set up
program takes place regardless of the weather
clear skies permit public viewing through telescopes

Fri, August 14	The perseid meteor shower
Fri, September 25	Jupiter
Fri, October 9	Fall Galaxies

FOCUS on Z2

The observatory holding the Z2 telescope is the most recent building erected on the observatory grounds by the members of the MAS. Erected in 2005, it contains a 14 inch Newtonian telescope donated to the MAS by former observatory director Ray Zit, hence the "Z" in "Z2". The "2" comes from the fact that this is the second telescope at the observatory whose principal benefactor had a last name beginning with "Z".

The Z2 observatory can be opened by any of the Keyholders. When the door is opened, release the vertical bolt to the inside left of the door and then the one on the right, if it's there, then slide the roof off toward the rear of the observatory. Be careful not to slide the front edge roof beyond the rear edge of the observatory. You don't want to push the roof off the rails.

Remove the cover from the front of the scope and stow it somewhere inside the observatory.

To engage the clockdrive, plug the power cord into the socket at the bottom of the pier. Insert an eye piece and you're in business.

If you require any assistance, contact the keyholder.

When closing the observatory, first make sure that the scope is lying horizontally and facing the door. Then follow the opening steps in reverse. Make sure that the power cord is unplugged. When the roof is on and the vertical bolts are engaged, closing the door will lock the observatory.



The Z2 telescope and observatory

The observatory is the first one you come to when you enter the MAS grounds.



Location of the Z2 observatory

KEYHOLDER LIST

The keyholder list printed in previous editions of the Focal Point may be in error. The official list of keyholders is on the website. The following list, scraped off the website, is correct.

Date	Keyholder	Telephone
June 6	Tom Schmidtkunz	414-352-1674
June 13	Neil Simmons	262-889-2039
June 20	Dan Yanko	262-255-3482
June 27	Paul Borchardt	262-781-0169
July 4	Tim Burrus	262-369-1022
July 11	Steve Diesso	262-641-0331
July 18	Brian Ganiere	414-961-8745
July 25	Carlos Garces	262-786-2623

The observatory is open to the membership on Saturdays by appointment. Please call the appropriate keyholder a day or so prior to the Saturday you plan to come and indicate which equipment you want to use.

If you want to become a keyholder, call our Observatory Director, Gerry Samolyk, at 414-529-9051. Keyholders have access to the observatory at all times.

note: Keyholders can swap assignments, but if you do, please notify the webmaster, Steve Diesso at 262-501-0384 so the official list on the web site can be updated.

YARD KEYS are available to all members. The keys open the parking lot, 18" dob, and C-shed. Contact Gerry Samolyk.

OBSERVATORY LOCATION

18850 Observatory Road
New Berlin, WI 53151
(262) 542-9071

MAS Officers

Position	Name	Telephone
President	Neil Simmons	(262) 889-2039
Vice President	Tim Burrus	(262) 369-1022
Treasurer	Dan Yanko	(262) 255-3482
Secretary	Henry Gerner	(414) 774-9194
Observatory Director	Gerry Samolyk	(414) 529-9051
Assistant Observatory Director	Henry Gerner	(414) 774-9194

MAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Phone	Term	Until
Ray Albarelli	(414) 531-6258	1	2010
Tim Burrus	(262) 369-1022	1	2011
Henry Gerner	(414) 774-9194	1	2011
Kipp Hoffman	(920) 980-0670	1	2010
Al Hovey	(262) 524-5510	1	2010
Jill Roberts	(414) 587-9422	1	2011
Lana Silke	(262) 966-4929	1	2012
Gerry Samolyk	(414) 529-9051	1	2010
Virgil Tagney	(414) 379-1661	1	2012
Dan Yanko	(262) 255-3482	1	2012

COMMITTEES

Committee	Name	Telephone
Newsletter	Bob Manske	608-849-5287
Program	Ray Albarelli	414-531-6258
Membership	Bob Manske	608-489-5287
Librarian	Jill Roberts	414-587-9422
Webmaster	Steve Diesso	262-501-0384