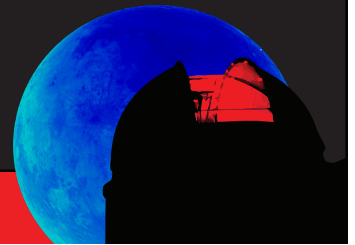


THE BLUE MOON OBSERVER

MARCH 2024
Volume 26, Number 3



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.

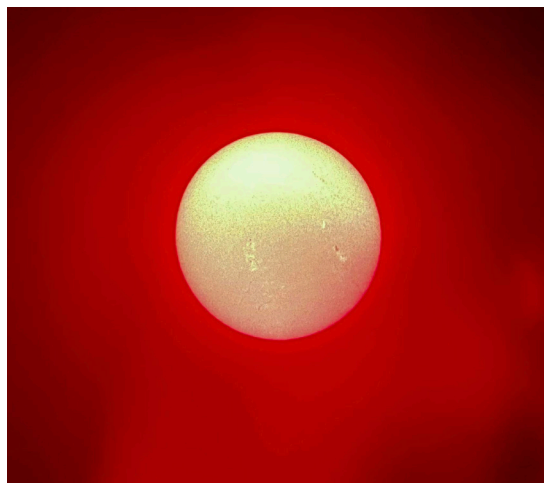
DPAS also owns and operates a portable planetarium with a state-of-the-art computer projection system which is used on cloudy nights, for daytime activities, and for public outreach in local schools and libraries.



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



Thor's Helmet Nebula
DPAS (processed by Amanda Austin)



MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 12, 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Observing the Sun with a Telescope

DPAS Board Member Jim Gallt will discuss safely observing the Sun with a Telescope.

Free and open to the public.

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



MARCH
16

VIEWING NIGHT starting at 7:00 PM

If it is clear, DPAS members with green laser pointers and telescopes will help visitors explore the night sky and the Leif Everson Observatory will be open. Whatever the weather, Tim Austin will present a planetarium show about Pluto in the Stonecipher Astronomy Center.

Free and open to the public.

Astronomy Campus
2200 Utah St.
Sturgeon Bay

OUTREACH IN FEBRUARY



FEBRUARY 3
Open Dome Night



FEBRUARY 10
Planetarium Show
In spite of cloudy night, 50 people showed up to see the Valentine-themed Planetarium Show.



FEBRUARY 13
February Meeting



FEBRUARY 14
Forestville Library prEclipse Program
Coggin present a prEclipse program for children at the Forestville Library

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



DPAS member Corey Gorski drew in a crowd of about 38 plus a Zoom audience to his fabulous presentation on “Astrophotography.” It is a challenging hobby for sure, but he gave a good intro about the “pieces” that you need to collect to capture good images. Predictably, the skies didn’t permit powering up the scope, but a good evening despite the overcast.



RECENT UPGRADES!!

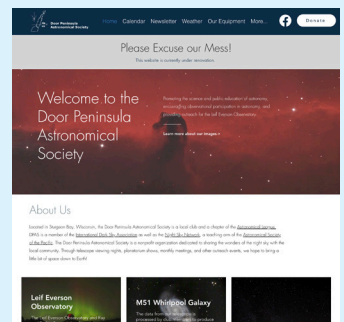
Weather Station

This month, Tom Gwilym and Jenny Austin installed our new weather station and linked up to the internet. We have live weather conditions direct from the from the observatory. With the strange weather in the area, another source of info is always a good thing to have. It is currently broadcast on two websites—Weather Underground and Ambient Weather.

The easiest way to access our current weather conditions is to visit Weather Underground, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, and click change. Then select the Leif Everson Observatory.

