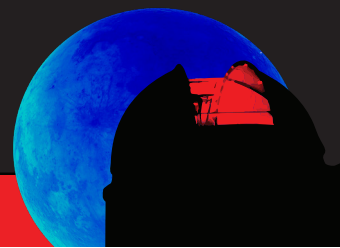


THE BLUE MOON OBSERVER

NOVEMBER 2024
Volume 26, Number 11



DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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.



**Stonecipher Astronomy Center,
Astronomy Campus,
Leif Everson Observatory,
and Star Garden**
PO Box 331
2200 Utah Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235



Comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS) is a widefield image taken with my DSLR and a stock lens that was riding on the top of my telescope.
DPAS Member Corey W. Gorski



Officially known as IC 63, this nebula is located 550 light-years away in the constellation Cassiopeia the Queen. DPAS image

MONTHLY MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 7:00 PM

MONTHLY MEETING & PROGRAM: Electronically Assisted Astronomy

Program presented by Jim Galt

Electronically Assisted Astronomy (EAA) was born when someone inserted the webcam from their PC into the eyepiece holder on a telescope. EAA has come a long way since those early days of low resolution analog video cameras! This presentation is an overview of the increasingly popular flavor of astrophotography, where real time observing rather than carefully processed pretty pictures is the primary goal.

Free and open to the public.

**Meet at the Stonecipher Astronomy Center
2200 Utah St., Sturgeon Bay**



DECEMBER AT DPAS

VIEWING NIGHT

DECEMBER 7, 7:00 PM

Planetarium shows every half hour, and clouds permitting, an outdoor stargazing experience.

MONTHLY MEETING

DECEMBER 10, 7:00 PM

MONTHLY MEETING & PROGRAM:

Atmospheres of Terrestrial Planets

Featuring Steve Ransom-Jones

**VISITORS ENCOURAGED!
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**Astronomy Campus
2200 Utah St., Sturgeon Bay**

OUTREACH IN OCTOBER



OCTOBER 5

Two Girl Scout troops and many visitors

OCTOBER 7 Aurora!

Throughout the month, auroras were recorded by DPAS members.

OCTOBER 8

Monthly meeting: Astronomy and Agriculture

OCTOBER 12

Short notice planetarium show

OCTOBER 14

Saturday Science: Comet Chef at Crossroads



OCTOBER 17

Comet Viewing Night

An estimated sixty, maybe even seventy people of all ages gathered at the Astronomy Campus to view C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS). Thanks to DPAS members who brought their personal telescopes, life-long memories were made.



NOVEMBER 2

Halloween themed Planetarium Show and Viewing night

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Agriculture and Astronomy

Wisconsin Science Festival Event

Traditionally, the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society has participated in the weeklong Wisconsin Science Festival which features events throughout Wisconsin for people of all ages and interests, but this year's theme was Agriculture? What in the world did agriculture have to do with astronomy? It turns out quite a bit.



Coggin Heeringa explained that agriculture has been a crucial aspect of human civilization, enabling people to domesticate plants and animals to produce the food they needed to survive. Yet it did not really develop until about 12,000 years ago. Many anthropologists believe that by knowing the movements of stars and planets, early astronomers made agriculture possible. The program covered the parallel developments of astronomy and agriculture and ended with a brief introduction into how NASA's LANDSAT programs inform agricultural and land management decisions today.

CALENDARS FOR SALE

Millions of years in the making as we collected ancient photons from the corners of our galaxy and beyond. We are proud to present our first calendar available for purchase.

\$20 EACH



THREE WAYS TO BUY:

1. Purchase calendars at any DPAS event
Pay using PayPal, cash or check.

2. PayPal with local pickup
Scan the code to the right. Pick up at our events or at President Dave's office downtown (Mon-Thursday up to 4pm)



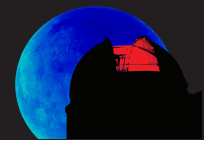
LOCAL PICKUP

3. PayPal with USPS \$10 Flat Rate Shipping
Scan the code to the right.

Want more than one shipped? Purchase one with the \$10 shipping and others as "local pickup". We can probably ship about 5 in a flat rate USPS envelope.



USPS SHIPPING



Thanksgiving is unusual among holidays in that it has no connection with celestial events, it is not particularly commercial, and it focuses on gratitude. As editor of the Blue Moon Observer—documenting activities of the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society—I have realized that no matter how fabulous the equipment (and our equipment is fabulous) the success of the society is due to the efforts of its members.

I think I speak for all when I thank the DPAS for sharing the wonders of the night sky with the residents and visitors of Door County and beyond.

