



Promoting the science and public education of astronomy, encouraging observational participation in astronomy, and providing outreach at the Leif Everson Observatory.



The Door Peninsula Astronomical Society is a local club and a chapter of the Astronomical League.

DPAS operates and maintains the Stonecipher Astronomy Center and the Leif Everson Observatory, which is equipped with a PlaneWave Instruments 17 inch f/6.8 Corrected Dall-Kirkham Astrograph telescope on a L-500 mount for astrophotography and research. On a portable mount is a 102mm refractor with a hydrogen alpha filter for studying details of activity on the sun.

DPAS also owns and operates a portable planetarium with a state-of-the-art computer projection system which is used on cloudy nights, for daytime activities, and for public outreach in local schools and libraries.



Ray and Ruthie Stonecipher Astronomy Center, Leif Everson Observatory, and Star Garden

PO Box 331
2022 Utah Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235



The Orion Nebula image from Leif Everson Observatory

MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 14, 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Newcomers Guide to Knowing Nebula

Presented by Steve-Ransom Jones

Nebulae represent some of the most beautiful objects in the sky, with many that are both easily located and stunning to see. How did humanity uncloud our original nebulous thinking about objects in the night sky to the clear understanding that we have today? We will journey back into the past to understand some of the early observations and misconceptions that clouded our understanding. Our nebulous narrative will then consider what they are, how they came to be and how they illuminate our understanding of our universe. Of course, there will be plenty of stops on the way to pause and admire these awesome astronomical artifacts.

VIEWING NIGHT MARCH 25

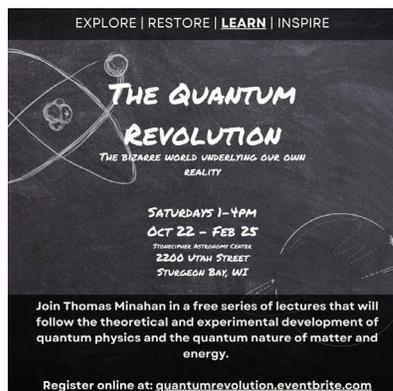
Astronomy Campus
2200 Utah St.
Sturgeon Bay

If the sky is overcast, planetarium shows will be presented.

starting at
7:30 PM



OUTREACH IN FEBRUARY



Quantum Revolution every Saturday.

Every Saturday through February 25, Tom Minahan offered an amazing class in which he introduced learners of all ages to quantum physics. Thank you Tom!!



Science Saturday at Crossroads on February 11 was a Visible Spectrum Day.

Young learners and their families made rainbows by shining light through prisms, learned about waves using slinkies, and made a spectrum craft on a wintery Saturday afternoon.



TJ Walker Sixth Grade Daytime Astronomy-February 24

Jim Gallt, Tom Gwilym and Tom Minahan braved a day-long field trip for 80 sixth grade students who were thrilled to see sunspots and learn about moon craters.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Galaxy M51

