THE CASSINI MISSION TO SATURN:

A FOUR-YEAR TREASURE TROVE OF DISCOVERY

Ancient mythology and modern scientific research join forces in the Cassini Mural. This 12 x 25-foot mural depicts key moments in the Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn and Titan. The Cassini Mural is a collaboration between the Cassini project and the Academia de Arte Yepes, a non profit academy based in Los Angeles. The mural is on loan to museums and science education centers around the country. It is currently an exhibit at the Chabot Space & Science Center in Oakland, California. For more information, please visit http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/museums/saturn-mural.cfm.
Happy Vernal Equinox 2005! It is now the spring season, the time to enjoy warmer weather and warmer evenings. Can you tell I’ve spent time in an observatory? I hope you will think about attending your local state meetings. They are now posted on the GLPA website [and on page 5 of this newsletter]. Our GLPA Newsletter might also soon appear on the web. There are several advantages to delivering the news to you this way. First, it is far quicker than mail. Secondly, it can’t get lost or damaged. Finally, you’ll get to see the newsletter in living color, which also “paves the way” for new columns and features in the future.

Congratulations are in order to Susan Button for being elected President-Elect to the International Planetarium Society. It is nice to know that GLPA has produced several presidents, as well as other office holders, in IPS. It is a wonderful reflection on these respected members of GLPA that they are also so well respected internationally. Congratulations and good luck Susan!

Thank you to Dale Smith and his staff for getting the Conference Proceedings mailed to us. Also, thanks to Dale for producing and mailing the previous Conference Proceedings on the same disk. This represents a huge amount of work, effort and time, and it is a wonderful thing that Dale has contributed for our membership.

The GLPA Executive Committee will be meeting in May in Merrillville, Indiana. If you have items that you would like the Executive Committee to address at our spring meeting, please let one of the GLPA officers know. Feedback from our membership is what we need to keep improving our organization.

Please support the GLPA conference vendors. Listed in the GLPA Newsletter each issue, the vendors are there to keep our facilities supplied with new products.

Have a safe and productive spring season.

(continued on page 9, column 2)
We didn't invent the planetarium, we just made it...

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C. more capable  
D. more versatile  
E. more affordable  
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2005 SPRING STATE MEETINGS

Illinois
April 16
Adler Planetarium, Chicago

Indiana
April 16
Ball State Planetarium, Muncie

Michigan
June 25
Shiras Planetarium, Marquette

Ohio
April 9
Coshocton Public Schools, Coshocton

Wisconsin/Minnesota
April 29 – 30
Paulucci Space Theatre, Hibbing, Minnesota

The Lakeview Museum Planetarium in Peoria will be holding its 7th Annual Interplanetary 5K Race/Walk on Saturday, April 2nd. The 5K event is part of the Illinois Valley Striders Grand Prix running circuit. On the scale of Peoria’s Community Solar System, the winning racer should make it from Mercury to Mars and back in under 18 minutes. The planetarium will be playing a number of shows through the spring. Their “Basic Astronomy Series” continues every Saturday morning for fourteen weeks, and features a different hands-on lesson each week from their repertory of school groups. Young children’s shows each Saturday (through April) include The Sky over Mr. Rogers Neighborhood and In My Backyard, while feature shows include Message from the Stars and Blown Away (from Detroit).

The Cernan Earth and Space Center of Triton College will welcome Dr. Paul Sereno to its annual “Big
Event” for members on April 9th. Dr. Sereno has gained international notoriety in the pursuit of new dinosaur species. This spring, the Cernan Center will present *Saturn: Jewel of the Solar System*, *The Xtra Terrestrial Files*, *The Little Star that Could*, and three different laser shows. The Cernan Center will soon get a new tube for its laser, which will provide brighter and more colorful images than ever before.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign is pleased to open a new original program in March called *Stellar Extremes*, starring University of Illinois astronomer Dr. You-Hua Chu. The E/PO funds from Dr. Chu’s Hubble grant funded the program and she generously offered her time to help with the script and do some narration. It is the staff’s intent to donate a copy of the program in CD format to the GLPA slide bank. Along with *Stellar Extremes*, they will be showing *Spring Prairie Skies* and *In My Backyard*. Two Girl Scout “Sky Search” merit badge seminars are scheduled for April, and three boy scout astronomy merit badge workshops are set for May. The local school district recently “discovered” a $4 million deficit, resulting in their canceling all school field trips. “Can anyone loan us a few bucks?” quipped director Dave Leake.

The Spring Indiana GLPA meeting will be in Muncie on Saturday April 16th. Dr. Ronald Kaitchuck at the Ball State Planetarium is the event organizer. If you are an Indiana planetarian and have not received the State Meeting mailing by the time you read this, please contact Dr. Kaitchuck at Ball State or State Chair Alan Pareis immediately.

In November, the Ball State University Planetarium offered *Ring World* as the public program. This was the first use of three video screens to largely replace the traditional left-middle-right slide projector screens. The effect was dramatic and well received by audiences. Their February program was *Images of the Infinite* from the Adler Planetarium. The three video projectors have both added visual interest and enhanced the educational value of the program. The Ball State University Planetarium will host the Indiana State GLPA meeting on April 16th. These programs will be featured as a demonstration of ways to reduce dependency on traditional photographic tools.

The PHM Planetarium & Air/Space Museum in Mishawaka will host a laser show festival from March 17th to 20th. Featuring a SkyLase system from Audio Visual Imagineering, the diverse agenda will include a “thank you show” for PHM staff and their families; a show to benefit the St. Baldrick’s charity; and free family shows. In December, 2004, then-U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige acknowledged the PHM School Corporation for its role in creating and promoting transit of Venus education programs. Art Klinger is PHM’s director. Details of this very special event may be found on the Internet at www.transitofvenus.org/baldrick.htm.

Northrop High School Planetarium in Fort Wayne has acquired a new video data projector, so their DVDs and tapes are “almost like IMAX on the dome.” Thanks to Chris Highlen, they now have “surround sound” to accompany any and all visual elements. The 16-foot radio telescope continues to take shape. It was assembled on its pad in the front of the high school on December 18th. A number of additional steps and tweaks must be undertaken before the scope becomes operational. Volunteers from local industry and the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society are all working together on this project. If you are interested in finding out more about this project, contact B.J. at Northrop High School.

To celebrate the Einstein centenary, B.J. is “throwing in” a short unit on relativity to her astronomy classes. She muses that, “this will either trip the trigger of some of the very sharp astronomy students or ‘trip up’ some of the less interested ones.”

The Muncie Community Schools Planetarium (Peggy Motes director) featured *Follow the Drinking Gourd* during January and February. The planetarium began showing the Chabot Science Center’s program *Dragon Skies* to celebrate Chinese New Year on February 9th with the emperor of China. Many students in the Muncie Community Schools are learning about Chinese astronomy and have pen pals in China. A “Name the Warrior” contest is under way and is open to all Muncie Community Schools students. The 6’ 5” Han terra cotta five star general warrior is visiting the Muncie Community Schools Planetarium from Xi’an, China. Peggy reports, “We do not know his name. The terra cotta warriors were made over 2,000 years ago to protect the first emperor of the Qin dynasty after he died.” The winner of the contest, which will be announced on May 20th, will receive a model replica terra cotta warrior from Xi’an, China.”

The E. C. Schouweiler Planetarium, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, featured Cassini/Huygens as a special multimedia segment that immediately followed their traditional *Star of Bethlehem* show. Director Alan Pareis and Engineer/Technician Chris Highlen produced the segment utilizing materials from the *RingWorld* show kit. The segment was...
The Schouweiler is initiating public shows one weekend a month from February through May. Shows will include *The StarGazer*, *Explorers of the ISS*, and a family matinee of either *A Solar System Adventure Tour* or *Zubenelgenubi’s Magical Sky*. All shows include a live sky segment and brief MER, Cassini/Huygens, and Space Shuttle return to flight updates. Show production for spring includes *Zubenelgenubi’s Magical Sky* (finally!) and automating *Aurora*.

Winter is finally over in Michigan...well, sort of! With the coming of spring, Michigan planetarians have a full schedule of programs to give, classes to teach and new systems to break in. The winter months have been busy for the Dassault Systemes Planetarium staff in Detroit. Director of Theaters Todd Slisher was promoted to the position of Director of Science Programs, while Planetarium Producer Jenny Pon was promoted to the position of Planetarium Manager. Jenny now has the additional responsibility for overseeing day-to-day operations. Work was completed on the *Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather* show kit, and production was started on their summer show. Events included “Marsapalooza,” a formal/informal science educator workshop featuring researchers from the Mars Exploration Rover team. Planetarians from Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio participated in this exciting event on February 19th. In addition, the New Detroit Science Center celebrated Black History Month with a presentation on February 12th by African scientist Dr. Cheick Modibo Diarra, former Director of the Mars Exploration Program and Goodwill ambassador for UNESCO. The day concluded with the unveiling of the Ansari X Prize Trophy, produced by local artist James J. Todd. The Ansari X Prize was awarded to the SpaceShip One team led by Burt Rutan for the first private spacecraft to enter space twice within a two-week period.

The Shiras Planetarium in Marquette is enjoying their new MediaGlobe-Lite projection system, coupled with the Minolta MS-8. They’ve heard it before, that an optical-mechanical star projector really captures an audience’s attention, and it’s true. The MS-8 still draws the best gasps for its rich and clear star field, but now they are getting twice as many gasps by adding in the full dome projection of the MediaGlobe! (not to mention the flexibility of the digital world!) They’ve been pushing their school attendance to a maximum and have tripled the number of students visiting the planetarium in the first three months they’ve been open. This number will hopefully prove sustainable with the new equipment, as they are now bringing in many other core subjects into the theater, not just astronomy. They’ve gained a whole new audience by drawing in English classrooms, art classrooms, graphics and computer classrooms, math classrooms, music classrooms, and more! In addition their regular patrons have been amazed with the improved system, the theater looks great, and everything is running smoothly! For the spring months, they are running programs that came with the MediaGlobe system like *Moon Dreams* and *Legends of the Night Sky: Orion* for their public shows. They are also planning to team up with the local astronomy club for some International Astronomy Day fun! They are also in the process of creating or converting several shows to increase their library of shows (their switch to the digital universe left them a little bare in this department). They are excited to host this year’s Michigan State Meeting and look forward to sharing their newly renovated facility with all of their colleagues in the planetarium business!

The *Robert T. Longway Planetarium* in Flint is currently showing Loch Ness’ *Sky Quest* as its family show and *WSKY* as its feature show. Also showing on weekends is *Laser Motown* and *Laser Pop Rox*. Public Star Parties will be held on April 15th and 16th and May 13th and 14th. Telescopic viewing of the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn will take place on the grounds of the planetarium. The ever-popular “Telescope Users Workshop” continues on April 2nd.

Show bookings are ramping up at the *Ensign Planetarium* in Dearborn Heights as teachers are planning their spring schedules. They are looking forward to having their guest speakers at the public shows this spring, including Mr. Ensign himself! They are also sporting a new “Wall of Constellations,” thanks to an incredibly talented sophomore. She has painted some beautiful renditions of their favorite star pictures on the back wall of the planetarium using white mixed with glow paint for the stars, and white on a deep blue background for the constellations. It looks gorgeous, and when the lights are flipped off, the back wall is aglow in stars. They are all thrilled at the quality of the art and the generosity of this student. They also are anxiously hoping to hear good news from the PLATO grant so that
work can begin on a human sundial next fall. They'll keep us posted – either way Carrie thinks the sundial will happen. Her mission is to find good ways to talk about the Sun, Moon and Earth motions to folks who still think in mainly concrete ways.

Beginning in March, the Abrams Planetarium will bring back the retro classic The Universe of Dr. Einstein, originally produced by the Hansen Planetarium. The program will be presented in honor of the World Year of Physics. The year 2005 was chosen because it marks the centennial of Albert Einstein’s “miraculous year” of 1905, when three of his most important papers were published, including the theory of special relativity. Also running during this time will be the Calgary Science Center’s The Super Sky Show.

Beginning in April, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum Planetarium will run the McDonnell Planetarium’s The Little Star That Could on Saturdays and Sundays. Specially updated for showing during the Kalamazoo Animation Festival International, this version of the program features in-house produced 3-D animations of Little Star and the stars he meets during his search for planets. On Saturday afternoons, JHE’s program Bear Tales will be shown to feature the spring sky, and the old Hansen Planetarium show Galaxies will also be presented. These shows will continue through June. From May 13-14, Kalamazoo Valley Community College will host the Kalamazoo Animation Festival International, which this year will feature a Digistar graphics competition. Entries should be submitted by early April. For information visit the KAFI website at http://kafi.kvcc.edu and refer to the “call for entries” section.

The Cranbrook Institute of Science Planetarium in Bloomfield Hills ran a wonderfully successful “Telescope Users Workshop” a few weeks into the new year that introduced the wonders of the night sky to over 50 enthusiastic new telescope. At the end of January, they debuted LFI’s Laser Beatles show that they heavily modified with Digistar sequences. In February, in partnership with AAUW, they welcomed JPL’s Nagin Cox, former engineer for the Mars Exploration Rovers and current deputy project system engineer for the Kepler Mission, as a keynote speaker in their new “Science Series.” Beginning late in 2004, Michael Narlock, Head of Astronomy, began hosting an astronomy-themed Internet radio show in conjunction with SLOOH.com. SLOOH.com owns several observatories on top of Mt. Teide in the Canary Islands. For a small fee, they provide real-time access to the telescopes. To augment the view, SLOOH.com provides several Internet radio shows. Michael Narlock, with his broadcast partner Michael Foerster (NASA/JPL solar system ambassador) host “The Event Horizon” every Friday evening from the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Check out www.slooh.com for more details.

The Delta College Planetarium had another successful run of laser shows during the Christmas holidays, using AVI’s SkyLase system. With the interest generated about Saturn because of the Cassini / Huygens mission, they again ran RingWorld as their feature show during January, along with Jack Frost and the Skies of Wonder for their family show. February marks the eighth anniversary of the planetarium. The show titled BIG from The National Space Centre in England opened as their new feature, helping to celebrate this milestone. Follow the Drinking Gourd ran as the family feature in February to acknowledge Black History Month. The city of Bay City is planning to construct a series of microparks around town detailing the history of specific sites. The first micro-park opens March 1st at the corner of the square block the planetarium building occupies. The planetarium occupies the site of two previous hotels, both of which burned down! The planetarium staff, along with staff members from the Bay County Historical Museum and Delta College Broadcasting, has produced a 10-minute mini-show called Celebrating Bay City that will run before all public shows for the next year beginning on March 1st.

JOIN I.P.S.

The International Planetarium Society (IPS) is the largest organization of professional planetarians in the world. IPS dues are only $50 a year, or two years for $90. Other levels of membership are also available at Institutional and Corporate levels. For more information or to join IPS, please contact Shawn Laatsch; IPS Treasurer; P.O. Box 1812; Greenville NC 27835 USA. His phone number is (502) 852-5855 and his e-mail address is 102424.1032@compuserve.com. The IPS web site is http://www.ips-planetarium.org.
Gene Zajac (Shaker Heights High School Planetarium) claims to be alphabetically challenged, but he is certainly not creatively challenged, as he and Joe Marencik will be doing their space bus summer camp again after a year’s absence. There will also be a one-week summer camp with a science theme at the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Center for upper elementary and junior high students, and the space bus will be one of many activities. Gene also has two senior girls working on special projects this year. Sydney will be making herself a telescope (including the mirror) and will be working with Gene and Kelly Jons to create the body of the telescope. Carolyn is going to create a planetarium experience based on Greek mythology. Her target audience will be the high school. During the process she will create video, a music track, include other visuals, and develop a sound track. Gene has been meeting with Girl Scout troops to help them achieve their badges. One group meets in the planetarium and the other met at a scout overnight. The mercury read a bitterly cold five degrees, but Saturn was beautiful (and even colder!)

From even farther east, and up toward the top of the alphabet, Sue Batson (North Hills High School Planetarium, Pittsburgh) will be showing Don’t Duck, Look Up! and Jewel of the Midwinter Night Sky in February, and Our Solar System and The Wright Way to Fly in March as public presentations in the evenings. Sue continues to teach 6th grade classes as part of the curriculum, and has hosted more than 2,200 visitors since September.

Alex Mak reports from Toledo that the biggest news is that the Ritter Planetarium-Brooks Observatory is still open and offering programs. In July of 2003, they took a budget cut of $115,000 and had to become self-supporting, including salaries. They’re still doing about 100 public weekend programs per year, about 40 scout shows per year, and about 250 K-12 programs per year. In December, they hosted over 1,100 Head Start students, mostly 4-year-olds, for their programs per year. In December, they hosted over 1,100 about 40 scout shows per year, and about 250 K-12 doing about 100 public weekend programs per year, which has certainly not been challenging, as he and Joe Marencik will be doing their space bus summer camp again after a year’s absence. There will also be a one-week summer camp with a science theme at the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Center for upper elementary and junior high students, and the space bus will be one of many activities. Gene also has two senior girls working on special projects this year. Sydney will be making herself a telescope (including the mirror) and will be working with Gene and Kelly Jons to create the body of the telescope. Carolyn is going to create a planetarium experience based on Greek mythology. Her target audience will be the high school. During the process she will create video, a music track, include other visuals, and develop a sound track. Gene has been meeting with Girl Scout troops to help them achieve their badges. One group meets in the planetarium and the other met at a scout overnight. The mercury read a bitterly cold five degrees, but Saturn was beautiful (and even colder!)

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Also in Toledo, Richard Shea writes from the Rogers High School Planetarium that he is once again working in teacher mentoring and evaluation in his sixth year out of the classroom and will be retiring at the end of this school year. Chad Howard has been hired as the new person in the planetarium.

In Columbus, the COSI Planetarium remains closed, but erstwhile director Mike Stanley has successfully embarked on a new career as a musician, providing a happy note amidst a sad closure. Mike plays at nursing homes, senior citizens’ residences, preschools, and occasional festivals and private parties. He sings and plays guitar and had 25 gigs during January alone, with well over a hundred more scheduled for upcoming months.

At the BGSU Planetarium, the in-house program Secret of the Star lit up December skies for the fifteenth year. Winter and spring programs include Skywatchers of Africa and Spirits from the Sky (both from Adler). The “stargaze crew” who run observing sessions for the introductory astronomy courses is now up to a staff of ten, the largest ever. Six large astronomy classes are meeting in the planetarium this semester.

The Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums (C.R.A.P.) held its 18th annual Christmas party at the home of Jeanne and Allan Bishop in December. Senior among those present was veteran planetarian Alton Yarian, still hale and hearty at 94 and still a delightful fount of puns, wit, and wisdom. C.R.A.P. convened for its February meeting at the Lakewood Planetarium (Alton’s bailiwick in a former millennium) with Jim Cornienki as host. In late January, C.R.A.P. members Jeanne Bishop, Gene Zajac, and Dale Smith were among about two dozen planetarians who participated in a two-day NASA Explorer Focus Group brainstorming session at NASA Glenn to suggest ways for cooperation between NASA and the planetarium community.

EDITOR’S MESSAGE (continued from page 3)

On a more down-to-earth topic, please note that the deadline for the summer issue of the GLPA Newsletter – number 147 in the never-ending series – is May 1, 2005. Please submit your facility reports to your State Chairs by mid-April. Have a wonderful spring, and enjoy your state meetings!
The annual Spring WIMPS meeting (Wisconsin-Iowa-Minnesota planetarians) will be held on April 29th and 30th in Hibbing, Minnesota. This year marks the Paulucci Space Theatre’s 25th anniversary. Planetarians are encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge with colleagues and view the night sky from dark, rural Minnesota (weather permitting). There’s an optional trip on Saturday to see the neutrino laboratory in Tower, Minnesota. Those interested in this optional private tour are asked to contact Director Marc Rouleau.

Todd DeZeeuw at the Gary Sampson Planetarium in Wauwautosa has finished a major upgrade with new projectors and automation from Ash Enterprises and ECCS. They are running Lochness’ Hubble Vision II and Bishops’ Explorers programs.

Nearby, Dave DeRemer is showing Dark Matter before the old Horwitz Planetarium goes completely dark to make way for a brand new Horwitz Planetarium, which will open in June.

Bob Allen in LaCrosse is also running Dark Matter and continues his popular Album Encounters for university students.

Randy Olson in Stevens Point is showing Hubble Vision.

BULLETIN BOARD
(continued from page 13)

PLANETARIUM INTERNSHIP

The Buehler Planetarium and Observatory on the campus of Broward Community College in Davie, Florida is pleased to announce a one-year internship for those interested in exploring the professional environment of an active planetarium and observatory. The internship runs from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, with an application deadline of April 1, 2005.

The internship is open to applicants with a Bachelor’s Degree in astronomy, physics, or a related field in education or science education. To apply, please send an e-mail, fax or letter which includes a letter of interest, resume, and the names of two references to Education Coordinator Suresh Atapattu at the following addresses:

Buehler Planetarium and Observatory
Broward Community College
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Davie, FL 33314
Fax: (954) 475-2858
E-mail: satapatt@broward.edu
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10
Skywatchers of Africa
Leading visitors on an exciting exploration of Africa and its peoples’ captivating cultural uses of the sky over thousands of years, Skywatchers highlights the diversity of African cultural astronomy and celebrates our shared human experience.

30 minutes / 300 slides / $795 for show kit
$595 for show kit with artwork on CDs instead of slide

Images of the Infinite
The Hubble Space Telescope (HST) has provided us with spectacular awe-inspiring images and has enriched our understanding of the Universe. This sky show highlights the history and top science findings of the telescope, and takes audiences on an unforgettable tour through the Solar System, Milky Way Galaxy, and to the limits of the visible Universe!

35 minutes / 306 slides / $895 for show kit with video laser disc
$795 for show kit without laser disc

Spirits from the Sky: Thunder on the Land
This sky show provides a never-before-seen journey into the culture of the Skidi Pawnee Native American Nation. Produced in cooperation with the Tribal Elders, Spirits from the Sky explores the Skidi Band’s cultural philosophy of patterning their lives from the observations they made of the Earth and celestial phenomena. Funded in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

37 minutes / 386 slides / $475 for show kit

Clouds of Fire: The Origin of Stars
Exploring the interconnection of all matter in the Universe, Clouds of Fire presents an overview of star formation and the modern instruments which help us gain a clearer picture of stellar life cycles.

32 minutes / 217 slides / $595 for show kit with video laser disc
$495 without laser disc

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312-322-0301  showkits@adlernet.org
from Dave DeBruyn, Curator Emeritus of the Chaffee Planetarium, Public Museum of Grand Rapids and chairperson for GLPA’s 2005 conference

Greetings from still cold and sometimes snowy Grand Rapids, Michigan, where plans are well underway to make GLPA 2005 the most memorable conference ever. When delegates gather October 19-22, it will be almost exactly 40 years after the initial meeting of GLPA, which officially organized as the first regional group of planetarium professionals in Grand Rapids during October of 1965. So much has changed during the intervening period, but even as technology evolves to levels undreamed of by those of us who were present in those early years, our mission to excite and to inform everyone that we can reach about the wonders of the universe endures.

Varied activities are planned, beginning with an opening reception on Wednesday evening, October 19th within the walls of the world class Public Museum of Grand Rapids. Vendor displays will open and there will be special programming in the planetarium theater. You’ll be able to hear the Museum’s Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Organ, ride the antique Spillman Carousel, and browse the array of new exhibits created since GLPA last visited in 1995.

Spanning the next two and one half days will be all of the activities that make GLPA conferences so special. We are working on securing a well-known personality from one of the current high profile space research missions as keynote speaker. Our own “resident expert,” Dr. James Kaler, will be bringing us up to date on the most notable astronomical happenings over the past twelve months, and there will be opportunities to share ideas with colleagues through workshops and paper sessions. The latest examples of 21st century “eye-popping” projection technology will be demonstrated in the Chaffee Planetarium theater and elsewhere by our vendor-exhibitors.

The annual banquet, always a highlight, will be held below the whale skeleton in the Museum’s expansive galleria, with a panoramic view across the Grand River toward the city’s impressive skyline. Most conference meals (very savory) will be catered by the Public Museum’s own award winning hospitality staff.

There will be optional field trips to the James C. Veen Observatory, and with no other bussing necessary, ample time to relax, recharge and renew old friendships. Paper and workshop sessions will be held in the conference center of Grand Valley State University, located adjacent to the Museum. The headquarter hotel, the Days Inn of Downtown, is right across the street! Park your car in their free lot and forget it, or if you’re flying in along one of the many connector routes to the Gerald R. Ford International Airport, get to and from downtown via a twenty minute cab ride along our efficient expressway system.