Coggin Heeringa,
Editor, Blue Moon Observer

We are grateful...

...for **Dave Lenius**, our President, for his inspiring leadership.

...for **Tom Gwilym**, our Vice President, Chief Telescope Pilot and mentor to our interns and mentors and who maintains our popular Facebook page.

...to **Jacque Axland**, who for years has served as Secretary and Treasurer.

...for **Tom Minahan**, our Outreach Chair, who teaches everywhere—from our events to Newport to Door Shakespeare

...for **Jenny Austin**, who keeps us organized and who created the 2025 DPAS Calendar. (ON SALE NOW!)

...for **Dave Lenius, Tom Gwilym, and other volunteers** offering planetarium shows.

...for **Dave Lenius, Tom Gwilym, Amanda Austin and other volunteers** for taking the planetarium to schools, the Boys and Girls Club, libraries, churches, and even to the Destination Imagination State Tournament..

...for our **Intern Amanda Austin** for her programs, her run-outs to parks and festivals, for updating the website, and for getting us involved in Citizen Science.

...for **Jim Gallt** who has launched our Spectroscopy and Exoplanet research, created a StarGazing Program, and presented an evening stargazing boat cruise.

...for **Door County Master Gardeners Association and DPAS members** for keeping our grounds beautiful.

...for **Steve Ransom-Jones**, our Program Chair and to **Corey Gorski, Jim Gallt, Dave Lenius, Alec Bath, Rebecca Ann Struck, Tom Minahan, and Todd Rockway** who have presented fascinating programs at our monthly meetings.

...for **Cory Gorski, Jessica Babler, Alec Bath, Oliver Graf, Fran Uteg, Rebecca Ann Struck, John Rankin, Wiley Krapf, and Steve Hellman** as our newest volunteers to help with Viewing Nights, the partial solar eclipse, comet viewing, and other special observing events.

...for **Door County Master Gardeners Association and DPAS members** for keeping our grounds beautiful.

...for **past board members** who kept the organization alive and vital over the years.

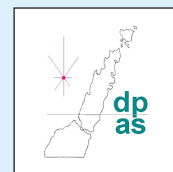
...for **Ray Stonecipher** as without his vision and funding, none of what we have or do would be possible.

...for the **Everson and Peot families** for their donations and continued support of the Observatory.

...for **all the individual donations, awarded grants, and the general public support** for our purpose.

... for **all the volunteers** that I'm forgetting as of this writing. There are just so many people that help!!! Thank you to all of you!"

And finally, we are grateful for **those who invite others or bring children to participate** in our astronomical programs and events.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Lenius
PRESIDENT

Tom Gwilym
VICE PRESIDENT

Jacque Axland
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Tom Minahan
GENERAL MEETING SECRETARY
AND OUTREACH CHAIR

Steve Ransom-Jones
PROGRAM CHAIR

Jenny Austin
MEMBER AT LARGE

Jim Gallt
MEMBER AT LARGE

Coggin Heeringa
SCHOOL COORDINATOR, EDITOR

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

Happy Thanksgiving

We at DPAS share our thanks for the grants and in-kind donations that made our programs possible.

THE WISCONSIN SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

- Helped us underwrite our 2024 intern
- Helped us purchase a black and white astronomical camera for exoplanet research
- Helped us purchase a spectrograph

THE WOMEN'S FUND OF THE DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

- Helped us underwrite our 2024 intern

THE RAIBROOK FOUNDATION

- Helped us purchase image stabilizing astronomical binoculars and green laser pointers

THE DOOR COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

- Helped us manage the Ray Stonecipher bequests and administer our scholarship program

DOOR COUNTY LIBRARY

- Helped us present our pre-eclipse programs, summer outreach and Wisconsin Science Festival programs

THE MARINE TRAVELIFT CREW

- Repaired the motor shaft of the Observatory Dome.

NICK LUTZKE, LAND AND FACILITIES MANAGER OF CROSSROADS AT BIG CREEK

- For maintaining our astronomy center, grounds and road.

PENINSULA PULSE DOOR COUNTY ADVOCATE

DOOR COUNTY PUBLISHING

WDOR

DOOR COUNTY DAILY NEWS.COM

- Publicity

JOHN LYONS OF THE LADYBUG GLASS STUDIO GALLERY

- Displaying our astrophotography in the October Art Show

LAURA CONGDON, GREEN PALETTE DESIGN

- Newsletter design



DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Meetings of the Society are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Stonecipher Astronomy Center. 2200 Utah Street in Sturgeon Bay

WWW.DOORASTRONOMY.ORG