Website

Our intern Amanda Austin is in the process of upgrading the DPAS website. Although it is still under construction, it’s worth a visit at www.doorastronomy.org



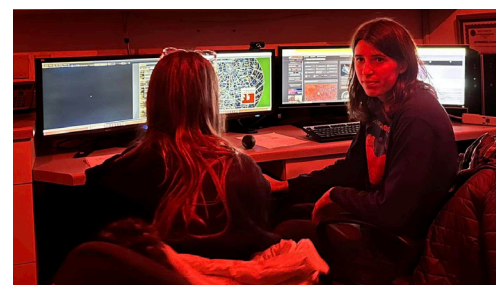
FEBRUARY 22

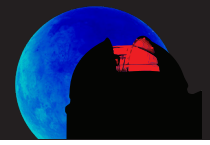
Learning in Retirement Program

Dave Lenius presented a program for Learning in Retirement. 18 participants enjoyed a lecture, and a tour of the Observatory, binocular viewing area and sundial.

FEBRUARY 29

Open Dome





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



With the springlike weather we have been having recently, our volunteers have been busy getting a head start on our list of projects to work on. I am happy to report that the new weather station is now up and running and the data it reports can be found on the weather link on our website.

The website is undergoing a long overdue facelift and has had several changes. It is a work in progress and is being updated by our Intern, Amanda, in her free time while she is at school. Take a minute to go check it out and if you have any

suggestions on content you would like to see, let us know.

The "Open Dome" impromptu events have been very successful and well attended. The events are announced at the last minute on Facebook if the skies look like they will cooperate. Make sure to follow us on Facebook and come out to see how the telescope works. Some of our visitors have even been able to drive the scope.

We have a major event planned for the solar eclipse on April 8th and are looking for volunteers to help with the large number of expected guests to the Astronomy Campus. We will have several ways for our guests to safely view the eclipse. The last eclipse saw over 1000 people on the campus grounds, so come out and give us a hand.

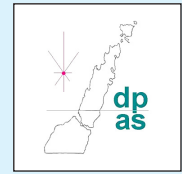
Dave Lenius
President, Door Peninsula Astronomical Society



Impromptu telescope viewing night



All set for the eclipse on April 8! A big box 'o goodies arrived. Post cards, posters, NASA stickers, collector cards, eclipse posters and best of all— solar viewing glasses.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AND OUTREACH CHAIR

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PROGRAM CHAIR

Jenny Austin
MEMBER AT LARGE

Jim Gallt
MEMBER AT LARGE

Coggin Heeringa
SCHOOL COORDINATOR, EDITOR

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.

BECOME A DPAS MEMBER TODAY!

DOOR PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Lunar Level \$30
- Planetary Level \$50
- Asteroid Level \$100
- Comet Level \$250
- Nebula Level \$500
- Galaxy Level \$750
- Supernova Level \$1000

Please do not list my (our) names in publications.

Please print to complete:

ADULTS' NAME (S) _____

CHILDREN'S NAME (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL (REQUIRED TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTER) _____



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



NGC-2467 known as the Skull and Crossbones nebula. This is a large area and composed of 2 images (top and bottom) merged together.
DPAS (processed by Tom Gwilym)

FREE
OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC

RAIN, CLOUDS
OR (WE HOPE)
SHINE

PARTIAL ECLIPSE

MONDAY
APRIL 8
12:30 – 3 PM

AT THE
ASTRONOMY
CAMPUS

2200 UTAH ST. STURGEON BAY

PARKING: Visitors can park at the Astronomy Center or park at the Crossroads Learning Center (2041 Michigan Street) and follow the "The Planet Walk" to the Astronomy Campus (about a 10 minute walk)

SAFE SOLAR VIEWING

- Telescope with Hydrogen Alpha Filter (solar scope image)
- Pinhole Camera and other solar viewing equipments and tricks

LIVE SCREENING

of the Broadcast of the Total Eclipse in the Stonecipher Astronomy Center.

FREE SOLAR VIEWING GLASSES

While supplies lasts, each party will receive a free (NASA approved) pair of solar viewing glasses.

PHOTO OPS

DON'T use your cell phone to photograph a partial eclipse. DPAS members will show you how to safely photograph the partial eclipse.



Partial solar eclipses are different from total solar eclipses – there is no period of totality when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face. Therefore, during partial solar eclipses, it is never safe to look directly at the eclipse without proper eye protection. - NASA



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

IF YOU ARE TRAVELING TO A LOCATION ON THE PATH OF TOTALITY,
email your images to coggin_heeringa@yahoo.com and we will screen them for the folks at the Astronomy Center.