The planning committee, including planetarium veterans, several of whom have hosted recent conferences, along with refreshing young and enthusiastic planetarians from Chaffee and other Michigan facilities, met in January and are well underway in the planning progress. Their most immediate goal is to have the conference package, complete with a preliminary program and call to participate, in members’ hands before the end of the current school year. Watch for it.

GLPA co-hosted a NASA Explorers Institute Focus Group at the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland on January 27-28, 2005. Planetarians and NASA educators from across the country generated seven strategies on how NASA and planetariums can help each other achieve their respective goals to increase understanding of and interest in earth science, space science, and technology. Recommendations of the focus group included:

- Jointly draft a roadmap to plan joint programs 5 to 10 years in advance.
- Establish a liaison or single-point-of-contact method for NASA/planetarium collaborations.
Combine features of NASA Explorers Schools and Solar System Ambassador Programs into a planetarium-specific program.

- Engage formal educators for the development and implementation of pre- and post-visit materials.

The GLPA-sponsored focus group was one of ten grants awarded to informal education venues. The results of all ten focus groups will be presented in mid-March in New York. Details of the GLPA gathering are at http://www.transitofvenus.org/focus.htm.

**NSF TO HOST 2005 PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHING**

Do you know a great 7-12 math or science teacher? Nominate him or her to receive Presidential Recognition! – We’re looking for outstanding 7-12 math or science teachers for the 2005 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The awards are sponsored by the White House and administered by the National Science Foundation.

Every year, up to 108 National Awardees receive a special citation signed by the President of the United States, a $10,000 award, and a paid trip for two to Washington, DC to attend a week-long series of recognition events.

The program is now accepting nominations for the nation’s highest honor for mathematics and science teachers. Anyone can nominate a 7-12 teacher. Teachers should submit completed application materials by May 2nd. For more information, including nomination and application forms, go to http://www.PAEMST.org.

**CHUCK BUETER ADDRESSES THE LIGHT POLLUTION ISSUE**

[Ed. Now that the Transit of Venus is over, Chuck Bueter has turned his attention to another astronomical subject that is near and dear to him – the light pollution issue. Here is a brief summary of what he’s currently working on.]

St. Joseph County, Indiana, has a Draft Zoning Ordinance with proposed lighting regulations that could be voted upon at the County Council meeting as early as March 8, 2005. The County’s intention is laudable, as it writes, “Lighting: Not found in the old ordinances, this addition will help reduce light pollution from businesses into surrounding neighborhoods.” However, the proposed legislation has several potential yet significant shortcomings. A critique by Chuck Bueter of the proposed ordinance suggests some of the concerns about the proposed draft, as described more fully at http://www.transitofvenus.org/lights.htm.

**SUMMER ASTRONOMY WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN MAINE**

The College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine offers a professional development summer program that serves teachers from around the country. Field trips take place in extraordinary natural settings in Acadia National Park and on the college’s campus on scenic Frenchman Bay. Among the course offerings are two that might be of particular interest to astronomy educators. “Introduction to Astronomy for Teachers” presents content within the context of activities that participants can take back to their classrooms. “Astronomy from a Portable Planetarium” provides content in astronomy, extended instruction in the use of a portable planetarium, and information about grant writing, which may be applied to writing a grant to acquire a portable planetarium. For more information, please visit their website at: http://www.coa.edu/summer/sumworkshops/index.html.

**MINI MARS CAMP**

from Chris Centi:

How would you like to take a trip? A trip to Mars, that is! Yes, I said MARS!! Not Mars, Pennsylvania, but Mars the planet. You’re invited to take this trip with your tour guide, the “Rocket Man”. All you need to do is spend a day learning about the wonders of this planet through a hands-on Mini Mars Camp. Who can come, you ask? Just about anyone including Planetarium/Museum staff, Educators, Youth/Scout Leaders and/or eager-to-learn 8 to 13 year olds. They can even bring their parents if they want to! Interested? All you need to do to receive more information is to contact the “Rocket Man” himself at:

Centi Astro-Space Activities
4324 Cassadaga Stockton Road
Cassadaga, New York 14718
Phone: (716) 595 - 3073
E-mail: ctherocketman@netsync.net

(continued on page 10, column 2)
Stars That Need Not Shun The Light. Thanks To Zeiss Fiber Optics

The stars, those apparent lords of the night sky, are terribly afraid of light. For millions of years, since the first seeing creatures populated the Earth, only the Sun was able to dim down its distant brothers into nothingness. Today, this is easily accomplished by street lamps, neon signs and car headlights.

In the planetarium, things are hardly different. For decades, stars used to be the protagonists of the show, and not even the Sun was allowed to outshine them. Today, shows are dominated by fireworks of slides, videos panoramas and all-sky projections: a profusion of light, which leaves only the gleaming dots that symbolize the boundlessness of the universe no chance to assert themselves. Are planetarium stars doomed to final extinction?

Thanks to Zeiss, they are not. Thanks to a new fiber optic system that makes artificial stars shine more brightly and brilliantly than ever before. No doubt, slides, video, and panorama projections will hardly extinguish them. And although they are much smaller in size than their forerunners, they are seen as mere points, twinkling as do the real stars. See the world’s newest newborn stars in the sky of a Zeiss planetarium.

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E-mail: zeiss@seilerinst.com

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E-mail: planetarium@zeiss.de
GLPA is the world’s oldest and largest regional planetarium association. Our membership includes a number of individuals who have gone on to become leaders in the national and international planetarium community as well. The Galileo Award, which is GLPA’s highest honor, recognizes persons of exemplary leadership at the national and/or international level.

Persons nominated for this award need to have been a GLPA member in good standing for at least ten consecutive years. They are persons who have done exemplary work within GLPA and have carried this work beyond our regional borders. To nominate someone for this award, please fill out the form below and submit it, along with the described letters of recommendation, to the current GLPA President.

**Person Nominated:**

Name: _________________________________________________________________________

Institution: ______________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________________ State: _______________ Zip: _______________

Daytime Phone: __________________________________________________________________

Fax: ___________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________________________________________

**Nominated by:**

Name: _________________________________________________________________________

Institution: ______________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________________ State: _______________ Zip: _______________

Daytime Phone: __________________________________________________________________

Fax: ___________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________________________________________

(Please continue to the next page)
Please write a brief paragraph or two explaining your reasons for nominating this person. Be sure to give examples of their accomplishments in GLPA, as well as those on the national and/or international level:

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Please submit three letters of recommendation for your nominee along with this form. Only one of the three letters may be from a GLPA Executive Committee member. The other two letters may come from current GLPA members, but it is highly recommended that at least one of the letters come from a person outside the GLPA region. Mail this form, along with the letters of recommendation, to the current GLPA President. All nominations must be received no later than May 15, 2005.
G.L.P.A. TO MEET IN CINCINNATI

Circle the dates of October 14th and 15th, and plan to join us in Cincinnati for the second annual meeting of the Great Lakes Planetarium Association. Due to the kind invitation of Ralph Ewes and his staff, the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History Planetarium will be our host for what will certainly prove to be a rewarding experience.

The program for this year's convention will emphasize the educational objectives of the planetarium and ways of adopting these to prevailing curriculm trends. The education committee has been instituting some interesting studies of this all important subject in the past few months. Therefore, a substantial part of the agenda will be devoted to reports from committee members and a special symposium on the subject of the most effective ways of introducing use of the planetarium into the school curriculum. There will also be times set aside for miscellaneous papers from members, and again this year, there will be a banquet. A tentative agenda follows.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

9 to 10 A.M. -------------- Registration and Coffee Hour
10 to 12 A.M. -------------- Special taped program in the planetarium chamber, followed by discussion and inspection of equipment.
12 to 1:30 P.M. ----------- Lunch
1:30 to 4 P.M. -------------- Session for general papers
4:00 to 5 P.M. -------------- Planetarium Session
8:00 P.M. ------------------ Banquet

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:45 to 9:30 --------------- Business Meeting - reports requested from chairmen of all standing committees
9:30 to 12:00 --------------- Paper Session - topics limited to the general theme "The Role of the Planetarium in the School Curriculum."
12 to 1:30 P.M. ----------- Lunch
1:30 to 3:30 P.M. ------------ Symposium on "The Role of the Planetarium in the School Curriculum"
3:30 to 4:30 P.M. ----------- Public Planetarium Lecture (Delegates invited)
Our banquet speaker will hopefully be Dr. Herget, a well known Cincinnati astronomer who is an expert on minor planets. If we are successful in obtaining Dr. Herget, he will be a wonderful addition to our program.

Ralph Ewers warns that all those who want to present papers will be required to submit abstracts before their names can be placed on the program. It is suggested that those members that would like to present papers start thinking about this now, as October will be here before we realize, and the abstracts will have to be submitted several weeks before the convention. You should submit your requests for program time to Mr. Ralph Ewers, Planetarium Director, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, 1720 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

At the Grand Rapids Convention last fall, three standing committees for G.L.P.A. were created. These are, The Education Committee, Resource and Publication Committee, and the Conference Planning Committee. As the following reports to the Executive Committee indicate, all three committees have been active in recent months.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, under the chairmanship of Dennis Sunal of the John Glenn Planetarium in Wayne, Michigan, consists of the following members: Robert Victor, James Siemp, John Rosemurgy, Stanley Hruska, Lawrence Park, David DeBruyn, Ruth Howard, George Girard, Cynthia Sunal, Maxine Haarstick, and David Bertsch. Six of the twelve members were present for the initial meeting, held in Wayne on February 26th. At that gathering, it was pointed out that analysis of what the major trends in astronomy curricula in our schools are, and a determination of what concepts are best taught at what grade levels are the most important prerequisites to successfully using the planetarium as an educational tool. With this thought in mind, the committee decided to institute extensive studies of curricula and student abilities at the various grade levels, and to report their findings at a symposium and accompanying paper session at the fall convention. Various members were assigned to make studies of the different grade levels, and other members are going to consider curriculum and textbook developments. A second meeting of this committee, at which time reports from people working on this project will be expected, will be held in Chicago on June 11th.

THE RESOURCE AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE, chaired by David DeBruyn, includes Frank Jettner, Robert Elliott, and John Christian. Activities of the committee speak for themselves in the publication of this Newsletter. Actually, the committee has had no formal meeting to date, but work is progressing behind the scenes toward expansion of this bulletin, which hopefully will appear quarterly, and eventual publication of an annual or semi-annual magazine of the Association. The bulletin will be designed to keep members abreast of latest happenings and trends, including publication of bibliographies and short papers, while the magazine will be devoted to the publication of major articles, research summaries and proceedings of the annual convention. It is hoped that many of the papers presented at the first two meetings of this group will be included in forthcoming publications.

Certain members of this committee will also be in charge of gathering and compiling information that would be of use to the membership at large. Included here will be lists of audio-visual materials, lecture outlines and curriculum materials used by various planetariums within the region, and up to date bibliographies. Selections from these will be included in future publications.
CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE - Ralph Ewers is the logical chairman for this committee, as he will be hosting the forthcoming convention. The chair of this committee is the obvious one of tending to the multitude of details involved in the execution of the annual convention. Ralph and several of his associates are already hard at work to make sure that the October 14th-15th Cincinnati convention will be the best one yet.

NEWS NOTES

From the "Newsletter" Editor and your Executive Committee

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, consisting of President VonDel Chamberlain, President-elect Ralph Ewers, Secretary-treasurer Paul Kirby, and the chairman of the three committees, had a fruitful meeting in Adrian, Michigan on March 26th. Among the highlights of the gathering was a report by Mr. Kirby that we now have 40 official members in the Association and a balance in our treasury currently amounting to $130. While these figures are not overwhelmingly impressive, they do indicate that our organization is on a firm footing and well on its way to success.

Mr. Chamberlain suggested that it would be nice to have a symbol for our Association, to be incorporated on the letterhead and Newsletter. Although at the moment, the spirit did not move any of the committee members to offer possibilities, it was decided to inform the membership that such a symbol is desired, and let the artistically inclined members come forward with their suggestions. Our president, who is Staff Astronomer at the Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University, East Lansing, would be delighted to receive any suggestions relative to an appropriate symbol.

Of course, the biggest item at the meeting was the forthcoming convention. The tentative agenda published in this Newsletter is a partial outgrowth of decisions made at the meeting. It was also agreed to look into the possibility of incorporation, and to discuss the possibility of establishment of an institutional membership at the next convention.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS will meet in Chicago in June. Included on the agenda will be a sectional meeting devoted to the problems of planetariums, to be held at the Adler Planetarium at 2 P.M. on June 10th. This program may be of interest to some of our members, all of whom are invited to attend. Among the speakers will be Dr. E. Anders, who will talk about "The Identification and Value of Meteorites," Ralph Ewers who will speak on the "Development of Planetarium Projectors and Accessories," Mr. R. Monnier, who will discuss "Programs for Amateur Telescope Makers," and Mrs. Eileen Starr, who will talk about "A Masters of Arts Degree in Planetarium Operation."

SUMMER COURSE IN PLANETARIUM OPERATION will be offered through Michigan State University this summer. Dates of the course, which will have its headquarters at the Abrams Planetarium, will be June 22nd through July 27th. In the University listing, the course is Education 830A, "Special Methods and Materials of Teaching," and it will carry three term hours of graduate credit for those who desire it. The course is designed for directors of school oriented planetariums and will stress the practical aspects of planetarium operation, programming and lecturing as well as the history and nature of planetariums. Additional information is available from the "Office of Admissions," Michigan
State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

THE G.L.P.A. NEWSLETTER appears here in its initial version. As an official meeting of the committee involved with its publication has not yet come to pass, we are keeping the format simple for the first issue, hoping that with suggestions from other committee members and the membership at large, the "Newsletter" will grow to be a first rate periodical in the near future. It is hoped that the "Newsletter" can be published four times a year, in the spring, summer, fall, and winter. Among other things, we are looking for an appropriate name for the publication, and a nice cover design. If you have any ideas relative to this, or if you have appropriate contributions or announcements for future issues, please send them to David L. DeBruyn, Temporary Editor, Planetarium of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, 233 Washington, S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

PERSONNEL

Assistant Director needed for planetarium of the Youth Museum of Savannah, 4405 Paulsen Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405. Contact Mrs. George C. Hahn, Acting Director.

Lecturer needed at the Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Duties will include assisting in the preparation and delivery of regular public and school class lectures, and general assistance of other staff members. Send application to The Director, Abrams Planetarium.

The Ritter Planetarium of the University of Toledo, will open in the fall, featuring a Spitz A-3-P projector under a 40 foot dome. This new installation plans an extensive public and school educational program and is still in need of an Assistant Director and a Technician. Salary is somewhat open, depending on experience and background. For further information, contact Mrs. Helen L. Brooks, Director, Ritter Planetarium, Department of Physics and Astronomy, The University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums in Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, and New York. The only prerequisite for membership is a sincere interest in fostering sound educational objectives in planetarium operation and sympathy with the basic objectives of the G.L.P.A. Annual membership dues are $5, payable to Mr. Paul Kirby, Secretary-treasurer, Mentor Public Schools, 6477 Center Street, Mentor, Ohio 44060. Payment of dues entitles the member to participation in all Association events, receipt of the "Newsletter," and all other Association publications.
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY IN ASTRONOMY AND PLANETARIUM EDUCATION

Compiled by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis W. Sunal


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The Great Lakes Planetarium Association acknowledges the following companies and organizations for their generous support in Fiscal Year 2004-05:

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GLPA CONFERENCES:
2005 October 19-22
Grand Rapids, Michigan
2006 October 25-28
Merrillville, Indiana

GLPA Home Page: http://www.glpaweb.org/

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FIRST CLASS MAIL
For a replacement copy of this newsletter, contact Dale Smith (address given above)
JULY 3, 2005. This is an artist’s rendition of the flyby spacecraft releasing the impactor, 24 hours before cometary impact. Shown from left to right are Comet Tempel 1, the impactor, and the flyby spacecraft. The flyby spacecraft includes a solar panel (right), a high-gain antenna (top), a debris shield (left, background), and science instruments for high and medium resolution imaging, infrared spectroscopy, and optical navigation. More information and images can be found at NASA JPL’s Deep Impact website, which is located at http://deepimpact.jpl.nasa.gov/.
Greetings of the Summer Solstice! I hope all of you have had the time to look through the Conference Proceedings from the 2004 conference and have also used the resources of the previous Conference Proceedings. Again, thank you Dale Smith and colleagues for all of your hard work on getting this accomplished for the GLPA membership.

Please read over the candidates for the elected offices of GLPA listed in this newsletter. A wonderful list of potential officers is provided. Thank you, Bob Bonadurer for obtaining the list of candidates. Please consider each of the candidates so that you may make an informed choice at the fall 2005 conference.

Speaking of the fall 2005 conference – this year it is being held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Transportation at this conference is one of the best things about conferences in Grand Rapids, as the hotel is within walking distance of all conference events. Dave DeBruyn and colleagues have set up a wonderful GLPA conference. Please read over the meeting details in the conference registration packet that you should have already received. Registration costs of this conference are lower than they have been for the last several years and I expect that there will be many delegates. Please register for the 2005 conference as soon as you can. I would hope that many would attend this conference at the site where GLPA began its annual meetings 40 years ago.

As I write this, the GLPA executive committee just held its spring meeting in Merrillville, Indiana, which is the site of the 2006 GLPA conference. While this facility is in a middle school setting, I can state that this school planetarium is one of best school facilities that I have seen. Details about the 2006 meeting will be announced at the 2005 conference in Grand Rapids.

To those of you that are off during the summer have a pleasant time off.

Happy Summer Solstice! There are several special features within this issue of the GLPA Newsletter, including details about GLPA’s fall conference in Grand Rapids, news of yet another Cosmology Short Course to be offered by the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics in September, candidate information for the upcoming GLPA elections, minutes from the spring Executive Committee Meeting, and even a flashback to the year 1965 – the year that GLPA was founded. My enclosed collection of headlines and trivia facts, which I’ve titled “1965 Flashback,” may provide you with either pleasant memories or a history lesson. Either way, I hope you enjoy it.

This summer, if your travel plans take you to a campground or national park, don’t forget to pack your telescope or binoculars. If you’re like me, such sojourns to a dark observing site will renew your appreciation for our wonderful corner of the galaxy and rekindle the enthusiasm for astronomy that first drew you to the planetarium profession. Such “real sky therapy treatments” may even enhance your planetarium presentations upon your return.

Please note that the deadline for the autumn issue of the GLPA Newsletter is August 1, 2005. Please submit your facility reports to your State Chairs by late-July. Thank you, and have a wonderful summer!
Skywatchers of Africa
Leading visitors on an exciting exploration of Africa and its peoples’ captivating cultural uses of the sky over thousands of years, Skywatchers highlights the diversity of African cultural astronomy and celebrates our shared human experience.

30 minutes / 300 slides / $795 for show kit
$595 for show kit with artwork on CDs instead of slide

Images of the Infinite
The Hubble Space Telescope (HST) has provided us with spectacular awe-inspiring images and has enriched our understanding of the Universe. This sky show highlights the history and top science findings of the telescope, and takes audiences on an unforgettable tour through the Solar System, Milky Way Galaxy, and to the limits of the visible Universe!

35 minutes / 306 slides / $895 for show kit with video laser disc
$795 for show kit without laser disc

Spirits from the Sky: Thunder on the Land
This sky show provides a never-before-seen journey into the culture of the Skidi Pawnee Native American Nation. Produced in cooperation with the Tribal Elders, Spirits from the Sky explores the Skidi Band’s cultural philosophy of patterning their lives from the observations they made of the Earth and celestial phenomena. Funded in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

37 minutes / 386 slides / $475 for show kit

Clouds of Fire: The Origin of Stars
Exploring the interconnection of all matter in the Universe, Clouds of Fire presents an overview of star formation and the modern instruments which help us gain a clearer picture of stellar life cycles.

32 minutes / 217 slides / $595 for show kit with video laser disc
$495 without laser disc

Please address all show kit inquiries to:
Payal Gandhi, Show Sales Assistant
Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum
1300 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60605
312-322-0301 showkits@adlernet.org
Illinois planetarians spent a “space-tacular” morning at Adler Planetarium on April 16 for their state meeting. The meeting host, Mark Webb, led a fantastic behind-the-scenes tour of both the museum and the planetarium. Interesting and stimulating presentations were given by Waylena McCully, Brock Schroeder, and Ken Lewandowski. Mark Webb filled us in on all of the upcoming events to celebrate Adler’s 75th anniversary. Overall, it was an exciting and entertaining day for everyone. Thank you, Mark!

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College will return to a slightly reduced schedule for June and July. They will schedule matinee shows on Saturdays, but suspend their evening public programs. Patrons can see Summer Prairie Skies, Stellar Extremes, In My Backyard, Seasons, or their light show, America Rocks! In July, they will bring back The X-tra Terrestrial Files, followed by a short show on finding extra-solar planets. The staff is also expecting a technician from Zeiss to have a look at their M1015 projector in mid-September.

Lakeview Museum in Peoria hosted its 7th annual Interplanetary 5K Race/1 mile walk through portions of Peoria’s Community Solar System. 175 persons participated in some portion of the event. August 13 - 14 is the date this summer for the Interplanetary Bicycle Ride. The Community Solar System is now a Geocache site. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards. The international website is http://www.geocaching.com. Enter 61614 into “Search for caches...” to see Peoria’s entry. Visitors engaged in geocaching stop in from all around the country. Any planetarium can get involved with geocaching. In the planetarium this summer, feature shows will be Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather from the Detroit Science Center, and Hubble Vision 2 from Loch Ness Productions. Weekdays, six different shows from the planetarium’s repertory of school shows will be presented for walk-in family and camp groups.
Olivet Nazarene University’s Strickler Planetarium in Bourbonnais, Illinois has just completed its tenth year of presenting Rusty Rocket. Attendance by school groups indicate a continued appreciation for this program. Additional shows being presented are Explorers of Polynesia and Amazing Stargazing. Recently, planetarium student employee Steve Case wrote and produced a new program entitled, Companion to Night: Poetry of the Universe. A paper discussing the formation and implementation of this program was presented at the October 2004 GLPA conference in Detroit. This script will soon be available in the GLPA script bank.

The Cernan Earth and Space Center of Triton College in River Grove is making some dramatic changes to its public show schedule and group show offerings that will benefit its patrons. All shows will be lengthened to at least 60 minutes, and will consist of a regular length planetarium show, plus a 10-20 minute mini-show. All earth and sky shows will now include a 10-minute Skywatcher’s Guide, which will discuss the current sky and (using excerpts from the Abrams Sky Calendar) identify celestial highlights of the current month. Laser shows will be lengthened to become laser concerts. Beginning next school year, teachers and group leaders will be given a menu of full-length planetarium shows and another list of mini-shows that can be paired together within each available time slot, thereby enhancing their field trip experience. To support these enhancements, the Cernan Center’s ticket prices will be increased for the first time in nearly ten years.

Special thanks to Dr. Ron Kaitchuck of the Ball State Planetarium for hosting the Indiana state meeting on April 16. In addition to members’ papers, participants saw several show excerpts and shows. The Ball State production of RingWorld was an effective demo of Dr. Kaitchuck’s method of combining traditional slide, pan, and all-sky techniques with multi moving images converted from slides to video screens. The group also visited the Hubble Exhibit at the Muncie Minnitrictic Cultural Center and also saw the light pollution exhibit developed by Mitch Lumen and the staff of the Koch Planetarium in Evansville. If you haven’t yet seen this exhibit, please contact Mitch to see if you can bring it to your museum or school. Thanks also to Jeff Bowen of Bowen Technovation for breakfast and Greg Williams and the Merrillville team for transportation.

Bill Huston, director at the Jefferson H. S. Planetarium in Lafayette had a slightly down year for school visits due to a change in his class schedule. However, in the 2005-06 school year, Bill will have two periods in the schedule devoted to the planetarium.

Alan Pareis from the Schouweiler Planetarium, University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne, reports that he and Chris Highlen are working on the final automation of Minneapolis Planetarium’s Aurora for Fort Wayne’s July “Three Rivers Festival.” The Schouweiler presented Aurora for Three Rivers in 2002, prior to the installation of AstroFX FX automation. Four additional Talent aurora projectors from Ash Enterprises will fill the dome with aurora for this show. Explorers of the ISS will share the Three Rivers venues with Aurora and Shuttle Return to Flight updates. The Schouweiler’s spring experiment with one weekend a month of public shows was a success. May was the most successful, with all the good seats sold (40-45) for each show. The last show (The StarGazer) had all 40 patrons trekking to the 4th floor roof observing platform to watch the ISS go over, followed by a surprise singing of “Happy Birthday” to school educator Nick Hayward as their other student staffer Mike Bechill appeared with flaming birthday cake. The expansion of the Schouweiler’s public show schedule, including monthly “Planetarium Weekends,” will now be a regular part of its fall and late winter/spring calendar.