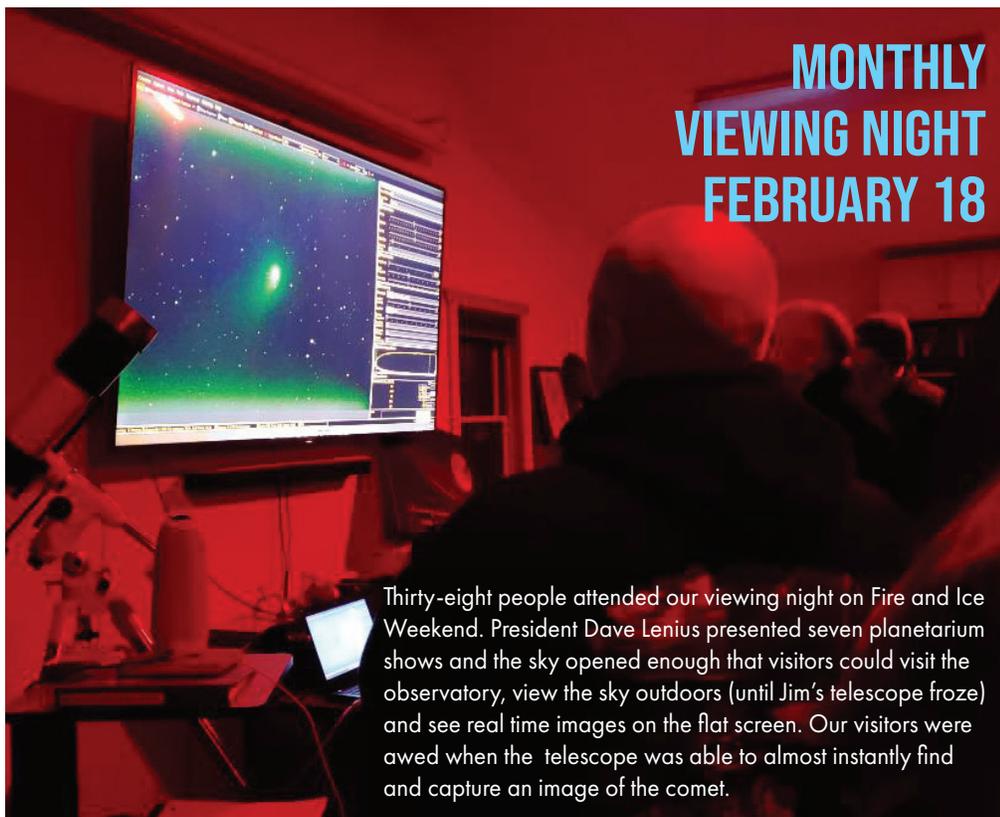
On Valentine's Day, President Dave Lenius gave an upbeat report on how the society is growing and explained the need for more volunteers. Plans were made to do a deep clean of the Stoneciphers Astronomy Center. He also announced that we no longer will be sharing our meetings via Zoom....but that on clear nights, monthly meetings will morph into viewing nights, as we can now control the telescope and view images from the Stoneciphers Center.

Board Member Jim Gallt presented the lecture "Intro to Spectrometry...what kind of star do you think I am anyway." during which he shed light on the meaning of spectroscopy. He explained the process by which light is split into its "rainbow colors" and that using emission/absorption lines (which are unique to each element) one can recognize the makeup and the temperature of objects, including stars and even nebulae. Then he described the "The Star Analyzer 100" a diffraction grating instrument which he has attached to our new telescope, "Ray, the Wonder-Scope." He screened and explained some of the images captured in our own Leif Everson Observatory.

Amazingly (or maybe not), the meeting was held on an overcast evening so society members were treated to images captured by Tom Gwilym and Jim Gallt during the past month.



MONTHLY VIEWING NIGHT FEBRUARY 18



Thirty-eight people attended our viewing night on Fire and Ice Weekend. President Dave Lenius presented seven planetarium shows and the sky opened enough that visitors could visit the observatory, view the sky outdoors (until Jim's telescope froze) and see real time images on the flat screen. Our visitors were awed when the telescope was able to almost instantly find and capture an image of the comet.



THE NEW MOON ENTERS A NEW PHASE

Dr. Beck Retires as Editor

A “Blue Moon” is defined as the second full moon in a calendar month. But the idiom, “Once in a blue moon” has come to mean “rarely” or “occasionally”. When DPAS was in its infancy, the Blue Moon Observer came out only once in a Blue Moon. Then, in 2004 Dr. John Beck, who is a former President of the Society, assumed the position of Editor.

Neither rain, nor snow nor sleet nor hail would keep Dr. John from publishing the BMO...but, there was that flood on 4th Avenue. It was a dark and stormy night, and Dr. John had just finished writing, printing, and addressing the Blue Moon Observer. On his way to the Board meeting, he stopped at the drop box outside the Post Office, presumably with a sense of accomplishment, and mailed them. It was after the last pick-up.... but at least they were done and on their way.

