

**Milwaukee
Astronomical
Society**

18850 Observatory Rd
New Berlin, WI
Phone: 262-542-9071

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Focal Point

March 2010

MAS Summer Campout

The Milwaukee Astronomical Society will once again sponsor a summer campout at the Yanko Farm in Rib Lake Wisconsin the weekend of August 6 & 7, 2010.

"We have had many campouts in the past and we always had fun times." says Dan Yanko. "There are very dark skies where you can see the Milky Way touch the tree lines to the North and South on a clear night."

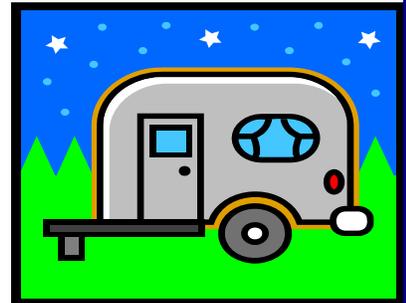
The Yanko farm offers a variety of options to make this a great camping and observing experience. You can camp in the yard, use the fireplace in the garage, grill out, cook your meals in the kitchen, use the refrigerator, use the bathroom or just relax in the house. All the comforts of home are available. There is electric-

ity to power your telescopes or camper if needed.

During the day you can go fishing in Wood or Spirit Lake, bike on the Pine Line Trail, hike on the Ice Age trail, visit Tim's Hill which is the highest point in Wisconsin, visit Gertsberger Pines, drive on the ATV trails, visit the historical museum in Medford, visit Concrete Park in Phillips or just hike on the 40 acres of the Yanko Farm. There are plenty of restaurants close by also.

If camping is not in the stars for you, Rib Lake has two hotels to choose from. They are Camp 28 Bar/Restaurant/Motel phone # 715-427-2828 (Rooms \$60 to \$67 a night) and the R Corner Store Rustic Inn phone # 715-427-3270 (\$45 to \$65 a night).

The camping and tele-



scope observing is free to members of the MAS. If you do not have a telescope you can still enjoy views from other member's scopes. We would be happy to give you a tour of the night sky.

Rib Lake is about 200 miles from Milwaukee and it is an easy four hour drive with two rest stops. There are four lane highways most of the journey.

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Volunteers Needed – Upcoming Elections

Every year the MAS holds elections for board members and officers. Board members serve for 3 year terms while the officers - president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer serve for a single year, with the exception of the Observatory Director who serves a 3 year term. Since there are 11 board members serving in a 3 year rotation, the number of seats available in a year follows a

4,4,3 pattern. This year we are holding elections for 4 seats.

Although not required by the by-laws, a nominating committee is formed for the purpose of seeking out individuals interested in filling vacant spots. For a change, this year we actually have a committee as opposed to one individual.

Continued on page 4

Remember...

" Ask not what the Milwaukee Astronomical Society can do for you, but what you can do for The Milwaukee Astronomical Society".

Save The Date

Feb. 19th

Board Meeting
General Meeting

March 19th

Board Meeting
General Meeting

March 27th

Sheboygan Astro-
nomical Society
Swap 'N' Sell

April 16th

Board Meeting
General Meeting

June 12th

Ottawa Lake Tele-
scope Clinic

August 6th & 7th

MAS Campout

We're on the web:

<http://www.milwaukeeastro.org>

Mercury is visible in the evening twilight. **Venus** sets at 8p.m. **Mars** crosses the meridian at 10p.m., and sets at 5 a.m. **Jupiter** is visible in the morning twilight late in the month. **Saturn** is visible all night long. (These times are local daylight time for an observer at 40° north latitude at midmonth)

At Your Service

Officers / Staff

President	Neil Simmons	262-889-2039
Vice President	Tim Burrus	262-369-1022
Secretary	Henry Gemer	414-774-9194
Treasurer	Dan Yanko	262-255-3482
Observatory Director	Gerry Samolyk	414-529-9051
Asst. Observatory Director	Henry Gemer	414-774-9194
Editor	Merri Tangney	941-961-4932

Board of Directors

Tim Burrus	262-369-1022
Russell Chabot	414-559-3502
Henry Gemer	414-774-9194
Al Hovey	262-524-5510
Kip Hoffman	920-980-0670
Jill Roberts	414-587-9422
Gerry Samolyk	414-529-9051
Lana Silke	262-966-4929
Neil Simmons	262-889-2039
Virgil Tangney	941-961-4932
Dan Yanko	262-255-3482

Key Holders

3/6/10	Tim Burrus	262-369-1022
3/13/10	Steve Diessos	262-641-0331
3/20/10	Carlos Gasrces	262-786-2623
4/3/10	Chris Hesseltnie	414-482-4515
4/10/10	Tim Hoff	262-662-2212

Sheboygan Swap and Sell

Remember, now is the time to mark your calendars and spread the word about the Sheboygan Astronomical Society's Third Annual Swap-N-Sell event.

Check out your basements and closets to see if you have any unused Astronomical Equipment that you could sell or swap with other amateur as-

tronomers.

