GLPA Newsletter

2012

4 issues — 154 pages
Transit of Venus
Countdown to June 5, 2012

Diagram by Fred Espenak (NASA).
Photographs by Bart Benjamin and David Hurd, with special thanks to Chuck Bueter.
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PULSAR FORMS NEW ROCK BAND

Legendary producer, Pulsar, who has been broadcasting for millions of years around the galaxy, reportedly has formed a new rock band. This talented group has gathered around legendary leader Junior Rock and have started playing rock like no one else has ever done before. They are quickly becoming the talk of the town with their unique blend of music and style.
with the vendors, Dave DeRemer for organizing workshops, Geoff Holt for his tireless work with the online registration (we were the “guinea pigs!”), and naturally, Gary Tomlinson for... well... being Gary Tomlinson! We could not have hosted this conference without Gary’s assistance! And, of course the Staerkel staff of Carolyn, Waylena, and Pam made the whole thing go. Now we look forward to Sue Batson’s conference in Pennsylvania from October 24-27. Add it to your calendars now! Oh, and for those who might remember, we are only now getting our new roof at Staerkel! And I thought I worked slowly!

In the meantime, we have the spring Executive Committee Meeting in Merrillville on April 21. Thanks to Barb and Gregg Williams for hosting us once again. If you have any questions, issues, or concerns, feel free to pass them to me (dleake@parkland.edu) or any one of the Executive Committee members prior to that date.

We also have the Transit of Venus, which will be upon us before you know it! Be sure to catch this one on June 5 or... well, let’s say you may not see the next one! For more information, be sure to check out our own Chuck Bueter’s web site at www.transitofvenus.org.

And I get to fill up my remaining time working on our college’s accreditation efforts! Our president thought I’d make a good co-chair for this work. I don’t know, maybe he lost a bet or something. Our site visit from the Higher Learning Commissions is October 1-3 this year. After that... well, let’s say I may get a head start on the hospitality suite before the conference even begins! Have a great spring!

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**“There's a little black spot on the sun today.”**

Every time I hear the opening line of The Police’s 1983 song “King of Pain,” I swear that Sting’s lyrics are describing a Transit of Venus. They aren’t of course; I’ve read that they pertain more to the universal subjects of pain and suffering than the rare astronomical event. Nevertheless, to astronomers and planetarians worldwide, the phrase “little black spot on the sun” carries an entirely different message... one that speaks to us loudly in 2012.

Can you believe that it’s almost been eight years since the 2004 Transit of Venus? Now, we are poised to witness the second event of our 21st Century “double feature” on the evening of June 5th. As was the case in 2004, Chuck Bueter has collected a treasure trove of Transit of Venus resources at his www.transitofvenus.org website. A few of his last minute announcements and additional web resources can be found on pages 11 and 16. Now’s the time to start making your plans... and keeping your fingers crossed for good weather!

On Tuesday, March 20, GLPA will experience yet another biennial change of leadership. On behalf of the GLPA membership, I’d like to thank outgoing President John Schroer for his outstanding service to GLPA and wish our incoming President Dave Leake the best of luck as he assumes the duties of that office.

Spring also ushers in the annual season of GLPA State Meetings. If you don’t already know your state’s meeting date and location, please refer to the State News section of this newsletter or the GLPA State Organizations web page at www.glpaweb.org/states. You should also consider attending the spring meeting of your neighboring state as well.

Please note that the deadline for the summer issue of the GLPA Newsletter is May 1, 2012. Please submit your facility reports to your state chairs by mid-April. I wish everyone clear skies for the Transit of Venus!
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View of Jupiter, with two moons and their shadows.
Illinois State Meeting  
Date: Saturday, May 12, 2012  
Locations: Discovery Center  
Museum, Rockford  
Contacts: Sarah Wolf at  
sarahw@discoverycentermuseum.org

The planetarium at Lakeview Museum of Arts and Sciences is entering its final few months of operation. On July 16, the planetarium will close to begin the re-location of their Zeiss Powerdome planetarium system to the new Peoria Riverfront Museum. The staff expects to have the planetarium operational by the end of August and be ready for building preview activities in September. The official public grand opening is scheduled for October 20, 2012. More details on the new museum, including live webcams, can be found at [www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org](http://www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org). This spring, the Lakeview Museum Planetarium will be running Dinosaur Prophecy from the Houston Museum of Natural Science in conjunction with the exhibit “Be the Dinosaur” in their museum galleries. It has been running since late-January and has proved to be immensely popular with audiences. They are also showing Adler’s TimeSpace, as well as laser light shows from AVI’s collection of shows.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College will be running their own live Spring Prairie Skies show this spring in addition to Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity and One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Adventure. In mid-April, they will add a converted version of The Planets. Girl Scout “Sky Search” merit badge workshops will be offered in April with Boy Scout Astronomy merit badge workshops to follow in May. The planetarium staff is planning to work with the local astronomical society to provide safe Transit of Venus viewing on June 5. Weekend birthday party packages continue to be quite popular!

The Cernan Earth and Space Center of Triton College continues its ongoing project to convert its collection of slide-based programs to its new digital, three-screen video system. Four planetarium programs have so far been completed, with two more nearing completion. In each case, the program’s original soundtrack remains the
same, but visuals are significantly improved and updated for the new format. Funding for the three-screen video equipment came from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Indiana State Meeting  
Date: Saturday, April 14, 2012  
Location: Carmel High School Planetarium, Carmel  
Contacts: Keith Turner at wkturner@ccs.k12.in.us

Keith Turner, Planetarium Director at Carmel High School is excited to announce that the April 14th Indiana State Meeting will feature presentations by Dr. Ronald Kaitchuck, whose presentation will be titled “Seeing Stars in Indiana;” Greg McCauley, who worked on Apollos 15, 16, 17 will speak on the Kepler Mission; vendor presentations by GOTO and Bowen Technovation; a tour of the Chronos Night Sky; a sample planetarium presentation idea for the new Indiana State Science Standards; and more. If you are an Indiana planetarian and have not received your letter of invitation by the equinox, please e-mail or call Keith. Planetarians from other states are also welcome to attend; please contact Keith for more detailed information.

In other news, the SpaceQuest Planetarium at the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis recently launched a new multi-media planetarium show titled Flight Adventures. Funded by a NASA grant, this show explores the science of flight and the use of model aircraft in that discovery. Their planetarium show is the centerpiece of a myriad of activities, displays, family and public programs, outreach, and online games at the Children’s Museum.

Michigan State Meeting  
Date: Saturday, March 17, 2012  
Location: Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti  
Contact: Norbert Vance at nvance@emich.edu

PLEASE NOTE: Daniel Tell has temporarily re-assumed the duties of Michigan State Chair. The Michigan delegation will select a new state chair at their spring meeting.

The Delta College Planetarium in Bay City has been running Extreme Planets, Zula Patrol: Under the Weather, and Secret of the Cardboard Rocket since January as part of a collaboration with the Midland Center for the Arts exhibit “Space. Sky. Sci-Fi.” Since part of the Midland exhibit deals with the giant worlds of our solar system, the planetarium’s family shows similarly deal with the solar system, while its general audience show describes extrasolar planets. In April, they will open Animalopolis, a giant screen film converted to fulldome. Although they’ll be adding a tour of the night sky to the entire presentation of the show, its most exciting aspect will be several “Animal Weekends” that they will conduct after the show opens. Several zoos, the Humane Society, and a local nature center have agreed to bring in small, live animals for visitors to see and learn about. Not only do they hope that visitors will learn more about animals and science, but that it will also prove very popular with families with children.

The University of Michigan’s Museum of Natural History Planetarium in Ann Arbor will be running the GLPA-sponsored show Cosmic Colors: an Adventure along the Spectrum and Natural Selection: Darwin’s Mystery of Mysteries through the end of April. Live star talks will be running in their time slots as well. The facility’s big news is that the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (their parent within the university), has announced the formalization of plans to replace the museum building. The 70+ year-old building no longer meets the needs of the new science being done within it, and the planning process has begun. The museum/planetarium is part of that overall plan, although the process to determine the specific details is just getting underway. Architectural meetings will start later this year. The museum has hired a new Director of Exhibits who has expertise in exhibit removal, reinstallation, design, and construction. Matt Linke should be able to report more details about the process and plans for the dome at the spring meeting.
Ohio State Meeting
Date: Saturday, April 14, 2012
Location: University of Toledo’s Ritter Planetarium, Toledo
Contact: Alex Mak at amak@utnet.utoledo.edu

There are new 3D and digital stars in Dayton! Cheri Adams reports that the Caryl D. Philips Space Theater at Dayton’s Boonshoft Museum of Discovery has just installed an Evans & Sutherland Digistar 4 along with a 3D projector, replacing the D2 installed in 2001. The installation follows a demonstration and fundraising period in 2011. Congratulations to Cheri and her team!

C. R. A. P. (Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums) held its February meeting at the International Women’s Air & Space Museum. Located at Cleveland’s Burke Lakefront Airport, the IWASM preserves the history and future contributions of women in air and space through exhibits and educational programs. Exhibits commemorate Katharine Wright who supported her brothers Wilbur and Orville; Harriet Quimby, the first licensed female pilot; Bessie Coleman, the first licensed African American pilot; Amelia Earhart; the Mercury 13; Shuttle astronauts including Sally Ride and Eileen Collins; and many more. The Education Room honors legendary Cleveland pilot Joan Hrubec. The archive room holds hundreds of artifacts awaiting display space. Suzie Dills, formerly of the Schuele Planetarium, is Executive Director of the IWASC.

At the Shaker Heights High School Planetarium, Gene Zajac’s astronomy club is working on their spring public show that will look at 20 years of Hubble and 50 years of Ohioans in space.

In extreme eastern Ohio (actually western Pennsylvania), the Edinboro University Planetarium reopened after three years out of service due to building renovations. It’s an understatement to say that Director David Hurd is excited to have his facility back in action, now with a sprinkler system and exit lights. “It’s back to our roots for us,” he says, noting that all shows are completely sky-oriented and live. Response to the reopening has been overwhelmingly positive and the public shows have attracted capacity audiences.

In far western Ohio, at the Bowling Green State University Planetarium, Dale Smith is running Earth Fest 2012, featuring a series of programs about our home planet. Programs to date in the series have included Oceans in Space from Loch Ness, and BG’s original productions Unworldly Weather (1994) and Water World (1992). At the time of writing, Dale and his observatory assistants are in the fifth month without a working elevator in their building, so all public visitors and BGSU students attending stargaze sessions in the rooftop observatory get to hike up five flights of stairs and 112 steps. The elevator renovation project had been scheduled for completion during the first week of January.
DON’T MISS OUT

To be included in the summer issue’s State News column, please forward news from your facility to your state chair during the latter half of April.

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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The University of Wisconsin - La Crosse Planetarium is running *Death of the Dinosaurs* in March, followed by *New Horizons - Mission to Pluto* in April.

The UW-Milwaukee Manfred Olson Planetarium successfully concluded its *Lives of Stars* show in March. The next program in their series, titled *Galaxies Galore*, will follow and continue until mid-May.

The planetarium’s third annual benefit event, titled *Art in Space*, will showcase art created by students and community members. Following a silent auction, Director Jean Creighton will host a show that highlights art and astronomy connections. Jean is also thinking of ways to highlight the Transit of Venus in June.

In February, the Charles Horwitz Planetarium in Waukesha will present *New Horizons, Mission to Pluto* and *Our Place in Space*. March programs will be *Cosmic Colors* and *Secret of the Cardboard Rocket*, while the month of April will feature *The Stargazer* and *3-2-1 Blastoff*.

Romancing the Stars once again graced the skies at the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium in Milwaukee. This original live production attracts couples of all ages, from young adults to seniors, making it a truly non-traditional planetarium audience. The Soref’s original production *Cleopatra’s Universe* is still running to complement the museum’s Cleopatra exhibit. GLPA’s *Cosmic Colors* will open in early May. A special preview night will feature Bob Berman from Astronomy Magazine.

The Mayo High School Planetarium in Rochester, Minnesota recently installed a Detonator™ Professional Workstation (made by Hardcore Computer), which allows the dome to become a giant computer display screen, thereby transforming the planetarium into a visualization learning lab. Planetarians wishing to learn more about this project should contact Director Larry Mascotti at lamascotti@rochester.k12.mn.us.
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JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN
1923 – 2011

Joseph M. Chamberlain, who served as President and Director of Chicago’s Adler Planetarium and Chairman of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in New York City, died in Peoria, Illinois on November 28, 2011. He was 88.

Chamberlain was born in 1923 in Peoria. After graduating from high school, he enrolled at Bradley University. However, he left Bradley during World War II to become a cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, where he earned a bachelor’s degree. He then served on transport ships in the Atlantic and the Pacific before returning to Bradley to finish a second bachelor’s degree. To finance his education, he taught high school part-time and worked in a cigar store.

Returning to New York, he taught nautical science at the Merchant Marine Academy and earned master’s and doctorate degrees from Teacher’s College of Columbia University, concentrating on meteorology and astronomy. He gave guest lectures at the Hayden Planetarium, averaging five a week from 1950 to 1952. In time, he rose through the ranks to become Hayden’s chairman in 1956 and became an Assistant Director of the American Museum of Natural History in 1964.

Beginning in 1968, Chamberlain served 23 years at the Adler Planetarium until his retirement in 1991. He was an organizer of the International Planetarium Directors Conference and served as Chairman for twelve years, and was a long time member of the American Association of Museums, serving as president from 1974-1975.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, three daughters, a brother, a sister, and four grandchildren.

[Ed.: Details for this article came from obituaries published in the Peoria Journal Star and New York Times].

ROY KAELIN’S NEW BOOK

GLPA member Roy Kaelin has written a new book titled All Done with Mirrors, which “acquaints sky observers with an uncommon but comfortable optical design, the Mersenne telescope. . .The Mersenne design lets the serious amateur enhance an existing telescope and make it easily accessible to small children and the wheelchair-bound. It’s a superb way for all to gain an unmatched view of the night sky magnified, while comfortably seated!”

For more information, please visit his website at roykaelin.com/a-new-book-to-launch.html.

PLANETARIAN’S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GLPA member Dayle Brown wants to remind everyone that Loris Ramponi of Italy maintains a Planetarian’s Calendar of Events, which can be found online at www.astrofilibresciani.it/Planetari/Internationa_Calendar.htm.
TRANSIT OF VENUS UPDATE
Chuck Bueter
bueter@nightwise.org

With the June 5, 2012 Transit of Venus now less than 100 days away, it’s time to start making plans. U.S. observers will watch the event on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, June 5th. First contact is expected to occur shortly after 6:04 p.m. EDT (5:04 CDT), with the transit ending prematurely at local sunset. The farther west you are, the more of the event you will see.

For years, Chuck Bueter has maintained the Transit of Venus website at www.transitofvenus.org, which continues to provide an array of resources related to the past, present, and future transits of Venus. Chuck also recommends Steven van Roode’s website at www.transitofvenus.nl, which includes a local transit time calculator. Those with Facebook accounts should visit www.facebook.com/groups/108400462513165 for the Transit of Venus Facebook Group Page. [Ed.: Additional Transit of Venus web resources may be found on page 16].

The Michiana community is planning to be the Midwest hub for attractions that celebrate the 2012 Transit of Venus. Highlights of their regional TROVE (TRansit Of VEnus) celebration include art exhibits and contests, historical artifacts on display, planetarium programs, a lecture series, classroom activities, webcasts, consumables like Black Drop Coffee and Venusian Ale, and solar observing opportunities. For more information, please visit their TROVE news page at www.transitofvenus.org/trove.

Does your planetarium or science museum have an event related to the Transit of Venus? If so, please upload the details of your event to the NASA Events Location Map at sunearthday.nasa.gov. Once the map gets somewhat populated and crowded, it will switch to a state-by-state format as well.

CONGRATULATIONS, GARY TOMLINSON

In the December issue of the Astronomical League's Reflector magazine, it was announced that Gary Tomlinson was recently awarded an AstroOscar by the Astronomical League for his longstanding work for Astronomy Day and the National Science Standards Review Committee.

In 2011, the Astronomical League bestowed three of these AstroOscars -- one to an individual, one to an astronomical club or society, and one to an astronomy professional. Gary's award was for the professional category. Congratulations, Gary!

By the way, the astronomical society that won this year's AstroOscar was the Miami Valley Astronomical Society, which works closely with Cheri Adams and the staff of the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Dayton, Ohio. Congratulations to their fine work, too!

GALILEO AWARD

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 visit www.glpaweb.org/other and scroll down to the Nomination Forms mid-way down the page. Print out a copy of the Galileo Award form, complete it, and submit it (along with the described letters of recommendation) to GLPA President Dave Leake before June 1.
Discover the Legend Written in the Stars...

A New Fulldome Show From Evans & Sutherland Digital Theater Productions
and the Eugenides Foundation Planetarium
Narrated by Terry O’Quinn

DIGISTAR
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The Importance of Being Human
Philip Groce
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One of my favorite plays is Oscar Wilde’s “The Importance of Being Earnest.” It is a clever story with crisp dialogue and a moral that illustrates the meaning of being true to one’s identity. It has some relevance to a planetarium medium that is searching for its identity in this world of fulldome digital systems. This essay is about exploring that identity. At the end of this declaration, I shall reveal a foolproof formula for making every planetarium successful. However, before you skip to the end, I respectfully ask that you indulge this writer and consider the following.

Every great teacher you ever knew helped you, or at the very least, allowed you, to love learning. They themselves were lovers of learning. They were passionate about their subjects, and their excitement was infectious. You succumbed to an incurable disease of wanting to know more. These rare and wonderful teachers took you beyond textbooks and rote learning. They taught you that learning wasn’t something that stopped at the end of the school day. It was alive in books, libraries, museums, science centers, historic sites, nature trails, and yes, even in planetariums.

Something horrible happened on the way to the 21st century. We, as educators and purveyors of the wonders of the universe, seem to have forgotten our primary mission. Somehow we have strayed into thinking that our job was to merely get students to master a group of skill sets, to pass a series of tests, and to meet some arbitrary standards of education. In the process, we may have managed to kill all love of learning. We forgot our primary purpose: to make our students and our public visitors life-long learners – to develop people young and old who are in a constant state of knowledge growth and not in an endgame of test and subject achievement followed by academic amnesia.

… by some estimates individuals spend as little as 9 percent of their lives in schools. Furthermore, science in K-12 schools is often marginalized by traditional emphases on mathematics and literacy; hence little science is actually taught during school hours.

Excerpt from Surrounded by Science: Learning Science in Informal Environments by Marilyn Fenichel and Heidi A. Schweingruber; National Research Council (2010).

Planetariums in general, and those in particular associated with public museums and science centers, are active participants in the other 91% of an individual’s life. Over a human lifespan, one is likely to learn much more science from informal education sources such as museums, libraries, documentaries, and the Internet than in the formal education setting of the classroom. I would argue that museums, zoos, and planetariums are far more significant educators long-term.

These informal educational institutions should not be trapped in a sticky gel of state-mandated test standards for classrooms to justify school field trips or funding support. Having served on a state educational standards committee, I can tell you that not one of the adopted science goals and objectives for K-12 students required a planetarium. It is virtually the same in every state. If it is mandated by a state standard that there are to be no astronomy concepts taught in a specific grade level, then the teacher has an uphill battle to justify a field trip to the planetarium. I would argue that precisely because there is no astronomy taught at that grade level, the teacher and principal are morally obligated to take their students to the planetarium and teach them that there are other significant ways of learning. I can’t tell you how many times I see planetarium programs that are really lessons that could be taught just as well, if not better, in a classroom. When I talk to superintendents trying to determine whether they should close or re-invest in their planetariums, they almost always ask why should they support such an expensive “classroom” upgrade when computer desktop planetariums and videos do as good a job helping them meet state standards? I reply: “That is exactly why you invest in them, because one of the unique purposes of a planetarium is to teach or illustrate those concepts that are difficult, if not impossible, to teach or illustrate in a classroom or on a desktop computer.” Our collective planetarium purpose is to educationally lead our communities, not follow. It is time for planetariums to be earnest and to embrace their true mission of inspiring and instilling wonder and awe, to provoke their public audiences to look beyond their classrooms, to recognize the role of informal education, and to see first-hand an amazing and mysterious universe. Those planetariums that are taking this not-so-politically-correct path are succeeding. Their bravery is rewarded and is an important key to being a successful planetarium.
There are other keys. Those of us who were in charge of planetariums associated with museums were often called "planetarium curators," a strange word meaning "keeper" or "caretaker." I always found it difficult to understand how I could be the ‘keeper’ of the universe or the “caretaker” of the Sun, Moon, and stars in a cosmos where I am just lucky enough to be here. This word has evolved to also mean “interpreter” of objects and collections. For the planetarium, the objects are the Sun, Moon, and stars and the Universe is the ultimate collection. In the fullness of time, I realized that the role of the planetarium was to celebrate the universe with as much passion and love of knowledge as possible and to help our visitors interpret what they see in the sky. I think this is the role of people who teach in and produce for planetariums. We are not just curators of the planetariums or the stars they represent, but rather, nurturers of the human desire of our students and visitors to know more.

Planetariums have gone through an amazing revolution with the advent of fulldome digital planetarium projection systems. For the first time, we have a presentation media with some standardization. We have the ability to show anything we can imagine and the talent and financial resources to create. Now a program produced for a 20-meter dome and designed to play back on a multi-million dollar system can play back flawlessly on a 6-meter dome on a system that costs less than $100,000. This should be the “golden age” or the "renaissance" of planetariums. We have more in common with Imax® theaters that for decades we resented or only secretly admired. It is a perfect example of “be careful what you wish for.”

Today many planetariums have converted to fulldome digital technology and are faced with much higher costs of operation, particularly for pre-rendered shows. The days of getting a program for $250 are long gone. Now, even the smallest planetarium must have a tenfold increase in show budgets. Most don’t have the funds to produce their own unique fulldome extravaganza and must depend on the works of other larger, better-funded institutions or dedicated independent producers. Today, there is very little difference between these digital planetariums. For the most part, they tend to present the same pre-rendered content. Each facility is haunted by the question: Once we burn through our library of expensive pre-rendered programs, what do we show?