GLPA List Serve

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HOW?

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Click on “Other” and then follow the instructions to sign up.
As we head into the hot and balmy summer months, Michigan planetarians will be kept busy with a variety of projects that include theatre maintenance, special events, and of course a multitude of interesting and educational programs. The Cranbrook Institute of Science Planetarium in Bloomfield Hills debuted their in-house production The Volumes of Strange Astronomy on June 3rd. This program takes the audience on a wild ride of discovery as seen through the eyes of the futuristic starship crew tasked with “filling in” the gaps in our understanding of the cosmos. In addition, Cranbrook astronomers and members of the Warren Astronomical Society hosted over 1,000 people during Astronomy Day, 2005. That day, visitors enjoyed safe solar viewing, telescope tutorials from experts, hands-on meteorite programs, “make and take” star charts, and a live broadcast of www.SLOOH.com’s internet radio show The Event Horizon. On May 7th, Cranbrook hosted members of a University of Michigan engineering team that have designed and built an award-winning Mars Rover prototype.

The Henry Ford Community College Planetarium in Dearborn will be able to spend the summer working on show production for field trips, the public and the classroom, thanks to the generosity of HFCC’s academic dean and an NSF grant.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum Planetarium will offer Adler Planetarium’s In Search of New Worlds this summer. They will also offer Treasures of the Milky Way, a program about binocular observing guided by the infamous pirate Beardless Red. The locally-produced program explains the use of star maps and the process of star hopping to tour binocular objects found along the summer Milky Way. The planetarium closes for the remainder of the week after Labor Day to complete annual maintenance tasks.

Detroit’s Dassault Systèmes Planetarium’s new summer show – WSKY - Radio Station to the Stars, opened on June 11th, along with the New Detroit Science Center’s exhibit Amazing Music Studio. WSKY will feature enhancements made by the Science Center of Iowa. Also showing this summer are Starlit Summer Nights and The Little Star That Could. Work continues over the summer on a revamped solar system show and Journey to the Edge of Space and Time. Planetarium manager Jenny Pon completed a class in 3-D computer animation at the College for Creative Studies and a new graphics and video workstation was installed by John Potts. The entire team has also been shipping out copies of their show kit, Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather. Complete with two DVDs full of video clips, a Dolby 5.1 Surround Sound or stereo soundtrack, Blown Away continued to draw many people as a public show this past spring. Astronomy Day was a big hit for visitors, including one lucky family that won a Meade ETX90AT telescope and a year’s subscription to Astronomy Magazine! The daytime events of solar observing, telescope demonstrations, and “make and take” activities were followed by a beginner’s observers night with over 200 participants and at least 50 telescopes of all shapes and sizes.

The Shiras Planetarium in Marquette is excited to host this year’s Michigan GLPA meeting in cooperation with Konica-Minolta on June 25th. It should prove to be a very exciting and interesting display of old and new technologies blended together! For the summer months, the Shiras Planetarium will continue with their Monday evening public programs. Topics vary monthly and will include the exploration of the Moon and other natural satellites in the solar system, dark matter, and current sky programs.

Abrams Planetarium in East Lansing will continue its celebration of the World Year of Physics 2005 with The Universe of Dr. Einstein as their primary show. The Hansen Planetarium originally created this retro-classic. Continuing as their children’s show is the Calgary Science Center’s The Super Sky Show. Shows will run through July 24, after which time they will begin their yearly summer maintenance. Shows will then resume in September.

The Exhibit Museum Planetarium in Ann Arbor has been awarded a grant through the Michigan Space Grant Consortium to help in production of the program Hydrogen: The First Element. This program will look at this oh so common element, from the Big Bang to the hydrogen-powered cars of the future. Written in the style of the PBS Connections series, it will weave a story that will include science, culture, and history together. The grant will also cover the cost of working with an area high school science class in research techniques that will be applied as these students find out everything they can about hydrogen as source material for the show. These students will also hear from scientists at GM about their work on hydrogen-powered cars. In January, the museum completed the beta version of the show Stories My Ancestors Told, a remake of Sky Legends of the Three Fires. This project, funded by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs,
primarily re-shot and expanded the video from *Three Fires* and used several storytellers. Many thanks to Eric Schreur and the folks in Kalamazoo for allowing us to use many of the visuals from the original production. Along the way, they encountered some members of the Eastern Bodewadimi (Potawatomi) who expressed concerns about both versions of the program. They are currently working with a number of people in the Native American community to make some modifications to *Stories* to address these issues. The most significant change will be the availability of the program for showing only between mid-November and mid-March, the traditional period for storytelling that involves certain stories about animals and creation.

From Sara Ann Briggs, Director of the Kingman Museum, comes word that Sean Washington is no longer with the Kingman Museum. They are now searching for a new planetarium manager. Please refer to the Bulletin Board section of this newsletter to review this job description.

The Ward Beecher Planetarium at Youngstown State University welcomed Patrick R. Durrell this academic year, who will take over planetarium directorship duties as Dr. Warren Young retires (please see the Bulletin Board section of this newsletter). Dr. Durrell fills a position opened by the retirement of Dr. Edwin Bishop, a longtime member of the Physics & Astronomy faculty at Youngstown. In other news from Ward Beecher, the major spring program is *Cassini and the Mysteries of Saturn*, co-written by Warren Young, Pat Durrell, and Richard Pirko. It is the first all-video program produced at Ward Beecher. The family feature on Saturday afternoons is *Calgary Science Centre's The Great Space Treasure Hunt*. Lecturer Sharon Shanks at WB has received a $50,000, two-year NASA/IDEAS grant to produce the book *A Briefer History of Time: From the Big Bang to the Big Mac* as a planetarium show and is looking forward to the time off this summer from programs to work on the project. A well-earned renovation is in the air at Ward Beecher. The planetarium will be shut down this summer for the first of the changes to take place: a new coat of paint on the dome, new seats and carpeting, and installing SciDome from Spitz. A new GOTO Chronos will arrive in the summer of 2006, and the installation of left-right-center video should be completed in time for their 40th anniversary celebration in 2007.

A second veteran Ohio planetarian is retiring this spring. Rod Thompson came to the Mentor Schools Planetarium in 1979 and in classes and programs has brought the stars to Mentor students for a generation. Rod has always seemed to attract a team of talented students to his planetarium. He’s been an integral part of the Cleveland area planetarium group for years and was part of the hosting team for the GLPA conferences in Cleveland in 1975, 1986, and 1997. He’s hosted many C.R.A.P. meetings, most recently on May 24. And he leads a “12 Days of Christmas” act-out that you have to see to appreciate. We wish Rod many happy days in his retirement.

Laurel Maher and Dan Mott hosted the March C.R.A.P. meeting at the Strongsville Planetarium and Janice Costaras hosted the April C.R.A.P. meeting at the Fairview Park Schools Planetarium.

Joe DeRocher reports from the Shafran Planetarium at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History that the Museum unveiled 4x6-foot HST images of M51 (Whirlpool Galaxy) and M16 (Eagle Nebula) on April 25, the 15th anniversary of the Hubble Telescope. Greg Harbaugh, former NASA astronaut from Cleveland who grew up in nearby Willoughby and flew on the third HST repair mission, was at the museum to help with the unveiling.

At the Westlake Schools Planetarium, Jeanne Bishop is doing a live presentation for physics classes on the history of ideas of the solar system, taking students from the Earth view through the reasoning of ancient Greeks and Ptolemy to Copernicus and Kepler. For sixth grade students, she is doing a program linking to social studies standards — ancient astronomy around six major rivers of the world. And for first grade, she is doing *Seasons and Life*, a main first grade standard.

Dan Zielinski hosted the annual spring meeting of Ohio planetarians at the Coshocton Schools Planetarium on April 9th. Paper sessions, planetarium demos, fruitful conversation, lunch at a Mexican restaurant, and a tour of historic Roscoe village made for a fine day. Besides buckeyes, the meeting also attracted planetarians from Pennsylvania and West Virginia.
Moving farther east into Pennsylvania, Sue Batson reports that the **North Hills High School Planetarium** has presented two evening shows each week during this school year, an early show for the youngest audiences, and a later show for adults and older children. May’s shows were *Pictures in the Night Sky* and *Clouds of Fire*. The 2005-2006 school year will start up again next September with *The Universe of Dr. Einstein*.

Prof. Fred Adams, who gave an invited talk on the future of the Universe at the 2004 GLPA conference in Detroit, gave a guest lecture at the **Edinboro University Planetarium**. Dr. David Hurd’s students enjoyed the conference lecture so much that they wanted to bring Dr. Adams to Edinboro.

In western Ohio, Cheri Adams reports from Dayton that the **Boonshoft Museum of Discovery** will feature Japanese astronomy during their live *Sky Tonight* planetarium shows this summer in conjunction with a temporary exhibit, “Jump to Japan.” During the month of July they will host two astronomy overnights for elementary students, “Mission to Mars” and “Count Your Lucky Stars.”

Spring shows at the **Bowling Green State University Planetarium** have centered around the theme of the skywatching legacy of ancient cultures around the world. The spring show *Spirits from the Sky* (from Adler) explored the star world of the Pawnee. In late April and early May, short encore runs of three original BGSU Planetarium written by Dale Smith continued the theme. *Sky Stones* (first run in 1992) looked at stone monuments around the world, *It’s About Time* (1987) considered the astronomy and history of our calendars, and *Star-Spangled Banners* (2003) examined the sun, moon, and stars on the world’s flags.

Stars are shining bright in Waukesha, Wisconsin as Dave DeRemer recently opened the new **Horwitz Planetarium** to rave reviews. Dave gave a private showing for contributors on May 12th, an open house on May 21st, and opened for public shows in early June. The planetarium is part of the Retzer Nature Center and will offer both public and school shows.

Jeff Bass at the **Milwaukee Public Museum** announced that the IMAX dome theater will add planetarium shows in early 2006 with the addition of a Digistar 3L projector from Evans & Sutherland. Randy Olson, Wisconsin’s own GLPA Presidential candidate, will be running *RingWorld* and *HubbleVision 2* this summer at the planetarium in Stevens Point.

In **Moorhead**, Minnesota, Dave Weinrich has agreed to take over these state chair duties from Bob Bonadurer. Thanks Dave! GLPA is also pleased to announce that Dave will be running for IPS Representative at our fall meeting.

In Hibbing, Minnesota, Marc Rouleau held a successful WIMPs meeting at the **Paulucci Space Theater**. Thanks Marc!

In **Minneapolis**, the new planetarium is moving forward with the state legislature approval of $22 million for its construction and equipment. About $10M still needs to be raised privately. It is scheduled to open in late 2007 or early 2008.

To ensure that your planetarium is represented in the fall issue’s State News column, please forward news from your facility to your state chair in the latter half of July.

Also, if you have a digital picture of a newsworthy event held at your planetarium, please e-mail it to Bart Benjamin for possible inclusion in the IPS **Planetarian’s “International News”** column.
The stars, those apparent lords of the night sky, are terribly afraid of light. For millions of years, since the first seeing creatures populated the Earth, only the Sun was able to dim down its distant brothers into nothingness. Today, this is easily accomplished by street lamps, neon signs and car headlights.

In the planetarium, things are hardly different. For decades, stars used to be the protagonists of the show, and not even the Sun was allowed to outshine them. Today, shows are dominated by fireworks of slides, videos panoramas and all-sky projections: a profusion of light, which leaves only the gleaming dots that symbolize the boundlessness of the universe no chance to assert themselves. Are planetarium stars doomed to final extinction?

Thanks to Zeiss, they are not. Thanks to a new fiber optic system that makes artificial stars shine more brightly and brilliantly than ever before. No doubt, slides, video, and panorama projections will hardly extinguish them. And although they are much smaller in size than their forerunners, they are seen as mere points, twinkling as do the real stars. See the world’s newest newborn stars in the sky of a Zeiss planetarium.

In the U.S. & Canada, contact Laura Misajet:
800.726.8805 • Fax: 610.664.0308
E-mail: zeiss@seilerinst.com

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COSMOLOGY SHORT COURSE
submitted by Randy Landsberg
Director Education & Outreach
Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics (KICP)

Big Bang & Beyond, 21st Century Cosmology
September 23 - 25, 2005
Chicago, Illinois

Who should attend? Planetarium and museum professionals who develop public programming and exhibits.

Application Deadline: July 1, 2005

This three day course will take participants to the frontiers of current cosmological research and provide them with the necessary tools to bring the excitement of discovery back to their home institutions. By bringing together the researchers making the discoveries with planetarium/museum/science center staff, who interact daily with the public, this course will help energize the presentation of cosmology in informal educational settings.

This intensive course will establish the framework of standard Big-Bang cosmology and provide insights into recent discoveries into its inner workings. We will follow the evolution of the universe from its earliest moments, about 14 billion years ago when it was a soup of elementary particles, until the present day when it is a tangled web of filaments consisting of galaxies and clusters of galaxies. The observational foundations of our understanding of the universe include measurements of the temperature anisotropy in the cosmic microwave background, the spatial distribution of galaxies and clusters of galaxies, and the expansion history of the universe. On the theoretical side, we will focus on cosmic acceleration at the two ends of time. We will review the predictions of cosmic inflation, acceleration during the short moment of time after the Big Bang, and see how to test them with current and future observations. Recent dramatic but unambiguous evidence suggests that expansion of the universe is currently undergoing acceleration. This acceleration is driven by the mysterious dark energy that comprises about 70% of the universe. The remaining 30% is composed mainly of the only slightly less mysterious dark matter. We will discuss ongoing and upcoming experiments that intend to probe the nature of this mysterious dark matter and energy.

The time is ripe for making cosmology part of planetarium programming. In the past decade, observations have revolutionized our understanding of the universe. Public interest is high, and cosmological discoveries are regularly discussed in media.

The course will be taught by some of world’s leading cosmologists who have themselves made contributions to the field. These include: unprecedented full-sky maps of the cosmic microwave background temperature anisotropy, the elucidation of the physical processes underlying the temperature anisotropy, the discovery of the cosmic microwave background polarization, the largest galaxy survey to date, and sophisticated computer simulations of the evolution of structure in the universe. An important component of the course will be to show visualizations of many of the facets of cosmology discussed and provide these and other tools to the participants for use at their home institutions.

The course aims to provide participants with a solid background in the basics of modern cosmology and the latest discoveries, but will remain focused on helping the participants to bring cosmology to the public. In addition to the lectures, there will be ample time for discussion and questions. This course will also include a session in which participants from previous KICP cosmology courses share their experiences in adopting cosmology into their planetarium programming. Finally, we are planning hands-on and computer laboratory sessions, and a visit to the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum.

For more information or to register, please visit the KICP Cosmology Short Course website at http://kicp.uchicago.edu/education/courses/2005-bigbang/ or contact Randy Landsberg, Director Education & Outreach, Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics (KICP), Director Public Outreach, Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics, The University of Chicago, 5640 S. Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637. His telephone number is (773) 702-7783, his fax is (773) 702-8212, and his e-mail address is randy@oddjob.uchicago.edu.
FREE CHANDRA OBSERVATORY TEACHING MATERIALS
submitted by Gary Tomlinson

At a recent talk that I attended about the Chandra X-ray Observatory, I was given the URL of a website that educators can use to request free posters, photos, etc. That web address is as follows:

http://www.chandra.harvard.edu/edu/epo/request.html

PART-TIME JOB DESCRIPTION
submitted by Sara Ann Briggs
Kingman Museum, Battle Creek, Michigan

Because Sean Washington is no longer with the Kingman Museum, we are now searching for a new planetarium manager. An abbreviated version of this job description follows:

Job Title: Educator II-Planetarium
Position Type: Part-time, up to 32 hours per week, no benefits
Reports to: Executive Director
Hours: Flexible schedule; Tuesday through Friday, some evenings and weekends (this is all negotiable)

General Description: The Educator II-Planetarium engages a diverse audience in the quest to understand our evolving universe. He/she develops, implements, evaluates and supervises the museum’s educational programs dealing with the universe. The programs may encompass educational exhibitions, printed materials, such as self-guides, demonstrations, special events, workshops, teacher-training programs, school or other outreach programs as well as docent training. He/she is a member of the museum education team that provides quality programs and other opportunities for learning to the general public, school and youth groups, and families. This team member presents himself/herself as a professional at all times, works well with various age groups, is an advocate for the Kingman Museum, is creative, and embraces change and new experiences.

Experience: BS in astronomy or related field. Planetarium experience required. Experience in the operation of various types of planetarium equipment. Digistar I experience extremely helpful but will train the right person. Superior knowledge in the operation of computers. Ability to create planetarium programs and troubleshoot various program related equipment. Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Professional Office and all of its components. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Self motivated, team player, organized, ability to work alone as needed and under pressure, dependable.

For more information, please contact Sara Ann Briggs, Executive Director, Kingman Museum, 175 Limit Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017. Her phone number is (269) 965-5117 and her fax number is (269) 965-3330.

WARREN YOUNG RETIRES
submitted by Dale Smith

Dr. Warren Young, Director of the Ward Beecher Planetarium at Youngstown State University, is retiring after 43 years of service to the University. He has directed the planetarium since its founding in 1967 and chaired the Physics & Astronomy Dept. for 25 years from 1979 to 2004. Warren remembers being interviewed for the astronomy position at what was then Youngstown University while watching the launch of Friendship 7 and John Glenn’s mission on the president’s black and white television. The interview was held on the president’s wife’s bed. You’ll have to ask Warren for the details on that one!

Warren, along with Ted Pedas, the planetarium’s first lecturer, was instrumental in bringing a planetarium to Youngstown in 1967 — the same year that YU became YSU. As the planetarium approaches its 40th anniversary, he is still hard at work for the facility and has spent his final semester making arrangements for major renovations that were made possible through a $750,000 grant from the Ward Beecher Foundation.

Warren’s astronomical research has included work on Saturn’s strange moon Iapetus conducted with departmental colleague Ronald Tabak. He’s had a long-standing interest in methods of determining latitude and longitude and in Columbus’ use of astronomy; both of
these interests have generated several presentations and publications, including articles in the IPS journal *Planetarian*. He’s also given a variety of talks at GLPA conferences.

Under Warren’s leadership, the Ward Beecher Planetarium has provided decades of service in public and school programs to the Youngstown area and has consistently been a site of innovative programming. Among Warren’s planetarium stars is the program *Serpents of the Sun*. Covering Ohio’s historic mounds and including original aerial photography, this pioneering program was widely distributed among Ohio’s planetariums.

Moreover, Warren’s influence has extended far beyond his home planetarium. Asked about his accomplishments, Warren points to the success of his students. Planetarium artists Tim Kuzniar and Joe Tucciarone found their start in the nurturing environment Warren provided at YSU. Warren’s influence has even reached beyond the surface of his planet: astronaut Ron Parise is an alum of Warren’s department. Warren and his crew have twice hosted GLPA conferences (1991 and 1972) and hosted three Ohio planetarium meetings (1987, 1988, 2004).

And his sense of humor — both giving and taking — is legendary. Ask anyone who knows him for the details! Warren will continue to teach on emeritus status for several years, allowing him and his wife, Sandy, to travel more and spend time with their grandchildren. We wish Warren the very best in his retirement!

### GLPA TO OFFER FREE SHOW AT ITS FALL CONFERENCE

submitted by Bob Bonadurer

*Rumplestiltskin’s Starry Secret* is designed to nurture interest in, and understanding of, the origin of the elements and the human relationship to them. The show appeals to a wide audiences by using the storybook character Rumplestiltskin. His magical powers that could turn straw into gold parallel a star’s seemingly miraculous ability to make new elements. A precocious young girl, who doubts Rumplestiltskin’s ability to make gold, has an imaginary conversations with him, which leads to many new questions and discoveries. Through conversations with chemists and astronomers she reveals the origins of the periodic table and the profound finding that all atoms, including the ones inside our bodies, were formed in the big bang and by stellar nuclear reactions. Furthermore, the origin of gold is revealed in the brilliant blast of a supernova. The story unfolds over several years and, in the end, the girl becomes an astronomer.

The program is a mix of animations, interviews and data visualizations. Total running time is 30 minutes. The target audience is general planetarium/science museum audiences and school groups, especially grades 9-12 where stellar evolution and the big bang are national science standards. All the interviews and animations were done in High Definition.

*Rumplestiltskin’s Starry Secret* DVD copies will be available for free to all GLPA members. If you cannot make the conference, copies are available from Dave Leake in Champaign, Illinois. The film was funded by NASA’s Chandra X-Ray Observatory, through a grant to the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Planetarium Society and produced by Bob Bonadurer.

### PROF. RICHARD EMMONS IS ILL

Professor Richard Emmons is ill and would enjoy hearing from his planetarium friends. Richard was the Spitz Lecturer at the 1997 Cleveland GLPA conference and is the father of Dr. Jeanne Bishop. Richard’s address is 415 Sixth Street NW, Canton, OH 44702.
GLPA Executive Committee Meeting
Merrillville, Indiana
May 7, 2005

Present: Bart Benjamin, Bob Bonadurer, Chuck Bueter, Lisa Daly, Dave DeRemer, Joe DeRocher, Geoff Holt, Chris Janssen, Gary Sampson, Mary Schindewolf, Dale Smith, Gary Tomlinson, Gregg Williams, Barbara Williams, David DeBruyn and Rick Ainsworth.

Meeting called to order. The meeting was called to order by President Joe DeRocher at 9:15 a.m. CDT. This was followed by a short review of the meeting agenda. Joe took a moment to thank Gregg and Barbara Williams for the planetarium tour the previous evening. Gregg spoke a moment about the facilities and events for the day.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, held in Detroit, Michigan, on October 20, 2004, had been printed in the GLPA Newsletter and e-mailed to each member. Gary Tomlinson moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

Financial Report: Mary Schindewolf presented the current state of the GLPA accounts:

Financial Report
October 20, 2004 - May 7, 2005

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### Financial Report

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The financial report was approved. Mary suggested an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate due to the rising cost of gas prices. It was discussed and agreed that it should match the current IRS reimbursement rate of $0.375 per mile.

**President's Report:** Joe DeRocher reported that everything is going very well for GLPA. Unfortunately, Joe has not heard anything yet regarding a NSA grant that would allow GLPA to test productions from the Lunar and Planetary Institute.

**President Elect's Report:** Bob Bonadurer reported that Randy Landsburg plans on running another cosmology institute, which would more or less be a repeat of the previous class. Bob plans to attend. Bart Benjamin has already e-mailed the information to the GLPA listserv and it has been posted on Dome-L. Bob has been working to get candidates for the executive committee election in the fall. Chuck is stepping down as IPS representative. There was some discussion about the pros and cons of when only one person runs for a position. The motion to accept the list of candidates was passed.

Bob just finished a show on the origins of the elements for Minnesota. He has grant money to pay for the duplication. It might be possible that people at the conference could have it for free, or that others who want to order it could pay for production costs only. Bob proposed that we create an inventory for Dave Leake so he can sell it for a cost of $10.

**Past President's Report:** Gary Sampson reported on the NASA focus group grant that Bob Bonadurer and Chuck Bueter were working on. The grant was created to help NASA work on its informal education program and develop ways in which NASA can better work with planetaria. The focus group was held in Cleveland in late January. Participants spent two days brainstorming ideas about how planetaria and NASA can work better together. The focus group developed 7 strategies, of which 4 were advocated by the larger focus group that met in New York City. Liz Monroe Clark and Jim Sweitzer were hired to run the focus group in New York because NASA was so impressed with how well the Cleveland group went. This larger group included representatives from other organizations, such as aerospace, scouts, etc. Although the larger group's top recommendation was that NASA and the planetarium community should jointly develop a long range calendar, or Road Map, of events and themes to promote, the proposal that we most strongly advocated was that NASA should fund a program that goes out to all planetaria every year. All of the ideas were collected and now they're waiting to hear what NASA's next steps will be. It was a good opportunity to network with the higher-ups in NASA's informal education group, meeting people and telling them about the planetarium world. Chuck Bueter believes that NASA is still compiling their information. NASA's report is due out in a month, and then one to two months later, NASA will come out with how they are going to distribute their funds. More information can be found at: [www.transitofvenus.org/focus.htm](http://www.transitofvenus.org/focus.htm).