The next morning, the phone rang at Crossroads. It was the Postmaster. Had somebody mailed newsletters?



Because there was a flood, a deluge of 4 feet rushing down the street and water got into the drop box, and well, the Blue Moon Observer was a soggy glob resembling paper mâché.

Other than that, though he struggled with printers and ink and publishing programs and changes, and using what now obsolete computer technology, he reliably put out an outstanding, informative and accurate publication month after month. The new publication will be shorter...no quiz....no poetry. But we hope, we can live up to the standard set by Dr. Beck. We all give him our sincere thanks for his service as both President and BMO Editor.



THANK YOU SUSAN

Though, thank goodness, Susan Basten will continue to participate in our events, she has informed us that she wishes to retire from the Board and from her responsibilities as Board Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, positions she has filled admirably for years. Those who have seen her in the Star Garden with her Dobsonian telescope and green laser pointer or who, over the years have enjoyed her planetarium shows know she has been a true asset to DPAS.

Thank you Susan—for everything.

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MEMBER AT LARGE

Amanda Austin
INTERN

Ray Stonecipher
IN SPIRIT

The business of the DPAS is largely conducted at the Board meetings to leave the general meetings open for programs. Members of DPAS are invited to attend Board meetings.



DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please print to complete:

ADULTS _____

CHILDREN _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

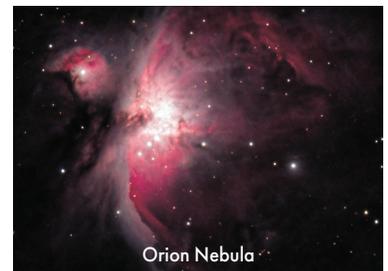
EMAIL _____

Family \$25 per year

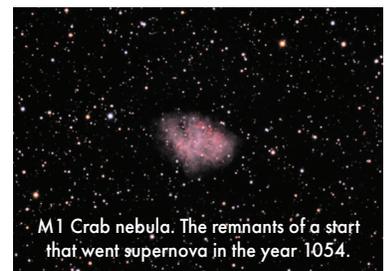
Student \$5 per year

I (we) wish to make a donation of _____ to help underwrite operation costs of the Society.

Mail payment to: DPAS, PO Box 331, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235



Orion Nebula



M1 Crab nebula. The remnants of a star that went supernova in the year 1054.

DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

DPAS Launches Door County Students into Science Careers

DPAS is proud to award scholarships each year to students pursuing a bachelor's degree in physical science, biological science, engineering, science education, mathematics, or math education. These grants are made possible by a bequest from Dr. Ray Stonecipher.

This Scholarship is a 4-year award for a Door County student pursuing a bachelor's degree in physical science, biological science, engineering, science education, mathematics, or math education. We award grants to this year's seniors and also to adult returning students. The scholarship award will be paid as \$1,250 per semester for 8 semesters, for a total of \$10,000.

The scholarship recipient must meet the minimum qualifications for renewal.

The selection criteria for this scholarship are as follows:

- Academic Performance
- Standardized Test Scores
- Difficulty of Curriculum
- Advanced Placement Courses (if available)
- Financial Need
- Community Service - Volunteer Work

Available to:

- High School Senior
- Returning Adult Student

College type:

- 4 year College/University

Major in:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Architectural Engineering
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Construction Engineering
- Education
- Electrical Engineering
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Physics

Deadline: March 10, 2023

Award Announcement: May 15, 2023

\$10,000 Scholarship
(\$1,250 per semester for 8 semesters)

AWARDED TO

Four Door County students pursuing a bachelor's degree in physical science, biological science, engineering, science education, mathematics, or math education

For more information and to apply, go to:
<https://www.doorcountyscholarships.org/finder/search/scholarship/?id=181>



APPLICATIONS DUE BY MARCH 10

Granted by
Door County Community Foundation
Grants are made possible by
a bequest from Dr. Ray Stonecipher