In the 1970s and early ‘80s, Salt Lake City’s Hansen Planetarium won several grants to produce and distribute free programs. Its Director, Mark Littmann, wrote and produced several wonderful shows with titles like The People: Sky lore of the American Indian and Skywatchers of Ancient Mexico that later played in hundreds of planetariums across the U.S. and around the world. I enjoyed going to other facilities to see how they staged and presented these shows. Each planetarium put its own personal mark or style on these programs. Many times I saw something new and unique and took those ideas back to my own theater. In those days, every planetarium had a unique personality and used their limited resources to create a unique show for their local audience. They were the first to “think universally, act locally.”

The fact that each planetarium was unique with its own criteria for quality wasn’t without problems. There were a lot of bad planetarium shows, and some producers rightly lamented on the lack of creative or quality control of their programs.

We have always had our planetarium controversies. Some in retrospect may seem silly. In the 1950s, it was the audacity of adding music to our “lectures.” In the 1960s, it was slides, 16mm film, and special effects. In the 1970s, it was pre-recorded narration or “canned” versus “live” programs and the use of automation. In the 1980s, it was computer animation and video. And in the 1990s, it was the rise of fulldome digital planetariums versus the sky quality of optical-mechanical projectors. In spite of the controversy, each of these “advances” offered the potential to make us better storytellers. Fast-forward to today, and many planetariums have much more in common with movie theaters than planetariums of the past. Sadly, some of these facilities have become a movie-push-a-button-planetarium with little soul and even less personality.

Please don’t misunderstand me here. There are wonderful fulldome programs that have a great script, narration, and music score wrapped in stunning visualizations. However, what marks a great fulldome show is the unique passion and viewpoint it brings to the audience. For instance, Robin Sip of Mirage3D has transformed his love of science and storytelling into some amazing fulldome productions. I am emotionally moved when I see a Robin Sip show or hear a Carolyn Collins Petersen script because they communicate at a very human level and are on an earnest quest to enlarge our view of the universe. They share their “personal” and unique perspective through a very impersonal digital medium. That is not easy.

One notable experiment in making these fulldome programs more human is at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles. Here ‘live’ actors in synchronization with the visualizations and music speak a story of the history of humankind’s exploration of the Universe. I have seen the same show twice, once with a female actor and the other with a male actor. Judging from my own reaction and the reactions of the audience, I’d say all of us paid more attention to this more personal approach. The actors smiled, looked you in the eye, and used props to add even more visual realism. My only disappointment is that the actors had to stay with the script and could not deviate. That meant they couldn’t react to a laugh or a nod of understanding or take a path that might have been more relevant. That is where the presentation stopped
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being human. It made me realize that it might be better to give astronomy lecturers acting lessons on how to speak poetically and passionately about a subject rather than use actors to parrot a well-worn script. Regardless, the Griffith should be seen by every planetarian. It is a brave and bold experiment that holds lessons for all of us.

So where do we go from here? How do we use these new digital tools with our limited program budgets? Well, fortunately, there are many shining examples around us. The Tellus Science Museum’s Planetarium in Northwest Georgia under the leadership of David Dundee has elected not to simply be a digital movie theater. He has over 30 trained show-runners and operates 8 hours a day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year. His 120-seat theater has averaged more than 100,000 paid admissions per year over the last three years. The secret to this planetarium’s success is David’s philosophy that every visitor shall receive a live (human) guided tour of the night sky before each fulldome movie presentation. These are quality educational and entertaining presentations that allow the planetarium to meet the expectations of its audience. Every show is different and worth seeing. This show philosophy is also part of other successful planetariums such as Nashville’s Sudekum Planetarium. A long time ago, Jack Horkheimer gave me some advice. “Always have a section in your programs that just shows the stars.” Yes, we all want to create visual extravaganzas; however, the audience will always feel cheated if we simply don’t take the time to show them the stars.” Jack was right then, and he still is now.

One possible solution to under-funded planetarium budgets is to not depend solely on purchasing expensive pre-rendered content. Live shows presented with passion by knowledgeable humans using all of the capabilities of digital planetariums will sell as well as most pre-rendered programs. Combined with fulldome movies, you have the best of both worlds and a way to extend the life of these movies in your theater.

So my friends, here it is, the secret of the universe, planetariums and everything:

Be earnest and true to yourselves – be a planetarium, and, most important of all, be unafraid to be human by sharing your love of the Sun, Moon, and stars. You don’t need a million-dollar budget or even a thousand-dollar budget to do that. It doesn’t matter what technology you use or what size dome you project upon. If you can approach your presentations with the same awe and wonder you had when you saw your first star-filled sky, you will succeed. For what our audiences want the most is a learned and passionate guide to the heavens. They want someone with a cosmic perspective who will inspire them to go find their own starry night, explore it and, yes, celebrate it. Nothing could be more human and, for planetariums, more important.

Transit of Venus web resources

Transit of Venus ([www.transitofvenus.org](http://www.transitofvenus.org)) The ToV website of GLPA’s own Chuck Bueter arguably offers the most complete coverage of Venus Transits past, present, and future.

Transit of Venus ([transitofvenus.nl/wp](http://transitofvenus.nl/wp)) Steven van Roode’s ToV website also includes some very useful resources, including ToV merchandise, observing articles, and educator resources.

Local Transit Times ([transitofvenus.nl/wp/where-when/local-transit-times](http://transitofvenus.nl/wp/where-when/local-transit-times)) Steven van Roode’s web page calculates local circumstances for ToVs, past, present, and future.

VenusTransit iPhone App ([itunes.apple.com/app/venustransit/id502494620](http://itunes.apple.com/app/venustransit/id502494620)) There’s even a ToV app for your iPhone! Before the transit, you can find out what part of the transit will be visible from your location and when the transit will start and end. During the transit, the phone app enables you to participate in a world-wide ToV timing experiment. After the transit, you can access your submitted data on map on our website, edit the entry, and upload descriptions, text, images, or movies.
The Alien Who Stole Christmas

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ZEISS
We make it visible.
GLPA Executive Committee Meeting
Staerkel Planetarium
Parkland College
Champaign, Illinois
October 19, 2011

Present: Cheri Adams, Sue Batson, Bart Benjamin, Jeanne Bishop, Bob Bonadurer, John French, Geoff Holt, Dave Leake, John Potts, John Schroer, Dale Smith, Dan Tell, and Gary Tomlinson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President John Schroer at 9:06 a.m. EDT.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, held at Clifford Pierce Middle School in Merrillville, Indiana on April 30, 2011, had been printed in the GLPA Newsletter and e-mailed. No revisions were made. Gary Tomlinson moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer’s Report: John French distributed the Financial Report, which was then discussed. As of October 19, 2011, the current balance of GLPA’s savings, checking, PayPal, Image Bank, Instructional Materials, and Gift Shop accounts is $81,528.60. John noted this is significantly higher than in past years due to the online registration for this year’s conference. Some conference expenses will be paid from this account in coming weeks. In the past, most conference expenses were paid from the conference host’s account. A discussion followed regarding PayPal.

John French moved that vendors who pay a conference registration fee would receive complimentary memberships for each employee attending. The motion was seconded and carried. John French will explore the possibility and provide information at the spring Executive Committee meeting regarding audits.

Additional discussions occurred regarding Cosmic Colors and budgets.

President’s Report: President Schroer invited Dan Tell, Technology ad hoc Committee (TaC) Chair, to provide a report on the progress of TaC. President Schroer thanked Dan for all of his work with the Technology ad hoc Committee. It was proposed and agreed that TaC should be integrated into the Instructional Materials Committee.

It was agreed that Dale Smith will notify which members qualify for a $100 registration fee credit for the 2012 conference due to the paper mix up during the 2010 Saturday concurrent paper sessions.

A discussion regarding deceased members resulted in agreement that the Historian should create obituaries for members when they pass away, the History Committee should assist the President in compiling the list of deceased members to be announced at the Spitz Banquet, and continue to list deceased honorary members on the website.

Discussion followed the presentation of the revised Spitz Banquet and Procedures.

President-Elect’s Report: David Leake reported:

GLPA Elections: The ballot this fall for GLPA elections are ready and have the following members appearing:

For President-Elect: Garry Beckstrom & Dayle Brown Piser
For Secretary-Treasurer: John French
For IPS Representative: Jeanne Bishop

Dave thanked the Nominations Committee for their assistance.

GLPA Scholarship: The Executive Committee approved five scholarship awards at their spring, 2011 meeting. All five scholarships were awarded for the fall conference in Champaign at a cost of $1,435 to the conference as the scholarships amount to a waiver of the registration fee and meal package. The committee consisted of the President-Elect (as chair), Membership Chair, Past-President, and two GLPA members (not on the Executive Committee). Discussion followed regarding changing the application submission deadline. Gary Tomlinson moved to change the application submission
date to September 1, all applications submitted prior to that date will be given full consideration, late applications will be considered contingent upon the availability of funds, and the number of scholarships will be determined at the Spring Executive Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Dropbox:  Gary Tomlinson has been updating the GLPA Handbook and discussion followed. The Executive Committee agreed to support Geoff Holt’s proposal to move editing of the GLPA Handbook onto the web site.

Conference Planning:  As of Monday, October 10, GLPA has 20 vendors (37 representatives) registered along with 177 delegates. The conference program should appear on the web site within the next day or two.

Past President’s Report:  Cheri Adams reported that Garry Beckstrom will continue writing the short conference summaries and has plans to complete those and submit to Geoff Holt to post on the web site. Renewal for both insurance policies took place in August and reported answers to questions posed by Executive Committee members.

Secretary/Treasurer Report (non-financial):  John French updated changes to the Executive Committee contact information and he will investigate options to have an audit of GLPA financial records.

The Secretary/Treasurer Subcommittee Report-Constitutional Revision was provided by Dale Smith. Additional sections of the Constitution were examined for potential revisions. Proposals were discussed.

IPS Report:  Jeanne Bishop reported that the last IPS council meeting was held in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia from July 31 to August 1. The Chinese Planetarium Society was approved by the Council as a new affiliate. 2010: Last summer, 327 participants from 48 countries attended the Alexandria conference. 2012: Jon Elvert will host the upcoming conference at his facility, the Irene Pennington Planetarium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Information about this conference is on the conference website at ips2012.com. 2014: A ballot vote determined that Beijing, China will be the site of the 2014 conference.

Current Officers:  Dave Weinrich, President; Tom Mason, Past-President; Thomas Kraupe, President-Elect; Lee Ann Hennig, Secretary; and Shawn Laatsch, Treasurer.

Elections:  Martin George chairs this committee, and nominations should be sent to him for candidates in the next cycle.

Awards:  Send nominations for awards to Lars Broman, IPS Awards Committee Chair.

History:  Chair John Hare reported that the committee is completing the scanning of slides and photographs of archival material. A database will be established for deceased IPS members, and a digital memorial will be prepared.

The Else Eisinga Planetarium, the world’s oldest working planetarium, which was built 1774-1781 in the inventor’s home, has been nominated for UNESCO’s World Heritage. They are seeking letters of support.

Jeanne complimented Editor Sharon Shanks on her wonderful job as Planetarian Editor.

IPS is healthy, current IPS membership numbers 606, and many IPS activities are based on GLPA functions and activities.

Membership Report:  John Potts reported that GLPA membership is at 250, an increase of 25 members over last year. 97 GLPA members are also IPS members. 108 members opt for receiving both electronic and printed versions of the GLPA Newsletter, while 85 receive only the electronic version, and 48 receive only the printed version. John feels that the increase could easily be due to the ease of registering online.

Development Report:  Bob Bonadurer reported that there are 20 vendors at the conference. He led the discussion regarding vendor presentation time. Conference vendor time is determined by the Development Chair, the Conference Planning Chair, and the Conference Host.

Publication Report:  Bart Benjamin reported that the quarterly GLPA Newsletter has been redesigned for the Mac OS X platform and Pages software and that he used this opportunity to make many design changes and improvements. Each issue now has 10½ pages of advertising, generating annual revenue of $3,165.00. The winter newsletter will be GLPA’s 173rd issue and Bart’s 96th issue, with his 100th issue planned for the winter of 2012. The next edition of the GLPA Proceedings will be GLPA’s 28th Proceedings and Dale Smith’s 24th issue as its Editor.

GLPA continues to increase its presence on both Facebook and Twitter. GLPA’s Twitter Page has 23 followers (up from 17 reported last spring) and its Facebook Page has 92 people who “like” our page.

Dale Smith continues his effort to collect all the old GLPA conference group photos and create keys where they don’t already exist. Dale believes that he is nearing the end of this project, since little additional information has been
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To see the Digital Starball for yourself, please contact us.

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received in the past few months. There remain 3 missing group photos and at least 9 additional photos with incomplete identifications, all prior to 1984. From 1984 onward, GLPA's group photo collection is complete.

**Education Report:** Bob Bonadurer shared a report from Retired Education Committee Chair, Dave DeRemer. Bob asked Bart to share information regarding the NCSE (National Congress on Science Education). It was determined that the new contact for NCSE should be the new Education Committee Chair, Sue Batson.

The *Cosmic Colors* fulldome planetarium show is complete and will be shown on Thursday morning. The fulldome version is available from the online store. The traditional dome version will be available in February. Bob thanked everyone for the support of the development and production of *Cosmic Colors*.

An attempt will be made to further explore the possibility of developing a cosmology show from Ron Kaitchuck’s cosmology show, survey the membership to determine if any would be interested in running it under their domes, determine who would be the target audience, and find out if other members would be interested in continuing the development of the show. A digital copy of the script will be sent to Geoff Holt so that it can be placed in the script bank.

Gary Tomlinson reported and led a discussion for the National Standards Committee for K-12 Standards Revisions. Sue moved that GLPA adopt the revised Minimum Astronomy and Space Science Concepts in a K-12 Curriculum as posted on the web site. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed and the motion was withdrawn. Sue moved to ask the membership for a vote to allow the National Standard sub-committee to refine the previous static document and replace it with an evolving document that will reflect GLPA's current position on academic standards, subject to review by the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

Gary requested that Jeanne give a report regarding her experience at the ASP meeting. Jeanne relayed it was an effective way to reach the people who will be on the future committee gathering feedback. The committee did listen and acknowledged that planetarians should be involved.

The Executive Committee welcomed new Education Committee Chair, Sue Batson.

Gary introduced the concept of a Project Review Committee for future potential project funding. President John Schroer appointed Bob Bonadurer (Chair), Jeanne Bishop, Dan Tell, and Sue Batson to serve on the committee. Members will be invited to participate on the committee. The committee’s function will serve to provide guidelines for the application process and for oversight of potential projects.

**Instructional Materials Report**

**Printed Materials:** All of the printed materials are now available for immediate download as PDF files for members on the web site. Members do need to log in to download the files. Non-members can still order materials through the online store. Special thanks to Bart Benjamin for helping to get these materials posted to the web site. And thanks again to Dale Smith for scanning the materials.

**Live from the Planetarium:** The video is finished and was distributed to members with the Proceedings mailing over the summer. If there is interest, we will continue to work toward making some of the video material available on the web site.

**Web Site:** The new web site went live on July 1st. All membership management and conference registrations are now being handled through the site. We will continue to expand and refine our capabilities throughout the year. Special thanks to Bart Benjamin and Tom Dobes (Merrillville graduate) for their help with the web site. The new web site is more expensive since it uses more space. We have also seen an increase in the usage of the web site which also increases its cost due to more space.

**Conference Planning**

2014 Conference Planning: Open
2015 Conference Planning: Dates to be determined – Grand Rapids, Michigan

**Old business:** John Potts demonstrated how easy it is to mine data from the Membership Report.

**New business:** The Executive Committee thanked John Schroer for his service as President of GLPA. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held in Merrillville, Indiana on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** President John Schroer adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.
The revolutionary power of Digistar 4 is now portable.

The new Digistar Outreach uses a single DLP video projector with a fisheye lens, bringing uncompromising big screen planetarium experiences to inflatable domes.

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GLPA Annual Business Meeting
Parkland College
Champaign, Illinois
October 22, 2011

President John Schroer called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. EDT and thanked the conference hosts for the wonderfully organized conference.

David Parker moved that the meeting minutes of the past Business Meeting (held on October 23, 2010 in Notre Dame, Indiana at the University of Notre Dame and published in the 2010 Winter GLPA Newsletter) be approved. His motion was seconded and carried.

President Schroer requested that Dan Tell, Technology ad hoc Committee (TaC) Chair, give a report, which he subsequently did.

President-Elect Dave Leake reported that all five GLPA scholarships were awarded to eligible members. These scholarships waived the registration fee and meal package costs. The Scholarship Committee was composed of three Executive Committee members and two non-Executive Committee members. Dave then reported the members appearing on the ballot for the current elections included Garry Beckstrom and Dayle Brown running for President-Elect, John French running unopposed for Secretary-Treasurer, and Jeanne Bishop, also unopposed for the position of IPS Representative.

John French, Secretary/Treasurer, gave a brief Treasurer’s report of the balances of each of GLPA’s accounts, totaling at the current time $81,357.05.

Cheri Adams, Past President, reported that Garry Beckstrom, GLPA Historian, is writing the short conference summaries for recent past conferences and he will submit those to Geoff Holt for posting on the web site. Cheri also reported that the organization’s insurance policies had both been renewed in August.

Jeanne Bishop, IPS Representative, related that detailed IPS information could be found on the IPS web site and in her IPS Report in the Winter GLPA Newsletter. Highlights include:

- IPS Council met July 2011 in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia.
- 2012 IPS meeting will be hosted by Jon Elvert in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- 2014 IPS meeting will take place at the Beijing Planetarium.
- Current IPS Officers are Dave Weinrich, President; Tom Mason, Past-President; Thomas Kraupe, President-Elect; Lee Ann Hennig, Secretary; and Shawn Laatsch, Treasurer.
- Else Elsinga Planetarium, the world’s oldest working planetarium, has been nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 606 current IPS members.

Jeanne recognized Sharon Shanks as a much appreciated and wonderful editor of Planetarian.
John Potts, Membership Committee Chair, reported the location and number of members (250), fellows (82), GLPA/IPS members (97), breakdown of membership and planetarium types.

Bob Bonadurer, Development Committee Chair, reported on the conference vendor support (20 vendors) that generated about $23,000 in revenue for this conference. Bob mentioned the possibility of adding a new vendor category for a five-minute presentation and one for vendors not attending the conference but wishing to display materials at the conference.

Bart Benjamin, Publications Committee Chair, reported that the newsletter has eight contractual advertisers, is now produced on the Mac OS X platform using Pages software, and is distributed by e-mail and in printed form. Bart reported on the social networking of those following GLPA on Facebook and Twitter and he and Geoff Holt have and will be soliciting feedback from members. The 2011 Winter GLPA Newsletter will be GLPA’s 173rd issue and Bart’s 96th as its Editor. The 2010 Proceedings CD for the past conference was not mailed until July 2011 due to production delays caused by two invited speakers. The 2011 Proceedings will be GLPA’s 28th and Dale Smith’s 24th as its Editor. Dale is nearing the end of his project to collect all the old GLPA conference group photos and create keys where they don’t already exist.

Retiring Education Committee Chair, Dave DeRemer, introduced newly appointed Education Committee Chair, Sue Batson. Gary Tomlinson explained that GLPA has worked with six other U.S. planetarium regionals regarding the new national science standards and the necessity for GLPA’s own documents to be flexible to accommodate upcoming changes. Susan Reynolds Button moved that the National Standards Sub-Committee be allowed to refine “Astronomy Literacy – Essential Concepts for a K-12 Curriculum” as needed, viewing this document as a continuously evolving document, with all refinements subject to review by the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded and carried following discussion. The fulldome version of Cosmic Colors is available and the traditional dome version will be available in the winter of 2012. Representatives will be sent to participate in the 2012 National Congress on Science Education if the topics are thought to benefit GLPA members.

Geoff Holt, Instructional Materials Committee Chair, thanked Dale Smith for scanning all instructional materials into digital form and Bart Benjamin for his assistance in uploading the files. All printed materials are now available for immediate download on the web site. There is no cost to members. They simply need to log in to download the files. Geoff reported that the web site is being utilized much more. Other materials, such as show kits, can be ordered on the web site through the online store.

Gary Tomlinson, Conference Planning Committee Chair, reported on the upcoming conferences. Sue Batson delivered a PowerPoint presentation for the 2012 GLPA Conference she will be hosting at North Hills High School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 24th through October 27th. Sheldon Schafer will host the 2013 GLPA Conference at the new Peoria Riverfront Museum, in Peoria, Illinois, October 16th through October 19th. The site for the 2014 conference is undecided and the 2015 conference will be held at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

No old business to report.

New business to report: The election results: Garry Beckstrom, President-Elect, John French, Secretary/Treasurer, and Jeanne Bishop, IPS Representative.

John French moved that the meeting be adjourned. His motion was seconded and carried.
Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum is a dynamic new planetarium show from the Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA). It premiered on October 20, 2011 at the GLPA Conference in Champaign, Illinois.

Cosmic Colors will take you on a wondrous journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. Discover the many reasons for color — like why the sky is blue and why Mars is red. Take a tour within a plant leaf and journey inside the human eye. Investigate x-rays by voyaging to a monstrous black hole and then back at your doctor’s office. You will even see the actual color of a dinosaur, based on recent evidence. Get ready for an amazing adventure under a rainbow of cosmic light! 31 minutes in length.

Target audience: 5th grade and up

Ordering information:

**FULLDOME VERSION:**
- $300 for a full dome masters at 4K x 4K (need 1 TB hard drive)
- $250 for full dome masters at 2K x 2K (need 500 GB hard drive)
- $200 for full dome masters at 1K x 1K (need 100 GB hard drive)

For FullDome versions, each planetarium must ship an appropriate hard drive to GLPA. Show encoding is the responsibility of each planetarium.

**TRADITIONAL VERSION:**
$100 for traditional version with two discs -- a playable Cosmic Colors show DVD and a DVD data disc containing all-sky images, digital JPEG images, audio tracks, flattened video scenes, teacher guides, and documentation.

For more information on Cosmic Colors, please contact Dave DeRemer at (262) 896-8423 or Bob Bonadurer at (414) 278-6985. To order Cosmic Colors, contact Dave Leake at (217) 351-2567 or dleake@parkland.edu. Credit card purchases should go through the GLPA Online Store at www.glpaweb.org/online-store.
A Week in Italy for an American Planetarium Operator
Revised 2011

Each year, in the spring, the Serafino Zani Astronomical Observatory (Lumezzane/Brescia) will host an American Planetarium Operator, whose native tongue is English, to work with high school students of English. In the past this contest was only available for STARLAB educators. This newly revised contest will accept applications from educators or astronomers who work with any of the various models of planetariums.