GLPA is an affiliate of NSTA, and Gary Sampson attended the NSTA National Convention in Dallas in early April. Gary is encouraging GLPA involvement in NSTA as it could possibly give us a national voice to have some clout with science education. This summer, NSTA is holding a national congress on science education in Minneapolis August 3rd - 6th. The congress will discuss such topics as
elementary science education, evolution, assessment, NCLB and much more. Gary proposed that GLPA send a representative to this meeting. Dave DeRemer and Lisa Daly said they could possibly attend. Chris Janssen suggested we establish a position for an official NSTA envoy from GLPA. It was agreed that GLPA should just test the waters for now. The goal would be for GLPA to have a presence at the meeting and see what happens. Chuck Bueter moved that we pay 2/3 the cost of travel, meals, hotel and registration for one person to attend the NSTA Congressional meeting August 3rd – 6th, 2005. Geoff Holt seconded the motion and it passed. Gary Sampson also suggested that GLPA might send the incoming president to the NSTA leadership training institute at its headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. Attendees get an opportunity to speak directly with congressional representatives. Joe DeRocher suggested that maybe we could learn more about the usefulness of sending someone to the leadership conference at the August meeting in Minneapolis.

Membership Report: Chris Janssen reported that the membership numbers remain stable at approximately 200. Total volume since the data-base was created is 1,081 people. This represents the total number of individuals who have been members at some point in time. Potential honorary members were discussed and voted on. Potential fellows were discussed and voted on.

Development Report: Lisa Daly reported that she and Gary Tomlinson had been discussing the vendor support levels and decided they will remain the same. What may change are the extra benefits for each level. Rolling such things as hospitality suite, breaks, etc. into one of the benefit levels or keeping them as something extra was discussed. Lisa suggested that we list all vendors on break and hospitality suites and not break them up, and that we could have a banner with all the vendors listed and recognized at the different events. Chuck Bueter suggested that at each meal we recognize a person at a particular support level and have them stand up and be introduced.

Lisa reported that, overall, the vendor surveys from last year’s conference were very positive. Vendors liked the fact that it was such a big conference. They also liked having the breaks in the vendor area. If our conferences were to be extended, they thought they should start earlier on Wednesday. Chris Janssen brought up the fact that in the past there has been some confusion with vendor registrations. He suggested making a new category of conference delegate only. Geoff Holt asked that Lisa have vendors write a one-sentence description of their business for the website.

It had been suggested in the past that we have a flea market before the conference and Lisa wondered what the status was. Joe DeRocher thought maybe people could describe the item on a form and post everything on a bulletin board. That way they don’t bring the item to the conference but people can get information off the board and contact each other to make the purchase. The registration forms would explain this service. This idea will be tabled to another time.

Publications Report: Bart Benjamin reported that 61% of the delegates at the last conference said that they would be in favor of a digital newsletter. The logistics of going to an all-digital newsletter, especially how members would receive their digital newsletter, were discussed. Benjamin described one scenario whereby the current newsletter would be uploaded to a page of the GLPA website and each member would then be sent an e-mail notice that links to that page. The current GLPA Newsletter, in PDF format, could then be downloaded from this webpage. The digital newsletter process will next be tested with executive committee members before being offered to the full membership.

Chris Janssen said he could add a box to check on the membership form for people to choose which method of newsletter delivery they prefer.

Conference Planning Report: Dave Debruyyn and Rick Ainsworth from Grand Rapids reported on the status of the 2005 conference. Delegates will stay at the Days Inn across the street from the museum. It offers easy walking access and free parking. Food for the conference will be provided by
the museum’s food services. The committee reviewed the tentative agenda and discussed possible topics for a symposium. The preliminary budget was examined and the banquet dress code was discussed.

**Education Report:** Dave DeRemer reported that *Cosmic Colors* is still a work in progress, as he has been very busy with the opening of his new facility. He would really like to make it an interactive show. The *Zubenelgenubi* program is being modified so that it can also be an all pre-recorded program with a digital voice for Zubi so the presenter doesn’t have to perform it live. *Solar System Adventure Tour* has been completely digitized and Dave Leake has all of the CDs. There is a small cost, $25 for two CDs. All of the information is on the GLPA website.

**Instructional Materials:** Geoff Holt reported that we have an option to renew our domain name for less money through a different company; he recommends staying with the same company. Income for printed materials is down to almost nothing because electronic distributions are up, meaning Geoff spends less time distributing hard copies. Chris Janssen suggested forming a committee to look into distributing show kits through the AV library as long as there were no copyright violations. The idea of making shows not funded by GLPA available to non-members was discussed. Dave Leake is working on having thumbnail images of the slide bank available in a catalog and possibly added to the website. It would be free to members as a members-only service.

**Conference Planning Report:** Gregg and Barb Williams handed out a tentative conference schedule for 2006, plus a list of concepts for the conference. He passed out a list of hotels to compare amenities and cost. He proposed having the Lees Inn as the conference hotel. The length of Saturday activities was also discussed.

Gary Tomlinson suggested buying nicer nametag holders that could be reused. Most of the committee thought it was not a practical idea and we should continue to use the current style of nametags. Possible locations for the 2008 conference were discussed. The 2007 triple conference will be held in Wheeling, West Virginia, October 9 - 13, 2007.

**IPS Report:** Chuck Bueter, who is the Planetarian advertising coordinator, reported that you now need to pay in advance and have a contract for advertising. He reported that Glasgow is no longer a candidate for the 2008 IPS conference. Chuck suggested that we take a straw vote of the dual GLPA/IPS members on where they would like to see the next IPS conference. Gary Tomlinson thought we should poll the entire membership.

Chuck made a request for articles for the *Planetarian*. He reported that the script contest has been resumed, with the deadline now set for year’s end. The topic is “solar system school shows” that are 25 minutes long for middle school students. The IPS council meeting is September 24th and 25th in Beijing. Dale Smith reminded us to fill out our IPS directory forms. He also told us that IPS has been scanning most of their past publications and the French are working on scanning the *Planetarian*.

**Old Business:** Gary Tomlinson handed out CDs of the draft of the updated executive committee handbook. He requested that we all read our sections and the other sections relevant to our office. He requested that we make any necessary revisions and send them to him. Gary also reported that he changed some of the ordinances to bring them up to date with current GLPA procedures.

**New Business:** Geoff Holt suggested and Bob Bonadurer moved that we give an honorarium to the meeting host. The motion was seconded and passed. Chuck Bueter suggested having a light pollution workshop at the Merrillville conference and possibly having it as a theme for the conference.

**Adjournment:** The meeting officially adjourned at 4:43 p.m. CDT.
By now, you should have received the registration package for the gala 40th Anniversary Conference of GLPA, rapidly approaching on October 19-22, 2005. If you did not receive the package, or have misplaced it and need another, please contact Breanna Stayskal at the Chaffee Planetarium, Public Museum of Grand Rapids, (616) 456-3559 right away, or e-mail her at bstayska@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us. It would be very helpful to the museum staff if you would send back your registrations as soon as possible. So do it today, before you forget. Delegate exhibition space and room in the workshop sessions is limited, so allocation will be strictly on a “first come, first served” basis. Also, please get your reservations in at the “Days Inn of Grand Rapids – Downtown,” 310 Pearl Street, N.W., (616) 235-6711 as soon as you can. We have reserved a block of 90 rooms which will only be held until September 10th. With possible record attendance for this conference expected, rooms will go quickly. In order that everyone be accommodated, we ask that delegates try to pair up as much as possible, sharing the very reasonable room cost of $84.50 plus tax/room. With the conference registration set at $160, and a sumptuous meal package (including banquet, full breakfasts, and all breaks) set at $80 per delegate, the gala 40th Anniversary Conference is one of the most reasonably priced conferences in recent memory.

Our Grand Rapids hosts also are working feverishly to make it the best conference ever. Most activities will take place within the walls of the “world class” Public Museum of Grand Rapids. The keynote speaker on Thursday will be Dr. Anne Kinney, Director of NASA’s Astronomy and Physics Division, and a native of Wisconsin. Our own Dr. James Kaler will give his popular update about the impressive astronomical research conducted over the past year on Friday morning. Delivering the annual Armand Spitz lecture at the Friday evening banquet will be GLPA co-founder and host of the organizational conference in 1965, David L. DeBruyn. Fellow co-founders VonDel Chamberlain and Dennis Sunal will also return and participate in a retrospective about the past 40 years in planetarium education and technology at the closing luncheon. Together, as GLPA delegates gather for the 41st time, they will have both a unique opportunity to look back over four decades of leadership in the planetarium profession, and to look forward, where exploding technology and the enthusiasm of “rising stars” in the field make for exciting prospects indeed.

General questions about the conference should be directed to the local coordinator: Rickey Ainsworth at (616) 456-3564 or via e-mail at rainswor@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us. Vendors, and those with technical requirements, should direct their inquiries to Ethan Brown at (616) 456-3563 or via e-mail at ebrown@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us. If you have registration or lodging concerns, please contact Breanna Stayskal at (616) 456-3559 or via e-mail at bstayska@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us. The mailing address is the same for all three: Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium, Public Museum of Grand Rapids, 272 Pearl NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.
Tuesday, October 18
2:00 p.m. - ?? Vendor set-up. Overnight access to vendor spaces and planetarium. Contact Ethan Brown at (616) 456-3563 (office) or (616) 706-3178 (cell).

Wednesday, October 19
until 3:00 p.m. Vendor set-up continues.
9:00 a - 5:00 p GLPA Executive Committee meeting – Board Room.

Early arrivals: Enjoy the world class Public Museum of Grand Rapids; visit adjacent Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum; stroll picturesque river walkways and the campus of Grand Valley State University.

TBD Cosmology Workshop Follow-up – Meijer Theater.
noon - 9:00 p Registration table open – Museum Galleria.
4:00 - 4:45 Chaffee Planetarium sky show Voyage to Infinity.
5:00 - 5:45 Chaffee Planetarium sky show Europa - Life Finds a Way.
6:00 - 6:30 Orientation of new GLPA members – Meijer Theater.
6:30 - 8:30 Opening Reception under the Whale – Museum Galleria. Ride the antique carousel; hear the mighty Wurlitzer, browse exhibit halls as you renew old friendships and munch on mini-sandwiches and assorted finger food. Food and beverage service until 8 p.m. Cash bar available.
8:30 - 10:00 Presentations by vendors and/or host staff.
10:00 - midnight Hospitality Suite – Days Inn; Hosted by Gary Tomlinson and gang.

Thursday, October 20
7:30 - 11:00 a Late on-site registration – Museum Galleria – $25 added fee. It’s now too late to purchase meal package. (Individual meals maybe?).
7:30 - 8:15 “Planetarians’ Delight” – full breakfast buffet in Museum Café.
8:30 - 9:15 Opening welcomes and orientation with President DeRocher, Conference Hosts, and invited dignitaries; Welcome to new members.
9:30 - 10:30 Vendor demonstrations, papers, and demonstrations requiring planetarium and/or specialized equipment. – Chaffee Planetarium.
10:30 - 11:00 Break with the vendors with light refreshments in Vendor Area.
11:00 a - 12:30 p Vendor presentations continue – Meijer Theater and/or Planetarium.
12:30 - 1:30 “Pizza Buffet” lunch with vendors – Museum’s 3rd floor balcony.
1:30 - 3:00 p  Keynote presentation, Dr. Anne Kinney, Director of Astronomy and Physics Division, NASA – Meijer Theater.
3:00 - 3:30  Break and conversation with vendors in Vendor Area.
3:30 - 4:45  Panel Discussion with Dr. Kinney and conference notables. The tentative subject for discussion is “Building a more Space-Aware Society.”
5:00 - 5:30  Dedicated Poster Time; Script and Slide Bank open. Visit vendors.
5:30 - 6:00  Group Photo on Museum Grand Stairway.
6:00 - 8:00  Dinner on your own; Sample Grand Rapids’ growing night life and colorful river walkways. Nearby restaurants and cost ranges described in registration packet, which will include a downtown map.
8:00 - 11:00 Choice of Activities, as follows:
8:00 - 9:30  Public Presentation by Dr. Anne Kinney, Meijer Theater (Note: this will include information from Dr. Kinney’s previous talk. This is not a conference activity, but is available for any who missed her earlier).
8:00 - 9:30  Museum galleries and vendor areas open to delegates.
   ➢ 8:00 - 9:00  “Constellation Shootout” with Shane Horvatin – Chaffee Planetarium.
   ➢ 8:30 - 10:00  “Men Who Go to the Moon” (tentative) at Celebration Cinema IMAX. Car pool to theater; 15 minutes away.
   ➢ 8:30 - 11:00  Field trip to James C. Veen Observatory, for up to 30 persons who show up at Days Inn drop-off area by 8:30. Return by 11:00.
   ➢ 9:15 - 10:00  Spectacular laser light show set to Pink Floyd’s “Dark Side of the Moon” – Planetarium.
   ➢ 10:15 - 11:00  Chaffee Planetarium sky show Europa - Life Finds a Way.
10:00 – midnight  Hospitality Suite; Days Inn – Hosted by Gary Tomlinson and gang.

Friday, October 21

8:00 - 10:00 a  Very Late Onsite Registration – Museum Galleria. $25 Added Fee. It is now far too late to purchase any meals.
8:00 - 8:45  “Stargazers’ Special” breakfast buffet – Museum Café.
9:00 - 10:15  Astronomy Update Lecture, with Dr. Jim Kaler.
10:15 - 10:45  Break ; check out the slide and script bank.
10:45 - 11:30 and  Forty-five minute workshop sessions (first session).
11:45 - 12:30 p  Forty-five minute workshop sessions (second session).
   Chose two from the following: Light Pollution; Video Production; Spitz Planetarium Routine Maintenance. Or chose only: Interactive Techniques Under Portable Domes (one and one half hours). Locations to be announced.

12:30 - 1:30 p  “Fajita Buffet” lunch – Museum’s 3rd floor balcony.
1:30 - 3:00  Concurrent paper sessions – Eberhard Center, (adjacent to Museum).
3:00 - 3:30  Break and refreshments at Eberhard Center.
3:30 - 5:00  Concurrent paper sessions resume – Eberhard Center.
5:00 - 6:45  Free time; freshen up and change for the banquet. Appropriate attire (i.e. coats, ties, dresses, etc.) is recommended.
6:45 - 7:15  Cash Bar in Museum Galleria, under the whale.
7:30 - 9:00  Annual Banquet with special awards and presentations.
10:00 - midnight  Hospitality Suite, Days Inn; Hosted by Gary Tomlinson and gang.

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Saturday, October 22

7:30 - 8:00 a  Early checkout and luggage storage, if required.
8:00 - 9:00  “Cosmic Cuisine” full buffet in Museum Café; Tables arranged in Café and adjacent areas for State Meetings.
9:00 - 10:30  Final paper sessions – Planetarium and/or Meijer Theater, as required.
10:30 - noon  GLPA Annual Business Meeting – Meijer Theater.
noon- 12:30 p  Final checkout.
12:30 - 1:30  Final Luncheon; soup and sandwich buffet – Museum’s 3rd Floor.
1:30 - 3:15  40th anniversary celebration and retrospective with special invited speakers: GLPA co-founders Von Del Chamberlain and Dennis Sunal. Reminiscences, acknowledgements, passing of banner, door prizes.

Post Conference Activities

3:30 - 6:00 p  Stroll the river walkways, check out exhibits at “world class” Public Museum of Grand Rapids; galleries open until 5 p.m. Visit adjacent Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum until 5 p.m.
4:00  Sky show Voyage to Infinity – Chaffee Planetarium.
5:00  Sky show Europa - Life Finds a Way – Chaffee Planetarium.

JOIN I.P.S.

The International Planetarium Society (IPS) is the largest organization of professional planetarians in the world. It is comprised of members from all over the globe. GLPA is an affiliate of this prestigious organization. If you are not a member of IPS, you should consider becoming a member! Why? Because IPS serves its members with . . .

♦ its full-color quarterly journal, Planetarian, filled with a wide range of articles
♦ its biennial conferences
♦ Proceedings of each IPS conference
♦ free publications, including the Directory of the World’s Planetariums and the IPS Resource Directory
♦ discounted subscription rates to the IPS slide service and IPS video compilations
♦ access to resources found only in the members section of the IPS website
♦ access to the IPS News listserv
♦ networking on all scales, from local to global

See more on the IPS web site: [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org).

IPS dues are only $50 a year, or two years for $90. Other levels of membership are also available at Institutional and Corporate levels. For more information or to join IPS, please contact:

Shawn Laatsch, IPS Treasurer, P.O. Box 1812, Greenville NC 27835 USA
Telephone: 1-502-852-5855
E-mail: 102424.1032@compuserve.com

21
Candidates for GLPA Offices

Voting will occur at the Annual Business Meeting of the GLPA Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan or by absentee ballot following GLPA requirements.

The GLPA Nominations Committee respectfully submits to the membership the following candidates for office:

**President-Elect:**
Cheri Adams  
Randy W. Olson

**Secretary/Treasurer:**
Mary Schindewolf

**IPS Representative:**
David Weinrich

Candidate Background Information

FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT


**Member of GLPA:** 11 years

**Educational Experience:**
- BS/Ed Secondary Earth Science University of Missouri - Columbia
- Taught high school astronomy in rural Missouri
- Aligned all 17 school planetarium programs with Ohio Academic Content Standards
- Teach an annual six week fall astronomy course for the University of Dayton Institute for Learning in Retirement
- Conduct teacher Starlab workshops
- Assist local teams in preparation for the Science Olympiad astronomy competition
- Boy/Girl Scout astronomy merit badges
- Develop and implement astronomy overnights at the museum

**Work Experience:**
As Director of Astronomy, I oversaw the renovation of our planetarium (2001-2002) including an upgrade to our current Digistar II system, complete replacement of our slide control system, installation of multimedia equipment and reupholstering of our 170 seats.

**Current and Past Service to GLPA:**
- Designed poster presentations for past conferences
- Currently digitizing the slides from the 1993 Dayton GLPA conference

**Member of the Following Organizations:**
- International Planetarium Society
- Miami Valley Astronomical Society
- Astronomical League
- Treasurer of SunWatch Indian Village Associate Board

**Honors and Achievements:**
- GLPA fellow 2000
- Pilot Grove Teacher of the Year 1980 – 1981
- Pilot Grove Teacher of the Year 1979 – 1980

**Candidate Statement:**
The first GLPA conference I attended was 1994, hosted by Steve Mitch at Oglebay in West Virginia. I was very new to the world of planetaria and it was my first contact with GLPA. I had been told how inclusive and supportive the members were but I was unprepared for what I experienced. I was amazed and so appreciative of the sharing of professional ideas and the genuine friendships. Not only did I find the various workshops, demonstrations and paper presentations helpful, it seemed as though nearly all members were benefiting in some respect. Some ideas I found I could immediately incorporate into my programs while many others I felt I would cautiously attempt as my confidence level grew. As the conference continued, I learned of the TIPS booklets, the slide and script bank and the availability of the past Proceedings. It was obvious to me that GLPA operated so smoothly because of the tireless efforts put forth by some very dedicated members. I now see that our backgrounds and affiliated facilities are rich with diversity and yet we share a common thread, to share our understanding and appreciation of the night sky and related astronomy topics with others. I have the time and opportunity in my life to be able to commit to
becoming more involved in GLPA. I am honored to have been asked to run for the position of President-Elect and would love to serve such an amazing organization, attempting to return only what could be a minute portion of the many benefits I have derived.

Randy W. Olson, Allen F. Blocher Planetarium, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Stevens Point, WI 54481-3897

Member of GLPA: 20 years

Educational Experience:
• B.M.E., May 1978. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
• M.S., May 1983. New Mexico State University
• Ph.D., May 1985. New Mexico State University (Major: Astronomy)

Current and Past Service to GLPA:
• Served on Nominating committee 1997
• Hosted state meetings spring 1994 and 2000
• Have attended nineteen of the past twenty annual conferences
• Have brought one or more of my student lecturers to our conferences since 1997

Member of the Following Organizations:
• American Astronomical Society (AAS)
• Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP)
• Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA)
• International Planetarium Society (IPS)
• Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota Planetarium Society (WIMPS)
• International Dark-Sky Association
• The Planetary Society

Honors and Achievements:
• Member of Sigma Pi Sigma - Physics Honor Society
• Fellow of GLPA 1995

Candidate Statement:
GLPA is an exciting and diverse organization. We are among the largest of the regional planetarium associations and one of the most active in terms of member benefits. Much of this is due to the dedicated work of the executive committee and our many different conference hosts. We also represent a diverse background from smaller portable planetariums to major urban facilities and almost everything in between. In all of this, I think the common thread we have is education. Probably in almost every one of our programs we try to teach something of the wonder and grandeur of the universe around us. One of the best ways for members of GLPA to be a part of the thrill of learning is through our conferences. Our conferences are a great opportunity for us to learn about new ideas that we might try or maybe a different approach to something that we already do. Our conferences also allow our members to experience new technology in this increasingly digital age.

For the last eight years I have been bringing some of my university student lecturers to our conferences. The main reason that I have found the resources to do this is because of a benefit that may not be measurable. It is the renewal and recharge that the conferences always seem to provide. By inspiring my students in this way, I return with better presenters. These aspects of our conferences, along with the camaraderie and willingness to share ideas, are something that I hope GLPA will always have.

Over the past twenty years, GLPA has been a major influence in my professional career. I would appreciate the opportunity to give something of myself back to GLPA. I would be honored to be a part of leading this exemplary association through the beginnings of its fourth decade. I am honored to be considered for President-Elect of GLPA. If elected, I would strive to maintain the fine traditions and carry on our high standards into the future.

FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER

Mary J. Schindewolf, Waubonsie Valley High School Planetarium, 2590 Ogden Avenue, Aurora, IL 60504

Member of GLPA: 12 years

Educational Experience:
• Bachelor of Science in Physics, May 1995, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio
• Master of Arts in Education, August 2003, Benedictine University, Lisle, Illinois

Current and Past Service to GLPA:
• Served as GLPA Secretary/Treasurer since spring of 2004
• Served on election committee under Dan Francetic, 1997
• Illinois State Chairperson since May, 1997
• Member of GLPA-OSS Advisory Committee
• GLPA State Meeting Coordinator since October, 1999
• Served on Galileo Award committee, summer 2002

**Member of the Following Organizations:**
• International Planetarium Society, currently working on the IPS Slide Service
• Waubonsie Astronomical Society
• West Suburban Soccer Women’s Soccer League, currently serving as secretary
• Midwest Open Racing Fleet

**Honors and Achievements:**
• Fellow, Great Lakes Planetarium Association, October 2000
• NASA Solar System Ambassador, 2000 & 2001
• Certificate of Completion, Saturday Morning Physics Program, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, March 2002

**Candidate Statement:**
I look forward to continuing to serve the membership of GLPA as Secretary/Treasurer.

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**FOR IPS REPRESENTATIVE**

**David Weinrich,** MSU Moorhead Planetarium, Minnesota State University – Moorhead, 1104 7th Ave. S, Moorhead, MN 56563

**Member of GLPA:** 20 years

**Educational Experience:**
• received his B.A. from Luther College in physics
• received a secondary science license in the state of Iowa
• has taken courses in astronomy at MSU Moorhead, West Chester University, and the professional planetarium production workshop in Bradenton, Florida
• attended the Project Spica and Research Techniques for Small Observatories workshops at Harvard University
• taught astronomy classes at MSU Moorhead for ten years
• has served as an astronomy instructor for Eisenhower workshops in both Minnesota and North Dakota
• attended the 2001 Sri Lankan Skies conference

Dave has a special interest in astronomy education in the developing world, having served in the Peace Corps, and spending a six-month sabbatical in Sri Lanka, in 2003, doing astronomical outreach.

**Current and Past Service to GLPA:**
• member of GLPA for the past 20 years
• has attended most of the conferences since 2000
• presented a paper at the 2004 GLPA conference

**Member of the Following Organizations:**
• International Planetarium Society (IPS)
• Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota Planetarium Society (WIMPS)
• Fargo Moorhead Astronomy Club
• Astronomical League

**Honors and Achievements:**
• awarded the GLPA Fellow in 2002

**Candidate Statement:**
After being a member of GLPA and IPS for many years, I would like to be more involved and give something back. I have enjoyed interacting with the international members of our profession over the past four years and would be honored to serve as your representative to IPS. I believe that it’s important for the members of GLPA to have input into IPS and that we also need to be informed about what IPS has to offer us.
We didn't invent the planetarium, we just made it...