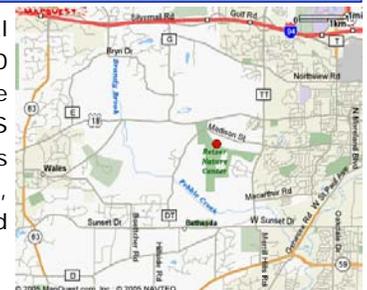
This is a great opportunity to meet fellow amateur astronomers. See you there, March 27, 2010 at the Aviation Heritage Center from 10:00AM to 3:00PM at the Sheboygan Airport.

Terms: Cash, check or swap. Food will be available.



March Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM on March 19th, 2010 at the new **Charles Z. Horowitz Planetarium** located at the **Retzger Nature Center**, S14 W28167 Madison Street in Waukesha. The general meeting will follow at 8:00 PM. Dan Yanko will provide a presentation on MAS Campouts. This meeting is free and open to the public, so bring your friends and family.



The Milwaukee Astronomical Society

2010 PUBLIC OBSERVING SCHEDULE

DATE	SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION
April 9	Mercury	Elusive Mercury climbs high away from the sun
April 23	Lyrid Meteor Shower	A spring-time meteor shower
May 7	Saturn	The rings are widening since winter's edge on appearance
June 18	Sun	Early show: 6 PM. Watch sunspots through safe, special filters
August 13	Perseid Meteor Shower	A late summer favorite. Learn the constellations while watching for meteors
September 17	Telescope Clinic	Bring your telescopes
October 1	TBA	
October 15	Moon	The moon is at 1st quarter



By: Gerry Samolyk, Milwaukee Astronomical Society

The MAS Observatory is conveniently located in New Berlin Wisconsin.

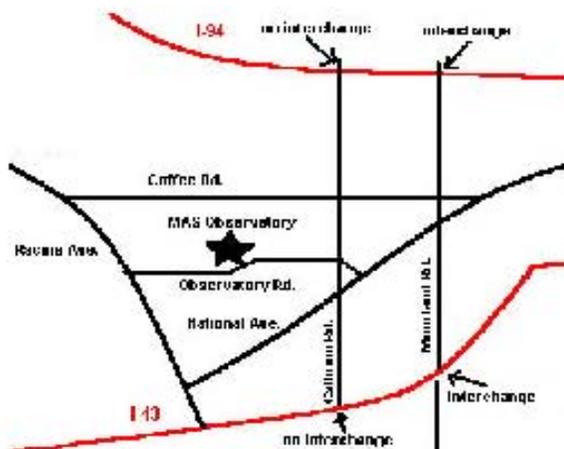
Directions

- Take National Ave. westbound to Observatory Rd. then west again on Observatory Rd.
- Or take I-94 to Moorland Rd, go south to National Ave. and west on Observatory Rd. There is no interchange at I-94 and Calhoun Rd.
- Or take I-43 to Moorland Rd, go north to National Ave. and west on Observatory Rd. There is no interchange at I-94 and Calhoun Rd.
- Or take Racine Rd east from Waukesha to Observatory Rd. and then eastbound on Observatory Rd.

Join us for an Evening Under the Stars!

\$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per Car Load

All Public Observing sessions begin at 7:30 PM except for June 18 which begins at 6:00 PM. A 20-minute presentation about our topic will be given. Club members will be available to answer your questions and be your guide to the Universe.



18850 Observatory Rd., New Berlin, WI 53146

For more information, visit us on the web at: www.milwaukeeastro.org

Ottawa Lake Telescope Clinic

On Saturday, June 12th, The Milwaukee Astronomical Society is hosting another Telescope Clinic for the campers and the public at Ottawa campground. We will set up just south of the beach. Feel free to invite your family and friends.

If you want, bring food and drinks to grill out at the park or just some sandwiches for your family. I will be there by 5:00 pm. We will begin the program at 7:00 pm.

We will help people set-up their telescopes, show them how to use it and have a laser show. You can stay as long as you wish.

I look forward to seeing some new members enjoy this opportunity to get familiar with their scope. If you don't have a telescope, there are others to share. Also, binoculars are also very useful. Bring a chair for yourself.

For more information call Jill Roberts at (414) 587-9422 or email her at jkrjpk@yahoo.com
 Jill is a member of the MAS Board of Directors and serves as the Club's librarian.

Upcoming Elections
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Brian Ganiere, Dan Yanko, and Neil Simmons are seeking individuals who are interested in serving on the board or being an officer.

If you have an interest in serving the MAS, please contact one of the undersigned. We would love to hear from you. For a description of the responsibilities of a given position please consult the bylaws which can be found at <http://www.milwaukeeastro.org/Documents/Bylaws.pdf>.

Brian Ganeire (414) 961-8745 ganiere@execpc.com

Neil Simmons (262) 889-2039 neilsimm@gmail.com

Dan Yanko (262) 255-3482 dan-heleny@aol.com

MAS Campout
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The skies are worth the trip even if you can only come up for one night.

Reservations to this event are a must, and can be made by contacting Dan Yanko by July 1, 2010.

If the weather would be cloudy and rainy that weekend please call to cancel.

To reserve a site or get directions please email Dan Yanko at dan-heleny@aol.com or call 262-255-3482 for additional information.



MAS campout group photo

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.”

Psalm 19:1

The Milwaukee Astronomical Society
 18850 Observatory Road
 New Berlin, WI 53151