The International Planetarium Society (IPS) endorses this initiative as an excellent opportunity for professional development and cultural exchange.

The winner will:

1. be asked to provide a curriculum vita and the text of a lesson plan with activities and stories.
2. be asked to prepare the lesson for an analog projector but it may be augmented with digital visuals on a flash drive. Each lesson will be at least 60 minutes in length and can be about traditional topics for planetaria such as: daily motion, orienteering, latitude motion, solstice and equinox, constellations, mythology and so on.
3. be asked to make a public presentation. The presenter will provide an introduction with slides about U.S. experiences in the diffusion of astronomy and then a lesson.
4. receive a maximum of $1000 for transportation from the United States. Bed and meals will be provided during this professional visit. (Additional expenses for tourist travel, hotel and meals must be paid by the applicant.)
5. need to be available for a maximum of 10-12 days in Italy in conjunction with the Italian Association of Planetaria (PLANIT) yearly conference.
6. be asked to make presentations in a minimum of 3 cities (maximum 5 cities).
   Example: 2 days in Perugia for the conference, 4 days in Brescia (3 morning classes each day), 4 days near Gorizia.

All lessons and presentations will be conducted in the English language. A preliminary text of the lesson is required so that teachers will have ample time to work with their students before the experience. Be prepared to teach the lesson at either a basic or an advanced level. Some classes are extremely interested but do not know a lot of astronomy and others have studied astronomy in depth. Most of the students have had two to four years of English and will understand the spoken word if you speak clearly and deliberately. They have a good sense of humor and certainly display the usual excitement about the planetarium.
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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

IPS dues are only $65 a year, or two years for $100. 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, Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii, 600 Imiloa Place, Hilo, HI 96720 USA
Phone: +1 (808) 969-9735
Fax: +1 (808) 969-9748
E-mail: slaatsch@imiloahawaii.org
There will be time when there are no other engagements, thus providing an opportunity for touring the locale and nearby cities. For instance, Lumezzane is very rich in public astronomy with the Serafino Zani Astronomical Observatory, four small planetaria, the Eureka Astronomical Center and the National Archive of Planetaria. The province of Brescia is very interesting with its natural landscapes and parks, three lakes and a most important valley for prehistoric age stone engravings. Exciting artistic cities, such as Verona and Venice, are nearby and can be reached by taking a one or two-hour train ride.

Culminating documentation:
We request a final report be written by the American teacher which will include the text of the High School lesson, comments from the students and impressions of the experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winners of the &quot;Week in Italy&quot; for an American planetarium operator (since 1995):</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Reynolds Button (OCM BOCES Planetarium, Syracuse, New York); Jeanne E. Bishop (Westlake School Planetarium, Ohio); Jerry Vinski (Planetarium of the Raritan Valley Community College, New Jersey); Dee Wanger (Discovery Center Science Museum, Fort Collins, Colorado); April Whitt (Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, Georgia); Raymond Shubinski (East Kentucky Center for Science, mathematics &amp; Technology); Andrea Lee Pisacano (Kauai Children's Discovery Museum, Hawaii); Dayle Brown (Pegasus Production, Indiana, USA); John T. Meader (Northern Stars Planetarium, Fairfield, Maine); Corey Radman (Discovery Center Science Museum, Fort Collins, Colorado), Carolyn R. Kaichi (Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii), Michele Wistisen (Casper Planetarium, Casper, Wyoming), Joseph E. Ciotti (Hokulani Imaginarium, Kaneohe, Hawaii), Stephen R. McNeil (Brigham Young University Planetarium, Rexburg, Idaho).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

September 15 is the yearly deadline for the applicants of "A Week in Italy for an American Planetarium Operator". 

Application Procedure:
Participants must send an application that includes your full name, complete address, year of birth and your curriculum vitae. Send this information along with a cover letter, explaining why you wish to be considered for this experience. You must also include the text of lesson plans, with activities, and stories that you would like to present for the students and for the public. Please include a list of specialized vocabulary or any other relevant materials that you feel would strengthen your application.

Send your application to:
Loris Ramponi
Osservatorio Serafino Zani
Via Bosca 24
25066 Lumezzane – Italy
email: osservatorio@serafinozani.it or megrez58@gmail.com
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www.av-imagineering.com
GLPA’s 21st newsletter and the first issue of 1972 contained the following articles and columns:

★ In this issue’s lead article, Don Tuttle described “A Unique Kind of Place” – namely, the Elgin Observatory and Planetarium. Built in 1909 as a showpiece for the Elgin National Watch Company, this unique facility measured and kept time accurate to within 1/5 of a second for 46 years. In 1960, the company gave the Observatory to the Elgin Public Schools rather than selling it to be torn down. As Don Tuttle recalled, “A never to be forgotten experience was the day I entered the Observatory with an administrator to survey what we had and evaluate how it could be used in the process of education. . . How does one use two Riefler clocks permanently installed in a small remote clock vault, a 3-inch Warner and Swasey meridian transit telescope, a chronograph, a two-channel radio transmitter, and miscellaneous small parts to teach grades 1 through 14 about the blossoming space age and astronomy? For two years, it was one gigantic struggle, and during the third, the decision was made with little opposition to install a planetarium.” In a room that once routinely held over a million dollars of watches “timed by the stars,” a planetarium chamber was fashioned and equipped with a Spitz A3P in 1963. [Ed. In August of 1994, the Elgin Observatory was added to the National Register of Historic Places. Gary Kutina and Peggy Hernandez followed Don Tuttle as Director upon his retirement in 1985. Don passed away in August of 2010].

★ In an article titled “Are We Abusing Childhood and Youth?” Richard Joko described with passion his belief that all too often, the education system tells youngsters what to do and how to think, resulting in adults who suffer from identity crisis, confusion, anguish, and difficulty in making decisions and become self-sufficient adults. Joko proclaimed that “we must stop using childhood and youth solely for the purpose of preparing youngsters for later life. . . During childhood and youth, youngsters must be given the freedom to make real, important decisions.”

★ Another article encouraged planetarium educators to make themselves available as astronomy merit badge counselors for the Boy Scouts of America. The requirements for the astronomy merit badge were also listed in the article.

★ Two upcoming meetings were described: the October, 1972 GLPA Conference in Youngstown, Ohio and the first official meeting of the International Society of Planetarium Educators in the San Francisco area in mid-November. Also noted was that the I.S.P.E. planned to publish its first issue of *The Planetarian* in June of 1973. It was noted that “the first edition of this quarterly journal has been under development for over two years.”
In his quarterly President’s Message, Dale Smith offered his opinion that planetarium shows are as much an art form as they are an instrument of science education. Dale explained that “our message may be science education, but our media are the many forms of art. We use voice and script, which are used in theater. We use music, which is used in concerts. We use visuals, which are used in art. We can create programs that, while delivering science, appeal to the various aesthetic senses as do the traditional performing arts, and could attract some of the clientele that plays and concerts do.” Dale Smith went on to suggest that one reason that planetariums may not attract many of the adults who go to plays and concerts may be the result of deeply entrenched cultural stereotypes – namely, that adults visualize the planetarium primarily as a place for the kids, many adults have a fear of science, and a gulf exists between the sciences and the humanities.

It was noted that six new scripts and six new curriculum guides were added to the GLPA Script Bank and new slides were added to the GLPA Slide Bank. [Ed. Twenty years later, scripts can now be found at the GLPA website by visiting www.glpaweb.org/pltmscripts. Archived scripts can be found at www.glpaweb.org/pltm-script-archive. Anyone can read the listing of scripts, but only members can download the PDF files. With regard to the GLPA Image Bank (formerly known as the Slide Bank), GLPA eventually plans to offer an online Image Catalog, whereby members will be able to browse the Image Bank directly from our website].

A variety of upcoming meetings were described. The 104th Annual Meeting of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific would be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in late-June. The annual conference of the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society (M.A.P.S.) would be held at the Carnegie Science Center’s Buhl Planetarium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in late-April. The annual conference of the Southeastern Planetarium Association (S.E.P.A.) would be held at the Roper Mountain Science Center in Greenville, South Carolina in mid-June, 1992. Finally, GLPA state meetings in 1992 would be held in Chicago, Illinois; Marion, Indiana; East Lansing, Michigan; Dayton, Ohio; and LaCrosse, Wisconsin. [Ed. I couldn’t help but notice that two of the State Chairs in 1992 are still State Chairs today and have served continuously in that role for at least 20 years. Using my GLPA Newsletter archive as research tool, I found that Alan Pareis has served as Indiana State Chair since the autumn of 1991. That’s 20½ years! Dale Smith has served as Ohio State Chair since 1984. That’s nearly 28 years! Congratulations to Alan and Dale for their longstanding service to their respective states and to GLPA!]

GLPA’s 95th newsletter and the first issue of 1992 contained the following articles and columns:
Jeanne Bishop, IPS Representative

Remember the terrific presentation Jon Elvert made last fall at the annual conference? We could almost feel like we were there with his many slides of the insides and outsides of buildings that will be used for the upcoming IPS Conference, which will be held from Sunday, July 21 - Thursday, July 26 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The dates for the conference are fast approaching, and it is time for us to make our reservations.

The Conference Booklet for IPS 2012 in Baton Rouge was mailed at the beginning of February and should have been received by all IPS members by mid-February. An excellent summary of the venue locations, a schedule, and delegate registration form were included. Please e-mail host Jon Elvert at jelvert@lasm.org if you did not receive a conference booklet and wish to attend.

The basic registration fee is $400 for members and $500 for non-members. [Excluding other important reasons for joining IPS, purely on a cost basis one might as well become an IPS member, as the two year IPS membership fee is a total of $100]. The banquet and tours are extra.

Note: 1) the paper/panel/workshop form and instructions and 2) the membership renewal form. Important deadlines are April 20 for registration and May 21 for paper/paper/workshop requests, including e-mailed abstracts.

It is easy and efficient to register for the conference. Delegates may either fill out the secure registration form at ips2012.com or return the attached form via e-mail, mail or fax to:

Louisiana Art & Science Museum IPS 2012 Registration
100 River Road South
Baton Rouge, LA 70802 USA
E-mail: ipsregistration@lasm.org

Those who submit forms and abstracts for papers, panels, and workshops will be informed of acceptance by June 8, and a full copy of the presentation text is due via e-mail by June 27. The submission form and abstract, as well as the full paper/panel/workshop text are to be sent to ipspapers@lasm.org. No paper/panel/workshop submission will be accepted without an abstract.

Three suggested hotel accommodations close to the main sites of the meeting are listed in the booklet, with complete cost and contact information. They are the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center (the main conference hotel), Belle of Baton Rouge Casino and Hotel, and Hotel Indigo Baton Rouge Downtown. The price is $119-$149 plus tax per night, based on single or double occupancy.

Jon Elvert notes that paper/panel/workshop sessions cannot be used to make sales presentation. As with GLPA, vendors will buy presentation time.

The primary conference venue is the Baton Rouge River Center, located across the street from the Pennington Planetarium. Vendor set-ups, the Dome Village (many planetarium domes) and rooms for paper/poster/and panel sessions are here. The Louisiana Art and Science Museum with the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium, opened in 2003, is the secondary venue. Scheduled dome presentations will take place in the planetarium. The conference will incorporate use of flatscreen/performing arts theater spaces in the Manship Theatre at the Shaw Center for the Arts, the Old State Capitol, and the LASM Auditorium.

The conference kicks off on Sunday with registration and a welcome reception and vendor demonstrations. Monday-Thursday are busy with talks, paper/workshop/panel sessions, and vendor demonstrations. Tuesday afternoon is filled with special concurrent events: 1) French Quarter Tour, Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory Tour, and Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise Tour, each having limited space and costing $35. The IPS Awards Luncheon is on Wednesday, and the General Assembly (Business) meeting and Conference Banquet are on Thursday. The Banquet, with a fee of $80 beyond registration, is held off-site at the Houmas House Plantation. An optional post-conference tour to Houston, hosted by the Burke Baker Planetarium, will take place on Friday-Saturday. Delegates will visit the Johnson Space Center and George Observatory.

I will be at the meeting, Saturday and Sunday, attending the annual IPS Council meeting as your representative. Please contact me with any concerns you have for IPS at jeanneebishop@wowway.com. I look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge. The wonderful facilities and thorough planning for this conference promise to make it one of the best ever!
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For other sizes, please visit [www.glpaweb.org/newsletter/advertising](http://www.glpaweb.org/newsletter/advertising).

Payment must accompany any advertisement order, made payable to the Great Lakes Planetarium Association. Advertisements must be camera-ready and may be either color or black & white. Color ads will appear full color in the digital (PDF) version of the newsletter, but will be rendered black & white in the printed version.

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- February 1: Spring Equinox issue
- May 1: Summer Solstice issue
- August 1: Autumnal Equinox issue
- November 1: Winter Solstice issue

To purchase an advertisement or for more information, please contact:

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The 2011 redesign of the GLPA Newsletter incorporates small sections of several Hubble Space Telescope images for its page mastheads. These and other images can be accessed from the Hubble Heritage Project website at heritage.stsci.edu or the HubbleSite Gallery website at hubblesite.org/gallery. And because the photos are from NASA, they are free to use (with proper credit).

Cover: Hubble Wide Field Camera 3 Image Details Star Birth in Galaxy M83
Credit: NASA, ESA, and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

State News: Prototypical Barred Spiral Galaxy NGC 1300
Credit: NASA, ESA, The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Credit: NASA, ESA, R. Windhorst (Arizona State University) and H. Yan (Spitzer Science Center, Caltech)

IPS Update: August 29, 2011 GOES East Full Disk Satellite Image
NASA/NOAA GOES Project Science website

Articles: A Giant Hubble Mosaic of the Crab Nebula
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THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION (GLPA) offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums regardless of geographic location. GLPA 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 GLPA, 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 © 2012.

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Astronomical photographs used within the GLPA Newsletter are courtesy of NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI).

PLEASE NOTE:

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For a replacement copy of this newsletter, please contact Dale Smith (address given above).
GREAT LAKES PLANETARIANS . . .

. . . SHARE GREAT VIEWS OF THE TRANSIT OF VENUS

See more ToV photos on page 34.

IPS 2012 Baton Rouge, LA - July 22-26, 2012

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Howdy! Most of you probably know by now that the Next Generation Science Standards were released on Friday, May 11. These standards are based on the frameworks that were unveiled by the National Research Council last summer. It has been 15 years since the standards have been altered and someone felt that now was the time. What I find interesting is that what happens with the draft standards is entirely up to the individual states. Twenty-six states (including Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio in the GLPA region) are on-board as “lead partner states,” but anyone can provide input into the draft standards.

I can’t stress enough that we need to be involved in this process!! By “we,” I mean GLPA as an organization and each of you individually. Start out by checking out the standards at www.nextgenscience.org/. If you reside in one of the aforementioned states, you can type your state’s full name after this website’s slash mark for more details on local contacts. Whether you are a fulldome facility or a one-person operation with a star ball, this affects us all. With budget tightening, some field trips may only be allowed if they fit the standards for that particular grade. Is there enough astronomy in the standards? Will your state adopt these standards? How will your local school district write curriculum around these standards and will that curriculum include you? All good questions! So, if you haven’t mobilized yet, my advice would be to get on this soon!

The GLPA Executive Committee voted to have a representative at the 2012 National Science Teachers Association’s Leadership Institute, where the focus will be solely on the NGSS. Mr. Gary Sampson will be our rep and, in my opinion, he is a superb choice! Gary has a long history of working with NSTA and dealing with science standards. I very much look forward to hearing what Gary learns in Austin, Texas in late June. Gary has also agreed to conduct a workshop in Pittsburgh on this topic. Look for your conference mailing soon!

Happy Summer Solstice! As Newsletter Editor, I’m usually the last person to write their column for each new issue. Because of this, I now have the distinction of being able to describe the 2012 Venus Transit in past tense rather than future tense.

As you may have already noticed, the cover of this newsletter features photographs of the 2012 Transit of Venus. Seven GLPA members answered my recent “call for photos” and were kind enough to share their photographic efforts. In fact, I received so many photographs that I created an additional photo page on page 34. One of the images that I included in this group shows a weather satellite photo taken about a half hour after First Contact. Even though it shows considerable cloudiness throughout our region, there were apparently many places that were able to observe at least a portion of this rare celestial event.

I would also like to use this column to congratulate Chuck Bueter. For about a decade, he has tirelessly devoted much of his time to promoting the 2004 and 2012 Transits of Venus. By so doing, he raised awareness, raised interest, raised enthusiasm, and raised the skill set of his colleagues throughout the world. On behalf of GLPA and planetarians throughout the world, I thank you, Chuck! Have a Venussian Ale for us and enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done!

With the completion of this issue of the GLPA Newsletter, I have now unveiled each of the four new seasonal nameplates. When I transitioned my production of the GLPA Newsletter to the Mac OS X platform last summer, I decided to make a few changes, starting with the cover. In place of one unchanging nameplate, the GLPA Newsletter cover page now rotates between four versions – a different one for each season. To create these seasonal nameplates, I specifically chose sections of space photographs that I feel reflect the colors of each season – cool blues for winter, bright colors for spring and autumn, and warm colors for summer. Our summer nameplate is particularly hot . . . solar hot . . . courtesy of the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO), which began its five-year solar observing mission in 2010.

Please note that the deadline for the autumn issue of the GLPA Newsletter is August 1, 2012. Please submit your facility reports to your State Chairs by late-July. Have a wonderful summer!
PANDIA Around the World

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See the PANDIA HYBRID at IPS 2012!
On Saturday, May 12, the Discovery Center Museum in Rockford hosted an Illinois State Meeting for the first time. Following a wonderful continental breakfast and opening reception in the museum, attendees toured the planetarium and the far-reaching capabilities of its Konica Minolta MediaGlobe-II projector. Additional tours of the award-winning Discovery Center were given, followed by a lunch that was generously sponsored by Konica Minolta. Attendees who wished to stay through the afternoon received free admission to nearby attractions, including the Burpee Museum of Natural History, the Nicholas Conservatory, and the Rockford Art Museum.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign will take three weeks off from public programming beginning on June 18 so that workers can connect the planetarium to the college’s chilled water system, greatly improving their heating and cooling. When they reopen, they will premiere Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum in addition to Summer Prairie Skies. Their matinees will feature Wonders of the Universe and One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Adventure.

On the summer solstice, the planetarium at Lakeview Museum of Arts and Sciences will enter its last month of operation. On July 16, they will close to begin the move of their Zeiss Powerdome Planetarium System to the new Peoria Riverfront Museum. Between mid-July and September, the museum will maintain a limited schedule in their portable planetarium. They expect to have the planetarium operational by the end of August, be ready for building preview activities in September, and conduct their official public grand opening on October 20, 2012. More details on the new museum, including webcams, can be found at www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org.

The staff of the Cernan Earth & Space Center at Triton College has been planning their Transit of Venus observing session. Attendees will be able to observe the event in the full range of telescoping offerings. One telescope with video camera will display the event on a TV monitor and periodically record video clips onto a laptop computer. Another telescope will offer views in the regular white light spectrum, while a Coronado solar telescope will offer the same view in Hydrogen-Alpha.
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– Darryl Davis, Museum of Science, Boston

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Finally, a refracting telescope will project the solar image and eclipse glasses will be available, completing the full panoply of viewing options. For the third year in a row, the Cernan Earth & Space Center at Triton College is suspending its weekend public shows for much of the summer, with the exception of two “Super Saturday” dates. This action is part of a campus wide cost-saving initiative by Triton College that runs from June 4 through August 5. However, the Cernan Center will remain open on Mondays through Thursdays for group shows.

On Saturday April 14, Keith Turner and his entire Carmel High School Planetarium staff hosted the Indiana State Meeting. It was a full day of presentations, discussion, and a variety of live experiences, as well as a show in Carmel’s wonderful GOTO Chronos planetarium. State Chair Alan Pareis would like to thank their three vendors and representatives for their great support for the event: Ash Enterprises and Mark Perkins, Bowen Technovation and Mark Trotter, GOTO and Ken Miller.

After the meeting’s late afternoon conclusion, Deb Lawson guided those who remained through a downpour to the Indianapolis Children’s Museum’s SpaceQuest Planetarium for a tour of the facility and a preview of their new grant-funded in-house original full-dome show Flight Adventures. Flight Adventures is receiving rave reviews from both school and public audiences. This show was produced with funding from a NASA grant. SpaceQuest will be finalizing steps to distribute this show without licensing fees. More information will be announced during the summer. Meanwhile, Deb encourages everyone to visit the museum’s website at www.childrensmuseum.org/flightadventures for more information.

Mitch Luman, Director of the Koch Planetarium of the Evansville Museum, reports that Ann Kaiser Wallis has recently joined three other members of the museum’s Docent Association. Ann and her colleagues present the planetarium’s school programs.

Deb Teuscher, Science Coach and Planetarium Director at Pike High School in Indianapolis, presented a paper “K-8 Standards-based Astronomy Lessons” during the April 14 spring meeting at Carmel High School. A downloadable PDF file of the information she presented can be found at the Pike Planetarium website at www.pike.k12.in.us/district/departments/progstaffdev/planetariumdescription.htm.

Dayle Brown from Pegasus Productions (www.pegasusproductions.net) organized a TROVE Art Exhibit at The Livery in Benton Harbor, Michigan. It is part of the many activities spearheaded by Chuck Bueter as part of the Transit of Venus events in Michiana. The exhibit will take place at The Livery, which created Venusian Beer that will be on tap during the celebration there after the sunset on June 5. Dayle also reports her fifth book, titled Skylore from Planet Earth: stories from around the world... Our Moon is finished and she has begun the process of getting it published and printed. Dayle is hoping to have copies in hand for the IPS Conference in Baton Rouge.