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C. more capable  
D. more versatile  
E. more affordable  
F. all of the above

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stanaka@ph.konicaminolta.us

For all other inquiries contact:
Konica Minolta Planetarium Co., Ltd.
2-3-10 Nishihonmachi, Nishi-ku
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NEWS HEADLINES

• United States President Lyndon Johnson proclaims his “Great Society” during his State of the Union address.

• The first United States combat troops are sent to South Vietnam.

• Malcolm X is assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City by Black Muslims.

• Watts Riots begin in Los Angeles, California.

• In St. Louis, Missouri, the 630-foot-tall parabolic steel Gateway Arch is completed.

• Several states in the U.S. Northeast, as well as parts of Canada, are hit by a series of blackouts lasting up to 13 1/2 hours.

• A new red and white maple leaf design is adopted as the flag of Canada replacing the old Canadian Red Ensign.

• Civil rights activists led by Martin Luther King, Jr. begin their march from Selma, Alabama to the capitol in Montgomery.

• Fifty-one tornadoes hit in six Midwestern states on Palm Sunday, killing 256.

• Ferdinand Marcos becomes President of the Philippines.

• Sony introduces the first Betamax “videocorder.”

• Allen Ginsberg coins the term “flower power” to describe his non-violent strategy of political action

• Ralph Nader publishes “Unsafe at any Speed,” which claimed that the safety of many American automobiles, especially those of GM, was fundamentally flawed.

• Disney launches Epcot Center.

• In fashion, the mini-skirt first appears in London.

SPACE NEWS

• Ranger 8 crashes into the Moon after a successful mission that photographed possible landing sites for the Apollo program.

• Cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov, leaving his spacecraft Voskhod 2 for 12 minutes, becomes the first person to walk in space.

• NASA launches Gemini III with the United States’ first two-person crew into earth orbit (Gus Grissom and John Young).

• US astronaut Edward White makes the first US space walk during Gemini IV.

• US spacecraft Mariner 4 flies by Mars, becoming the first spacecraft to return images from the Red Planet.

• Gemini VI-A (Wally Schirra and Thomas Stafford) and Gemini VII (Frank Borman and James Lovell) perform the first controlled rendezvous in Earth orbit.

• Sun-grazing Comet Ikeya-Seki became visible in broad daylight while displaying a tail that was 60° long at its maximum.

TELEVISION SHOWS

TV Events:

• Live TV pictures from the US unmanned moon probe Ranger 9 transmitted prior to impact.

• A Charlie Brown Christmas airs on CBS for the first time.

Top rated show: Bonanza

TV debuts:

• Green Acres
• Hogan's Heroes
• I Dream of Jeannie
• Lost in Space
• Days of Our Lives
**1965 FLASHBACK (continued)**

**MUSIC**
- Downtown
- Hang on Sloopy
- Satisfaction
- Help Me, Rhonda
- You’ve Lost that Lovin’ Feelin’
- I Got You Babe
- Turn! Turn! Turn!
- Eight Days a Week
- Help!
- Yesterday

Petula Clark
The McCoys
The Rolling Stones
Beach Boys
The Righteous Brothers
Sonny & Cher
The Byrds
The Beatles
The Beatles

**FILMS**
- The Sound of Music
- Help!
- Doctor Zhivago
- The Greatest Story Ever Told
- What’s New Pussycat
- The Great Race

**Academy Awards:**
- Best Picture: *The Sound of Music*
- Best Actor: Lee Marvin – *Cat Ballou*
- Best Actress: Julie Christie – *Darling*

**SPORTS**
- **Baseball:** Los Angeles Dodgers win 4 games to 3 over the Minnesota Twins. The Series MVP was Sandy Koufax
- **NFL Champions:** Green Bay Packers
- **AFL Champions:** Buffalo Bills
- **NCAA Basketball Champions:** UCLA wins 91-80 over Michigan
- **NBA:** Boston Celtics win 4 games to 1 over the Los Angeles Lakers
- **Kentucky Derby:** Lucky Debonair
- **U.S. Open Golf:** Gary Player
- **Indianapolis 500:** Jim Clark at 150.7 mph
- **Heisman Trophy:** Mike Garrett (USC)

**NOTABLE BIRTHS AND DEATHS**

**Births:**
- Charlie Sheen, actor
- Will Smith, actor
- Robert Downey, Jr., actor
- Sarah Jessica Parker, actor
- Brooke Shields, actor
- Sandra Bullock, actor
- J. K. Rowling, author of Harry Potter
- Shania Twain, singer/songwriter

**Deaths:**
- T. S. Eliot, American poet
- Winston Churchill, British politician
- Stan Laurel, British actor
- Albert Schweitzer, German physician

**FINANCIAL FACTS**

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**References:**
- [Wikipedia, the Free Online Encyclopedia](https://en.wikipedia.org)
- *Remember When . . . 1965*
  Seek Publishing; Millersville, TN
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GENERAL CONFERENCE:
2005
October 19-22
Grand Rapids, Michigan

2006
October 25-28
Merrillville, Indiana

GLPA Home Page: http://www.glpaweb.org/

Printed and mailed from:

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Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403
It’s autumn. Yes, the Earth has once again, despite our best efforts to STOP annual motion, made its way over to the equinox point in its orbit. I hope those of you who had the summer off are making your way through your stack of papers and e-mail messages. It will soon be conference time. I do hope that most of you will make the effort to attend this very special meeting in Grand Rapids. In June, you should have received the registration materials for the 41st conference. This conference will mark the occasion when GLPA celebrates its 40 years of existence as an organization at the very location of GLPA’s first meeting. In attendance at this special conference will be some of our founding members.

If any of you know planetarians or astronomers in your area that are not currently GLPA members, please let me know. I would like to send out a personal appeal to these individuals so that they might consider joining the best, largest and oldest planetarium organization in the nation.

You should have read by now the statements from our candidates for office. [Ed. You’ll find those on page 22 of the summer GLPA Newsletter]. Please take the time to read them over and be ready to vote at the October conference. If you are not able to attend the October meeting, you may vote by absentee ballot. Please contact GLPA membership chair Chris Janssen at cmjanssen@yahoo.com about requesting a chad-free ballot.

I have sad news to report – the passing of Dr. Jeanne Bishop’s father, Prof. Richard H. Emmons. [Ed. His obituary appears on page 11]. He spoke to us as the Armand Spitz Lecturer at the GLPA meeting held in Cleveland in 1997. Our sympathy goes to Jeanne and her family. A memorial contribution from GLPA was made to the Aultman Hospice Program and the UNICEF Columbus Chapter in Professor Emmons’ honor.

I do look forward to seeing you at the 40th Anniversary Celebration of GLPA in Grand Rapids, Michigan!

Happy Autumnal Equinox!

If you’re like me, during the latter half of the summer you’ve probably been gearing up – in one way or the other – for the start of a new school year, while explaining to a surprisingly large segment of inquiring patrons that Mars won’t get as big as the full moon in August!

This year’s GLPA conference in Grand Rapids promises to be “extra special,” in part because 2005 is the 40th anniversary of GLPA’s first meeting, which was also held in Grand Rapids. I hope to see you there.

From the 1965 “nostalgia file,” Dave DeBruyn provided me with a copy of the original 1965 GLPA Convention Program, which I have reproduced for your enjoyment on pages 17 and 18 of this newsletter.

Please note that the deadline for the winter issue of the GLPA Newsletter is November 1, 2005. Please submit your facility report to your State Chairperson by late-October. Better yet, bring whatever news you have to your state meeting at the conference. I hope I see you in Grand Rapids!
Stars That Need Not Shun The Light. Thanks To Zeiss Fiber Optics

The stars, those apparent lords of the night sky, are terribly afraid of light. For millions of years, since the first seeing creatures populated the Earth, only the Sun was able to dim down its distant brothers into nothingness. Today, this is easily accomplished by street lamps, neon signs and car headlights.

In the planetarium, things are hardly different. For decades, stars used to be the protagonists of the show, and not even the Sun was allowed to outshine them. Today, shows are dominated by fireworks of slides, videos panoramas and all-sky projections: a profusion of light, which leaves only the gleaming dots that symbolize the boundlessness of the universe no chance to assert themselves. Are planetarium stars doomed to final extinction?

Thanks to Zeiss, they are not. Thanks to a new fiber optic system that makes artificial stars shine more brightly and brilliantly than ever before. No doubt, slides, video, and panorama projections will hardly extinguish them. And although they are much smaller in size than their forerunners, they are seen as mere points, twinkling as do the real stars. See the world’s newest newborn stars in the sky of a Zeiss planetarium.

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Mary Schindewolf of the WVHS Planetarium in Aurora was married on July 30th to Jun Masui of Aurora, Illinois. The happy couple very much enjoyed the clear, dark skies of their honeymoon in Wisconsin! Her new name is Mary Masui and her e-mail address has changed to mary_masui@ipsd.org.

The Cernan Earth and Space Center of Triton College will present Deep Impact during most of autumn months and their annual holiday program Celebrations of Winter beginning in mid-November. Strasenburgh Planetarium’s Magic Sky and the Cernan Center’s own production of Zip! Zoom! Whiz! will be presented as their children’s shows this fall. Also during this period, Fright Light, Winter Wonderlight, and a pair of mini laser shows will be presented as the Cernan Center’s new “laser concert” offering. To celebrate the return of the Red Planet, MarsWatch telescope observing sessions will be conducted on weekends in late-October and early November.

Indiana had no news to report.

To be included in the winter issue’s State News column, please forward news from your facility to your state chair in the latter half of October (or at the conference).

If you have a digital picture of a newsworthy event held at your planetarium, please e-mail it to Bart Benjamin for possible inclusion in the IPS Planetarian’s “International News” column.
The beginning of the 2005-06 school year heralds the start of a very busy season for Michigan planetarians.

The Cranbrook Institute of Science Planetarium in Bloomfield Hills debuted a new astronomy school program entitled Season Changes & Moon Phases in September. Cranbrook astronomers will be hosting special Mars viewing events every Friday in October and November. On special display will be a newly purchased, “portable” 8-inch refractor telescope. At the end of October, Cranbrook will also be hosting a special “Halloween Science” event. Beginning in November, Cranbrook will be opening LFI’s Holiday Lasers.

After Labor Day, Abrams Planetarium in East Lansing will be presenting Journey to the Edge of Space and Time as their feature show and Planet Patrol as their family show.

Because it will host the GLPA Conference, the Chaffee Planetarium in Grand Rapids will be closed during the second half of October. Until then, they will be featuring Europa, Life Finds a Way produced by Highlight Design, a local A-V production company founded by two Chaffee staff members, Matt Fox and Chad Kremer. This production will also be available for viewing by delegates just before and after the conference. The planetarium will also continue its Saturday and Sunday afternoon star talks Under Starlit Skies and twice-monthly visitor nights at the James C. Veen Observatory, located fifteen miles from downtown Grand Rapids. Shortly after the conference, the planetarium will offer a limited engagement of the original and very famous 1938 radio broadcast of Orson Welles’ adaptation of “War of the World,” accompanied by appropriate special effects, images, and atmospherics in the planetarium. Keeping with the science fiction theme, the planetarium will simultaneously begin an encore presentation of the show Star Trek – Orion Rendezvous before embarking on its annual holiday programming.

The Ensign Planetarium in Dearborn Heights just finished two weeks of Astronomy Camp, which served a dozen participants. The first week was devoted to the Sun, and the second week covered the stars, galaxies and universe for the older kids. It was a great mix of glitter, glue, paint and CDs as everyone made models of Saturn and active galaxies, masks of the Sun and Medusa, and gritty comets! The staff is now preparing for the year ahead with a new list of shows and one big project – a Human Sundial with funding from a PLATO grant. Director Carrie Zaitz is also writing a weekly night sky column in the local paper, and will be getting to know a host of new administrators and educators that are starting this year.

Beginning in September, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum planetarium will run the program Sky Legends of the Three Fires, a locally produced show featuring stories about the origin of stars, the Milky Way and the Big Dipper. For stargazers, the planetarium is showing A.S.I. Baseline, another locally produced show styled after the television C.S.I. programs. A team of investigators leads stargazers through the autumn sky while reviewing evidence from the cosmic distance ladder in an attempt to identify and find out how a distant star was blown away. The planetarium is also running the Hansen Planetarium show The Universe of Dr. Einstein, which will be replaced with the Loch Ness program Season of Light in late-November.

At the Dassault Systèmes Planetarium in Detroit, work continues on their feature show for the fall titled Journey to the Edge of Space and Time. Planetarium Manager Jenny Pon is leading its production, and is working in collaboration with the Abrams Planetarium. An update to the Solar System Adventure school show is also in the works. Plans are also proceeding towards the opening of the “Space Laboratory,” a new exhibit located near the planetarium that will feature astronomy and space exploration activities. Director of Science Programs and Theaters Todd Slisher participated in a week-long science education reform conference in Washington, D.C. A "Space Blast" Educator’s Workshop, which was hosted by Education Coordinator John Schroer, featured Todd Barber from NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Ardis Maciokle, Planetarium Director of the Grosse Pointe North High School Planetarium and past president of the Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association; and Michael Foerster, a JPL Solar System Ambassador. Planetarium Technician John Potts was busy as Supervisory Engineer, Range Safety Officer and Mission Controller for a series of rocket launches involving participants in the Detroit Science Center’s Summer Science Camps throughout the summer.

The Delta College Planetarium in Bay City will shut down during the month of September for annual equipment maintenance. The Planetarium will reopen in October with an updated version of Mars: Return to the Red Planet for the public. An 11-minute mini-show produced in-house titled Celebrating Bay City, which describes Bay City’s rich history, runs prior to the main feature. The Digistar adventure H2J runs after the feature show. Also premiering for special group showings will be Kalamazoo’s Abuelo’s Stories of the Seasons. AVI’s Fright Light laser show will run in late-October. Public Mars observing from the planetarium’s observation deck will be offered in late-October. November will see The Sky above Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood as their family public show. Saturday Girl Scout Workshops and their annual “Scope and Sky” telescope workshop are also planned. The holiday season will have something for everyone, including ‘Tis the Season, The Christmas Star, Jack Frost and the Skies of Winter, Steamrolling through the Holidays, and AVI’s Laser Holidays laser show.
Congratulations to Dan Zielinski, who is the new director at the North Penn High School Planetarium in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Located north of Philadelphia, the planetarium was recently renovated and features a Spitz 1024 star projector and video projection tied in with the automation system. Dan directed the Coshocton Schools Planetarium for three years before moving to Lansdale this summer. He can still be reached by email at rent13579@hotmail.com.

Dr. Andrew Kerr reports that the University of Findlay’s Newhard Planetarium has installed a new Digitalis Digitarium Alpha Star Projector and that the zoom-in capability seems to be a big hit with the kids who have seen the first shows with the new projector.

The Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums gathered for its May meeting at the Mentor Schools Planetarium. Friends and colleagues feted retiring director Rod Thompson with a gift in appreciation of his years of work together in C.R.A.P. and GLPA. Among Rod’s protégés is Dan Zielinski (BGSU ‘02), who did his student teaching under Rod. Fran (Euclid Schools Planetarium) and John Ratka hosted the annual C.R.A.P. picnic at their home in June.

Finally, as mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, there is sad news from Ohio. Prof. Richard Emmons passed away in Canton in late June at age 86, and will be missed by all who knew him. Dick pioneered the development of planetariums in Ohio in the 1950s and constructed over twenty small planetariums throughout the country. He was a 60-year member of the American Astronomical Society and was Spitz Lecturer at the 1997 GLPA conference in Cleveland. Asteroid “5391 Emmons” carries his name around the Sun. Appropriately, Dick was born on May 29, 1919, the date of the total solar eclipse that verified the bending of starlight predicted by Einstein’s theory of general relativity.

Prof. Emmons was also the father of veteran planetarian Dr. Jeanne Bishop of the Westlake Schools Planetarium. His obituary appears on page 11 of this newsletter.

Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota planetarians proudly proclaim themselves to be WIMPS (Wisconsin Iowa Minnesota Planetarium Society), and this report features news from all three states.

In central Wisconsin, Karen Klamiczynski reports that the Barlow Planetarium in Menasha once again conducted their Wisconsin Space Academy summer camp. They opened four new summer planetarium shows. A new children’s show entitled To Pluto and Beyond is bound to be popular, given the recent discoveries in the outer solar system. (Karen, did you know something that the rest of us didn’t?) Two of the new shows were 3-D entertainment shows; one with a “family” theme and the other a “rock” theme. The Barlow has received a $20,000 grant to cover part of the purchase price of the laser system that they are currently renting. Laser shows should resume this fall.

Nearby in Stevens Point, Randy Olson and his crew of students at the Allen F. Blocher Planetarium will be presenting Loch Ness’s Hubble Vision in the fall and two programs in December – Winter Wonderland from the Minneapolis Planetarium and Loch Ness’s ‘Tis the Season. Hopefully, they will have plenty of “the white stuff” to put them in the mood.

At the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse, Bob Allen reports that they plan to show Fleet Space Theater’s To Worlds Beyond in October, and if audiences want to go even further, they can come back and see Mueller Planetarium’s Point of No Return in November.

In Minnesota, Dave Weinrich at Minnesota State University Moorhead takes visitors this fall to the edge of the universe in Hansen Planetarium’s Galaxies. During December, the popular Strasenburgh’s Star of Christmas returns.

(continued on page 9)
DAVE LEAKE HONORED AS OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER

David C. Leake of Parkland College (in Champaign, Illinois) is the 2005 recipient of the ICCTA (Illinois Community College Trustees Association) Outstanding Faculty Member Award. This award honors Illinois’ community college instructors and their invaluable contributions to their students and institutions. David was the lone recipient from 29 applicants. Each Faculty Award nominee was asked to write a brief summary of his or her “philosophy of education.” Dave’s submission was as follows:

“First and foremost, we must understand that ‘science’ is not a thing, but a process. It’s a way of knowing the world, but not the only way. You don’t memorize it, recite it, or crunch numbers endlessly to understand it. You have to work with it and see it in action! . . . . The bottom line is that students will learn if they see where the class fits into the big picture and it is fun! I have many non-science majors who often take an astronomy class because they may not like their alternatives. I see this as an opportunity to ‘hook them’ on science. We’re all scientists . . . . it just sometimes takes a while to realize that fact!”

[Ed. Congratulations, Dave! The information for this story was largely an excerpt from the ICCTA website. Since Dave was reluctant to “make too much of this,” I was more than happy to make GLPA members aware that “one of our own” received this prestigious honor.]

NASA ANNOUNCES $1.2 MILLION IN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

submitted by Chuck Bueter
bueter@rad-inc.com

NASA recently announced $1.2 million in imminent funding opportunities based on the outcomes of ten NASA Explorer Institute Focus Groups, including “Planetariums as Conduits to NASA’s Target Audience,” which is a collaboration between GLPA and NASA Glenn Research Center that was first reported on page 12 of the spring GLPA Newsletter.

In early 2005, planetarians and NASA educators from around the country generated strategies on how NASA and the planetarium community can help each other achieve their respective goals to increase understanding of and interest in earth science, space science, and technology. For more information, please visit www.transitofvenus.org/focus.htm.

SKYTELLERS PROGRAM

submitted by Chuck Bueter
bueter@rad-inc.com

Designed for portable and fixed dome planetariums, the SkyTellers program unites Native American stories with science explanations, allowing children (and adults) to enter the exciting realm of science through imagination and curiosity. Ten story couplets on DVD, accompanied by a resource guide, connect literature and science through topics such as moon phases, galaxies, meteors, and our solar system.

For information on how your planetarium or science center may obtain a FREE copy of the SkyTellers program, please see the ad on page 15 of this newsletter, or visit their website at www.lpi.usra.edu/education/skytellers/
GLPA SHOW KITS  
submitted by David Leake  
dleake@parkland.edu

GLPA occasionally produces a planetarium program and makes it available to members on a cost recovery basis. These programs remain available to members until supplies run out. These shows are:

- **Solar System Adventure Tour**: a participatory program aimed at students in grades 3-5.
- **Zubenelgenubi's Magic Sky**: a participatory program aimed at students in grades K-1.
- **The Stargazer**: learn about the lives of stars and astronomers in this excellent program for middle school to adult.
- **Transit of Venus**: a collection of resources related to the June 8, 2004 transit. This program will also be an excellent resource beyond this specific event.

For more information, please visit [http://www.glpaweb.org/resources.htm](http://www.glpaweb.org/resources.htm), scroll down to “Show Kits,” and print out the GLPA Show Order Form.

Dave also reports that the GLPA slide bank digitization is proceeding very well, and he hopes to replace GLPA’s former “two large crates of slides” selection process with a laptop computer-based system by the fall conference.

ATTENTION: HONORARY MEMBERS

With help from GLPA’s distinguished Honorary Life Members, I’d like to start a series of short articles that would profile those GLPA members who have received this prestigious award.

If you are an Honorary Life Member recipient, please send me a short message describing what you’re doing in retirement and any other news you’d like to report to the GLPA members at large. These messages will appear in subsequent issues of the *GLPA Newsletter*. Submissions should be sent to Bart Benjamin at bbenjami@triton.edu.

ARCHAEOASTRONOMY EVENTS  
submitted by Dale Smith and Joann Ballbach

Have you ever heard about the Octagon Earthworks in Newark, Ohio, which was one of the 70 wonders of the ancient world? It was built nearly 2,000-years-ago and included two giant circles, one square, one octagonal, and one oval earthwork. The entire earthwork complex covered nearly five square miles. It was part cathedral, part cemetery, and part astronomical observatory.

The Ohio Historical Society is holding a special day around this year’s moonrise alignment on October 22 at the Octagon and other locations in that part of Ohio. As you may already know, this is the year of “maximum north,” so this chance won’t return for 18.6 years. Their news release is at [http://www.octagonmoonrise.org/altIND.html](http://www.octagonmoonrise.org/altIND.html).

They are also hosting a Public Symposium on the Ohio earthworks, including a session on Hopewell Astronomy, Geometry, and Cosmology. This will take place on November 19 at OSU Newark. More information on this event is at [http://www.octagonmoonrise.org/OACagenda.html](http://www.octagonmoonrise.org/OACagenda.html).

STATE NEWS (continued from page 7)

And to conclude this season’s news, we have a report from the “I” of WIMPS. Kristian Anderson writes from Des Moines that the new Science Center of Iowa and its “Star Theater” opened in May. The “Star Theater” has a unique “seat-less” environment and employs an Evans and Sutherland Digistar 3 in a 50-foot Spitz dome. Usually, they have four live or canned shows a day. The rest of the time, the facility operates as a “Cosmic Jukebox” where visitors use two computer stations to design their own planetarium shows from a play list of about twenty short video clips. Later they can view their personal planetarium show in the “Star Theater.” All planetarians are invited to visit this new facility. A brief article about this new facility appears on page 13 of this newsletter.
GLPA CONFERENCE UPDATE
submitted by Dave DeBruyn

As you read this, the gala 40th anniversary conference of the Great Lakes Planetarium Association in Grand Rapids is looming. Have you sent in your registration? If not, you’ll need to include a $25 late fee. Have you reserved accommodations at Days Inn? The block of rooms was being held only until September 14th, so if you have not reserved, pick up the phone and call (616) 235-7611 now. If you are presenting a paper, your form requesting to do so, as well as an abstract for inclusion in the conference program, should be in the hands of our conference hosts at the Public Museum of Grand Rapids.

If you need another copy of the Delegate Information and Conference Program brochure, or help with accommodations, you can request it from Breanna Stayskal, (616) 456-3559, e-mail: bstayska@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us. Also let Breanna know if you have registered but have not yet received a “Conference Receipt,” either through electronic or conventional mail. Do you know anybody who might still like to attend but has not received or has lost the conference package mailed early in June? Get their name and address to Breanna at once, and she will promptly mail them one. We do not want anyone to miss out on this important “milestone gathering” of the oldest and best of the regional planetarium groups.

There are some additional deadlines looming that you should be aware of. October 7th is the “Late Registration Deadline.” Any registrations submitted after that date should be faxed (not mailed) to: GLPA 2005 Conference, (616) 456-3873 (fax), and will be considered “onsite registrations” subject to an additional $25 fee. Persons registering after October 7th may jeopardize being able to purchase meal packages. Those who absolutely must register upon arrival will be permitted to do so until 10 a.m. Friday morning, October 21st, but definitely will not be able to purchase the meal package. October 13th is the last day for cancellation with a full refund of registration payment. If you are submitting a paper/poster, make sure an electronic copy is on its way to Dale Smith dsmith@newton.bgsu.edu by October 14th or your presentation may be subject to cancellation.

