

# STARRY NIGHTS



April, May, June 2007

Volume 26, Issue 2

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## At the Observatory 2006

We had 20 sessions scheduled for 2006. Out of those 20 sessions, we held an estimated 8 sessions. This comes to 40% of the sessions were actually viewable. While this was slightly better than 2005, with 33% of the sessions being held, we are seeing a decrease in the number of people attending. Normally we average about 25 people a session. This past year we averaged about 10 people per session.

This was an uneventful year astronomically with nothing spectacular happening during our session times. Of the sessions that we did have, many were

marginal with overcast skies that were supposed to clear up or clear skies that were going to cloud up. We also had foggy sessions, hazy sessions and sessions with high winds. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, we got dumped on with 10" of snow, but it had cleared up well before the start time. The Observatory Director drove down to the park only to find that they didn't even plow out the driveway or parking lot. So he just turned around and went home. Other excitement for the Observatory Director was that he got a flat tire from a chunk of wood, of all things, at one session and didn't notice until he was packing his car. This added about an hour to leaving. This is one reason to never leave a person alone at an observing site and why we use the buddy-system rule when leaving the park.



Date	Weather	Attendance
Friday, January 6	30°, overcast	0 people
Friday, January 20	30°, snowing (heavy)	0 people
Friday, February 3	38°, overcast/ mostly cloudy	0 people
Friday, February 17	10°, overcast	0 people
Friday, March 3	27°, partly cloudy to clear	9 people
Friday, March 17	30°, partly cloudy to clear	? people
Friday, April 7	33°, partly cloudy	4 people
Friday, April 21	59°, mostly cloudy	0 people
Friday, May 5	48°, clear	11 people
Friday, May 19	47°, partly cloudy	? people
Friday, August 4	73°, clear	15 people
Friday, August 18	70°, overcast	0 people
Friday, September 15	66°, partly cloudy to clear	12 people
Friday, September 29	56°, rain	0 people
Friday, October 13	42°, overcast	0 people
Friday, October 27	45°, overcast	0 people
Friday, November 3	33°, clear then overcast	11 people
Friday, November 10	37°, thunder- storm / rain	0 people
Friday, December 1	25°, partly cloudy	0 people
Friday, December 15	36°, hazy	0 people

## Easy way to donate to W.A.S. that won't cost you a dime

If you already have and use Pick'n Save's Advantage Saver's Club card, please consider adding W.A.S. to it. Our six-digit number is **923500**. You can pick up a change form at the Customer Service desk. If you don't have a card, or don't shop at Pick'n Save, please consider doing so to help W.A.S. raise money.



# SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

FOR

The Wehr Astronomical Society

<http://www.wehrastro.org>

## Regular Meetings

(Free and Open to the Public)



**April 10, 2007 7:00 p.m.**

Wehr Nature Center

**Extraterrestrial Intelligence and the Drake Equation**

Dr. Joe Otu, Physics professor at U.W. Waukesha, will give a talk on extraterrestrial intelligence and the Drake equation.



**May 8, 2007 7:00 p.m.**

Wehr Nature Center

**TBA See [www.wehrastro.org](http://www.wehrastro.org) for updates**



**June 12, 2007**

No Meeting

## Observatory Activities

(Free and Open to the Public)

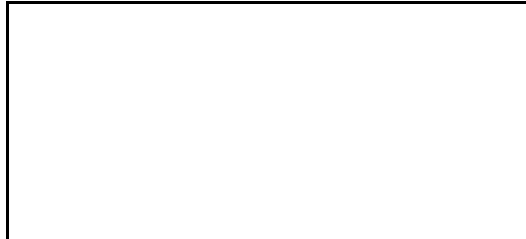
April 13	8:30	Deep sky observing. Locate Leo, the Lion. See Venus and Saturn
April 20	9:00	Observing the moon and deep sky objects. Celebrate Astronomy Day. See a crescent moon and the brighter deep sky objects. See Venus and Saturn.
May 11	9:30	Deep sky observing. Locate Virgo, the Virgin. See Venus and Saturn.
May 18	9:30	Observing the moon and deep sky objects. Come early to see a 2 day old moon. Locate Bootes, the Herdsman. See Venus and Saturn.

**No scheduled sessions for June. Note: Jupiter is closest to Earth on June 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Note: All observatory dates fall on a Friday, and are held at Froemming Park, on 51<sup>st</sup> Street between Ryan Rd. and Puetz Rd.



**WEHR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**9701 WEST COLLEGE AVE.**  
**FRANKLIN, WI 53132**



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### **W.A.S. Board of Directors and Officers**

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**Wehr Astronomical Society**  
**Phone: (414) 425-8550**  
**<http://www.wehrastro.org>**

**Contact a board member if you are interested in a position.**

## *Starrynights*

**The official newsletter of the Wehr  
Astronomical Society.**

We are a group of amateur astronomers organized to promote the study of astronomy and further public and members' interest in astronomy. We have been serving the Milwaukee area since 1981 and welcome the public to our meetings. Our aim is to give guidance and information to those who want help in the pursuit of stargazing.

Back issues of starrynights can be requested or downloaded from our website at: [www.wehrastro.org](http://www.wehrastro.org)