The Edwin Clark Schouweiler Memorial Planetarium at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne joined with the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society to promote and facilitate public viewing of the June 5 Transit of Venus. On April 25, the partners sponsored a major address by GLPA’s own Transit of Venus Guru, Chuck Bueter. Prior to Chuck’s address, he was interviewed in three separate media sessions by Fort Wayne TV and print media. On Transit Day, the partners will staff two public observing sites, one at the new FWAS observatory east of New Haven and another on the USF Fort Wayne campus. Public Internet viewing sites will also be provided at the New Haven branch of the county public library and on the USF campus in the auditorium adjacent to the planetarium. When the observing sites close down at sunset, the USF Internet site will remain open until the transit ends after midnight, providing a gathering place for everyone to view the final stages of the Venus Transit.

The Digital Visualization Theater and the Department of Physics at the University of Notre Dame will join Michiana’s celebrations of the Transit of Venus. During the transit, the DVT will serve as a stop on the bus tour of Michiana, and volunteers from the Department of Physics will be at Jordan Hall of Science with telescopes available for viewing. In the week leading up to the event, the DVT will provide several activities. On May 27, the DVT will offer planetarium shows presenting and explaining the transit. On May 31, the College of Science and the DVT will bring Axiom Brass back to the Notre Dame for an encore performance of the new composition “Celestial Suite” by composer James Stephenson. Axiom Brass is a groundbreaking brass quintet based in Chicago dedicated to enhancing the musical life of communities across the globe and educating the next generation of musicians. “Celestial Suite” was commissioned by a collaboration including Axiom Brass and the Fischoff National Chamber Music Association specifically for performance in the DVT. In two 40-minute performances, Axiom Brass will perform several pieces, including Bach’s
Contrapunctus 7 and “Celestial Suite.” As Axiom Brass performs musically, DVT Director Dr. Keith Davis will perform visually with the Digital Visualization Theater. The Notre Dame Digital Visualization Theater is hosting the 2nd Annual Live Interactive Planetarium Symposium (LIPS) in August. For more information, please refer to the Bulletin Board notice on page 19 of this newsletter and their advertisement on page 9.

The EMU Planetarium hosted its first GLPA state meeting on March 17. Attendees enjoyed seeing familiar faces, snack on morning goodies, take in a show or two, take care of the usual business, and have lunch at a nearby Ypsilanti standard, the Tower Inn, compliments of sponsor AVI Imagineering of Orlando, Florida with Steve Hatfield. It was at this meeting that EMU’s new “sphere” was visited for the first time by most of the participants. Ron Robinson was appointed the newest Michigan State Chair and John Schroer oversaw his final meeting as GLPA President. The Sudekum Planetarium show Stars was previewed along with a demonstration of the Digitarium Epsilon projector. Sherzer Observatory was open to allow views of the sun in H-alpha light through the 10-inch apochromatic refractor before heading on to lunch and the conclusion of the day’s activities. EMU will be receiving the GLPA Cosmic Colors show soon for its library of programs in addition to Stars, Two Small Pieces of Glass, the Loch Ness Seasonal Stargazing series, and other shorts. Lighting issues will be addressed in the weeks ahead, as will their theatre-style seat backs. New planetarium-correct high backs will be on order shortly. The room continues its primary role as classroom for introductory astronomy college classes but has already hosted a number of school groups on Fridays during their first year of operation. Other details will be addressed as the Science Complex heads towards completion by the end of summer. Plans to renovate adjacent Strong Hall, home to the Physics and Astronomy Department, are also being laid out.

The Robinson Planetarium, located on the Adrian College campus in Peelle Hall, serves the Adrian, Michigan community by teaching astronomy courses at the college and presenting entertaining educational programs throughout the academic year. To arrange a special show or to learn more, please contact astronomer Mark Fairclough at mmfairclough@adrian.edu.

This summer, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum Planetarium will present Ice Worlds, which explores the role of ice in the Universe, Dawn of the Space Age, which traces the origins of space exploration starting with the launch of Sputnik in October 1957, Treasures of the Great Lakes, which describes how navigators on the lakes have used the night sky and a network of lighthouses to guide them to their destinations, and Seasonal Stargazing.

The University of Michigan’s Museum of Natural History Planetarium will soon introduce “WorldViewer,” a software program from The Elumenati that creates a virtual “Science on a Sphere” in the dome. Programming available to SOS and more can be applied to the virtual sphere. The initial use of the “WorldViewer” will be for geological and climatological programming. The planetarium heads into May and June with star talks and three fulldome movies – Larry Cat in Space, Expanded View, and Origins of Life. The staff is also installing a video cross fader this month that will allow two separate computers to feed to the projector with a fade between them.

At the end of June, Dan Tell will be leaving the Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium in Grand Rapids after almost nine years to start a new adventure, joining the staff of the Morrison Planetarium at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. He hopes to continue his involvement with GLPA.
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Bradenton, FL 34209
www.geographicsimaging.com

EUROPE:
Tom Callen
eyemmersive ab
Gronviksvagen 6
185 41 Vaxholm, Sweden
www.eyemmersive.com
About two dozen Ohio planetarians gathered for their 2012 annual meeting at the University of Toledo’s Ritter Planetarium, with Alex Mak as host. Scott Huggins and Brad Rush demonstrated the new Spitz SciDome XD system installed at Ritter in 2011. Papers included Curt Spivey (Youngstown) on making HQ fulldome shows on a budget, Jacob Larsen (Toledo) updating his National Solar System Project, and Dale Smith (Bowling Green) describing some of his live school programs. Lunch (sponsored by AVI/Konica-Minolta) at the Phoenicia restaurant on campus and a tour of UT’s one-meter telescope facility rounded out the day.

Gene Zajac has been doing outreach with star parties and presentations on the Lake Erie Islands. This year, he will be the alternative option for the 4-H members who do not want to attend the ritualistic pair bonding activity that is called a dance. Gene will also be doing programs at the Perry’s Monument Visitor Center at Put-In-Bay. Telescope viewings are planned for the annual Perseid meteor shower and several Sunday evenings. During April, there were four evenings of public shows about spacemen, real and fictional, centering on the 24 Ohio astronauts and also including results from the Hubble Space Telescope.

Back at the Shaker Heights High School Planetarium, Bryan Child has been presenting programs for elementary classes, and Bryan and Gene Zajac have performed evening programs for elementary schools and scouts. Bryan and Joe Marencik will be using the space bus and the planetarium for the week of space camp at Shaker in August. The Shaker crew has been planning a Transit of Venus gathering for June 5. Kelly Jons, Gene, Bryan, and their astronomy club members are among the teachers and students who made plans to assist students and parents with seeing the transit safely with telescopes. One station was planned to have a projected image of the transit so that people could take a picture of the transit on their shirts.

Curt Spivey reports from the Ward Beecher Planetarium at Youngstown State University that their new show, Cosmic Castaways, premiered on May 1. This was a “rough draft” version and the YSU crew will be making some minor changes over the summer and hope to have a 1K and a flat screen version available free to planetariums sometime in early 2013 (barring Mayan interference, of course).

Fran Ratka is the new planetarian at the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center’s Schuele Planetarium, replacing Wayne Kriynovich, who has moved to Geauga Park District’s Observatory Park.

The Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums met jointly with the Cleveland Astronomical Society on April 5 as the CAS celebrated its 90th anniversary. Featured speaker Trudy Bell described the life and work of CAS founder J. J. Nassau. Several awards and a catered reception rounded out the evening.
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The Southwest Minnesota State University Planetarium under the direction of Ken Murphy hosted the Wisconsin-Iowa-Minnesota Planetarium meeting on May 11 and 12. The Great Plains Planetarium Association (GPPA) was also well represented at the meeting. The SMSU Planetarium is gearing up for a Transit of Venus event on June 5 by presenting two fulldome shows – When Venus Transits the Sun by Bays Mountain Planetarium and Transit of Venus by Chuck Bueter. Southwestern Minnesota is looking forward to this event with great anticipation!

GLPA’s own Cosmic Colors will fill the 73-foot dome at the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium in Milwaukee. Their staff is also working on a show about gravity and Newton’s Laws of Motion titled Space! It’s a Whole New Ballgame. It should be completed by the end of 2012, just after the End of the World on December 21st.

Due to falling field trip numbers, Todd DeZeeuw’s planetarium position at the Gary Sampson Planetarium in Wauwatosa is being reduced from 40% to 20% of his teaching load next year. In exchange, he will be teaching an additional section of Project Lead the Way Aerospace Engineering at Wauwatosa East High School.

During the month of June, the Charles Horwitz Planetarium in Waukesha is running Space Dreams for the general public and Nine Planets and Counting for their children’s public program. In September, they will present 3-2-1 Blastoff for their Apple Harvest Festival.

In June, the UW-LaCrosse Planetarium will present a hands-on workshop as part of a Science Exploration Camp. Topics will include “Night and Day,” “Seasons,” “Moon Phases,” and “Time.” The planetarium will also be hosting groups from the YMCA, LaCrosse Parks and Recreation, and LaCrosse Day Care Camps.

This summer, the UW-Milwaukee Planetarium is hosting two special events – the Transit of Venus in early June and the landing of the Curiosity Rover on Mars in early August. In addition to these events, Director Jean Creighton will get to show off her knowledge of Greek myths concerning Hercules in a Friday Night series titled Summer Stars and their Myth. In September, this series will be replaced by Medusa & More Monsters, which will prepare their audiences for Halloween.

WIMPS Meeting, May 2012
Southwest Minnesota State University
Marshall, MN

Group photo from the WIMPS State Meeting. Photo by Ken Murphy
IPS CONFERENCE REMINDER

The Irene W. Pennington Planetarium at the Louisiana Art & Science Museum (LASM) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana will host the 21st International Planetarium Society Conference (IPS2012) from July 22-26, 2012.

IPS2012 will showcase the latest advancements in astronomy, planetarium theater management, and technology, while providing an ideal forum for the exchange of ideas on astronomy education and visitor experience. The conference will feature exhibition and vendor halls, professional development sessions, renowned national and international keynote speakers, ample time for networking, and social events. The primary objective of IPS2012 is to foster cooperation between participating planetariums, science centers, museums and astronomy related venues.

For the latest information or to register for the conference, please visit the IPS2012 website at ips2012.com. Delegates may fill out the secure registration form and return it by either e-mail (ipsregistration@lasm.org), fax (225-214-4029) or mail to:

Louisiana Art & Science Museum
IPS2012 Registration
100 River Road South
Baton Rouge LA 70802

June 20 is the Late Registration Deadline. After June 20, delegates may not be able to purchase conference meals, must register via the website or on-site, must pay the on-site registration rate of $500, may not receive a registration confirmation, and may not be listed on the official delegate list. Such delegates will also need to bring their cashier’s/bank check or credit card to the conference.
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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 $65 a year, or two years for $100. 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, Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii, 600 Imiloa Place, Hilo, HI 96720 USA
Phone: +1 (808) 969-9735
Fax: +1 (808) 969-9748
E-mail: slaatsch@imiloahawaii.org
GLPA CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP

If you would like to attend this fall’s GLPA conference but cannot afford it, please consider applying for GLPA’s Conference Scholarship. Successful applicants will receive a free conference registration and meal package. For complete details, please read the Conference Scholarship eligibility, expectations, application instructions, and criteria, which are printed on page 23 of this newsletter and on GLPA’s Conference webpage at www.glpaweb.org/conference.

To apply, please print out the Conference Scholarship Application (GLPA-Scholarship-Form.pdf) on that same web page and return it to GLPA Membership Chair John Potts.

CAN YOU HELP WITH OUR HISTORY?

Do you have GLPA conference materials from 1973 or 1974? We’re trying to identify people in the group photos for those conferences and are looking for the delegate lists to help us recall who was there. If you have either of these lists, please send a copy to Garry Beckstrom, GLPA’s Historian at garrybeckstrom@delta.edu.

We are also trying to create a list of obituaries for those GLPA members who have died. Again, please send whatever information you have to Garry Beckstrom.

DAYLE BROWN BOOK SIGNING AT IPS

Dayle Brown will be doing a book signing at the IPS Conference in Baton Rouge this summer. If you have plans to attend the conference, be sure to stop by the museum store on Wednesday evening to see her newest book, Skylore from Planet Earth: stories from around the world... Our MOON. Dayle’s artwork will also be on display.
Discover the Legend Written in the Stars...

A New Fulldome Show From Evans & Sutherland Digital Theater Productions and the Eugenides Foundation Planetarium

Narrated by Terry O’Quinn

LAMPS OF ATLANTIS

A New Fulldome Show From Evans & Sutherland Digital Theater Productions and the Eugenides Foundation Planetarium

Digistar 5

NOTRE DAME DVT TO HOST LIPS
Keith W. Davis, Ph. D.
Director, Digital Visualization Theater

In August 2011, approximately 35 planetarians committed to the tradition of Live Interactive Planetarium presentations gathered in Bremerton, Washington. The Live Interactive Planetarium Symposium (LIPS) provided a workshop environment that kept all attendants working together as they explored themes including 1) Encouraging Interaction, 2) Live Presentation Skills and Subjects, and 3) Outreach, Marketing and Survival Ideas.

Vendor representatives were included as full symposiasts and they participated along with planetarium professionals, volunteers, and enthusiasts in three days of discussion and activity. They shared, they laughed, and most of all, they learned. They learned about the differences in approach to live presentation in the dome, new techniques for the dome, and they built new relationships with committed dome presenters.

The Notre Dame Digital Visualization Theater is hosting the 2nd Annual Live Interactive Planetarium Symposium (LIPS) from Tuesday, August 7 through Thursday, August 9. The symposium will take place on the beautiful Notre Dame campus in Notre Dame, Indiana.

Registration is now open, and it is being done through the University of Notre Dame’s conferences website. If you do live shows (or want to start), please join us at LIPS. It is open to everyone, no matter whether you teach in a portable or fixed dome, with a digital system or a starball.

To register for LIPS 2012:

1) Go to: www.conferences.nd.edu
2) Click the link for “Registration.”
3) Look for the link to LIPS under August.

Registration is limited to 75 people, so act fast! Everyone who attended LIPS 2011 thought it was great, and this year’s symposium should be even better. If you want to learn more about LIPS, the symposium website is lipsymposium.org. For more information about Notre Dame’s Digital Visualization Theatre, please visit science.nd.edu/jordan/about/digital-visualization-theater.shtml.

We hope to see you in Notre Dame in August!
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GLPA Conference Scholarship

1. Who is eligible?
   • An applicant must be employed currently at a planetarium or recently have been involved with an active planetarium. Planetarians who have been laid off recently are eligible.
   • An applicant must have been a member of GLPA for at least five years and be unable to attend the GLPA conference without financial assistance.
   • The application should come directly from the individual who desires the scholarship. A letter from the applicant’s supervisor (if employed) detailing the financial need should be included or sent separately, if possible. A signed statement from the applicant must be included stating that the applicant could not attend the conference without the scholarship.
   • Successful applicants will receive a waiver of conference registration and meal package for the annual fall conference held in the year the application is made. Hotel and transportation costs must be covered by the applicant.
   • Funds cannot be used to support vendor expenses, including registration.

2. Expectations of successful applicants:
   • Successful applicants must attend all parts of the fall conference held in the year the application was submitted (i.e. they should not go for only one day or wait to attend until the next year).
   • Applicants are expected to serve GLPA in some matter, for example presenting a poster/paper at the conference, working on a GLPA project, assisting the conference host, etc. (See www.glpaweb.org/get-involved.htm for ideas).
   • The successful applicant must meet all deadlines, as applicable, for the scholarship application, conference registration, or a paper/poster submission.

3. How to apply:
   • Applicants should submit the application and a letter from their supervisor (if applicable) electronically to the GLPA Membership Chair by September 1. The application form will be available on the GLPA web site.
   • Potential recipients should consider applying as soon as conference materials are available.
   • Priority will be given to first-time applicants.
   • All applicants will be advised via e-mail of the receipt of materials with decisions being made by September 15. Applications that arrive before September 1 will receive full consideration. After September 1, awards will be made at the discretion of the scholarship committee and contingent upon availability of funds. An applicant should wait to register for the conference until he/she is notified that he/she has received the scholarship.

4. Criteria - the scholarship committee will judge applicants on:
   a) Financial need (as discussed in the application). Note: a letter from your supervisor, though not required, is beneficial.
   b) Potential benefits to the applicant and to GLPA.
   c) Ways the applicant currently networks with other planetarians.
THE MOON

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Joanne Young  407-659-8166  joanne@av-imagineering.com  www.av-imagineering.com
GLPA Executive Committee Meeting
Clifford Pierce Middle School
Merrillville, Indiana
April 21, 2012

Present:  Buck Batson, Sue Batson, Garry Beckstrom, Bart Benjamin, Jeanne Bishop, John French, Geoff Holt, Dave Leake, John Potts, John Schroer, Dale Smith, Dan Tell, Gary Tomlinson (remotely by Skype).

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President David Leake at 9:26 a.m. CDT. Cards were passed around for Cheri Adams, Gregg & Barb Williams, and Jim Kaler.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, held at the Staerkel Planetarium, Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois on October 19, 2011 had been printed in the GLPA Newsletter and e-mailed. No revisions were made. John Schroer moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer’s Report: John French presented the Financial Report, which was then discussed. As of April 21, 2012 the current balance of GLPA's accounts are: checking $3,951.79, savings $61,728.53, PayPal $4,749.08, Image Bank $2,732.09, Instructional Materials $423.98, and Gift Shop $281.55 for a total cash assets of $73,867.02. 2012 Fall Conference seed money had been sent to Sue Batson for the 2012 Fall Conference. Approximately $23,300 was the profit from the 2011 Fall Conference. John Schroer moved that all members be supplied with a GLPA lapel pin. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed. John Schroer amended his motion that GLPA lapel pins be distributed to all 2012 Fall Conference delegates. Members not attending may request a pin to be sent to them from the Membership Chair. In future years, new members will receive a GLPA pin. Additional pins may be purchased through the Gift Shop. The amendment was seconded and carried. The matter of researching an audit will be tabled until the 2012 Fall Executive Meeting. John Schroer will contact Todd DeZeeuw about ordering the pins for the fall conference and the possibility of creating a GLPA patch based on the logo.

President’s Report: President Dave Leake requested an update on the $100 credit for Notre Dame paper presenters mix up. Dale Smith provided a list of members to John Schroer that will qualify for a $100 registration fee credit for the 2012 fall conference due to the paper mix up during the 2010 Saturday concurrent paper sessions. John Schroer will provide the list to Sue Batson and John French and notify the specific members that this will impact. Eligible members will have the option of choosing a five-year membership credit. Dave also said that Galileo Award nominees should be sent to him by June 1.

President-Elect’s Report: Garry Beckstrom directed discussion regarding past and upcoming 2012 Fall Conference scholarships for meals and registration. Five scholarships were awarded for members to attend the 2011 Fall Conference at a cost of approximately $287.00 each. To publicize 2012 Fall Conference scholarships, application information will be included in 2012 Fall Conference materials, in the newsletters, and through an email alert or other appropriate notification. John Schroer moved that ten scholarships for meals and registration be allocated for the 2012 Fall Conference. The motion was seconded and carried. The Scholarship Committee will consist of the President-Elect, Past President, Membership Chair, and two members at large. A Nominations Committee will be appointed and chaired by Garry Beckstrom in the fall.

Past President’s Report: John Schroer requested a History Committee report. Conference summary updates are available on the website through 2010 and 2011 and are ready to be posted. Some obituaries have been assembled. A request will be made of the membership to fill in missing information.
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Following discussion, Geoff Holt moved that the Executive Committee proposes to the membership to be voted on at the 2012 Fall Conference Business Meeting that the current Instructional Materials Committee name be changed to the Technology Committee. The motion was seconded, additional discussion ensued, and was carried.

John Schroer moved that the per diem allotment for Executive Committee members be updated from $15.00 to up to $40.00. The motion was seconded and discussion followed. John Schroer amended his motion so that the daily total may not exceed $40.00 per day with the suggested amounts of $15.00 breakfast, $15.00 lunch, and $25.00 dinner. The amendment was seconded and carried.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report (non-financial):** John French updated changes to the Executive Committee contact information. John Schroer moved that a $200.00 donation be made to the Merrillville Community Planetarium in appreciation for hosting the 2012 Spring Executive Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

John French requested Dale Smith to report on by-law matters. Several proposals were discussed, one to separate the Secretary/Treasurer elected position to split it into two elected positions; Secretary and Treasurer, to change the name of the Instructional Materials Committee to the Technology Committee, and to add a vendor member category. The Executive Committee must first vote on these changes but first require 21 days of written notice. If the proposed changes are approved by the Executive Committee, they will then be published in the *GLPA Newsletter*. The proposals will be put before the membership at the 2012 Fall Conference Business Meeting for a vote.

**IPS Report:** Jeanne Bishop reported that the upcoming 2012 IPS Conference will take place at the Irene Pennington Planetarium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from Sunday, July 22 through Thursday, July 26. Dave Weinrich has agreed to represent Jeanne at the IPS Business meeting. IPS is going to experiment with video streaming with certain parts of the conference. Geoff Holt will investigate whether this is an option for GLPA conferences. A request will be made to Bob Bonadurer to present a paper at IPS to highlight the efforts involved in the collaboration of producing the *Cosmic Colors* planetarium show rather than GLPA paying to be an "official vendor." Dave will contact Bob about this venture. John Potts moved to advertise the *Cosmic Colors* show in the *Planetarian* for one full-page ad. The motion was seconded and carried.

Sue Batson moved that we put the resources into creating an updated membership pamphlet, initially developing an electronic copy available on the website, upon approval to be reproduced for use at meetings. The motion was seconded, discussed, and then the motion was withdrawn. The vote will be conducted after John Potts develops the brochure and reproduction costs are known.

**Membership Report:** John Potts complimented the ease of utilizing the membership database on the website. There are currently 270 members, 79 new members this year.

Jeanne Bishop moved that GLPA establish a Mentor Award with the first award to be presented at the 2012 Fall Conference. The move was seconded and carried. Jeanne will work to create some draft criteria and a timeline, then collect comments from the Executive Committee.

**Development Report:** The proposed 2012 vendor chart sent by Bob Bonadurer was reviewed. New vendor categories have been created for a five-minute presentation and display only presentations.