As of the autumnal equinox GLPA Newsletter deadline of early August, there are no major changes in the agenda printed in the Delegate Information and Conference Program brochure. As registrations come in, the conference planning folks in Grand Rapids are compiling an e-mail distribution list. Be sure to check your “in box” before you leave for Grand Rapids, just in case there is something they have sent that you should be aware of. Road construction is everywhere in Michigan these days, and could effect recommended routes and other considerations. Any changes in agenda or advisories will also be posted on the GLPA website at www.glpaweb.org.

Your planetarian friends and colleagues will be waiting with open arms in Grand Rapids from October 19-22, looking forward to sharing with you the excitement of what will hopefully be the best GLPA conference ever.
Richard H. ("Dick") Emmons
1919 – 2005

Richard H. ("Dick") Emmons, 86, of North Canton, Ohio passed away at his home on Wednesday, June 29th, following several months of illness with cancer.

He was born in Canton on May 29, 1919. Since Dick was well known as “Mr. Astronomy” in the Canton area, it is significant that he was born on the same day as the solar eclipse that tested Einstein’s Theory of Relativity.

He was the son of a lawyer, H. H. Emmons, and Pauline Temple Emmons. He graduated from McKinley High School in 1936 and later earned his B.A. at the University of Southern California and his M.A. at Kent State University. He taught at Kent State University, where he became a Professor before his retirement. For many years, he was an engineer with Goodyear Aerospace in Akron, using a mobile observatory at Mount Palomar for satellite tracking. In years prior to the opening of the Hoover-Planetarium at the McKinley Museum, which he helped to establish, he ran the North Canton Planetarium at his residence. Tens of thousands of area school children attended programs. With his son, Tom (TSA Services) he built 23 small planetariums, now in operation in schools and museums throughout the country. He founded and directed the volunteer Akron-Canton satellite Moonwatch Project during the first International Geophysical Year in 1957, as well as during the early years of the U.S. space program. Dick’s astronomical work has been featured in many Repository articles.

He was a full member of the American Astronomical Society for 60 years and, in recent years, was a member of the area Wilderness Center Astronomy Club. In 2000, an asteroid was officially named “Emmons 5391” in honor of his astronomical accomplishments. One contribution resulted from his observations of the satellite Echo I – namely, that the near-space environment possesses fewer hazards than previously expected. This finding helped pave the way for manned space exploration. He observed his asteroid with telescopes at the Wilderness Center in Wilmot.

Dick is survived by a sister, two children (one of which is GLPA’s Jeanne Bishop), three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to the Aultman Hospice Program, 2821 Woodlawn NW, Canton, OH 44708 or UNICEF Columbus Chapter, 682 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215.
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The new Science Center of Iowa opened to the public on May 14th in Des Moines. With six exhibit platforms, an IMAX dome theater, science theater, and planetarium, the new facility expanded from 30,000 square feet at its original location (which opened in 1970) to 110,000 square feet at its new location in the downtown area.

The concept for the planetarium, or “star theater” was actually created on a napkin at a local restaurant! With an IMAX dome in the same facility, facility planners knew that they needed to be distinct, and while they wanted to continue the standard live star talks and prerecorded shows, the staff felt challenged to try something new. Since Des Moines is not well known as a tourist destination, they realized that much of their business would depend on repeat visitation and that they needed to create a “sense of ownership” for the Star Theater’s visitors. They asked themselves, “what’s one of the most fun things about working in a planetarium?” The answer they arrived at was producing new programs. So the question then was, “could visitors in some way produce their own shows to view on the dome?” The answer to that question was a resounding “yes!”

Here’s how it works. Near the entrance to the Star Theater, there are two touch screen computer stations with about twenty short video clips. The visitor can preview these clips and then add them to a playlist. After assembling six of these clips, they preview the playlist on a 40-inch LCD screen. When finished, the computer asks if they want to see their program on the dome, and if they answer yes, they are given a number. The visitor walks into the theater and tells a volunteer the number, who then enters it on a wireless touchpad. The visitor then watches their program in full-dome video with music and narration. Shows are usually five to seven minutes long. The doors to the theater are left open with low level floor lighting during these shows to give visitors the opportunity to wander in and out at their leisure. The response has been overwhelming. The planetarium generally has four live or canned shows during the day, and at all other times, the theater is open for the “Cosmic Jukebox.” Sometimes a visitor will create a show and then come back several hours later with their family to “show off” their creation.

The Star Theater at the Science Center of Iowa has a 50-foot Spitz premium seam dome, ECCS Advanced LED lighting control, and an LFI International sound system. The projection system is Evans and Sutherland’s Digistar 3 and Jeff Kennedy Associates, and SCI’s own Steve Cooper developed the “Cosmic Jukebox” software. The layout of the theater is also unique. Seating consists of a flat floor with three tiers near the back. Visitors are provided with bean bags and pillows as well as a few moveable chairs for those not willing to sit on the floor. This open floor format makes the room much more flexible for special events such as “dinner under the stars” and classroom activities. However, the staff was a bit concerned when the first group of children started playing tag in the theater!

We’d like to invite all planetarians to visit our new facility. The staff also wants to say a heartfelt “thanks” to those planetarians and vendors who answered their many questions during the past few years. Without their insight, the success of this project would not have been possible. For more information about the new Science Center of Iowa, please visit their website at www.sciowa.org.
JOIN I.P.S.

The International Planetarium Society (IPS) is the largest organization of professional planetarians in the world. It is comprised of members from all over the globe. GLPA is an affiliate of this prestigious organization. If you are not a member of IPS, you should consider becoming a member! Why? Because IPS serves its members with . . .

♦ its full-color quarterly journal, *Planetarian*, filled with a wide range of articles
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♦ access to the IPS News listserv
♦ networking on all scales, from local to global

See more on the IPS web site:  [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

IPS dues are only $50 a year, or two years for $90. Other levels of membership are also available at Institutional and Corporate levels. For more information or to join IPS, please contact:

Shawn Laatsch, IPS Treasurer, P.O. Box 1812, Greenville NC 27835 USA
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For information on how your planetarium or science center may obtain a FREE copy of the SkyTellers program, contact Becky Nelson, Department of Education and Public Outreach, Lunar and Planetary Institute, 3600 Bay Area Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77058 / bnelson@lpi.usra.edu / 281-486-2166.

SkyTellers, funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation, is available for distribution in the U.S. only. Free copies are available on a limited basis, after which a nominal fee for production and shipping will be charged.

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/skytellers/
The Great Lakes Planetarium Association acknowledges the following companies and organizations for their generous support in Fiscal Year 2004-05:

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"Space Age Concepts in Planetarium Programming," Mr. Robert Thompson, Sohio Research Laboratories, Cleveland, Ohio.

"Use of Point Source and Wide Angle Technique, Mr. Alton Yarian, Lakewood High School Planetarium, Lakewood, Ohio.

3:00 - Break for Group Photograph.

3:30 - Summary and Discussion, directed by Mr. Von Del Chamberlain.

4:00 - Adjournment

For the convenience of delegates, registration tables will be set up in the Planetarium lobby Thursday evening, October 7th, from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M., and outside the Continental Room at the Pantlind Hotel from 12:30 to 2 P.M. on Friday, October 8th. This will be in addition to the regular registration period as announced in the Program.

Delegates wishing a copy of the group photograph should indicate this upon registration. Prints will be mailed postpaid at $1.00 a piece.

Delegates submitting papers are invited to bring duplicated copies for distribution to fellow delegates.

OUR FEATURED SPEAKER

A highlight of the 1965 convention of the Great Lakes Planetarium Association will be the banquet lecture by Dr. Ralph B. Baldwin. Dr. Baldwin is one of this country's outstanding authorities on the moon, and a chief supporter of the meteoric impact theory for the formation of lunar craters.

Dr. Baldwin is the author of three books on the moon. His first publication, The Face of the Moon, (1949) was acclaimed as a pioneering work in exposition of modern ideas about the nature of the moon and the history of the earth-moon system. The Measure of the Moon followed in 1963, and Dr. Baldwin's third book, The Moon, is soon to be published.

Dr. Baldwin is currently engaged in business as vice-president of Oliver Machinery Co. in Grand Rapids. He has taught at the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, and Northwestern University.

Dr. Baldwin's past experience as a lecturer at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, and his influence in the development of the Grand Rapids Planetarium as a member of the Board of Directors of the Public Museum, make him no stranger to the planetarium field. The appearance of Dr. Baldwin before our convention should be a fortunate and memorable experience for us all.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7th

"Preliminary Activities"

8 P.M. - Planetarium Lecture,
"The Skies Down Under," Mr. James Marron, Lecturer.

8 P.M. - Special Meeting for members of steering committee,
Mr. Chamberlain's suite, Pantlind Hotel.

Friday, October 8th

MORNING SESSION, PLANETARIUM

9:00 - Registration and Social Hour in lobby. Registration fee, $2.00 per person.

10:00 - Special Planetarium program for delegates, featuring school class audience; Mr. David L. DeBruyn, Lecturer.

11:00 - Inspection of Goto Planetarium, auxiliary instruments, and Museum exhibits.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Continental Room, Pantlind Hotel

1:00 - Organizational Business Session; Von Del Chamberlain, Chairman.

3:00 - Session for papers; Chairman, Mr. Dennis W. Sunal, John Glenn High School Planetarium, Wayne, Michigan.

TITLES

"As the World Burns," Mrs. Maxine Haarstick, Science Museum and Planetarium, Minneapolis.


"A Planetarium on a University Campus," Mr. Von Del Chamberlain, Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

"New E.S.C.P. Astronomy Investigations," Mr. Paul Kirby, Mentor Public Schools Planetarium, Mentor, Ohio.

"Auxiliary Circuits, or Where Do I Plug This One In?" Mr. Ralph Ewers, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History Planetarium, Cincinnati, Ohio.

EVENING SESSION - Continental Room, Pantlind Hotel

7:00 P.M. - Banquet; $3.75 per person; tickets available at time of registration. Speaker, Dr. Ralph B. Baldwin; Topic, "The Moon and its History."

Saturday, October 9th

MORNING SESSION - Planetarium

9:30 A.M. - Symposium, "The Teaching and Illustration of Retrograde Motion," Chairman, Mr. Ralph O. Evers, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History Planetarium.

AFTERNOON SESSION - Continental Room, Pantlind Hotel

1:00 - Session for papers; Chairman, Mr. David L. DeBruyn, Grand Rapids Planetarium.

TITLES


"Planetarium Classroom Design and Development," Mr. Jack Speehr, Spitz Laboratories, Yorklyn, Delaware.

"Correlation Between the Classroom and Planetarium Visit," Mr. Von Del Chamberlain.


"A New Look at Mariner IV Data," Mr. James Marron, Grand Rapids Planetarium.
THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums regardless of geographic location. G.L.P.A. is an affiliate of the International Planetarium Society and the National Science Teachers Association. Membership dues are $20 annually, payable at the time of the Autumnal Equinox. General correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary/Treasurer, and requests for membership should be addressed to the Membership Chair (see below). The quarterly GLPA Newsletter is received by all members in good standing. Ideas and opinions expressed in the GLPA Newsletter are not necessarily those of G.L.P.A., its membership or the editor. Deadlines for contributions fall on the 1st of February, May, August and November. Send information to GLPA Newsletter Editor (address below). Copyright 2005.

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GLPA CONFERENCES:
2005 October 19-22
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2006 October 25-28
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For a replacement copy of this newsletter, contact Dale Smith (address given above)
THE 2005 GLPA CONFERENCE . . .

All photographs were taken by Jeanne Bishop.

. . . CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF STELLAR EXCELLENCE
Here is my last message to you as President of GLPA. How quickly the two years as President have passed. As I think back over my time as conference host in 2003 and as President in 2004 and 2005, I can only say that GLPA is a wonderful organization full of many talented people committed to both to their profession and GLPA. It was nice to see so many of you at the 40th Anniversary GLPA conference.

It was a wonderful fall conference in Grand Rapids! A huge THANK YOU to Dave DeBruyn and his great number of folks who organized and hosted this special conference at the Public Museum of Grand Rapids. If you did not get to attend, you missed a great conference. Dave presented a superb Armand Spitz Lecture. Please read it in the Proceedings when you receive them. The talk was wonderfully expressed from the heart of a person that helped to start GLPA 41 years ago. It was also nice to see Von Del Chamberlain and Dennis Sulnal — our two other GLPA founding members who attended and made presentations.

Congratulations to the GLPA award winners for 2005. Joanne Young of Audio Visual Imagineering became a GLPA “Fellow.” Dave DeBruyn of the Public Museum of Grand Rapids Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium, Dr. Jim Kaler of the University of Illinois Astronomy Department, and Gary Sampson of the Gary E. Sampson Planetarium all became “Honorary Life Members” of GLPA.

Congratulations also go to the newest members of the GLPA Executive Committee who were elected at the Grand Rapids conference and will begin their terms of office in March of 2006. They are: Cheri Adams, Director of Astronomy of the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Dayton, Ohio, who will become President-Elect and David Weinrich, Planetarium Coordinator at Minnesota State University-Moorhead in Moorhead, Minnesota, who will become our IPS Representative. Re-elected to the Executive Committee was Mary Mausi, Director of Waubonsie Planetarium located at Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora, Illinois, who will continue in her role as Secretary-Treasurer of GLPA.

I would also like to say THANK YOU to our exiting members of the Executive Committee who have performed their duties to GLPA and the Executive Committee in a wonderful way. Those individuals are Chuck Bueter who is stepping down as GLPA IPS representative and Gary Sampson who is ending his term as Past President of GLPA in March of 2006.

(continued on page 19)

Three cheers to everyone in Grand Rapids who made the GLPA 40th Anniversary Conference such an enjoyable and rewarding experience! By selecting a few of Jeanne Bishop’s fine conference photographs (see pages 20 - 22), I’ve tried to capture some of this conference’s many highlights. A complete set of these photographs will be included in the Conference Proceedings CD, which will be mailed out in December.

Beginning with this issue, there are some significant changes to the GLPA Newsletter and how it is distributed to our members. Those GLPA members who expressed their preference to receive this publication as a digital download (instead of a printed and mailed publication) were not mailed a printed copy of this newsletter. Instead, they were e-mailed a message informing them that the winter issue of the GLPA Newsletter is now available from a special download page, which can be found at www.glpaweb.org/newsletter-dl.htm. Please note that this special webpage cannot be accessed through a hyperlink from the regular pages of our GLPA website. Rather, you’ll have to enter the URL manually and bookmark it for future reference. FYI: If you’d like to change the manner by which you receive the GLPA Newsletter — to either the digital version, the printed version, or both — please contact GLPA Membership Chairman Chris Janssen at cmjanssen@yahoo.com and let him know your preference.

Since a good percentage of our members will now be reading a digital version of this publication, the GLPA Newsletter is now formatted differently. Its classic two-column format has been replaced by a simpler format that requires less fuss to read on a computer. Do you like it? Hate it? Drop me a line and let me know what you think.

Please note that the deadline for the spring issue of the GLPA Newsletter is February 1, 2006. Please submit your facility reports to your state chairs by mid-January. Thank you, and have a wonderful holiday season! I’ll see you in ‘06!
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The spring Illinois state meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 8th at the Staerkel Planetarium in Champaign.

The Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum has four theater offerings during this winter season. Their StarRider Theater is hosting the first Digistar 3 show produced by the Adler, titled Time-Space, as well as Journey to Infinity. Their Sky Theater is now showing Space In Your Face.

Plans are proceeding for a new museum and planetarium in Peoria. The old Sears building in downtown Peoria has been demolished to clear the site for the new museum, and construction will begin sometime in 2007. Plans call for a 44-foot dome, but equipment details have not been determined. The museum will expand from 37,000 square feet to 112,000 square feet, and its mission will expand from arts and sciences to embrace art, history, science and nature. The Lakeview Museum Planetarium will be testing the Lawrence Hall of Science’s program, Our Nearest Star - The Sun for the public in January. In February, they will present Legends of the Night Sky – Orion from AVI plus a full schedule of rock & roll laser shows. In March, they will open From the Void, an original program about all of the “nothings” in astronomy.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign will open Adler’s Skywatchers of Africa in mid-January. The show is sponsored by the Staples Foundation, which funded the purchase of the kit, plus provided additional funds that allowed several underprivileged groups to attend. Upcoming shows include Winter Prairie Skies, Rusty Rocket’s Last Blast, and a Led Zeppelin light show. Jim Kaler returns to the dome for a special “World of Science” Lecture on February 3rd, followed by a special live performance of the Bow-dacious String Band in the dome on February 12th. The staff will also gear up for a series of Girl Scout Sky Search merit badge and Boy Scout Astronomy merit badge workshops in April and May.

The Cernan Earth and Space Center on the campus of Triton College hosted a series of MarsWatch events in late-October and early November. A 30-minute Power-
The spring Indiana state meeting will be held at the Carmel Planetarium in Carmel. The specific date will be announced by e-mail after the first of the year.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Since Indiana’s autumn news was “lost in Cyberspace,” this edition of Indiana News contains highlight of both seasonal reports.

First some late spring news due to an oversight. The Muncie Community Schools Planetarium (Peggy Motes, Director) reports that the two new “Happy 15th Birthday Hubble” images are now on display. M16 is displayed at the Muncie Community Schools Anthony Administration Building, while M51 is displayed at the Muncie Community Schools Planetarium. Mayor Dan Canan unveiled the two new images at the Minnetrista Cultural Center on April 25th. The Muncie Community Celebration of the 15th Hubble Birthday took place on April 30th. After viewing the Hubble exhibit at the Minnetrista Cultural Center, people rode the free MITS Trolley to see Through The Eyes of Hubble at the Muncie Community Schools Planetarium and Images of the Infinite at the Ball State University Planetarium. The planetarium programs were shown four times throughout the day at each location to accommodate everyone. Comcast’s Channel 99 featured the 15th Happy Birthday Hubble program on its daily schedule broadcast during the week of April 24th.

Bill Huston, Director of the Jefferson High School Planetarium in Lafayette, attended the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physic’s (KICP) “Big Bang & Beyond, 21st Century Cosmology” short course for planetarium and museum staff in September.

Amera Platt, Planetarium Director at Wayne High School in Fort Wayne, also attended the Kavli Big Bang & Beyond short course. Amera also taught an astronomy course this fall on Saturday mornings for Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne, occasionally moving the class from the campus to the Wayne Planetarium for hands-on experience.

The Koch Science Center and Planetarium in Evansville reports that Mike Smith has left his position as Assistant Director at the Koch Planetarium, after a tenure of nearly five years. Mike is now employed at the planetarium at the North Museum of Natural History and Science in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Evansville Museum is in the master planning stages for a significant new planetarium and immersive theater complex to replace Indiana’s first planetarium. Their exhibition on Light Pollution, “Our Vanishing Sky,” was recently the recipient of a “Executive Director’s Award” from the International Dark-Sky Association. Mitch Luman is currently producing a Mars show slated for presentation in their current planetarium during the summer of 2006.

Dan Goins, Director of the Martinsville High School Planetarium, attended a workshop during the summer on infrared astronomy at Indiana University. Dan says he is “getting some interesting gadgets to play with.” [Hmmm, do I detect a future paper here? —Alan] Early in August, Dan seemed to be showered with more than the usual pre-opening of school administrative tasks that normally beset department chairs.

The E.C. Schouweller Memorial Planetarium at the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne (Alan Pareis, Director) reports public shows during Fort Wayne’s annual ten day “Three Rivers Festival” were very successful, with nearly capacity crowd at each screening, and in one case an “over” capacity crowd. For the first time in the planetarium’s history, three different shows were run during the festival — an updated Explorers of the International Space Station (with the latest Return to Flight news and images), A Solar System Adventure Tour family matinee, and a new production

GLPA Newsletter Winter Solstice, 2005

Point-based mini-show preceded each public observing session, and four of the five nights were clear enough to view — a truly amazing fact for this time of year. Several hundred people observed Mars through telescopes and, because of its greater altitude, saw more detail on the Red Planet than during comparable events in 2003. The Cernan Center will bring back its two popular holiday shows – Celebrations of Winter and the Winter Wonderlight laser light show, as well as its popular children’s show Zip! Zoom! Whiz! Playing alongside each earth and sky show presentation is the Cernan Center’s own Skywatcher’s Guide, an ongoing series of monthly mini-shows about the current sky. In January, the Cernan Center will bring back Loch Ness’ More Than Meets the Eye, the C-360 film Arctic Light, Strasenburgh’s Magic Sky, and a new Legends of Rock laser light show.
of the Minnesota Planetarium’s *Aurora*. Four additional Talent aurora projectors of different types were added. The planetarium now has six aurora projectors capable of covering half the dome with various types and colors of aurora. Each can be controlled separately in brightness. Chris Highlen completed its development and engineering, and Eric Melenbrink of Ash Enterprises provided phone consultation help and located the additional projectors for the Schouweiler. Alan’s daughter Allison worked with Chris to construct a new corona aurora transparency for one of the used projectors that had no transparency. At press time, the Schouweiler team had just completed a successful run of *Planetarium Weekends* and was beginning production of *Star of Bethlehem 2005*. The *Planetarium Weekends* were held one weekend a month from September through November, consisting of Friday and Saturday evening public shows, and a Saturday family matinee. With such a schedule, 2005 became the first year in the Schouweiler’s 30+ year history that public shows were offered nine months of the year. Prior to 2005, the Schouweiler offered public shows only in July and December! Alan’s only concern now is that the part time and volunteer staff will not be able to produce new shows fast enough to meet the need. English and Spanish versions of *Larry Cat in Space* and *Zubenelgenubi’s Magic Sky* are waiting on the shelf, and *Explorers of Mauna Kea* needs to be reworked to run under the planetarium’s automation.

The *Carmel Planetarium* (Keith Turner, Director) has undergone a major renovation this summer. They replaced their old dome and resumed operations in time for the new school year! While attending the conference in Grand Rapids, the staff learned that their planetarium will receive a new Goto Chronos sometime after the first of the year.

B. J. Harper, Director of the *Northrop High School Planetarium*, combined travel and continuing education this summer. A western trip included a visit with a friend who is Director of the National Weather Service in Northeast Montana. She attended the Eli Lilly “Extending Creativity Teacher workshop” for Lilly Fellows at ISU in Terra Haute. B. J. also reports that the radio telescope at Northrop High School is still a “work in progress.”

Finally, Indiana State Chair Alan Pareis requests that Indiana GLPA members please check their school, institutional, and personal calendars for the spring of 2006. Please e-mail Alan immediately if you have scheduling concerns with regard to the spring meeting other than those discussed at Grand Rapids. Please e-mail him no later than the evening of January 3rd. By doing this, Alan hopes to avoid the scheduling confusion that has occurred in recent years.

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**The spring Michigan state meeting will be on Saturday, April 22nd at the Abrams Planetarium in East Lansing.**

EDITOR’S NOTE: By mistake, an incorrect (and very outdated) Michigan state report appeared in the printed version of the autumn *GLPA Newsletter*. Michigan planetarians were immediately notified of this mistake, and a corrected version of the digital *GLPA Newsletter* was created and made available as a downloadable PDF file. The Editor regrets this mistake and any inconvenience that it may have caused.

As the deep freeze of winter sets in, Michigan planetaria embark on a very busy holiday season.

During the weekends between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Abrams Planetarium in East Lansing will be showing *Season of Light* and *George and Oatmeal Save Santa*. After the holidays, they return with *Journey to the Edge of Space and Time* and *Planet Patrol*.

In Dearborn Heights, the staff at the Ensign Planetarium is rolling into the busy season. They’ve begun seeing all the ninth grade earth science students. By the time they’re done, these students will have visited the planetarium three times, and should know the sky like the backs of their hands. (or the backs of their eyelids…) The staff is also working on interactive MEAP reviews in the spring for earth science and chemistry students. Some of the fifth graders came to the planetarium for MEAP review, but others couldn’t get busses, so planetarium director Carrie Zaitz made “classroom calls” and reviewed motions of the earth, sun and moon using models and chalkboards!

Beginning in January, Flint’s Longway Planetarium opens *The Dinosaur Chronicles* from the Taylor Planetar-
ium in Bozeman, Montana. Girl Scout Merit Badge Workshops continue, as do their ever-popular Telescope Workshops. Family Science continues with *Roller Coaster Creations* on January 14th, *Imagine the Fossibilities* on February 11th and *So You Want to Be a Fossil* on March 18th.