**Publication Report:** Bart Benjamin reported that three issues of the quarterly *GLPA Newsletter* have now been produced with a new redesigned version utilizing the Mac OS X platform and Pages. Each edition has 11½ pages of advertising generating annual revenues of $3,465.00. The summer newsletter will be GLPA’s 176th issue and Bart’s 98th issue. Dale Smith was able to edit and mail the 2011 GLPA Proceedings CD prior to the end of 2011. The 2012 Conference Proceedings edition will be GLPA’s 29th Proceedings and Dale Smith’s 25th issue as Editor. With the assistance of Geoff Holt and Tom Dobes the newsletter can now be directly uploaded to the website. John Potts provides the number of members desiring a printed version of the newsletter and Dale Smith places the orders for newsletters to be printed and mailed out.

There was more discussion of enforcing the “no text, no talk” rule for conference papers. Most GLPA members are compliant, though there are issues every year, which slows production of the *Conference Proceedings*.

GLPA continues to increase its presence on both Facebook and Twitter. GLPA's Twitter Page has 39 followers (up from 23 reported last fall) and its Facebook Page has 123 people who “like” GLPA.

**Education Report:** Gary Tomlinson will follow up on a Cosmology show. Geoff Holt will contact Ron Kaitchuck to follow-up on putting Dr. Kaitchuck’s cosmology script in the GLPA Resources Bank.

Sue Batson will investigate establishing a project review committee and chair such committee. Sue, John French, and Jeanne Bishop will be writing up guidelines to share with the Executive Committee for further discussion.

It will be suggested to members that reside in one of the 26 states that have agreed to work to adopt for their state standards the national standards framework, should provide input to their department of public instruction.
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**Instructional Materials Report**

**Printed Materials:** Geoff Holt reported no orders or transactions have been made over the last six months. All of the printed materials are now available for immediate download as PDF files for members on the web site. Members do need to log in to download the files. Non-members can still order materials through the online store. Text-based resources are now being referred to as “print materials” instead of “printed materials”.

**Web Site:** The website, hosted with Merrillville on a new server, is faster and costs less than we previously paid. Bart Benjamin moved that GLPA donate $100 to each of the organizations that manage Drupal and CiviCRM. The motion made by Bart Benjamin was seconded and carried.

**Technology Standards Committee:** Dan Tell reported previously to the Executive Committee the results of his attendance to the IMERSA conference. He will be working on an upcoming TIPS booklet. Dan requested that a motion be made to offer reciprocal membership IMERSA board in GLPA. Geoff Holt moved for reciprocal membership of the IMERSA board in GLPA. The motion was seconded, followed by discussion, and the motion was withdrawn. Dan was thanked for attending the Executive Committee meeting. Dave Leake will send IMERSA a letter of thanks for their generous proposal and IMERSA will be given “affiliate” status on our web site and in the masthead of the GLPA Newsletter.

**A/V Image Bank and Show Kits:** Dave Leake is selling numerous Cosmic Colors shows and Transit of Venus shows.

Dale Smith reminds everyone that since all paper documents are now scanned, the two filing cabinets are difficult to access in storage at BGSU. Geoff Holt suggested that the wording change to permit digital archive for electronic archiving versus physical filing. Geoff Holt is going to investigate a replacement for the GLPA listserv and report back to the Executive Committee in the fall.

**Conference Planning:** Gary Tomlinson requested a report from Dave Leake for the 2011 Fall Conference. Sue Batson reported on the plans for the 2012 Fall Conference. John Schroer will again be the door prize chair, Dan Goins will again be conference photographer, and Dave DeRemer has agreed to pursue workshop options. Dave Leake will contact the current MAPS president and invite MAPS members to attend the GLPA Fall 2012 Conference. Gary reported on the 2013 Fall Conference in Peoria, Illinois. Gary has received no formal invitations for any future conferences.

Gary Tomlinson encourages everyone to look over the handbook during the summer. He plans to get all revisions into a final revised form ready for the 2012 Fall Conference.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, October 24 at North Hills Junior High School.

**Adjournment:** John Schroer moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried. President Dave Leake adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm. CDT.

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**DON’T MISS OUT**

To be included in the autumn issue’s State News column, please forward news from your facility to your state chair in the latter half of July.

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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**ELECTRONIC MAIL LISTS**

⭐ 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](http://www.glpaweb.org).

Click on “Other” and then follow the instructions to sign up.
There was no Summer Solstice issue in 1972.

Back in 1972, when GLPA was only 7 years old, the Cleveland Astronomical Society celebrated its 50th anniversary. Recently, Ohio planetarians and astronomers celebrated CAS’s 90th anniversary. Photo by Dale Smith.
The 1992 Joint Conference between GLPA and GPPA was previewed. The St. Louis Science Center served as host to the conference, which took place October 21-24, 1992. The $34 million St. Louis Science Center had been completed earlier that spring, and it boasted over 60,000 square feet of permanent exhibits, including a facility devoted to the space sciences highlighted by the 228-seat Digistar®-equipped McDonnell Planetarium. Other features included an Omnimax theater, a variety of unique learning labs, and a traveling exhibit gallery, showcasing “Soviet Space.”

The Great Lakes Planetarium Association announced that it was about to release a bibliography of planetarium articles written between 1913 and 1990. To kick off the fall release of that publication, GLPA also mentioned that it would be sponsoring a contest to find the most prolific planetarian – that is, the author listed the most times in GLPA’s bibliography. The winner would receive a one year free membership in GLPA.

Triton College’s Cernan Earth and Space Center welcomed its millionth visitor in early June and celebrated this milestone with a millionth visitor presentation, a week of museum shop discounts, and a scratch card contest.

GLPA Instructional Materials Chair Gary Sampson recently received the Kohl Award for excellence in teaching in the state of Wisconsin. Joliet, Illinois planetarian Vivian Hoette was one of only ten teachers to receive the Illinois Science Teachers Association Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Since last fall, the GLPA Computer Bulletin Board has been in operation. This bulletin board allowed users to download text files, computer programs, and exchange short messages. You can also make text files and computer programs available to other GLPA members by uploading them to the bulletin board. In the near future, two utilities will become available. The first is a directory of planetariums in the Great Lakes area. The second utility will be an on-line directory of GLPA members. To access this information, your name must be on the list.

GLPA announced that it planned to create a new TIPS booklet in response to the many suggestions on a recent membership survey that GLPA should provide more teaching tips and related materials to its members. To that end, the announcement asked for member contributions. [Editor: Tips Booklet #17, titled Great Teaching Tips to Use in the Planetarium was completed by Dave DeRemer in February, 1994. Still a good teaching resource, it is available for download from the GLPA Website. Go to Resources ➞ Tips Booklets].

In an article by Gary Tomlinson titled “What Members Want from GLPA,” the author noted that GLPA dues were $5 in 1965 and, accounting for inflation, should be $21.35 in 1992. [Editor: 1992 dues were $20, which is exactly the same as they are in 2012. Would anyone care to calculate what GLPA dues should be in 2012 if we account for the rate of inflation since 1965?]
A New Fulldome Show From Evans & Sutherland
Narrate by
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- Milwaukee Public Museum (Soref Planetarium) [www.mpm.edu/planetarium](http://www.mpm.edu/planetarium)
- Prismatic Magic Laser Programs [www.prismaticmagic.com](http://www.prismaticmagic.com)
- SCISS AB [www.scalingtheuniverse.com](http://www.scalingtheuniverse.com)
- Sudekum Planetarium Adventure Science Ctr. [www.sudekumplanetarium.com](http://www.sudekumplanetarium.com)
KEY TO CONTRIBUTED TRANSIT OF VENUS PHOTOGRAPHS

COVER
1. **Bart Benjamin** (River Grove, IL). This image consists of 15 stacked video frames taken with an AVA PlanetCam attached to a Questar 3.5” telescope.
2. **Jim Folmer** (Hockessin, DE). This image was taken in H-alpha light with a 60mm refractor telescope and CCD camera through intermittent clouds. Image was provided by Sue Batson.
3. **NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center/SDO**. Taken by the Solar Dynamics Observatory, this sequence of 171 images was composited together to show the path of Venus.
4. **Garry Beckstrom** (Bay City, MI). This image shows two children who were fascinated by the Sunspotter’s view of the Transit of Venus.
5. **Lois Wolf** (Sandusky, OH). This image shows the transit projected onto the wall of their Tinsley 12-inch reflector.
6. **Bart Benjamin** (River Grove, IL). Projected image from the Cernan Center’s 10-inch Newtonian reflector.

7. **Mohammad Khan** (Bay City, MI). This image shows the transit at its maximum at sunset. Image was provided by Garry Beckstrom.
8. **Eric Schreur** (Kalamazoo, MI).
9. **Lois Wolf** (Sandusky, OH).
10. **NESDIS**. GOES visible weather satellite image, taken at 5:32 p.m. CDT, shortly after the start of the Venus Transit.
11. **Dave Wilkins** (Fort Wayne, IN). Image was provided by Alan Pareis.
12. **Sheldon Schafer** (Peoria, IL). The planetarium arranged with their local Papa John’s pizzeria to make a special Transit of Venus pizza.
13. **Garry Beckstrom** (Bay City, MI). A projected image of the Transit of Venus.
The 2011 redesign of the *GLPA Newsletter* incorporates small sections of several Hubble Space Telescope images for its page mastheads. These and other images can be accessed from the Hubble Heritage Project website at heritage.stsci.edu or the HubbleSite Gallery website at hubblesite.org/gallery. And because the photos are from NASA, they are free to use (with proper credit).

Cover: Solar Dynamics Observatory Captures X1.9 Class Solar Flare (Nov. 3, 2011)
Credit: NASA/SDO

State News: Prototypical Barred Spiral Galaxy NGC 1300
Credit: NASA, ESA, The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Credit: NASA, ESA, R. Windhorst (Arizona State University) and H. Yan (Spitzer Science Center, Caltech)

Conference Update: Supernova Remnant E0102 in the Small Magellanic Cloud
Credit: NASA, ESA, and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Image Credits page background image: Abstract Art Found in the Orion Nebula
Credit: NASA, ESA, and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)
Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum is a dynamic new planetarium show from the Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA). It premiered on October 20, 2011 at the GLPA Conference in Champaign, Illinois.

Cosmic Colors will take you on a wondrous journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. Discover the many reasons for color — like why the sky is blue and why Mars is red. Take a tour within a plant leaf and journey inside the human eye. Investigate x-rays by voyaging to a monstrous black hole and then back at your doctor’s office. You will even see the actual color of a dinosaur, based on recent evidence. Get ready for an amazing adventure under a rainbow of cosmic light! 31 minutes in length.

Target audience: 5th grade and up

Ordering information:

FULLDOME VERSION:
$300 for a full dome masters at 4K x 4K (need 1 TB hard drive)
$250 for full dome masters at 2K x 2K (need 500 GB hard drive)
$200 for full dome masters at 1K x 1K (need 100 GB hard drive)

For FullDome versions, each planetarium must ship an appropriate hard drive to GLPA. Show encoding is the responsibility of each planetarium.

TRADITIONAL VERSION:
$100 for traditional version with two discs -- a playable Cosmic Colors show DVD and a DVD data disc containing all-sky images, digital JPEG images, audio tracks, flattened video scenes, teacher guides, and documentation.

For more information on Cosmic Colors, please contact Dave DeRemer at (262) 896-8423 or Bob Bonadurer at (414) 278-6985. To order Cosmic Colors, contact Dave Leake at (217) 351-2567 ordleake@parkland.edu. Credit card purchases should go through the GLPA Online Store at www.glpaweb.org/online-store.
Are you suffering from Transit Withdrawal?

Now that the “twice in a lifetime” Transit of Venus experience has ended, are you feeling a bit sad? Fear not! In less than four years -- **Monday, May 9, 2016** -- the Western Hemisphere will be favored for a Transit of Mercury. Mark it in your calendars!

2006 Mercury Transit photo by Bart Benjamin
THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION (GLPA) offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums regardless of geographic location. GLPA is an affiliate of IPS (International Planetarium Society), NSTA (National Science Teachers Association), and IMERSA (Immersive Media Entertainment, Research, Science & Arts). 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 GLPA, 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).

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**UPCOMING GLPA CONFERENCES:**

2012  October 24-27  Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2013  October 16-19  Peoria, Illinois

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Astronomical photographs used within the GLPA Newsletter are courtesy of NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI).

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

The **GLPA Newsletter** is printed and mailed from:

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**Bowling Green State University**  
**Bowling Green, OH 43403**

For a replacement copy of this newsletter, please contact Dale Smith (address given above).

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**GLPA Home Page:**  
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GLPA Newsletter
Volume 47, Number 3
Autumnal Equinox, 2012

GLPA Populates Pittsburgh with Stars

October 24 - 27, 2012
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As I write this President’s Message, we’re all basking in the glow of Curiosity’s successful landing on Mars. The Staerkel Planetarium participated in the Planetary Society’s live streaming event and I had the dome open from 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. I figured classes weren’t in session yet; why not? We had a standing room only audience and everyone cheered each milestone as the rover came to rest on the surface. What an exciting time! Oh how our imaging has improved since the Viking days! The next year will bring plenty of new images for our domes. I’m just not sure which is drier: the surface of Mars or my front lawn!

Exciting times are ahead on Mars as well as exciting times for GLPA! I hope to see you all in Pittsburgh this October as Sue and Buck Batson have a wonderful conference planned for us. I know I’ll personally enjoy this one after hosting last year! I look forward to meeting with the many vendors who frequent our gatherings, the annual Astronomy Update and, of course, our Spitz Lecture. At my first GLPA conference (which, oddly enough, Staerkel also hosted in 1989), I can recall first meeting our lecturer, Mr. Dan Goins. In fact, he still wears that signature red sports jacket! Between him and Gary Tomlinson, I laughed a lot in my introduction to GLPA! My guess is that we’ll smile a little during his presentation that Friday night. I also look forward to Gary Sampson’s workshop on the Next Generation Science Standards. If you haven’t done so already, why not login to the GLPA website (www.glpaweb.org) and register online today?

If I may, please allow me to also pay tribute to a great lady, Mrs. Mary Lou Staerkel. It was her husband – Parkland College’s first president, William M. Staerkel – who had a vision of a planetarium at his new college. The planetarium was in the original plans when the college was built in 1972, but funds didn’t become available until the mid-1980s. Bill Staerkel saw his dream realized in 1987 (yes, 25 years ago!) but then passed away just a few months after our grand opening. Mrs. Staerkel continued to support our operation financially and with her presence until just a few months ago. She recently joined her husband in the vault of the sky. We will miss the glow in her eyes as she entered the dome that bears her husband’s name.

By the time you read this, our college’s accreditation materials will be on their way to the Higher Learning Commission. That is a huge relief! The effort focuses on our Resource Room until our site visit October 1-3. Then, after five years of work, I’ll be ready to do something else!! Part of that something else is seeing you in Pittsburgh!

Clear skies everyone (though I would take a little rain if you can arrange it)!
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The Lakeview Museum of Arts & Sciences has closed, preparing to reopen October 20, 2012 at its new downtown location as the Peoria Riverfront Museum. The new 40-foot, 186-degree semi-hyperspheric dome was installed by AstroTec in June and the Zeiss Powerdome Planetarium was moved in July and August. The latest version of Uniview and East Coast Control Systems LED cove lights were installed in August. For the opening program schedule, please visit www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org. The Peoria Riverfront Museum will be hosting GLPA and co-hosting the Illinois Association of Museums in October of 2013.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign will celebrate its 25th anniversary in October. Dr. William Staerkel, Parkland’s first president, dedicated the building 25 years ago this October. The celebration is tainted by the recent passing of his widow, Mary Lou Staerkel, who supported the planetarium until her last days. The planetarium will begin the fall with Fall Prairie Skies, GLPA’s Cosmic Colors, and a digital conversion of Amazing Stargazing! In October, they will premiere the digital remake of the first show that ever played on their 50-foot dome, Odyssey. Santa’s Secret Star and Season of Light will fill their holiday schedule later in the year. Finally, their own “World of Science” lecture series commences in October with talks on the first Friday of the month. Dr. Jim Kaler returns in December for a talk on water in the universe.

The Cernan Earth & Space Center at Triton College will host Vatican Observatory astronomer Guy Consolmagno as its “Big Event” speaker on September 8th. Longstanding GLPA members will remember Brother Guy as one of our featured speaker at the 2003 GLPA Conference in Cleveland. The Cernan Center staff continues its ongoing project to convert its collection of slide-based programs to its new digital, three-screen video system. Five planetarium programs have so far been completed, with two more nearing completion.
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Mitch Luman of the **Koch Planetarium** in Evansville reports that his institution recently received a donation of a very unique telescope. Widely regarded as making the “Rolls Royce of telescopes,” the Questar Corporation of New Hope, Pennsylvania manufactured only 13 of the 12-inch Maksutov design that the planetarium now owns. Identical in design to the company’s smaller (i.e. 3½” and 7”) Questars, the planetarium’s new telescope will be used at evening astronomical events held throughout the year.

Ball State University in Muncie has announced that they recently received a nearly $2.2 million contribution towards the $4.6 million construction plan for a new **Ball State Planetarium**. The donor stated that “my goal is to get the biggest and best planetarium we can at Ball State to serve this area of the country. My hope is [that] the community — especially youth — as well as the university students will have an incredible resource here.” Director Ron Kaitchuck added that “a planetarium can expand one’s horizons a billion fold. An outstanding educational and scientific research resource, the Ball State Planetarium holds the distinction of training more planetarium directors than any other institution.” The new planetarium will feature a 52-foot dome, making it among the largest in the Midwest, and one of the top ten university planetariums in the United States. The planetarium projection system will be a GOTO Chronos II Hybrid. This will be the first such planetarium projection system installed in Indiana. The new facility should open in 2014.

The **U-M Museum of Natural History** planetarium continued its “shows every day” schedule through August. Director Matt Linke attended a pre-IPS workshop with SCISS in Baton Rouge to preview new features in the upcoming Uniview version upgrade. Much time is also being spent on the Worldviews Network presentations on the Great Lakes Watershed that begin in October. At this point in time, the outline and narration are largely determined and work is now focusing on visualizations. Although there is no news on the new museum front, meetings continue with people who have recently gone through major renovations or construction. These meetings are providing the staff with a wealth of cautionary tales and advice.

The **Robinson Planetarium** at Adrian College recently completed a series of renovations that were funded by generous grants from the Maurice and Dorothy Stubnitz Foundation. Renovations in the spring were cosmetic and included the repainting of dome and walls, new flooring, and the installation of new Greystone seats by Ash Enterprises. This summer, Ash Enterprises returned and installed a new stereo system and their new High Definition Warped Media projector. Reopening occurred in August with new fulldome shows.

Southfield’s **Vollbrecht Planetarium** remains dark (except for private shows) until its 90-minute public shows resume in late-September.

At the **Eastern Michigan University Planetarium**, improvements continued through the summer. A custom curved whiteboard has been installed, and their 6x4-foot smartboard is now wall-mounted. This arrangement frees up presentation space in the front of the sphere and results in a cleaner, less cluttered look. Soon to arrive are new planetarium-correct seatbacks from American Seating. The construction of the Science Complex upper floors (including that of the planetarium) is nearing completion. The planetarium continues to show the Sudekum production of *Stars* and GLPA’s *Cosmic Colors* to visiting groups, with a major show planned as part of the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival in August. The EMU Department of Physics and Astronomy (Planetarium and Sherzer Observatory) is also a co-sponsor along with other regional astronomy clubs and planetariums for the “Astronomy at the Beach” event at Kensington Metropark in September. This year’s keynote speaker will be Michigan native and NASA astronaut/Hubble Telescope repair specialist Dr. Drew Fuestal.
Planetariums across Ohio were blessed with good weather for the Transit of Venus in June and held well-attended public events. At the Sidney Frohman Planetarium in Sandusky, Lois Wolf arranged a simultaneous feed from Hawaii in the planetarium and live viewing in the rooftop observatory. Mike Smith, an old friend and Boy Scout leader, kept things going in the observatory, while helpful Boy Scouts passed out commemorative cards and directed people to the domes. In the planetarium this fall, Lois is running Skywatchers of Ancient Mexico for the first time since 2002 to lead into the Maya calendar issue in December. Despite key personnel changes in the Sandusky schools administration, Lois is hopeful for an upgrade in funds. She is currently working with an elementary teacher to redo the astronomy curriculum and create new lessons for grades K, 1, and 5.

At the Bowling Green State University Planetarium, Dale Smith along with his student workers and faculty colleagues ran a well-attended observatory open house for the Transit of Venus. Visitors saw the transit through 8-inch telescopes on the outdoor sky deck (see photo) and got a rare daylight look at BGSU’s half-meter reflector. The student workers ran the telescopes while faculty answered questions in the planetarium, where a live Internet feed of the transit was being shown.

At the Shaker Heights High School Planetarium, Gene Zajac, Bryan Child, Joe Marencik, and Kelly Jons organized a transit viewing that attracted 1,400 people. Thankfully, the skies cleared two minutes before first contact! They had about 2,000 individual viewers ready along with telescopes and activities for children! Gene also hosted a CRAP (Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums) meeting at Shaker on May 23. Besides enjoying a pasta feast, those in attendance worked on transit viewers for the Edgewater Park event put together by Jay Reynolds, Bob and Ingrid Sledz, and others. Joe and Bryan ran their annual space camp in August, with students learning about and building rockets, using the space bus, going to the Science Center, and doing a NASA challenge activity. Gene had less luck with four summer observing sessions clouded out on South Bass Island (Put-in-Bay) and replaced by PowerPoint presentations. Back at Shaker, two elementary schools held science nights that included the planetarium. Shaker will also welcome four high school astronomy classes this year.

Roger Grossenbacher (retired, Lancaster Schools Planetarium) writes that WOSU-FM (at Ohio State) recently played William Herschel’s Symphony #2. While his orchestral scoring is sparse, he was in demand as an oboe performer. As we know, Herschel (who was German-born as Friedrich Wilhelm Herschel) wanted to have Uranus named after his patron King George III. Given Herschel’s many stellar discoveries, Roger writes, “Why not load up your iPod with Herschel’s tunes and chill out with good music while scanning the fall Milky Way with your own telescope?” Stellar advice indeed!

Prior to the Venus Transit, BGSU student workers set up and aligned their telescopes before the crowds arrived.