Southfield’s Vollbrecht Planetarium public-private show demonstrator, Mike Best, and school demonstrator Cliff Jones, enjoyed meeting conventioneers in Grand Rapids. Their second school demonstrator, John Tremonti, and volunteer, Irene Rogoff, send their regrets, since they had to stay home to “mind the store.” The biggest news since their 1968 opening was a $50K windfall summer renovation project. It included new flooring, 70 upholstered seats, furnace/air conditioning, painted walls, cove lighting, four stereo speakers, a ton of electrical upgrades, and (after a gazillion bruised knees) a light switch inside our back door. Can you relate to crawling over seats in the dark to deactivate the alarm (on the far side of the theater) within 60 seconds? Offering the responding police officer a free show seems to have lost its luster. The Fall 2005 series of 90-minute shows on Thursday evenings will wind up December 8th. These shows have emphasized the Cassini mission, Mars, and Pluto’s new moons, which they’ve named Minnie and Mickey.

The Peter F. Hurst Planetarium in Jackson will present Loch Ness Production’s *Season of Light* in December as its public show. Planetarium Director Mark Reed will be working over his break to add Sudekum’s *Worlds in Motion* online as its winter public show and as a new offering for fifth graders. In addition, Mark will be busy modifying portions of his show library to take advantage of Spitz A4 projector automation, which was completed by East Coast Controls last summer.

This fall, Detroit’s Dassault Systemes Planetarium saw the installation of *Journey to the Edge of Space and Time* with shared Digistar programming by Planetarium Manager Jenny Pon and John French of the Abrams Planetarium. Jenny also reports that their Blown Away weather show kit has gone international with sales to the Orion Planetarium and Steno Museum Planetarium in Denmark! John Schroer gave away a plethora of door prizes at the 2005 GLPA conference (after escaping from a stage elevator), and he hosted a Space Blast-Off Educators Workshop on November 12th. The workshop featured JPL Propulsion Engineer Todd Barber, Ardis Herrold (Director of Grosse Pointe North Planetarium), Solar System Ambassador Michael Foerster, and University of Michigan Ph.D. candidate Anna DeJong. This autumn also witnessed the installation of a permanent Space Lab exhibit adjacent to the planetarium, made possible by the long hours worked by their Planetarium Technician John Potts, who overcame many technical obstacles in the installation of their newest permanent exhibit. Detroit’s dynamic duo of John Schroer and John Potts also produce “Science Update”, a weekly radio feature of the Michigan Talk Radio Network. Finally, Director of Theaters and Programs Todd Slisher was very busy training presenters and educators and handling media interviews for Clear Channel’s newest exhibit “Space – A Journey to Our Future.” This is the largest exhibit dedicated to space exploration ever to go on tour, and will remain open until the first week of May, 2006.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum will be showing the program that opened their theater 10 years ago, *Dome Improvement* (Sky-Skan for KVM). Also showing will be *Death of the Dinosaurs* (Strasenburgh Planetarium), and *Orion Nights* (in-house production), a winter stargazing show. In production for spring are the programs *With Stars In Their Eyes* (Brest Planetarium, Jacksonville, Florida) and *ASI: Cosmos* (in-house production).

The Henry Ford Community College Planetarium is running *The Road Not Taken* this fall. It is the first automated show at HFCC that makes use of volunteer operators from the Ford Amateur Astronomy Club.

Cranbrook Institute of Science Planetarium in Bloomfield Hills began offering *Holiday Lasers* the day after Thanksgiving. This show will run through December 31st. In addition, they’re gearing up for the debut of Loch Ness’ *More Than Meets The Eye* at the end of January, 2006. At the beginning of February, they will begin offering Adler’s *Skywatchers of Africa*. In addition to producing quality astronomy programming, the staff at Cranbrook is also kept busy outside of the planetarium. On January 9th and 16th, they will host a Telescope Users Workshop as well as offering the Masters of Science Education astronomy course at Lawrence Technological University. The staff is also involved in an internet radio show, *The Event Horizon*, on www.slooh.com as well as an original astronomy podcast, *Cranbrook Space Odyssey*, which can be subscribed to (free of charge) at http://science.cranbrook.edu/science/collections/astronomy.asp.

On behalf of all Michigan planetarians, have a happy holiday season!
The spring Ohio state meeting will be on Saturday, April 22nd at the Newhard Planetarium on the campus of the University of Findlay in Findlay.

Gene Zajac reports from the Shaker Heights Planetarium that his astronomy club has attended monthly meetings of the Cleveland Astronomical Society. Lakewood, Westlake, Euclid and other schools have also had students in attendance. Gene has been using Sky Tellers narration for kindergarten and fifth grade classes during elementary visits. He’s also been doing nine original school programs. Among these, the second grade Reason for the Seasons is one of his favorites, as is the fifth grade program that tried to define what a planet is. After that discussion, they go under the dome to look at the characteristics of individual planets. He also tried a Mars observation session, but most nights were clouded out. His astronomy club is selling t-shirts to raise money for their spring show on the theories of the origin of the universe and new recent discoveries. Shaker physics teacher Joe Marencik is president of the Ohio Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers and hosted their annual convention at Shaker Heights on October 14-15. John Rigden gave the Friday night public lecture and started the Saturday meeting as well. Gene Zajac gave a planetarium presentation called Discoveries. Bob Sledz, retired from Garfield Heights, was also in attendance. In what has become a perennial news item from Shaker — Kelly Jons won again at Stellafane in August. He has placed EVERY time he has entered a scope. Congratulations (again!) to Kelly on your wonderful work!

Jim Gavio reports that the Erie Planetarium showed The Sky Above Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood as its children’s general public show during the summer, along with The StarGazer as the general audience show. There was a big opening day for the Mister Rogers show as Eat’n Park Restaurants supplied free cookies for all, local PBS station WQLN provided activities for the kids, and Mr. McFeely from the show itself appeared as a special guest. The program ran five times that day for many children and families to see and enjoy. This fall Erie has been playing The Mars Show and The World At Night as their “somewhat scary” general public shows. Many Erieites were in attendance for the planetarium’s in-house production Erie Legends. This perennial favorite highlights some of the scary stories from the area that have been around for decades and is always a big hit for the locals during the cool October evenings. Erie’s entries for winter public shows will be A Star For Santa’s Tree for the children, as well as Explorers of Mauna Kea.

This time, all of our news is from Minnesota where, as of this writing, we are enjoying a beautiful fall.

The Paulucci Space Theatre in Hibbing will be running Season of Light and laser shows during the holiday season. In January, the large format film Ring of Fire, as well as Sky Tellers and The Friendly Stars are on the schedule. Some used Sony video projectors have recently been acquired and will be mounted behind the forty-foot dome. The system should be operational by spring.

In Brainerd, Brian Wallace recently opened a new planetarium with an Evans and Sutherland Digistar 3 SP2 projector. Congratulations Brian!

The Minnesota State University Moorhead Planetarium is running its annual Star of Christmas presentation. In January, the planetarium starts its yearly children’s feature. This year’s show is Loch Ness’ Larry Cat in Space.

DON’T MISS OUT . . . To be included in the spring issue’s State News column, please forward news from your facility to your state chair in the latter half of January. If you have a digital picture of a newsworthy event held at your planetarium, please e-mail it to Bart Benjamin for possible inclusion in the IPS Planetarian’s “International News” column.
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IMAGE BANK UPDATE

The Slide Bank has made the formal transition to the “GLPA Image Bank!” Presently, there are nearly 1,350 images in the bank, which should be appearing soon on the GLPA web site and on the Proceedings CD. At present, we have not included images from some of the older shows that were donated, nor any of the recent spacecraft images that are readily found on the Internet. Thumbnails of the images are categorized by subject using IView Media Pro software.

You can still order slides if you wish (at $0.50 each with a minimum order of 12) . . . or you can order digital images, free of charge. Currently, there is no maximum order for digital images (but that may soon come, depending on demand).

Also, please consider this notice to be a call for YOUR images to add to the bank! Chuck Bueter has already sent us a CD of high-resolution images, to which the thumbnails have been added to the bank in a category called “new.” Why not add your images to share with others?

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CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS
Jeanne E. Bishop

Many of the 2005 Conference pictures from Grand Rapids will be on your Conference Proceedings CD, just like last year. Together with the pictures that Bart Benjamin selects from a larger pool for the GLPA Newsletter, I hope that the many pictures Dale Smith places on the Proceedings CD will provide good memories for you of the 2005 conference.

Although I tried to “get around” as much as possible during the conference and include as many participants as possible, I could not photograph everything. In Grand Rapids, I wanted to take group shots of each table in the main hall (as I was able to last year). However, I could not do this without running into many waiters, so I had to stop.

Thank you for allowing me to take your picture once or a number of times — both this year and for the past five years. I have enjoyed recording our conference events for posterity. Please give Dan Goins a big smile next year as he serves as Conference Photographer for the 2006 GLPA Conference in Merrillville, Indiana, which will be hosted by Gregg and Barbara Williams.

NASA SUN-EARTH DAY UPDATE

Mark your calendar! Sun-Earth Day 2006 — “Eclipse: In a Different Light” — will be on March 29th to coincide with the total solar eclipse that takes place that day. Since the eclipse is only visible from Brazil, the Atlantic Ocean, Northern Africa, and Central Asia, we will bring the eclipse live to you via satellite and Internet. For those in the United States, the actual eclipse will take place at approximately 6 a.m. Eastern/ 5 a.m. Central. If you won’t be able to view or host an event during the live webcast, we invite you to host activities any time before or after that day. (After all, the sun shines on us everyday!) Many of our eclipse-related resources are already available now. An archived version of the webcast will also be available soon after the live

Please note that resources for museums, planetariums, parks, youth clubs, and community organizations are now found under the subsection “Public Outreach.” Its direct link is: http://sunearthday.nasa.gov/2006/outreach/index.php

If you already have plans for an event related to solar eclipse or the Sun-Earth Connection in general, please let us know! We can publicize your event on our website and might also be able to send you additional materials (such as bookmarks and solar “pizzas.”)

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RUMPLESTILTSKIN’S STARRY SECRET:
HOW TO ORDER A DVD COPY
submitted by Bob Bonadurer

The Rumpelstiltskin’s Starry Secret DVD is available for $10 from GLPA’s caretaker of audiovisual files — Dave Leake in Champaign, Illinois.

Rumpelstiltskin’s Starry Secret is designed to nurture interest in, and understanding of, the origin of the elements and the human relationship to them. The show appeals to a wide audience by using the storybook character Rumpelstiltskin. His magical powers that could turn straw into gold parallel a star’s seemingly miraculous ability to make new elements. A precocious young girl, who doubts Rumpelstiltskin’s ability to make gold, has an imaginary conversations with him, which leads to many new questions and discoveries. Through conversations with chemists and astronomers, she reveals the origins of the periodic table and the profound finding that all atoms, including the ones inside our bodies, were formed in the big bang and by stellar nuclear reactions. Furthermore, the origin of gold is revealed in the brilliant blast of a supernova. The story unfolds over several years and, in the end, the girl becomes an astronomer.

The program is a mix of animations, interviews and data visualizations. Total running time is 30 minutes. The target audience is general planetarium/science museum audiences and school groups, especially grades 9-12 where stellar evolution and the big bang are national science standards. All the interviews and animations were done in High Definition.

The film was funded by NASA’s Chandra X-Ray Observatory, through a grant to the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Planetarium Society and produced by Bob Bonadurer.

Also available in DVD form is Zubenelgenubi’s Magic Sky, a delightful participatory program aimed at students in grades K-1 and The Stargazer, which describes the lives of stars and Dr. James Kaler’s personal look at astronomy, which is aimed at students from middle school to adult. For more information, please contact:

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Abstract: The International Planetarium Society (IPS) continues to advocate the interests of the planetarium community. This paper summarizes the 2005 updates contained on the poster address, including IPS Strategic Planning; the IPS Star Partners Fund; the Armand Spitz Planetarium Education Fund; the 2006 IPS Conference in Melbourne, Australia; the IPS Statement on the Ancient Age of the Earth and Universe; the 2005 IPS/Eugenides Scriptwriting Competition; and other relevant news.

IPS Strategic Planning

Over the past several years, the IPS membership has been discussing changes to the IPS organizational structure. The IPS commissioned consultants to suggest several proposals, which have been presented and discussed at previous IPS and GLPA meetings. Follow-up reports, interviews, and questionnaires attempted to discern the interest of IPS members in adopting some of the changes.

At its September 2005 meeting in Beijing, the IPS Council voted to retain the existing structure by which affiliates represent their respective regions. The IPS Finance Committee was tasked with defining the possible role of a Secretariat and of suggesting funding mechanisms by which to pay for such a position if it were deemed favorable to the IPS. The Secretariat notion thus was not dropped. Considerable concern was voiced about a change in dues that would impact smaller and less affluent planetariums.

IPS Star Partners Fund

In 2000, the IPS established the Star Partners Fund to help provide educational materials and IPS services to planetariums in economically challenged countries. Approximately 50 international planetariums received membership packets in February 2005.

Initially supported by $2,500 in seed money from The Planetary Society, the fund’s current balance has grown from IPS member donations to just over $5,000. Among the contributions this past year are multiple $25.00 donations made by Ash Enterprises on behalf of its customers with maintenance contracts. The initiative by Ash Enterprises is a model for other planetarium professionals to support colleagues who are less fortunate.

Armand Spitz Planetarium Education Fund

The “Spitz Education Fund” is available for projects that benefit the planetarium community as a whole and that assist individuals in the planetarium profession or entering it to improve their skills. GLPA members are encouraged to apply for these grants administered by IPS.

Since 2003, several Spitz Education Fund scholarships (~$500.00 each) have been granted to international stu-
I.P.S. UPDATE (continued)

2006 IPS Conference in Melbourne, Australia

IPS heads “Down Under” for its biennial conference July 24-27, 2006. Winter in Melbourne, Australia, allows for fantastic southern skies, with the Milky Way positioned high overhead. IPS members are encouraged to peruse the conference offerings online at www.ips2006.com. Registration is expected to cost $590 AUS (about $450 USD).

A 6-day post-conference tour of research telescopes will likely start in Canberra. Highlights will include the old Sydney Observatory, the Parks Radio Telescope (as seen in the movie Dish), the Anglo-Australian Telescope, and the Australia Telescope Array.

Presentation themes proposed by the host institutions include: Astronomy in society (media, culture, history, education), Successful public programming and outreach (audience evaluation, regional outreach, portables), Innovation under the dome (technology, collaborations), and Facility updates.

Other IPS News

IPS encourages planetarians to write NASA Administrator Michael Griffin to convey the value of NASA programs to K-12 and informal education. As NASA currently conducts an agency-wide review, one NASA consideration is to boost its workforce skills by funneling dollars to higher education programs at the expense of K-12 and informal education programs.

The IPS Finance Committee will address concerns about making IPS membership more accessible to planetariums for whom IPS dues are disproportionately high when compared with the typical income in their country. Examples were cited of IPS dues being equivalent to several weeks’ income.

The Adler Planetarium in Chicago, Illinois, was selected as the host site for the 2008 IPS Conference. Mark your calendar for June 15-20, 2008.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IPS and NASA is nearing completion.

A new IPS committee chaired by Ed Lantz is now addressing issues specific to digital projection systems and full dome video.

The IPS Portable Planetarium Committee seeks a GLPA member to be a point of contact for our region. Contact Susan Button.

The IPS Planetarium Development Group seeks volunteers to author chapters on renovation, special effects/multimage, and participatory planetariums for the Planetarium Guidebook, an aid in the development of new planetariums. Contact Kris McCall.

The IPS Publications Committee reported that John Mosley, executive editor of the IPS flagship publication Planetarian, will be retiring from that role at the end of 2005. John Mosley has guided the journal through 77 consecutive issues and over 4,800 pages—a immense service to the organization. The 2005 IPS Directory will soon be distributed freely to all members as a CD, with paper copies available at cost. Containing both the IPS Directory of the World’s Planetariums (“white pages”) and the IPS Resource Directory (“yellow pages”), the publication can also be found on the IPS website. The newly-released Spanish language Educar con el Planetario is available on request to any IPS member. Other IPS publications in the pipeline include a scriptwriting book authored by Steve Tidey; the IPS Songbook edited by Jon Bell; and a Moon Phase booklet created by artist/author Jay Ryan. Nearly all past IPS publications have been scanned and archived by Dale Smith. When complete, they will be available on one CD for the Directories and one CD for the Proceedings and Special Publications. Past issues of the Planetarian are currently being scanned into electronic format by other IPS colleagues.

The Robert Cox Certified Public Accounting Firm conducted an audit of the IPS financial records. It gave IPS the highest rating possible — “unqualified” — meaning no additions or corrections to the books were required. Per Cox, IPS
accounting practices and financial statements reflect the financial position of the Society and conform to standard U.S. accounting practices.

GLPA members continue to serve the IPS membership at the IPS Council meeting. Shawn Laatsch and Susan Button are hard-working, integral leaders in their roles as IPS President-Elect and IPS Treasurer, respectively. Dale Smith labors diligently on behalf of the Publications Committee at IPS, as he does for GLPA.

The 2005 IPS Membership is at 682 total members.

Prize money for the 2005 IPS/Eugenides Foundation Scriptwriting Competition has been increased to $1,000.00 for First Place and $350.00 for Second Place. Scripts are requested for school shows only, on the subject of the solar system. Target age group is 11-14. The deadline for scripts is December 31, 2005. See the March 2005 issue of the Planetarian or contact Steve Tidey for details.

The next “Day of Planetaria,” initiated and supported by the Italian Planetaria’s Friends Association, will be held on March 19, 2006.

The IPS adopted an *IPS Statement on the Age of the Earth and Universe*, as follows:

### IPS STATEMENT ON THE ANCIENT AGE OF THE EARTH AND UNIVERSE

Many independent lines of scientific evidence show that the Earth and Universe are billions of years old. Current measurements yield an age of about 4.6 billion years for the Earth and about 14 billion years for the Universe.

**How ages are measured**

The *age of the Earth* is measured by studies of radioactive elements. Radioactive elements are unstable and “parent” atoms decay into other “daughter” elements at a steady rate. For example, through a series of steps, atoms of uranium decay into atoms of lead. By measuring the abundance of “parent” and “daughter” atoms in rock samples and knowing the decay rate, geologists can calculate the age of the rock. Using several different sets of parent and daughter elements, geologists have measured the age of a variety of rocks, including terrestrial and lunar rocks as well as meteorites, which originate primarily from asteroids. The results consistently indicate an age of about 4.6 billion years for the Earth.

The *age of the Universe* is measured in several ways. One method is based on the rate of expansion of the Universe. By measuring the distance to remote galaxies and the rate at which they are expanding away from us, astronomers can calculate how much time the galaxies have needed to get as far away as they are. This tells how long the Universe has been expanding, or how old it is. These studies yield an age of about 14 billion years.

The age of the Universe can also be determined by investigating the oldest clusters of stars. This is done by measuring the brightness and temperature of stars in a cluster and comparing those measurements with models of how the brightness and temperature of a star change as the star ages. It is somewhat like estimating the age of a person by looking at features of his or her face and knowing how our faces change as we age. These studies show that the oldest star clusters are about 12 billion years old. The Universe must be older than its stars, so this method establishes a minimum age for the Universe. Similar studies show that the Sun is about 5 billion years old, consistent with the age of the Earth measured by radioactive studies.

A third way to determine the age of the Universe involves measuring the ages of long-lived dying stars. As stars like the Sun age, they eventually become very small, faint objects about the size of the Earth. These stellar corpses are called “white dwarf” stars and have no remaining sources of new energy. Astronomers can calculate the rate at which white dwarfs get fainter and cooler, so when they then measure the brightness and temperature of a white dwarf star, they can recognize how old it is. These studies show that the oldest white dwarf stars are at least 10 billion years old. As above, this establishes a minimum age for the Universe since the Universe must be older than its stars.
Why these measurements are accepted by the scientific community

These measurements of age are accepted by nearly all astronomers, including both research astronomers and planetarium educators. These astronomers come from nations and cultures around the world and from a very wide spectrum of religious beliefs.

A fundamental reason why these ancient ages are so widely accepted by the scientific community is that they are derived from several independent lines of evidence accumulated by independent and often competing teams of researchers. Each method involves different measurements and the application of different physical principles to derive ages from those measurements. The physical principles include the same thoroughly-proven principles that underlie the technology that runs the modern world. Hence the fact that the independent methods all yield similar ages reinforces confidence that the methods are sound and accurate despite their complexity and do not contain major fundamental flaws.

A second reason why these ages are so widely accepted is that for scientific results to be published in research journals, they must be critically reviewed by other scientists who are experts in the same research area. This process is called peer review and is employed in nearly all research journals in the physical and biological sciences and in the humanities and social sciences. Often the reviewers are competitors of the author and thus are especially keen to find flaws in the proposed publications. As a consequence of such review, nearly every paper must be revised and improved before it is published, and some papers are rejected because the review exposes flaws in the measurements or in their analysis and interpretation.

A third reason why these ages, and other scientific paradigms such as Einstein's theory of relativity, are so widely accepted is that by the nature of its acquisition — through independent lines of evidence and always subject to scrutiny — scientific evidence is built up only very slowly, one step at a time. Only when a very large and diverse body of evidence has been accumulated is a broad conclusion accepted. Even then, a broad conclusion remains subject to inspection, as further evidence may reinforce or refine it, or in rare cases, overthrow it.

Conclusion

Evidence that the Earth and Universe are billions of years old is based on diverse lines of research that have been rigorously examined and which yield concordant results. Therefore, IPS accepts that these results provide an accurate description of our Universe.

Planetariums are based on science and education and as such reflect the ideals and principles of these disciplines. Planetarium educators seek to present both scientific results and an understanding of how these discoveries are made. IPS respects the personal views and opinions of planetarium patrons and of individual planetarium educators and recognizes that in some cases those views may differ from the material presented in this statement.

Related statements

The American Astronomical Society has a statement on the age of the Universe on its web site at www.aas.org/governance/council/resolutions.html#create. It has also, in conjunction with the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, published a booklet An Ancient Universe: How Astronomers Know the Vast Scale of Cosmic Time. This booklet is available in PDF form at www.aas.org/education/ancientuniverse.html.

Stars That Need Not Shun The Light. Thanks To Zeiss Fiber Optics

The stars, those apparent lords of the night sky, are terribly afraid of light. For millions of years, since the first seeing creatures populated the Earth, only the Sun was able to dim down its distant brothers into nothingness. Today, this is easily accomplished by street lamps, neon signs and car headlights.

In the planetarium, things are hardly different. For decades, stars used to be the protagonists of the show, and not even the Sun was allowed to outshine them. Today, shows are dominated by fireworks of slides, videos panoramas and all-sky projections: a profusion of light, which leaves only the gleaming dots that symbolize the boundlessness of the universe no chance to assert themselves. Are planetarium stars doomed to final extinction?

Thanks to Zeiss, they are not. Thanks to a new fiber optic system that makes artificial stars shine more brightly and brilliantly than ever before. No doubt, slides, video, and panorama projections will hardly extinguish them. And although they are much smaller in size than their forerunners, they are seen as mere points, twinkling as do the real stars. See the world’s newest newborn stars in the sky of a Zeiss planetarium.

In the U.S. & Canada, contact Laura Misajet:
800.726.8805 • Fax: 610.664.0308
E-mail: zeiss@seilerinst.com

Seeing is Believing!

Carl Zeiss, Planetarium Division
D-07740 Jena
+49-3641-642406, fax: -643023
E-mail: planetarium@zeiss.de

www.seilerinst.com
The Great Lakes Planetarium Association acknowledges the following companies and organizations for their generous support in Fiscal Year 2005-06:

### Universe Level – Conference Sponsors  ($1,200+)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Astro-Tec</td>
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### Galaxy Level – Patron Sponsors  ($650 – $1,199)

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NASA Space Center for Education and Outreach</td>
<td>analyzer.depaul.edu/NASABroker</td>
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<td>GOTO Optical Manufacturing</td>
<td><a href="http://www.goto.co.jp/index-e.html">www.goto.co.jp/index-e.html</a></td>
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<td>Konica-Minolta</td>
<td>konicaminolta.com/kmpl</td>
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### Solar System Level – Sustaining Sponsors  ($500 - $649)

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<tr>
<td>Learning Technologies, Inc.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.starlab.com">www.starlab.com</a></td>
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### Other Support  (up to $499)

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</table>
JOIN I.P.S.

The International Planetarium Society (IPS) is the largest organization of professional planetarians in the world. It is comprised of members from all over the globe. GLPA is an affiliate of this prestigious organization. If you are not a member of IPS, you should consider becoming a member! Why? Because IPS serves its members with . . .