Transit of Venus revisited. Bart Benjamin used an AVA PlanetCam attached to a Questar 3.5” telescope to obtain the video frames that were later stacked to create each of these still images.
THE MOON

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF THE LITTLE STAR THAT COULD

- Observe the moon's surface and how its appearance changes in the sky.
- A three-part modular program designed for live interaction.
- Meets National Science Content Standards for grades K-4.

Joanne Young  407-859-6166  joanne@av-imagineering.com  www.av-imagineering.com
At the Soref Planetarium in Milwaukee, GLPA's own Cosmic Colors will continue into the fall after a great response this summer. This autumn, Soref will also run Evans & Sutherland’s 2012: Ancient Skies Ancient Mysteries. A new insert 3D projection that will show Giant Screen Films productions will be installed this September. The Soref Planetarium has been awarded a grant from NASA's Competitive Program for Science Museums and Planetariums for its CREATE (Creating Relevant Education in Astronomy through Experience) program. This three-year project will establish a new out-of-school program for underserved high school students. The Soref Planetarium will work with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. One of the features of CREATE is having students create their own planetarium show after six months of astronomy immersion.

On September 22, the Charles Horwitz Planetarium will celebrate “Apple Harvest Festival” by presenting 3-2-1 Blastoff. Public shows for October are Footsteps and Our Place in Space. Public shows for November will be Time Bandits and Two Small Pieces of Glass.

In October, the UW-LaCrosse Planetarium will be presenting the program Let There Be Night. GLPA's Cosmic Colors will be shown in November. Each Friday during first semester, the planetarium will offer the Album Encounters multimedia light and laser shows.

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**UPDATE**

Autumnal Equinox, 2012

continued from page 21

must be used. Shawn also notes that it is a member’s personal responsibility to update both their e-mail address and postal address for receiving Planetarian.

The next IPS meeting, the 22nd biennial, will be in Beijing, China, June 23-27, 2014, hosted by the Beijing Planetarium, Jin Zhu, Beijing Planetarium Director, as host. Next year, details of costs for the Beijing IPS conference will be known more accurately; Jin said that the hotels will not make contracts for prices two years ahead. It is likely that hotel costs for each of two Beijing hotels will be about $150/night. Registration will be between $300 and $400, with the banquet cost at about $60. There will be three travel opportunities: 1) The Great Wall (about $50), 2) an observatory and historical villa (about $120), and 3) a 4-day trip to Xian, site of the terra cotta warriors (4 days, about $310).

At next summer’s off-conference-year Council meeting, the location of the 2016 IPS conference will be decided. Three bids have been made: Edmonton, Canada; Warsaw, Poland (near Copernicus’ home); and Toulouse, France. Articles about these sites should appear in Planetarian. At our fall GLPA conference in Pittsburgh and in a future GLPA Newsletter, I will present information about the three 2016 proposals.

I want to share that I think the IPS officers (Dave Weinrich, Tom Mason, Thomas Kraupe, Lee Ann Hennig, and Shawn Laatsch) are doing a wonderful job. We owe them our thanks for spending countless hours in these voluntary positions.
Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum is a dynamic new planetarium show from the Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA). It premiered on October 20, 2011 at the GLPA Conference in Champaign, Illinois.

Cosmic Colors will take you on a wondrous journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. Discover the many reasons for color — like why the sky is blue and why Mars is red. Take a tour within a plant leaf and journey inside the human eye. Investigate x-rays by voyaging to a monstrous black hole and then back at your doctor’s office. You will even see the actual color of a dinosaur, based on recent evidence. Get ready for an amazing adventure under a rainbow of cosmic light! 31 minutes in length.

Target audience: 5th grade and up

Ordering information:

FULLDOME VERSION:  
$300 for a full dome masters at 4K x 4K  (need 1 TB hard drive)  
$250 for full dome masters at 2K x 2K  (need 500 GB hard drive)  
$200 for full dome masters at 1K x 1K  (need 100 GB hard drive)

For FullDome versions, each planetarium must ship an appropriate hard drive to GLPA. Show encoding is the responsibility of each planetarium.

TRADITIONAL VERSION:  
$100 for traditional version with two discs -- a playable Cosmic Colors show DVD and a DVD data disc containing all-sky images, digital JPEG images, audio tracks, flattened video scenes, teacher guides, and documentation.

For more information on Cosmic Colors, please contact Dave DeRemer at (262) 896-8423 or Bob Bonadurer at (414) 278-6985. To order Cosmic Colors, contact Dave Leake at (217) 351-2567 or dleake@parkland.edu. Credit card purchases should go through the GLPA Online Store at www.glpaweb.org/online-store.
COSMIC COLORS GOES INTERNATIONAL

In its ongoing effort to promote its newest planetarium show production, titled Cosmic Colors, GLPA carried its message to an international audience at the recent IPS Conference in Baton Rouge. The accompanying photograph (taken by Dale Smith) shows MAPS President Patty Seaton (from the H. B. Owens Science Center in Lanham, Maryland) with GLPA's own Development Chair Bob Bonadurer. For more information about purchasing this great new planetarium show, please refer to the Cosmic Colors advertisement on page 11.

CORRECTION: VENUS TRANSIT PHOTO CREDIT

Although ToV photo #5 on the lower left of the cover of the GLPA Newsletter's summer issue was sent in by Lois Wolf, it was actually taken by Robert Reese of Vermilion, Ohio.
HISTORIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS OBSERVATORY

Constructed in 1896, the University of Illinois Observatory contains a 12” Brashear refractor and played a key role in the development of astronomy, most notably in the area of astronomical photometry. In 1989, the U.S. Department of Interior designated the observatory a National Historic Landmark.

Now, GLPA President Dave Leake is part of a growing group formed with the goal of restoring the UI Observatory to its legendary status. The Friends of the UI Observatory has begun a campaign to raise funds to repair the domed ceiling and walls housing the original 12-inch refracting telescope. Friends founder Michael Svec explained that “right now we’re in the very early stages. Our immediate goal is preservation. We have to find a way to keep it from crumbling and falling down.” The observatory’s walls are still structurally sound, but years of leaking water have started an efflorescing process, leaving behind a powdery residue of flaking concrete in its wake. Fortunately, the telescope is in nearly immaculate condition. So far, the group has found some initial success, securing a large enough one-time gift to conduct a needs-assessment study of the structure.

For more information about their efforts, please visit the Friends of the University of Illinois Observatory webpage at observatory.astro.illinois.edu/ or read a recent article about their efforts on the U of I News Bureau website at news.illinois.edu/ii/12/0802/observatory.html.
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The New Generation of Science Standards
Gary Sampson

Earlier this summer, GLPA sponsored my participation at the Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) on the New Generation of Science Standards (NGSS) in Austin, Texas. The National Science Teachers Association hosted the SLI, which brought together 225 K-12 science teachers, university professors, curriculum directors, and informal science educators. The four-day session included a summary of the Framework for K-12 Science Education, an introduction to the new Standards, the use of the Standards with instructional materials, and assessment and the NGSS. Presenters included the developers and authors of the new Standards as well a variety of resource people. One of the highlights for me was a breakout session of informal science educators facilitated by Vanessa Westbrook, one of the NGSS authors.

The NGSS represent some significant changes in format and emphasis compared to the previous National Science Education Standards, which were released in 1995. The NGSS will feature:

- Three Dimensions including Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts
- A new emphasis on engineering as it relates to science instruction
- Incorporation of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education.

The NGSS will draw heavily on the Framework for K-12 Science Education that was released earlier this year. The 383-page Framework outlines a new vision for K-12 science education, it provides a detailed explanation of the three Dimensions, and it concludes with a section on realizing the vision. A very helpful summary of the Framework is available for download online at learningcenter.nsta.org/files/PB326X.pdf.

The content of the new Standards that will be of most interest to planetarians is contained under the Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCI) of Earth and Space Science. The three major core and component ideas under Earth and Space Science are:

- Earth’s Place in the Universe: The Universe and its Stars, Earth and the Solar System, and the History of the Planet Earth
- Earth’s Systems: Earth Materials and Systems, Plate Tectonics, The Role of Water in Earth’s Surface Processes, Weather and Climate, and Biogeology
- Earth and Human Activity: Natural Resources, Human Impacts on Earth Systems, and Global Climate Change

Also of interest are DCIs under Physical Science involving wave properties and electromagnetic radiation.

It is important to note that the NGSS will actually contain less astronomy content than did the previous National Science Education Standards. This change represents a shift in the emphasis on how science should be taught. The developers of the Framework maintain that the science curriculum should be organized around a limited number of ideas, that there should be depth and coherence — not breadth — and that there should be a series of learning progressions in an integrated K-12 science curriculum.

The NGSS will consist of 58 Standards organized by elementary, middle school, and high school levels for Life Science, Earth and Space Science, Physical Science, and Engineering and Technology. Each Standard features a Performance Expectation that combines practices, core ideas, and crosscutting concepts into a single statement describing how students can show what they have learned.

The first draft of the NGSS was released for review in May of this year. There will be another chance for review when the next draft is released this November. However, the presenters at the SLI made it clear that the core content of the NGSS is basically “cast in stone.” The final NGSS will be released next spring and will be up for adoption by the various states. To date, 26 lead states are working closely with the developers of the NGSS.

Science education has always been a top priority for GLPA. I was pleased to represent GLPA at this summer’s Institute and I feel that GLPA is a pioneer organization to incorporate science education into planetarium programming. To that end, Dave DeRemer and I will be presenting a workshop at this fall’s GLPA conference highlighting the NGSS. We will provide an overview of the NGSS and there will be breakout sessions for elementary, middle school, and high school groups. These groups will begin the task of incorporating the NGSS into current and future planetarium programming.
Where are they now? A Visit with a Founding Father  
Gary Tomlinson

As I traveled out west, I had the pleasure to pay a visit to a GLPA Founding Father, an IPS Founding Father, the first director of our national planetarium and my old boss (well at least for two months). This septuagenarian is alive and well (actually he’s in better shape than I am) living with his wife, Marré, and son in Kanab, Utah. Von Del Chamberlain started his planetarium career at the Longway Planetarium in Flint, Michigan before moving on to Abrams Planetarium at Michigan State University (MSU) in East Lansing. It was here that he started a planetarium training and master’s degree program that touched hundreds of us in the profession.

When I became interested in becoming a planetarian, I wrote to several institutions of higher learning that had courses in planetarium education. There were about half a dozen listed in a brand new journal, the Planetarian, published by the International Planetarium Society (IPS), which at that time was called the International Society of Planetarium Educators. I wrote to each one telling them of my goals and each and every one wrote back and said they really only had one course and to contact Von Del Chamberlain as he had a whole degree program. I did and I attended MSU. Unfortunately (for me), Von Del left two months later to open the new National Air and Space Museum’s (NASM) planetarium.

Before he left and well before I met him, he was one of the primary forces in the formation of the first planetarium regional association (GLPA) in 1964-65 and IPS in 1970. After NASM, he went on to direct the Hansen Planetarium in his home state of Utah. I joked with him that he just couldn’t keep a job. He was also very instrumental in getting astronomy into the national parks, an idea he got while traveling through the Badlands and their very dark, clear skies. With his suggestions and the support and training of national park rangers, astronomy is now taking place at most national parks. Some even have their own telescopes along with several programs per month on astronomy. I saw much evidence of this during my travels out west.

His home is full of books and rocks as well as astronomical alignments in his back yard (made of petrified wood and etchings in rock). The May 20, 2012 annular eclipse center line just happened to pass right through Kanab and Von Del climbed a 400 foot mesa behind his house to observe this astronomical event. He recently hiked six miles (one way) to visit a geological phenomenon called “the wave,” which I would have liked to visit but I only hike two miles (round trip) or less. As for GLPA, Von Del sends his best to everyone and states it holds a special place in his heart.

DON’T MISS OUT
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.

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.

ELECTRONIC MAIL LISTS
★ Learn the latest conference information
★ Communicate with fellow GLPA members
★ Get the latest announcements that apply to the GLPA region

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Go to www.glpaweb.org.
Click on “Other” and then follow the instructions to sign up.
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- Change the scene
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- Repeat for each scene
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In his cover story titled “Time for Metrics,” Lee Shapiro noted that it was only a matter of time before the United States converted to the metric system, and that it was the responsibility of every scientific museum or institution to “educate the public toward use of the metric system. Such education should involve more than just a knowledge of what the units are; it should encompass the actual use of these units in the same everyday manner that feet and pounds are used. . . The more places that the public can meet the metric units now, the easier will be the future transition.” [Editor: Forty years later, the United States still does not officially use or mandate a metric system of units, making it one of only three countries, along with Burma (Myanmar) and Liberia, that have not adopted the metric system as their official system].

GLPA Newsletter Editor Dave DeBruyn wrote a 2½ page summary of the 7th annual GLPA conference in Youngstown, Ohio. Some of the highlights included a discussion of the recent July 10th solar eclipse and a look ahead to the 1973 eclipse cruise aboard the SS Canberra. A very ambitious local effort to grind a 50-inch telescope mirror was described, along with a symposium on “American Indians and the Sky” hosted by Von Del Chamberlain. A talk titled “Inside Jupiter” described the latest thoughts on the composition of the solar system’s largest planet, while Margaret Noble’s warm remarks and memories of Armand Spitz provided an enjoyable Spitz lecture. A somewhat controversial paper by Dennis Sunal described a research project that concluded that the educational impact of the planetarium was not as significant as traditional methods of astronomy education. Understandably, this led to a spirited discussion later in the conference, as well as an editorial by Dave DeBruyn.

GLPA announced the appointment of State Representatives who would become responsible for reporting activities to the Newsletter Editor. These founding members of a long line of State Reps [Editor: These positions would later be known as State Chairs] were J. Reed Belasco (New York), David Bertsch (Ohio), Lloyd Bodie (Indiana), Robert Allen (Wisconsin), Don Tuttle (Illinois), and John Soroka (Michigan).

GLPA members were reminded that the next (i.e. 1973) GLPA conference would return to its birthplace – Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Newsletter Editor Dave DeBruyn noted that the “old problem of material for the newsletter continues,” which “in part explains why publication is more irregular than most of us would like.” He went on to remind readers that “the success of the newsletter in the future will depend on brief but significant contributions.” [Editor: Today’s GLPA Newsletter is still dependent on members’ submission, as it was in 1972. However, with the publication of the first Conference Proceedings in 1984, the nature of the newsletter has been more clearly defined. I am pleased to report that the GLPA Newsletter has run consistently (i.e. without missing an issue) since the spring issue of 1982, when Carl Wenning served as its Editor].

The International Society of Planetarium Educators (which would later become IPS) would hold its first official convention in San Francisco in November of 1972.
GLPA’s 97th newsletter and the third issue of 1992 contained the following articles and columns:

★ GLPA President Dale Smith noted in his President’s Message that 1992 was the 500th anniversary of the encounter between the European and native American worlds, the 35th anniversary of the launch of the first artificial satellite during the International Geophysical Year, and International Space Year as proclaimed by the United Nations.

★ As noted several times in the newsletter, the upcoming 1992 GLPA conference would be a combined GLPA and GPPA (Great Plains Planetarium Association) conference in the newly opened St. Louis Science Center, which featured over 60,000 square feet of permanent exhibits, including a 228-seat Digistar-equipped planetarium and an Omnimax theater.


★ Dayle Brown wrote an article describing the 1992 IPS Conference in Salt Lake City. Delegates from around the world enjoyed exploring Salt Lake City and riding the ski lift chairs and trams of the beautiful Snowbird Ski Resort to attend high elevation star parties and a barbecue. Less adventurous delegates held a star party in the rooftop hot tub. Paper session topics included administration and operations, archaeoastronomy, education, new facilities, new products, video, interactive planetarium systems, and all-sky and fisheye systems. After the conference, many delegates continued their explorations by participating in the post-conference archaeoastronomy excursion, or on their own at some of the nearby national parks, or white-water rafting down the Colorado River.


As this issue of the GLPA Newsletter neared completion, the sad news of the death of Neil Armstrong was announced. For all of us who remember the Apollo moon landings, Neil Armstrong became an instant hero and joined the likes of Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, and Charles Lindbergh as one of history’s greatest explorers.

As a boy of 11, I vividly remember watching Apollo 11 land on the Moon in the living room of my grandparent’s home in the tiny farm town of Williamsfield, Illinois. A few hours later, my family and I watched his first steps on the Moon from our home in Peoria. I remember stepping outside that night and glancing at the fat crescent Moon, looking the same as always despite its two human visitors. I felt a combination of awe, pride, and a desire to learn more -- feelings that would later point me in the direction of amateur astronomy and the planetarium profession.

Bart Benjamin, Editor
What Can You Do With a Definiti Theater?

Explore In Real Time

Customize
Interact
Discover

Immersive Instruction

Produce Your Own Shows
Connect Labs and Campuses

Is a Definiti theater right for you?
Contact us to discover more: www.SkySkan.com
Jeanne Bishop, IPS Representative

It was great to see so many GLPA members at the biennial IPS conference in Baton Rouge July 22-26. So much was packed into the Sunday-Thursday schedule. 701 people registered, making it one of the largest conferences ever. The venues all were within walking distance of the hotels. We split into A, B, and C sections for large-group presentations — in the Pennington Planetarium (at the Louisiana Art and Science museum), the Old State Capitol (so beautiful), and the Shaw Center for the Arts. Papers, posters, and many meals and lectures were given in the Baton Rouge River Center. The excellent food included local Louisiana dishes. Louisiana celebrates its 200th birthday is 2012, and it was very nice that IPS could join them in this special year.

We were treated to absolutely great speakers. First, Dr. Rolf Landua, Head of CERN’s Education and Public Outreach, spoke on the physics goals, status, and prospects of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN. Dr. Michael Turner, a theoretical astrophysicist from the University of Chicago who coined the term ”dark energy,” covered the present state of cosmology and mysteries pointing to new physics connections among dark matter, dark energy, and inflation. Dr. Natalie Batalha, from NASA Ames Research Center, works on the Kepler Mission team to discover exoplanets that potentially are habitable.

One of the neatest new features of an IPS conference was Dome Village. Many large and small planetarium domes were placed in a large area of the Baton Rouge River Center, and concurrent vendor presentations took place there.

Two IPS service awards — which are beautiful engraved Swedish glass pieces – were given. The worthy recipients are both GLPA members: Sharon Shanks and April Whitt. Ten IPS Fellow Awards were also given, including those to GLPA members Bart Benjamin, John Schroer, and Dave Weinrich. Dave Weinrich now is IPS President, and at a future meeting, he will receive the President’s Award. The President’s Award was given at this meeting to Past President Tom Mason. I serve on this IPS standing committee.

Much business takes place at the IPS Council meeting, which is held during the two days prior to the main conference. There are 22 affiliates (7 from the U.S. and the rest international), and each representative prepares a lengthy written report (mine was 8 pages) and presents brief oral highlights. Each of the chairs of standing committees (membership, elections, awards, publications, conferences) and of ad hoc committees (education, fulldome video, history, international relations, outreach, portable planetariums, professional services, script contest, strategic planning and technology) also present reports. I’ll share some details from the committees in my future reports, but IPS members can learn a lot by accessing the IPS website.

Dave Weinrich conducted the IPS Business meeting for all conference attendees on the last conference day, prior to the off-site banquet at an elegant historical home. By the conclusion of the IPS Business meeting, 83 viewers had checked in to the conference live website to join the meeting from other locations.

Candidates for officers were announced at the Business meeting. Lee Ann Hennig and Shawn Laatsch run unopposed as Executive Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. There are four candidates for IPS President: Gail Chaid, Paul Knappenberger, and Joanne Young, all from the U.S., and Marc Moutin of Toulouse, France. Each person gave a brief statement at the IPS Business Meeting, and written statements should be in the next issue of Planetarian. Following Dave Weinrich into the position of IPS President is Thomas Kraupe, the only person in IPS history to be elected to this position a second time. Voting will take place online this fall. Detailed results (number of votes for each candidate) will now be available to all, beginning with the next election, a procedure approved by motion and a vote at the Council meeting.

A very important new IPS procedure is that there will be no more paper IPS membership renewals; to be an IPS member, one must have a valid e-mail address and renew online. Renewal notices will be sent electronically. Membership Chair/Treasurer Shawn Laatsch will write an article for Planetarian with detailed instructions on how to join or renew using the IPS website. The best way to pay IPS dues will be with a credit card. You can send a check for dues following online renewal, but it may be a while before you receive a receipt. Shawn’s Planetarian article will include how to obtain either individual or institutional membership. He notes that there will be only one log-in name and password for an institutional membership, so if different employees of a facility utilize the IPS website, that same set of log-in information

continued on page 10
The GLPA By-Laws were last amended in 1990, more than twenty years ago. The Executive Committee is now proposing a set of changes that will bring the By-Laws into alignment with current practice and technology. The most substantive proposed change is to split the Office of Secretary/Treasurer into separate positions for Secretary and for Treasurer. Other changes modify wording to allow electronic voting.

Since the proposed changes are spread throughout the By-Laws, the entire document is given here to provide context and clarity. Proposed deletions are shown as green cross-outs. Proposed new text is shown in red. Explanatory notes and comments (not part of the By-Laws) are marked by asterisks and are shown in ***blue italics***. To more easily read the proposed changes, please refer to the full-color digital version of this document rather than the black-and-white printed version.

These changes will be voted on as a set (not individually) at the Annual Meeting (business meeting) at the October 2012 conference in Pittsburgh. If approved, they will take effect immediately, except for the Secretary/Treasurer split, which would take effect with the next change of Office (Vernal Equinox 2014).

BY-LAWS
OF THE
GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION
(as amended October, 1990)

ARTICLE I
NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Great Lakes Planetarium Association.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSES AND ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The Great Lakes Planetarium Association is incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan as a non-profit organization, established and operated as a professional association within the meaning of Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the following purposes:

A. To promote communication between members of the planetarium profession.

B. To improve the quality of planetarium programming by providing educational opportunities to the Members.

C. To promote a public awareness of the value of planetariums as educational institutions.

D. To provide publications, activities, and services of benefit to the Members.

E. To solicit and receive grants, contributions, and other property; to enter into contracts; to engage necessary personnel and services; and to transfer, hold, and invest such property as necessary for the furtherance of the purposes and activities of the Association.
Section 2. Activities shall be restricted as follows:

A. No part of the money or other property received by the Association from any source (including its operations) shall be used directly or indirectly for the benefit of or shall be distributable to the Officers, Members of Committees, or other private individuals, except that the Association shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payments necessary for the furtherance of the purposes and activities of the Association.

B. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be lobbying or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in any political campaign on behalf of or against any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all individuals and organizations interested in and supportive of the purposes and activities of the Association upon recommendation of the Membership Committee and payment of dues. Membership shall not be denied because of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

***this strikeout brings the By-Laws in accord with current practice, in which we simply require payment of dues, not a recommendation by the Membership Committee.***

Section 2. Annual Membership in the Association shall be for one (1) year from October 1st through September 30th of the following year.

Section 3. All Members in good standing shall have the right to vote. Organizations who are Members shall have one (1) vote and shall designate an individual as their voting representative upon application for Membership.

Section 4. Membership shall be in the following categories:

A. Regular Members shall be those individuals or organizations supportive of the purposes and activities of the Association according to criteria established by the Executive Committee.

B. Student Members shall be those individuals currently enrolled full-time in a secondary school, college, or university.

C. Senior Members shall be those individuals currently 65 or more years old and/or retired.

***allows Senior status for retirees under 65***

D. Honorary Life Members shall be those individuals who have this recognition conferred by the Executive Committee.

E. Sustaining Members shall be those individuals or organizations supportive of the purposes and activities of the Association according to criteria established by the Executive Committee.

F. Patron Members shall be those individuals or organizations highly supportive of the purposes and activities of the Association according to criteria established by the Executive Committee.

F. Vendor Members shall be those individuals or organizations who register as vendors for the GLPA conference according to the vendor categories and criteria established by the Executive Committee.

***establishes a new Vendor membership. Since conference vendors must become members, this brings the By-Laws into alignment with current practice. Sustaining Member category is retained since it used, albeit infrequently. Patron category is replaced by Vendor.***
A great image begins with a great lens!

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Section 5. Membership dues and benefits for each Membership category shall be established by the Executive Committee and (except for vendor fees) approved by the Members of the Association. The dues for Student Members shall be one-half the dues for Regular Members rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.

***since Executive Committee, not the membership, approves vendor fees.***

Section 6. The Executive Committee may confer Honorary Life Membership upon individuals who fulfill the criteria established by the Executive Committee. Honorary Life Members shall have full Membership benefits for life and shall pay no dues.

ARTICLE IV

MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 1. At least once each calendar year, the Association shall hold a Conference for its Members.

Section 2. The hosting of the Conference shall rotate among the planetariums of the Members.
A. The time and place of the Conference shall be determined by the Executive Committee on the basis of invitations received from potential host institutions.
B. Invitations from potential Conference hosts shall be made in writing to the President of the Association by the chief governing body or executive officer of the institution extending the invitation.

Section 3. The Association shall provide the Members with written notice of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the Conference. All Members in good standing shall have the right to attend or to send representative(s) to attend the Conference with the payment of registration and other fees and in accordance with Membership benefits and other such rules as may be established by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. During the Conference, the Association shall hold an Annual Meeting for the following purposes:
A. To hear the reports of the Officers and Committees.
B. To elect Officers.
C. To conduct other business as may properly come before it.

Section 5. A quorum at the Annual Meeting shall consist of one-half of the Members registered at the Conference less the number of Members voting by absentee ballot.

Section 6. There shall be no voting by proxy. Members not in attendance at the Annual Meeting may receive an absentee ballot for election of Officers and amendments to the By-Laws upon written request to the Secretary/Treasurer Membership Chair prior to the Annual Meeting.

***brings By-Laws into alignment with current practice***

Section 7. Whenever an issue shall arise requiring a vote of the Members at a time other than the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee and/or the President may direct the Secretary/Treasurer to conduct a vote by postal or electronic mail.

***allows President to call for a vote by Members; see comments below on Secretary/Treasurer split; brings By-Laws up to date with technology.***
ARTICLE V

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Management of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Committee consisting of the five (5) Officers and six (6) Chairs of the Standing Committees. All members of the Executive Committee must be Members of the Association in good standing.

***to accommodate S/T split***

Section 2. There shall be a minimum of two (2) physical or virtual meetings of the Executive Committee per year. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be called, at any time, upon the written request of any six (6) members of the Executive Committee.

***allows for electronic meetings if necessary***

Section 3. The President shall provide members of the Executive Committee with written notice of all meetings of the Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days before the meeting.

Section 4. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee, three (3) of whom must be elected Officers.

Section 5. Whenever an issue shall arise requiring a vote of the Executive Committee at a time other than a meeting of the Executive Committee, the President may direct the Secretary/Treasurer to conduct a vote by postal or electronic mail.

***to accommodate S/T split; allows for vote by email***

Section 6. Vacancies on the Executive Committee shall be filled as provided for in Article VI, Sections 5 and 6, and Article VII, Section 4.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall be:
A. President
B. President-Elect
C. Past-President
D. Secretary/Treasurer

E. Treasurer

***after considerable discussion, the Executive Committee recommends splitting the Secretary/Treasurer position into separate Offices for Secretary and for Treasurer. The reason is that the workload of the combined position is very high. This split would also follow the current practice of IPS, in which the Offices are separate. All Secretary/Treasurers of the past 20 years were contacted and unanimously supported splitting the position. If approved by the Membership, the S/T split would take effect with the terms of office beginning at the Vernal Equinox of 2014, the elections for which will be held at the Annual Meeting in October 2013.***

F. International Planetarium Society Representative

Section 2. All individual Members in good standing are eligible to hold Office.
The Alien Who Stole Christmas

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Section 3. The Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association and shall serve a term of two (2) years. The President-Elect shall become President at the conclusion of his/her term as President-Elect and become Past-President at the conclusion of his/her term as President.

Section 4. The Officers shall assume their Offices at the Vernal Equinox in the year following their election except as provided for in Section 6.

Section 5. Vacancies in the Offices.
A. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of President, the President-Elect shall become President and serve the remainder of the term plus the term for which he/she was elected.

B. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of Past-President, the President may appoint a former President of the Association to serve until the Office is filled as provided for in Section 3.

C. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Treasurer, or International Planetarium Society Representative, the President shall nominate a replacement to be approved by a vote of the Executive Committee.

***to accommodate the S/T split***

Section 6. In the event that a vacancy in any Office (except Past-President) is filled by a replacement not elected to that Office, an election to fill the Office shall be held at the first Annual Meeting occurring at least 120 days after the date of the vacancy. The elected candidate shall assume the Office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and serve the remainder of the term plus one additional full term.

Section 7. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to remove an Officer from any Office for just cause by a unanimous vote of the other members of the Executive Committee.

A. No Officer may be removed without a full investigation and hearing before the Executive Committee.

B. Any Officer removed from the Executive Committee may appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the Members at the next Annual Meeting. A majority vote of the Members in attendance shall be required to reinstate an Officer.

Section 8. Duties of the Officers.
A. The President shall:
1. Call and preside at all Annual Meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. Represent the Association at all times unless another representative is designated by the President.
3. Appoint the Chairs of all Committees except the Nominations Committee.
4. Prepare a written agenda for all meetings at which the President presides.
5. Serve as an ex officio member of all Committees except the Nominations Committee.
6. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.

B. The President-Elect shall:
1. Preside at all meetings at which the President is unable to preside.
2. Serve as the Chair of the Nominations Committee.
3. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

C. The Past-President shall
1. Preside at all meetings at which the President and President-Elect are unable to preside.
2. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.
D. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:

***to accommodate the S/T split***

1. Record the minutes of all Annual Meetings and meetings (physical and electronic) of the Executive Committee.

***minutes should include votes taken by email***

2. Mail a copy of the minutes to the members of the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days after the meeting.

3. Present the minutes from the previous Annual Meeting at the Annual Meeting.

4. Be responsible for all receipts and disbursements of the Association.

5. Prepare financial statements for all Annual Meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee and at other times as required by the Executive Committee.

6. Be responsible for any audit as required by the Executive Committee.

***moved to separate Treasurer section***

7. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

E. The Treasurer shall:

1. Be responsible for all receipts and disbursements of the Association.

2. Prepare financial statements for all Annual Meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee and at other times as required by the Executive Committee.

3. Be responsible for any audit as required by the Executive Committee.

4. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

***separate Treasurer section includes duties formerly assigned to combined Secretary/Treasurer***

F. The International Planetarium Society (IPS) Representative shall:

1. Represent the Association at all meetings of the IPS Council.

2. Report to the Executive Committee on the proceedings of all meetings of the IPS Council.

3. Report to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

4. Be responsible for forwarding news of the Association to the designated individual(s) of the IPS.

5. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Standing Committees of the Association shall be:

A. Membership

B. Development

C. Publications

D. Education

E. Instructional Materials Technology

***the Executive Committee recommends changing the name of this committee to reflect its current more comprehensive mission.***

F. Conference Planning

G. Nominations

Section 2. Other Committees may be established as necessary by the President or Executive Committee. These Committees shall be dissolved upon the completion of their work or when a new President assumes office, whichever occurs first.
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Section 3. The duties of the Committees shall be established by the President or Executive Committee.

Section 4. The President shall have the authority to appoint or replace the Chairs for all Committees except for the Nominations Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee. Committee Chairs shall serve until replaced or until a new President assumes Office.

Section 5. Committee Chairs may establish Sub-Committees and may appoint Members of the Association to serve on the Committee and Sub-Committees as necessary to perform their duties.

Section 6. All Chairs and members of all Committees and Sub-Committees must be Members of the Association in good standing.

Section 7. The Nominations Committee.
A. The President-Elect shall be the Chair of the Nominations Committee.
B. The President-Elect shall appoint no fewer than three (3) nor more than five (5) Members of the Association who must come from at least three (3) different states within the Great Lakes area to serve on the Nominations Committee.
C. The Nominations Committee shall:
1. Nominate candidates for the Offices to be voted on by the Members of the Association at the Annual Meeting.
2. Provide the Members with written notice of the candidates nominated for Office at least twenty-one (21) days before the Annual Meeting.
3. When necessary, nominate candidates to fill vacancies in accordance with Article VI, Section 6.
4. Perform other such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

ASSOCIATION FINANCES

Section 1. The fiscal Year of the Association shall be from October 1st through September 30th of the following year.

Section 2. All funds of the Association not otherwise employed shall be deposited in such banks or other financial institutions as determined by the Executive Committee. All withdrawals of funds shall be made by and all checks shall be signed by individuals authorized by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. No loans or advances shall be contracted on behalf of the Association and no notes of indebtedness shall be issued in its name, unless and except as authorized by the Executive Committee and approved by the Members of the Association.

Section 4. The Executive Committee may authorize the President and other Members of the Association to enter into contracts or to execute and deliver instruments in the name and on behalf of the Association, and such authorization may be general or limited to specific instances.
ARTICLE IX

COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT

Section 1. Members shall serve the Association without pay for their services, but may be eligible for reimbursement for expenses in accordance with Section 2.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to reimburse Members of the Association for expenses as necessary for the furtherance of the purposes and activities of the Association and for which receipts or other documentation is presented.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Members of the Association at the Annual Meeting. The Members shall receive written notice (postal or electronic) of all proposed amendments at least twenty-one (21) days before voting on the amendments.

***allows notification by email, as well as paper mail, to bring By-Laws into alignment with current technology***

Section 2. The Executive Committee may propose amendments to these By-Laws.

A. Proposed amendments shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

B. Members of the Executive Committee shall receive written notice (postal or electronic) of all proposed amendments at least twenty-one (21) days before voting on the amendments.

***allows notification by email, as well as paper mail, to bring By-Laws into alignment with current technology***

ARTICLE XI

AFFILIATION

Section 1. The Executive Committee may affiliate the Association with other professional organizations whose purposes and activities are relevant to those of the Association.

Section 2. The Secretary/Treasurer is authorized to pay such annual dues or fees as established by affiliate organizations to maintain the Association's memberships.

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ARTICLE XII

DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Upon dissolution of the Association, no Member shall be entitled to any distribution or division of its remaining money or property, or the proceeds thereof. After payment of all debts and obligations of the Association, the balance of all the money and other such property received by the Association from all sources (including its operations) shall be distributed to the Armand Spitz Fund of the International Planetarium Society or other non-profit organizations as approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XIII

INDEMNIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Any individual (and heirs, executors, and administrators of such individual) made or threatened to be made a party to any action, suit, or proceeding by reason of fact that he/she is or was a member of the Executive Committee shall be indemnified by the Association against any and all liability and the reasonable expenses (including attorneys’ fees) and disbursements incurred by him/her (or by his/her heirs, executors, or administrators) in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, suit, or proceeding, or in connection with any appearance therein, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding that such member of the Executive Committee is liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his/her duties.

ARTICLE XIV

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Section 1. The order of precedence of authority in the Association shall be as follows:
A. The By-Laws of the Association
B. Votes of the Members of the Association
C. Acts of the Executive Committee
D. Acts of the President

Section 2. The President shall have the authority to decide any issue of interpretation. Any such decision may be appealed to the Executive Committee, the decision of which may be appealed to the Members of the Association.
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See more on the IPS web site: [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

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Happy New Year! As I sit down to write this version of the president's message, I can't help but think of this past week. We had a marvelous conference in Pittsburgh and I want to publicly thank Sue and Buck Batson for all the work they put into hosting us. Hosting can be a challenge but it is also very rewarding. They did a great job! And the area was gorgeous! The trees were turning and I got to drive in some mountains! I was looking forward to that and I wasn't disappointed!

I was most interested in the sessions that involved the Next Generation Science Standards. The next draft of the NGSS should emerge this spring. This affects us all! My thanks to Gary Sampson, Gary Tomlinson, Jeanne Bishop, and Dave DeRemer for taking the lead on this on behalf of GLPA. There will be opportunities for us as our local teachers prepare to present some new content that they may not be comfortable teaching, especially at the junior high levels. You can keep abreast of the progress with the standards by going to www.nsta.org/about/standardsupdate/.

Thanks also to Geoff Holt, Tom Dobes, and Kris Kaufman for bringing technology into our conference sessions so that they could be streamed on the Internet. Hey, my wife even heard me say “hi” to her! That also means she was keeping an eye on me, too, I guess. You can check it out, too, by going to glpaweb.org/conf-video. Just don’t watch the guy running the banquet – he’s not too sharp!

On a serious note, as I left western Pennsylvania, I had a strange feeling knowing that in my rear view mirror were the clouds of Hurricane Sandy. The destruction we saw on our TV screens was unbelievable and devastating. Our thoughts and prayers go out, not only to our GLPA colleagues from that area, but our friends in MAPS as well. Let us all hope that this area gets back on its feet very soon.

I wish you all warm regards for the holidays.

For the past several years, I’ve lost track of the number of times a GLPA member has asked me “what number are you up to?” I immediately know what they’re asking . . . the number of GLPA Newsletters that I’ve edited, which has slowly but steadily crept toward the century mark at a rate of 4 per year. With minimal fanfare, I am pleased to report that this issue finally brings me to that magic milestone of 100!

To spare you the math, my first newsletter as Editor was the spring issue of 1988. A few months earlier, during the 1987 Merrillville conference, I was approached by a couple of Bishops – Steve and Jeanne – who asked if I’d be willing to assume the duties of Publications Chair and (more importantly) Newsletter Editor. After a pregnant pause that no doubt seemed longer to them than me, I replied “yes,” and the rest, as they say, is history. In the past 24 years, the newsletter has evolved from a “typewriter and glue stick” version to a full-color digital PDF. [For those who want to read more about the technical evolution of the GLPA Newsletter, please refer back to page 16 of the winter, 2008 issue].

For the past couple of years, I’ve thought about what I should do – if anything – to mark this occasion. An idea finally came to me in the spring of 2011, and I’ve been slowly constructing pages 22 and 23 ever since. So for all of you who are having trouble visualizing what 100 issues looks like, this two-page spread is for you! A brief explanation: For all issues prior to GLPA's first digital issue in 2004, I re-scanned each cover to show their original paper color. [For the record, Dale Smith has always been the one who picks the paper color for each printed issue of the newsletter. I bet you didn’t know that, did you?] For the issues since 2004, the full-color digital covers are shown instead of their paper color. If you receive the printed version of the newsletter, I suggest that you check out the full-color digital version for full effect.

Enough said about that. This issue contains much more, including an assortment of conference photographs (courtesy of Dan Goins) and the minutes of the Executive Committee and Annual Business meetings (courtesy of Cheri Adams). Finally, I’d like to add my own “thank you” and “congratulations” to Sue and Buck Batson for the wonderful conference they hosted in Pittsburgh!

Please note that the deadline for the spring issue of the GLPA Newsletter (my 101st) is February 1, 2013. [I'll stop counting if you do]. Please submit your facility reports to your State Chairs by late-January. Merry Christmas and a very Happy 2013 to all!
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Contact: Steve Hatfield
6565 Hazeltine National Dr. suite 2, Orlando, FL 32822 | 407-859-8166 | www.av-imagineering.com
Illinois State Meeting
Date: Saturday, April 27, 2013
Location: ISU Planetarium, Normal
Contact: Tom Willmitch
trwillm@ilstu.edu

As of October 20th, the new Peoria Riverfront Museum is in full operation. It opened on schedule after two years of construction and nine years of planning and fundraising, including the passage of a 40 million dollar bond issue by the residents of Peoria County in 2009. The new 86,000 square foot museum has six exhibit galleries, a digital giant screen theater by Global Immersion (4:3 and 16:9 convertible format with seating for 200), and a 40-foot planetarium dome (186 degree semi-hypersphere with up to 100 removable planetarium chairs). The planetarium includes the Zeiss Powerdome System with a ZKP4 and Spacegate Quinto, ECCS lighting, AVI Skylase, SCISS Uniview, Astro-Tec dome, and a locally designed sound system. The museum also has a Digitalis Portable Dome with an Elumenati Projector. Bowen Technovation handled the audio-visual installation in two of the museum’s new galleries. The opening fulldome show is the Ultimate Universe from the Clark Planetarium, along with a live Uniview show and a live current sky show. The Peoria Riverfront Museum will host the next GLPA conference on October 16 – 19, 2013.

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign will open 2013 with its live Winter Prairie Skies show, their own production of Odyssey, and GLPA’s Solar System Adventure. Odyssey is the digital re-mastering of the very first show to play on the dome at Staerkel, 25 years ago! In March, they will bring back the fulldome program, Dawn of the Space Age. They will also continue their “World of Science” Lecture Series with talks on DNA and how agriculture is changing. The staff also hopes to display an extensive meteorite collection in their lobby loaned to them by Jim Kaler.

On November 15th, the Cernan Earth & Space Center at Triton College welcomed its namesake (Apollo 17 commander Eugene Cernan) for a pair of special events
Indiana State Meeting

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2013
Location: Ball State Planetarium, Muncie
Contact: Ron Kaitchuck - rkaitchu@bsu.edu

The Koch Planetarium at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science celebrated its 60th anniversary and has begun construction of a new fulldome theater. Set to open in early 2014, the groundbreaking for the Museum’s new Koch Immersive Theater was held in November. The construction of the new planetarium is the culmination of two years of extensive interior renovations and an expansion that will include a new museum entrance, classroom, retail area, a science demonstration area, science galleries and the new fulldome theater. The museum has already raised $13.9 million in private and public funds for its project, which includes the planetarium. Armand Spitz personally sold the Museum its first planetarium projector in 1952, making Evansville the home to the first planetarium in the state. Planetarium Director Mitch Luman feels that the new facility will allow the facility to fully embrace its mission to inspire and instill wonder about science and astronomy in his community. The Koch Immersive Theater will feature 72 seats, a 12.2 meter tilted dome and a 4K x 4K digital projection system. Support facilities include an office, a video production suite, and audio studio. Bowen Technovation of Indianapolis is the technical consultant for the project.

The Indiana GLPA spring meeting will be hosted by Dr. Ron Kaitchuck of the Ball State Planetarium on Saturday, April 27, 2013. This may be the last chance you have to experience a classic A3P planetarium with concentric seating. Stay tuned for more details after the first of the year.

Jeff Bowen, Bowen Technovation reports that their company has added two more full-time staff members. Aaron Newport is a Ball State University T-com graduate and Matt Rosenfeld is a graduate from Wright State University in Ohio with a degree in theater design/technology. The addition of Aaron and Matt brings their staff total to 12 full-time plus several part time. Jeff also reports that their new, completely redesigned website is up and running with lots of free workshops, video tutorials, newsletters, and more.

Michigan State Meeting

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013
Location: Abrams Planetarium, East Lansing
Contact: John French - frenchj@msu.edu

The University of Michigan’s Museum of Natural History Planetarium has opened its fall season with a plethora of shows, including Nanocam, a show that turns the dome into an electron microscope to examine the various classes of life. In October, the planetarium hosted a multi-state domecast of their Great Lakes climate program, The Lake Effect: Creating a Resilient Future. Beginning as their facility’s contribution to the NOAA-funded “Worldviews Network,” the program will now be refitted as a public and school offering. In other news, a museum planner will be hired early next year to assist in long-range facility planning prior to meeting with the architects. A Museum Assessment Program (MAP) evaluation is nearing completion. The results of that will be used as a tool to consider “what we are” and “what we want to become” in the next iteration of the museum.

The Delta College Planetarium collaborated with several local organizations including the “Haunted Masonic Temple” for Halloween this year. The planetarium presented Haunted Night, which is a combination of Dark Side of the Moon from Starlight Productions and the Digistar Nightwalk short. The holidays arrive in Bay City with Santa turning on
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the lights in the park across the street and then coming over to the planetarium to greet children. Each year, there is a long line of families and the planetarium opens the doors of its theater for people to stop in free after their Santa visit to see previews of the holiday shows. This year, the holiday fare will include Season of Light from Loch Ness Productions, Mystery of the Christmas Star from Evans and Sutherland and perhaps even Let It Snow from Clark Planetarium (if the show is ready in time). Ultimate Universe from Clark Planetarium will run for evening shows for those wanting something other than holiday fare. All shows include a live, interactive night sky tour. The planetarium will also offer a special craft workshop for children, this year called Get Ready, Get Set, Snow! The Delta College Planetarium will open three new features beginning in January – Stars from Sudekum Planetarium, Molecularium from Kensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and GLPA's own Cosmic Colors. All shows include a live, interactive tour of the current night sky in which the staff relates the sky tour to the feature show they will be seeing. In addition, telescope observing will follow each evening show, weather permitting. For Valentine’s Day, the planetarium will offer their version of Soref Planetarium’s Romancing the Stars, which was very popular last year!