- its full-color quarterly journal, *Planetarian*, filled with a wide range of articles
- its biennial conferences
- Proceedings of each IPS conference
- free publications, including the Directory of the World’s Planetariums and the IPS Resource Directory
- discounted subscription rates to the IPS slide service and IPS video compilations
- access to resources found only in the members section of the IPS website
- access to the IPS News listserv
- networking on all scales, from local to global

See more on the IPS web site: [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

IPS dues are only $50 a year, or two years for $90. Other levels of membership are also available at Institutional and Corporate levels. For more information or to join IPS, please contact:

Shawn Laatsch, IPS Treasurer, P.O. Box 1812, Greenville NC 27835 USA
Telephone: 1-502-852-5855
E-mail: 102424.1032@compuserve.com
A THANK YOU for the continued support of GLPA goes to the Vendors who attended and joined us at the GLPA 40th Anniversary Conference. At the Universe Level of Conference Sponsorship are Astro-Tec, Audio Visual Imagineering, Evans and Sutherland, Konica-Minolta, Seiler-Zeiss, SEOS Ltd., SkySkan Inc., and Spitz. At the Galaxy Level of Patron Sponsorship is GOTO Inc. At the Solar System of Sustaining Sponsorship are ASH Enterprises, NASA Space Center for Education and Outreach, East Coast Control Systems and Learning Technologies Inc. Additional support for GLPA comes from Geographics Imaging and Consulting. Please support these vendors who support GLPA by acquiring their products for your planetarium.

WELCOME to our new GLPA members and to the members that have continued to support GLPA for years. If you joined GLPA to attend the recent conference I hope you enjoyed yourself and learned a great deal.

I can tell you that GLPA is in wonderful shape and is in a strong position for the future. It is run by a great group of individuals that are committed to the profession and to the organization. I have been privileged by the membership of GLPA to serve as your President for the last 2 years and now look forward to serve as your Past-President for the next 2 years starting in March 2006.

I THANK YOU again for that great honor. I also say THANK YOU to the members of the GLPA Executive Committee for their continued participation on the Committee and for all of their hard work on behalf of the GLPA membership.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GLPA ELECTION RESULTS

At the GLPA Conference in October, GLPA conducted an election of officers. The outcome of this election is as follows:

President-Elect:
Cheri Adams

Secretary/Treasurer:
Mary Mausi

IPS Representative:
David Weinrich

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HOW DO I NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE FOR A GLPA AWARD?

If you’d like to nominate a planetarium colleague for either the GLPA Fellow or GLPA Honorary Life Member award, you may now do so by downloading the appropriate form from the GLPA website at www.glpaweb.org/other.htm. Each form is formatted as a PDF file, which you can subsequently print, complete, and submit.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GLPA List Serve

- Learn the latest conference information
- Communicate with fellow GLPA members

• Get the latest announcements that apply to the GLPA region

How?

Go to www.glpaweb.org
Click on “Other” and then follow the instructions to sign up.
PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIES OF . . .

All photographs were taken by Jeanne Bishop.
THE 2005 GLPA CONFERENCE

All photographs were taken by Jeanne Bishop.
A BIG “THANK YOU” FOR GLPA

Ed.: Shortly after the conference, I received an e-mail message from Joanne Young that included this heart-felt message that describes what her recent award of GLPA Fellow (and GLPA itself) meant to her. With her permission, I’ve reprinted it here for all our members to read:

Dear Bart,

Thank you so much for the enormous honor of rank of Fellow. I was crying this morning just thinking of it. You would have to understand how I feel about GLPA and the GLPA culture to fully appreciate my response. As you know, I am a member of each regional association and I attend each regional meeting. I think most planetarians are among God’s favored people on the planet. No matter what their hardships are, they love the Universe and are committed to teaching astronomy. However, GLPA planetarians are the most serious, studious, committed all-around, whole-hearted solid citizens who have a great sense of humor and share the strongest camaraderie of all. I told a few of you that very thing before the banquet and, of course, my acknowledgement was met with disbelief, which from my point of view was because you are not aware of who you are. As far as you are concerned you are normal, not extraordinary. Well, that is not so. So, to receive an award from you is toooooooo much — over the top. I remember when Pearl Riley was awarded Fellow and she felt exactly the same way. Thank you again!

Best regards,
Joanne

All photographs were taken by Jeanne Bishop.
GLPA Executive Committee Meeting  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
October 19, 2005

Present: Joe DeRocher, Chuck Bueter, Gary Tomlinson, Bart Benjamin, Gary Sampson, Mary Masui, Dave DeRemer, Lisa Daly, Bob Bonadurer, Chris Janssen, Geoff Holt, and Dale Smith.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Joe DeRocher at 8:38 a.m. EDT. This was followed by a short review of the meeting agenda.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, held in Merrillville, Indiana on May 7, 2005 had been printed in the GLPA Newsletter and e-mailed to each member. Gary Tomlinson moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Mary Masui handed out a proposed budget for the year. It was discussed and corrections were made. Passing the budget was tabled until the end of the meeting as newsletter printing costs and NSTA meeting reimbursement costs will be discussed later in the meeting.

Great Lakes Planetarium Association  
Financial Report  
May 7, 2005 – October 19, 2005

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<th>Account Summaries</th>
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Great Lakes Planetarium Association
2005 – 2006 Budget

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Projected Income

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Projected Expenses

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**President’s Report:** Joe reported that it was a pleasure to serve as GLPA president. He thanked Gary Sampson for his advice and for working on the cosmology workshops. He also thanked everyone else for their hard work. He thanked Bart for all his hard work on the newsletter.

**President Elect’s Report:** Bob Bonadurer reported that he would like someone else to take over working on a cosmology show. This person would need to work with Randy Landsburg on behalf of GLPA. This person would need to find grant money to fund the show, probably coming from NSF. Geoff Holt suggested working though Bernhard Beck-Winchatz and NASA. He also suggested that someone who took the class this fall might be interested in working on the show. Ron Kaitchuck has volunteered to work on the show. Gary Tomlinson suggested we let Ron run with this and see what he reports back.

On behalf of GLPA, Bob applied for a NASA grant based on the work done in Cleveland last winter. GLPA would develop an annual program based on a current sky event. Unfortunately, this grant did not get funded. NASA seems to be moving all of its educational resources towards the Moon and Mars. Lisa wondered if the NASA people didn’t quite understand what we do. Bob suggested they might be more in tune with large planetariums that are IMAX type, instead of the small planetariums. NASA’s education department is going through some reorganization and Bob is worried that the reorganization might lead to the elimination of some grants or telescope time.

**Past President’s Report:** Gary Sampson reported that Dave DeRemer and Chris Janssen attended the NSTA science conference in August. He asked that they give their report now.

Dave handed out a summary. Chris mentioned that the workshops are very helpful in many areas of organizational skills: Treasurer, Membership, PR, etc. Dave and Chris were able to put in suggestions for focus groups for next year’s meeting and they proposed many that involved planetaria.

Dave reported that NSTA gives us a vehicle for having a national voice. Dave wondered of we could put together representation from all the regional planetarium associations to put forth our voice. There were 65 voting members at the conference. If all of the regionals attended, we would have 5 votes for planetaria. NSTA is fine with having all seven regionals as voting members. Dave and Chris feel if we can get official recognition from NSTA, then it may help us get more and better NSF grant funding. Dave suggested that we let the other regionals know that they can become a member of NSTA and said he and Chris could put together an informational letter explaining all of the benefits of the regionals joining NSTA. Chuck suggested a good mechanism for meeting would be IPS since all of the regionals already send delegates to IPS.

Gary Sampson thinks we should send two people to Toronto for next year’s NSTA conference. He suggested that we send the Education Chairperson and maybe a member at large, not another Executive Committee member. Gary will bring this up at the Business meeting. They did say at NSTA that you should try to have the same person attend every year so they get to understand the procedures and make connections. Dave thinks it would be best if he and Chris went together again next time. Chuck moved that we pay two-thirds the cost of travel, meals, registration and hotel for one person to attend the upcoming NSTA conference in Toronto next summer. The motion was seconded by Chris Janssen and passed.

**Development Report:** Lisa Daly reported that working with the vendors this year has been different from last year due to the different venue. Detroit was seen as a bigger venue, plus a new facility, and it drew in more vendors. This year, there wasn’t quite the same draw, but there still has been good interest. Ethan Brown, the vendor contact for the museum, has done a lot of work. Even though there are fewer vendors, they are coming in at a higher level. She still hears that GLPA is the most expensive conference, but – over all – the comments have been positive. It was suggested that Lisa start working with the host of the triple conference in 2007 to help arrange and organize the vendors. Bob thinks we should also contact the other regional groups attending the conference so that we are all working together.

Gary Tomlinson asked one vendor “what would you change?” but he had yet to hear back from that vendor. Gary suggests we might need to revise our profit guidelines or the way we charge the vendors, depending on the location. Bob thinks it’s important that the vendor conference fees are set and organized in price and not all over the place, plus the vendors know ahead of time what the cost will be. It was decided to set aside some time for the Executive Committee to talk with the vendors.

The idea of having a conference flea market was brought up again. People would have an opportunity to bring their used things in to a pre-determined location for sale. Space could be an issue, as well as security. Lisa imagines something real simple, maybe just a table where people could set things up. Chuck suggested a combo
bring your things if you want, or a picture and price to show. Geoff suggested having it on a first come, first served basis due to space limitations. Merrillville suggested they could have a certain amount of table space and then the rest could go on the floor. Joe thinks we should talk to Gregg more about the idea and that he may be open to it.

Chuck suggested emphasizing small, portable planetariums at the next conference. Companies are starting to develop portable digital projectors. Lisa will pursue this with Gregg.

Conference Hosts’ Report: Dave DeBruyn reported that everything is going well. They have not had to make many changes to the proposed agenda. His young colleagues have really worked hard at planning to make sure everything is running smoothly. Todd Slisher is going to help out some. The audio-visuals are all taken care of.

Membership Report: Gary Tomlinson reported that people were asking why Fellows and Honorary Life Members aren’t posted on the website. Chris said that we would need to have written permission along with a picture to post them on the website. We must also provide a phone number so that someone can call and ask immediate removal. Chris said this is not a law now but the laws are in the works. If we have to get permission, it would be an incomplete list due to those who don’t want listed or those who have passed away. Bart suggested putting it annually in the newsletter instead. Geoff mentioned including the Galileo award and the service awards. Chris suggested first doing the newsletter and then seeing how the membership feels about it.

Chris Janssen handed out a page displaying the make-up of our membership. Everything is fairly stable. Chris also reported that there were problems with merging databases between different groups and that the databases needed to be merged electronically. Chris handed out maps he made that show the US, GLPA region and a particular state with dots showing the locations of planetaria. The idea is to use this program with the databases to choose an area and download and export data. It is in the beta stage right now.

Chris reported that *Zubenelgenubi’s Magic Sky* is now fully digitized. It is also digitally enhanced.

Chris said that it was suggested at the NSTA conference that groups start tracking some of the demographics of their members. This could answer such questions as: Are we enticing younger members? What percentage of our membership is reaching retirement age? How many are women? Chris is considering ways to change the registration form to make it easier to track such information. Chuck suggested that if you want to check demographics (sex, race) you may need to do this anonymously, possibly handing out a form at the business meeting, although that leaves out those who are not in attendance. Chris suggested mailing it out and asking members to send back. Bart suggested periodically doing a survey and Dale suggested sending the survey with no postage necessary envelopes included to keep the information private. Geoff suggested talking to NSTA people to find out how they track their demographics. Chris will investigate what NSTA does and report back.

Last year we sent out historical slides to be digitally scanned. Chris is looking forward to getting them back and creating an historical CD. Gary Tomlinson reported that there has been created a membership benefits poster to be displayed at the conference. Gary would like us all to review it and look for errors. Bart asked if membership benefits were listed on the website. Geoff thinks they are, in a general form, but he’s not sure how detailed the information is.

Education Report: Dave DeRemer handed out his report on paper. Most of his report discussed the NSTA conference and was covered under Past President. *Cosmic Colors* is still progressing nicely. He and Chris worked out a possible show format for the storyline. Many people have offered to help on this project. Also, Wisconsin is considering making an offer to host the 2008 conference.

Instructional Materials Report: Geoff Holt reported that things are business as usual. This will be the first conference that the AV person will not be bringing slides, as they have all been scanned in and put into a thumbnail database. Dale wondered if all of the thumbnails would fit on a CD to be distributed with the Proceedings. Geoff pointed out that if it is small, it may be easier to have it on the website. Plus, that would allow for things to be added without having to redistribute the CD. It is time to get final feedback before they are available for download. Printed materials is slow but digital materials is going well. We should all thank Dave Leake for his work on *Stellar Extremes*.

Publication’s Report: Bart reported that e-mail about the digital newsletter was sent out to the membership. He hasn’t received much significant feedback on the newsletter. Bart will continue to e-mail the same notice as the new issues come online. Chris suggested he would rather distribute the e-mails himself to keep the database protected. Bart agreed.
The latest survey shows that a significant number of people still want to receive a printed newsletter. Bart sees this as a recommendation to continue offering it both ways for now. Bart is considering sending the printed newsletters out in envelopes. Dale looked into this and found out that the envelopes are very cheap and it would be easier stuffing envelopes than taping the newsletters folded in half. The increase in postage would be minimal.

The group wondered if there was a way to track how many people download the posted newsletter. Right now, the policy is simply to replace the old issue of the newsletter that is available for download with the new issue. However, there is concern that members may wish to have past issues available as well. Bart and Geoff agreed that recent issues of the newsletter should be made available from the download page, in addition to the current issue. Gary Tomlinson suggested placing past issues of the newsletter on the Proceedings CD. Geoff suggests in the future we could look into having our own server provider to make web postings faster and more convenient.

Dale reported that he received most of the papers ahead of time, so he should be able to get out the Proceedings fairly early. Dale was wondering what to do with all of the old conference photos that he has scanned. The images should stay in the archives, but could possibly be distributed. All of the GLPA’s newsletters are now on a CD-ROM thanks to Dale, who put it all together.

**Conference Planning:** Gary Tomlinson reported that the conference surveys were prepared. He wants vendors to fill out both the membership survey and the vendor survey. We will receive the results when they are tallied. Joe handed out a tentative agenda for next year’s conference in Merrillville and reported that things are coming along well. The registration price should be about the same as this year. The hotel will be a bit less expensive than this year. Gary asked Chuck how he thought the next conference could focus on portable planetariums. Chuck had heard that there are several small dome digital projectors coming out and he thought this would be a good way to get on top of this.

The 2007 joint MAPS, SEPA & GLPA conference will be Oct. 10th – 14th, Wed - Sun. The issue of whether or not there will be a Spitz lecturer is yet to be decided. The group discussed what type of attendance we should expect. SEPA usually meets in the summer and MAPS usually meets in May, so GLPA may have a greater percentage of delegates. Joe thinks we should budget for 250 but expect possibly up to 300. For the vendors, they are getting to meet with three regionals all at once, so this is a good deal for them. Gary Tomlinson asked for opinions on the Executive Committee identifying ribbons. He also asked if we want to be identified as Fellows on our name badges.

This was the first conference to set up an account with PayPal to be able to pay by credit card. There is a small charge for this service to the person registering for the conference. Gary is wondering if we can set up a general PayPal account with the Treasurer and can a person pay over the Internet this way? There were many questions as to the logistics of this set-up. Bob was concerned that this would end up being very expensive. Mary will investigate PayPal and what setting up this account would entail.

**IPS Report:** Chuck put together a poster about IPS and brought that to the meeting for us all to peruse:

[Ed. This report is reprinted on pages 12 to 15 of this newsletter]

Chuck suggested we give money to the IPS star partners fund to help financially support planetaria in third world countries. Chris Janssen asked how much money from star partners actually goes to the planetarium and not IPS. Dale Smith said it all goes to help the planetarium and not the IPS general fund. Dale told us that there is a high need for contributed money. For many third world planetaria, the cost of membership is more than a month’s salary. Only the differential cost is charged to the account, so a donation can go to many institutions. Chuck moved that we donate $300 to the IPS star partners fund. Lisa seconded the motion and it passed. Chuck also suggested we contribute money to the IPS Armand Spitz educational fund. Chuck moved that GLPA donate $200 to the IPS Armand Spitz Planetarium Educational Fund. Bob seconded the motion. Gary Sampson wanted to clarify that this is not aimed specifically at third world countries; first world countries could apply as well. He also suggested we ask our individual members to donate on their own. Joe called for a vote. The motion passed. Chuck asked if we could send a GLPA show to students in Italy who are looking to showcase foreign shows.

Jeff Goldstein from NASA spoke with Chuck about the internal review going on in NASA. Chuck thinks GLPA should author a letter to NASA complimenting them and letting them know what a valuable
resource they are for education. Jeff is afraid NASA will reallocate more money to higher education over K-12 and informal education. Chuck thinks we really need to move on this and that Joe can pen the letter himself. Chuck moved that GLPA send a letter to NASA informing them of what a great resource they are to the planetarium community and informal education. The motion was seconded and passed. Chuck will pass out copies of the original letter at the business meeting.

Dale thanked Chuck for his excitement and energy he brought to his role as IPS Representative. Dale is delighted to report that the CD master for the IPS Directory is now in duplication and will be mailed next week. There is an option to order a print copy for $40. The number of planetariums is up to 3,000, including 5 new countries. IPS has put out a Spanish-language portable planetarium guide that was sent free to all planetariums in Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries. The IPS script writing guide by Steve Tidey is about ready to go. This is an updated version of the one he did for GLPA a few years ago. This will go to all IPS members and all GLPA members. He has scanned in almost all past IPS publications with the goal to put them on a CD. He is in the midst of scanning in past issues of the *Planetarian*.

**Old Business:** Chuck motioned that we approve the modified budget. It was seconded by Chris and the motion passed. Gary Tomlinson has the handbook updated and he plans to work on updating the conference planning guidelines. Please send him any updates you may have. He also mentioned there are free posters downstairs by the planetarium entrance.

**New Business:** Chuck had a sky quality meter donated for the workshop on light pollution. They were going to give it away at the workshop.

Joe wondered if GLPA should create a statement on the age of the Earth and intelligent design. NSTA has already created position statements on such topics. They will be sending them with their representative to Washington D.C. Joe wondered if we should put that on our webpage or, instead, that GLPA supports this proposal by NSTA and then provide a link. Chuck suggested that we adopt IPS’s statement and AAS’s statements. IPS’s statement is longer, but AAS has a booklet out with the scientific support for the age of the Earth. The IPS version is planetarium specific. We will table this for now until the IPS statement is available online and we all can read it. Joe asked if we should have a statement about light pollution or we could link to the International Dark Sky Association. Chuck suggested that they are getting some flack over their model because they are supported by lighting manufacturers. This will be discussed more at another time.

**Adjournment:** Chuck Bueter moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting officially adjourned at 4:56 p.m. EDT.
The meeting was called to order by President Joe DeRocher at 10:59 a.m. EDT.

**President's Report:** Joe DeRocher made a brief report.

**President Elect's Report:** Bob Bonadurer reported on the current status of the grant formulated from the NASA focus group. (More details in the Executive Committee Meeting minutes.) He also made an announcement regarding elections. There were no nominations from the floor.

**Past President's Report:** Gary Sampson reported on the NSTA and the National Science Congress. He noted past NSTA grants received by GLPA members; resolutions on which GLPA had a vote; seeking to get other regionals involved; noted we have opportunity to influence decision processes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joe DeRocher reported for Mary Masui that GLPA is currently in a strong position. We have funds to cover conference expenses in case of an emergency. More details can be found in the Executive Committee Meeting minutes.

**IPS Representative:** Chuck Bueter reported on recent IPS happenings from his poster. This information can be found in the posters section of the GLPA Proceedings or in the Executive Committee Meeting minutes.

**Publications Report:** Bart Benjamin reported on the choice of newsletter in print or electronic version. Members will receive the newsletter in the manner they requested on their conference form, although they can request a change should they desire. Those receiving the newsletter electronically will get an e-mail with an Internet link to the PDF version of the *GLPA Newsletter*. Past newsletters can be found in the Conference Proceedings, as Dale Smith has scanned all existing newsletters. The Proceedings will be in PDF format on a CD, thanks to Dale. Bart also thanked individual state chairs, for their service and thanks to Konica-Minolta and Seiler Zeiss for their advertising support. Joe DeRocher thanked Bart for 72 issues of service.

**Membership Report:** Chris Janssen noted his commitment to protect the personal data of members for privacy reasons. He used a transparency to show that 1,000+ people who cycled through GLPA. He reported *Zubenelgenubi's Magic Sky* is now digitized. He took a question from the audience about paying IPS dues with your GLPA dues payment. Susan Button noted the high percentage of dual IPS-GLPA membership and GLPA participation in IPS.

**Development Report:** Lisa Daly reported on 2005 Conference Vendor concerns. She thanked Ethan Brown of Grand Rapids for his hard work with the vendors. She noted vendor support and advertising available to supporting vendors. Lisa also cited individual sponsors at their respective levels.

**Education Report:** Dave DeRemer report on the NSTA Congress in Minnesota. He noted that we are a Chapter or Associated Group (CAG). He thinks it is important that we can use NSTA to make a voice for GLPA, and that we should encourage other regionals to participate. Dave also reported on the progress of *Cosmic Colors*, an interactive program on the electro-magnetic spectrum. Ron Kaitchuck and Gary Lazich are going to discuss the Cosmology program. There are *Stargazer* program trailers at Jim Kaler’s website. Dave also thanked Chris Janssen and David Leake for their help.

**Conference Planning Report:** Gary Tomlinson asked everyone to fill out their conference evaluations. Gregg Williams introduced his wife Barb, Pam Gower, and the Merrillville student attendees, many of whom are conference veterans. He will host the 2006 conference on Oct. 25-28. He last hosted a conference in 1987. Gregg showed a PowerPoint presentation of the facilities, including his planetarium,
which has a 30-foot dome, 64 seats and a Spitz 512 projector. The Pierce Lecture Hall will seat 200 people. There are optional trips on Thursday to Adler, a Challenger Learning Center, and Valparaiso University Planetarium and Observatory. [www.mcpstars.org/glpa](http://www.mcpstars.org/glpa)

Steve Mitch spoke of the triple conference on Oct 9-14, 2007. The resort has 240 rooms, plus cabins. Steve has a Spitz 512 under a 40-foot dome with 133 seats. Plenary sessions will be held in the lodge. On Thursday, the conference will be at Pittsburgh’s Carnegie Science Center, with dinner at the dinosaur hall.

State meetings dates to be announced in the newsletter. There is a 50 dollar reimbursement available, but must be accompanied by receipts sent to the treasurer, Mary Masui.

**Instructional Materials Report:** Geoff Holt had a “host of thank yous” including the website manager Dave Batch. He surveyed how many business meeting attendees would want online registration (for $3 fee) via PayPal. David Leake reported that Starry Secret copies are available and Zubelenelgenubi's Magic Sky is now digitized. The StarGazer is available with slides available and is being digitized. The slide bank is now an image bank. He is seeking images/slides from individuals to have in the bank. Send to Dave Leake by e-mail or CD. Image thumbnails will be included in the GLPA Proceedings CD.

Waylena McCully introduced the notion of a bank for video clips, PowerPoint programs, and other digital media. She is seeking ideas for content, storage, distribution, etc.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Added by Chuck:

- Thanks to Randy Olson for offering to run for office
- PLATO deadline is January 31, 2005
- Thank Dale for IPS service
- Regionals as a plural is squiggly-lined

Jon Marshall spoke of GLPA helping southern planetariums that were affected by hurricanes. John Hare spoke of two facilities in New Orleans that were so affected. The Pontchartrain Astronomy Society is coordinating efforts and applying seed money they had previously gathered.

The meeting was adjournment 12:33 p.m.
THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums regardless of geographic location. G.L.P.A. is an affiliate of the International Planetarium Society and the National Science Teachers Association. Membership dues are $20 annually, payable at the time of the Autumnal Equinox. General correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary/Treasurer, and requests for membership should be addressed to the Membership Chair (see below). The quarterly GLPA Newsletter is received by all members in good standing. Ideas and opinions expressed in the GLPA Newsletter are not necessarily those of G.L.P.A., its membership or the editor. Deadlines for contributions fall on the 1st of February, May, August and November. Send information to GLPA Newsletter Editor (address below). Copyright © 2005.

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GLPA CONFERENCES:
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2007 October 10-14 (w/ MAPS & SEPA)
Wheeling, West Virginia

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