Vollbrecht Planetarium, adjoining Adler Elementary School in Southfield, will present its winter series of interactive planetarium shows from mid-January through early March. Each unique 90-minute presentation includes Q&A, a lecture, star show, handouts, and door prizes. One of the special features of Vollbrecht is its 13 planet solar system scaled to the 30-foot dome (which represents the Sun). The Spitz A-3PR prime sky planetarium projector, installed in 1968 with its pinpoint star projection, continues to be used by planetarians Mike Best, Cliff Jones, and John Tremonti.

The Dassault Systemes Planetarium in Detroit will re-open to the public as the new Michigan Science Center on December 26, 2012. This new organization has acquired the facilities of the Detroit Science Center, which closed due to financial problems in September of 2011. Plans include a new feature show about the current state of solar system exploration, with a tour of the current evening sky in all shows. GLPA Past President John Schroer will serve as Planetarium Coordinator, while Jenny Pon will serve as Production Manager.

Ohio State Meeting

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2013
Location: Boonshoft Museum Planetarium, Dayton
Contacts: Cheri Adams (cadams@boonshoftmuseum.org) and Scott Oldfield (Scott.Oldfield@vhcsd.com)

Let’s begin the Ohio news with a note from Fran Ratka, Director of the Schuele Planetarium at the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center (LENSC) in Bay Village. Her planetarium and the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra partnered to produce a multimedia presentation of Holst’s “The Planets” on October 21. Fran created a visual show that highlighted the mythology, history, discovery, early exploration, recent exploration, and scientific data about each planet. This played behind the Orchestra as they performed the music. Both the visual and auditory presentations were well received by the audience and rated highly on the evaluation forms. Both institutions benefited by the collaboration, as the Orchestra enjoyed the highest attendance at any of their concerts and LENSC reached a new audience not familiar with the Center. Fran also hosted the November meeting of the Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums (C.R.A.P.) on November 28, while Jeanne Bishop hosted the September C.R.A.P. meeting at the Westlake Schools Planetarium.

Moving to the east side of Cleveland, Gene Zajac used the Shaker Heights High School website to circulate an announcement about the Leonid meteor shower. As the website noted, Gene “never misses a teachable moment, even if it’s at 4 o’clock in the morning.” The NASA Solar System Ambassador writes, “In 2000, I witnessed the best meteor storm of my life [at 4 a.m.]. Only my dog would wake up and join me.” A teachable moment indeed! Gene also arranged a program at Put-In-Bay about meteor showers, mentioning meteorites found on the ice in Antarctica and that PIB locals might see one on the Lake Erie ice as the fishing season ends. It turns out that some did see pitted and rusty rocks, but let them fall to the lake bottom.

At the Bowling Green State University Planetarium, Dale Smith has been running a series of programs this fall under the umbrella Moonfest 2012 to honor the memory of Ohioan Neil Armstrong. Among the shows was Is This the End of the World?, BGSU’s original 1999 production for the change of millennium that included a section on the Moon at the end of the world.
WIMPS State Meeting

Date: Friday & Saturday, April 26 & 27, 2013
Location: Univ. of Minnesota - Moorhead Planetarium, Moorhead
Contact: Dave Weinrich - dave.l.weinrich@gmail.com

The University of Wisconsin-Steven’s Point’s Allen Blocher Planetarium presented *More Than Meets the Eye* and *Hotter than Blue* during the autumn months. In the month of December, they will present *Winter Wonders* and *The Season of Light*.

The Soref Planetarium in Milwaukee will show Clark’s *Attack of the Space Pirates* to complement its new Pirates Exhibit in December. For a few nights in December — before the world ends — they will present Evans & Sutherland’s *Doomsday 2012 Ancient Skies Ancient Mysteries*. The doomsday part will be an add-on from the Soref. In other news, *Ice Cube: The World’s Coolest Telescope* and *Space: It’s a Whole New Ballgame* are two shows currently in production.

The University of Wisconsin’s La Crosse Planetarium will offer *Stars of Wonder* in December and *Dawn of Astronomy* in February. Multimedia light and laser shows will be presented weekly when classes are in session.

The Southwest Minnesota State University Planetarium in Marshall, Minnesota will present *Star of Wonder* for its annual Christmas show. Two new shows will be featured this winter and spring – *Flight Adventures* from the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis and *Dark* from the University of Western Australia.

In December, the UW-Milwaukee Manfred Olson Planetarium will present *Northern Lights*. The first two months of 2013 will bring the *Birth of the Universe*.

In December, the Charles Horwitz Planetarium in Waukesha will present *Winter Wonders* and *The Season of Light* for public programs. In January, they will show *Saturn, Jewel of the Heavens* and *The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket*. Finally, March shows will include *Blown Away, The Wild World of Weather* and *Aurora*.

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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GLPA BYLAWS VOTE RESULTS

At GLPA’s Annual Business Meeting in Pittsburgh on Saturday, October 27, the GLPA membership approved the proposed changes to the GLPA By-Laws that were printed on pages 22-35 of the autumn GLPA Newsletter.

These changes will take effect immediately, except for the Secretary/Treasurer split, which will take effect with the next change of office in the spring of 2014.

GLPA OBITUARIES

Garry Beckstrom, Historian
garrybeckstrom@delta.edu

I am pleased to announce that a new Obituary section is now available in the History section of the GLPA website. Its direct URL is www.glpaweb.org/obituaries.

This section represents the information we currently have for members who have passed away. You’ll notice that there is still a lot of information missing. This is where we need your help! If you can fill in any missing information, or know of deceased members that we’ve missed, please let me know at the above e-mail address.

CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS

For many years, each winter issue of the GLPA Newsletter has contained an assortment of conference photographs. This issue is no exception. The front cover and pages 34 and 35 are filled with photographs that illustrate the success of the recent conference in Pittsburgh. With only two exceptions, all photographs were taken by GLPA’s official conference photographer, Dan Goins. Newsletter Editor Bart Benjamin took the landscape photograph on the cover, which shows the view from the conference hotel. David Parker took the photograph of Dan Goins delivering his Spitz Lecture.

These photographs are a small subset of photographs that were taken by Dan Goins and David Parker during the conference. The full set of photographs will be included on the GLPA Proceedings CD that should be completed by Dale Smith in early 2013.
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GLPA AWARDS

At the Annual Banquet of the GLPA Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, GLPA bestowed the following awards:

**Fellows:**
- Jean Creighton
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Tom Dobes
  Hammond, Indiana
- Janet Beckstrom
  Flint, Michigan

**Galileo Award:**
- Chuck Bueter

Congratulations to the GLPA award winners for 2012!

If you would like to nominate someone for GLPA Fellow, Honorary Life Member, or Galileo Award, please visit [www.glpaweb.org/other](http://www.glpaweb.org/other) to download the PDF nomination forms, which you can then complete and mail back to the appropriate Executive Committee member.

A NEW FULLDOME DATABASE WEBSITE

There is a new and exciting online community for people who are passionate about planetariums, fulldome technologies and science outreach! It’s called the Fulldome Database, and it can be found at [www.fddb.org](http://www.fddb.org). Responding to feedback, FDDB Coordinator Dario Tiveron and colleagues redeveloped FDDB from scratch, focusing on creating an easy and extraordinary user experience. Please do check out their website and watch their video.

FDDB is a free service, both to users and producers, and anyone can add their content for free. If you wish to receive news and updates from FDDB, they suggest that you subscribe to their newsletter. They also invite you to join them on Facebook and Twitter.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

On page 16 of the autumn newsletter, Gary Tomlinson wrote a nice article that featured GLPA Founding Father Von Del Chamberlain, where he was, and what he was doing these days. If you know of another planetarian who was once active in the organization and is now either retired or in another field, please consider writing a short article similar to Gary’s.

With member participation, we could offer a regular “Where Are They Now” column in the newsletter. It’s entirely up to you! Please send any such articles to Newsletter Editor Bart Benjamin.
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The Alien Who Stole Christmas

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GLPA Annual Business Meeting
Marriott Airport Hotel
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
October 27, 2012

President David Leake called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. EDT. Since the meeting will be streamed onto the Internet, reports will be given from the front of the room.

April Whitt moved that the meeting minutes of the past business meeting (held on October 22, 2011 at Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois) published in the 2012 Spring Equinox Newsletter be approved. Her motion was seconded and carried.

Secretary/Treasurer John French gave a brief Financial report of the balances of each of GLPA’s accounts, totaling at the current time $105,023.61 which included income from the conference. John reported that the bills for the conference have not yet been paid. John reported on GLPA’s PayPal activity.

President-Elect Garry Beckstrom distributed ballots for the memberships’ approval for amendments to the By-Laws as proposed by the Executive Committee. The entire By-Laws document with proposed changes was printed in the Autumn Equinox 2012 Newsletter. The primary effect, if passed, will result in the separation of the elected Office of Secretary/Treasurer to Secretary and Treasurer and to bring the By-Laws into line with the current practices of the organization.

Chris Janssen inquired as to whether there was any dissension within the Executive Committee in support of the proposal. Garry Beckstrom and President Leake explained the proposed changes were unanimously supported by Executive Committee members. Dale Smith added that he interviewed all members that previously held the Secretary/Treasurer Office over the last 20 years and all unanimously supported the separation of the Office into the two positions.

Garry reported that at the spring Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee approved awarding up to 10 scholarships for the 2012 conference. Each scholarship awarded waived the registration fee and meal package. Five scholarships were awarded for a value amount of $2,050.00. Garry reports that he will chair the Nominations Committee for the 2013 officer elections. Members Waylena McCully, Jon Marshall, and Cheri Adams will serve on the committee.

President Leake reported that all GLPA award recipients are available online now thanks to Geoff Holt. A new Mentor Award has been established to recognize individuals that have consistently provided encouragement and opportunities for students and other individuals to become involved in the planetarium profession, thereby providing continuity of the profession. Jeanne Bishop will provide an article to be published in the 2013 Spring Equinox Newsletter with more detail regarding guidelines for the award. The deadline for nominations for the Mentor Award will be June 1st, the same as the Galileo Award. President Leake reported that the Galileo Award was awarded to Chuck Bueter at this conference and new Fellows are Janet Beckstrom, Jean Creighton, and Tom Dobes.

Past President John Schroer reported that there have been many rewrites to the GLPA Handbook through tremendous effects by Gary Tomlinson. Garry Beckstrom, GLPA Historian, is scanning photos and printed information into a digital format.

Secretary/Treasurer John French informed members during his non-Financial Report that guidelines will be published in upcoming newsletters for members to apply for funding the production of future projects that align with the mission of GLPA.

President-Elect Garry Beckstrom reported that the membership voted unanimously to approve the proposed By-Laws’ amendments. Garry reported that all past conference summaries have been completed and are available on the website. Garry also requested members to notify him of any corrections or additions to be made to the past members’ obituaries. Garry has inventoried all of the physical artifacts of the history archives.

President Leake reported for IPS Representative Jeanne Bishop. The 2012 IPS Conference was held this past summer in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. At that conference, GLPA members Sharon Shanks and April Whitt were awarded the IPS Service Award. The 2014 IPS Conference will be held in Beijing, China. Jeanne will need to cast a vote at the 2013
summer IPS Executive Meeting for the location of the 2016 IPS Conference and would appreciate any input from GLPA members. The site proposals are: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; Toulouse, France; and Warsaw, Krakow, and Wieliczka, Poland. All renewal notifications for IPS memberships will now be online.

Membership Committee Chair John Potts reported the location, number of members (224), retired memberships (23), fellows (102), GLPA/IPS members (78), and breakdown of membership and planetarium types. There will be a membership benefits brochure available for distribution in the near future, especially at state meetings. Geoff Holt reminded State Chairs that there are ways to extract information that could be useful for inviting individuals to State Meetings.

Development Committee Chair Bob Bonadurer reported on the conference vendor support (over 20 vendors) and thanked the members for supporting the vendors.

Publications Committee Chair Bart Benjamin explained to new members that there are two main GLPA publications; the quarterly GLPA Newsletter and the annual GLPA Proceedings. The newsletter has 10 annual contractual advertisers with 12½ pages of advertising and Bart thanked all the advertisers for their support. 90 members opt to download the electronic version of the newsletter, 38 members opt to receive the printed version and 80 receive the newsletter in both formats. Please forward state news reports to your State Chairs: Bart Benjamin (Illinois), Alan Pareis (Indiana), Ron Robinson (Michigan), Dale Smith (Ohio), and Jean Creighton (Wisconsin and Minnesota). Bart thanked Dave DeRemer for his many years of service as the past Wisconsin/Minnesota State Chair. The 2012 Winter Solstice Newsletter will be GLPA’s 178th issue and Bart’s 100th issue as Editor. IPS would like to receive color photos to accompany the article that Bart sends to them each issue for their international news column. Members should be receiving the 2012 Proceedings sometime in December, which will be GLPA’s 29th and Dale Smith’s 25th as its Editor.

GLPA Facebook and Twitter pages have increased their numbers from 23 to 53 on Twitter and from 92 to 154 on Facebook.

Education Committee Chair Sue Batson invited Gary Tomlinson to convey information. The Project Review Committee will recommend to the Executive Committee which projects should be considered to receive project funding. GLPA remains committed to be proactive in the Next Generation Science Standards and will hold future workshops to understand the new standards.

Technology Committee (previously known as Instructional Materials) Chair Geoff Holt reports a much better understanding of the work involved behind the scenes in putting on a conference and thanked all previous hosts for what they have done. Instructional Materials continues to exist under a larger umbrella. All Printed Materials are now available for immediate download as PDF files for members from the website if you are logged in correctly. There are two new scripts available; ArcticSaurus by April Whitt and The Missing Universe by Ron Kaitchuck. Dan Tell gave a brief report for the Technology Standards Ad Hoc Committee. A fulldome and digital media TIPS booklet is currently being developed. All featured speakers and paper presentations will be available through Ustream. We will have a volunteer to do data entry for conference registration for those registering by paper next year. Special thanks to Bart Benjamin and Tom Dobes for their help with the website and to Tom for setting up all the audio and visual equipment and live streaming and for agreeing to do it again next year.

David Leake reported for AV that he has sent out 37 show kits since spring; 16 Cosmic Colors; 5 fulldome, 9 traditional, and 2 license only. You may order all shows online.

Conference Planning Committee Chair Gary Tomlinson thanked Sue and Buck Batson for hosting this conference. He also thanked Geoff Holt for all of his work involved in the conference preparation through the website and registration. Gary invited Sheldon Schafer, host of the 2013 GLPA Conference, to present information regarding that conference being held at the new Peoria Riverfront Museum, in Peoria, Illinois, October 16th through October 19th. There are no future invitations for conferences.

Spring Meetings: Executive Committee Meeting April 13th in East Lansing; Illinois State Meeting April 27th at Illinois State University Normal, Illinois; Indiana will be at Ball State Date to be determined; Ohio to be determined; Wisconsin/Minnesota to be determined; Michigan March 23rd in East Lansing.

No old business to report.

New business to report: Mark Webb and Jean Creighton propose that GLPA hire a consultant to hold a workshop for members that could identify and define questions relating to evaluations of programs and to educate the membership on what types of things grant groups are looking for in awarding their grants. Mark will gather more information.

Tom Button moved that the meeting be adjourned. His motion was seconded and carried. The Business Meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m. EDT.
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?

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• its biennial conferences
• Proceedings of each IPS conference
• free publications, including the *Directory of the World’s Planetariums* and the *IPS Resource Directory*
• access to resources found only in the members section of the IPS website
• access to the IPS News listserv
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See more on the IPS website:  [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

IPS dues are only $65 a year, or two years for $100. 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 4451, Hilo, HI 96720 USA  
Phone: +1 (808) 969-9735  
Fax: +1 (808) 969-9748  
E-mail: slaatsch@imiloahawaii.org
I hope that you have voted for IPS officers on the IPS website this fall. We soon will learn the winning candidate for President from among Gail Chaid, Marc Paul Knappenberger, March Moutin, and Joanne Young. Lee Ann Hennig and Shawn Laatsch ran unopposed for Secretary and Treasurer. For the first time, as a result of a Council vote last summer, the number of votes cast for each will be made known. The elected candidate will serve for two years as President-Elect, while Thomas Kraupe is President. Dave Weinrich will step down from his position as IPS President and serve for two more years as Past President. The strength of IPS is dependent on volunteer efforts. As well as voting and nominating people for office, please consider running for an IPS office. The Election Committee Chair is Martin George: martin.george@qvmag.tas.gov.au.

If you attended the Fall Conference, I hope you were able to look at the pictures and details of three proposals for the 2016 IPS conference on my poster. I also hope that you shared your concerns and opinions on cards that you placed in the provided box. If you were not at the meeting or if you have further thoughts on the proposals, please e-mail me before next August. Although it is a certainty that we will have the 2014 conference in Beijing, the IPS Council will select the 2016 conference site next summer. You will see articles about each of the proposals for 2016 in the March issue of *Planetarian*. The sites are Edmonton, Canada; Toulouse, France; and Warsaw, Poland.

Please consider nominating candidates for IPS Fellow and IPS Service Awards. Send your nominations to me or to Susan Button, as we both are members of the IPS Awards Committee. With your nominee name, please include a description of the nominee’s service. Please send nominations before next June. After the Awards Committee reviews nominees, the Council will select award recipients next August.

Last summer in Baton Rouge two IPS Service Awards were given, both to GLPA members: Sharon Shanks and April Whitt. Ten people became IPS Fellows. Four of these are long-time GLPA members: Bart Benjamin, John Schroer, Sharon Shanks, and Dave Weinrich. Congratulations to these hard-working, creative people for all their work on behalf of the planetarium profession, including the international community.

I hope that you are familiar with the trove of information available on the IPS website, which is found at [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org). Complete full-color issues of *Planetarian* can be accessed online, except for those issues printed in the last six months. (See “Planetarian Online.”) Note the categories of Full Dome Resources, Full Dome Specs, Free Media, *Saving the Night* show, IPS Director, Resource Director, and Music, as well as discussions of the standing committees and the many ad hoc committees. The IPS website, like the journal *Planetarian*, is a very helpful resource. Remember to record your password (once reset from a standard one, with Shawn Laatsch) so you can have access to the many valuable items. Your user name will be the first letter of your first name with your last name (e.g. jbishop for me).

I wish everyone the joys of this holiday season and a star-filled 2013.
At 1600 x 1600 resolution, the single-projector SciDome is a smart choice for educational planetariums. SciDome offers amazing brightness, great contrast, and sharp resolution for brilliant starfields and fulldome scenes. It's the ideal solution for educators who want affordability and powerful performance. SciDome includes dozens of lessons created specifically for fulldome teaching - plus Starry Night’s K-12 curriculum for extended space science education in the classroom. Make the smart choice and contact Spitz to learn about the powerful teaching options of SciDome, SciDome HD and SciDome XD.
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GLPA Executive Committee Meeting
North Hills Junior High School
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
October 24, 2012

Present: Cheri Adams, Sue Batson, Garry Beckstrom, Bart Benjamin, Jeanne Bishop, Bob Bonadurer, John French, Geoff Holt, Dave Leake, John Potts, John Schroer, Sheldon Schafer, Dale Smith, Gary Tomlinson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President David Leake at 9:20 a.m. EDT.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, held at the Clifford Pierce Middle School in Merrillville, Indiana on April 21, 2012 had been printed in the Vernal Equinox issue of the GLPA Newsletter and e-mailed. No revisions were made. John Schroer moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer’s Report: John French presented the Financial Report, which was then discussed. As of October 22, 2012, the current balances of GLPA’s accounts are: Checking $13,493.86, Savings $86,389.07, PayPal $1,121.90 [Update: $40,000 was later transferred from PayPal account to savings account], Image Bank $3,594.80, Instructional Materials $423.98, and Gift Shop $281.55 for total cash assets of $105,023.61.

John reported on the cost, types, and purpose of audits following contact with a CPA. John moved that GLPA hire a CPA to do a form of audit for GLPA and authorize that audit not to exceed $2,000.00. The motion was seconded, discussion followed, and the motion carried.

John discussed GLPA’s tax status as a 501(c)(6) versus a 501(c)(3) and will ask for the advice of the CPA regarding the status. John also led a discussion regarding the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013. Scholarship funding will be discussed at the spring executive committee meeting.

President’s Report: President Dave Leake led a discussion regarding the new Mentor Award. Jeanne will write an article for the spring newsletter to allow for nominations prior to the June 1st deadline. Dave also led a discussion regarding electronic voting.

President-Elect’s Report: Garry Beckstrom led a discussion regarding conference scholarships and reported that five scholarships had been awarded to cover the conference registration fee and meal package. Scholarship application deadline is September 1st. Reminders of applying for scholarships will be in each newsletter. Garry will form the Nominations Committee for the 2013 elections while at the current conference.

Past President’s Report: John Schroer invited Garry Beckstrom to give the History Committee’s report. Changes to member obituaries should be sent to Garry. Garry has inventoried the physical archives and artifacts. Discussion ensued on what to do with all the physical files available such as correspondence, financial records, minutes of executive committee meetings, and conference photos.

John Schroer invited Gary Tomlinson to report on updates to the Handbook. If the membership approves the proposed amendments at the upcoming Business Meeting, then the new Secretary position will include the following duties: recording motions and results of all votes by mail and/or e-mail into the next prepared written copy of the minutes; update Executive Committee contact information; provide a summary of all acts approved by the Executive Committee; and record all award winners and selected invited speakers into the Business Meeting minutes of the conference. Handbook updates for Membership Chair include safeguarding all membership records and producing, purchasing, and/or storing any membership awards. President-Elect Handbook updates include Scholarship Committee makeup, appointments, decisions, notification of awards and budget requests to be made at the spring Executive Committee meeting. Planned Giving will be transitioned from the Development Chair to the Treasurer. Gary thanked Garry and Janet
Beckstrom for the revisions to the Conference Guidelines and the Executive Committee thanked Gary for his tremendous efforts on the Handbook revisions.

John Schroer led a discussion related to door prizes.

Secretary/Treasurer’s Report (non-financial): John French updated changes to the Executive Committee contact information. Garry Beckstrom will be providing ballots at the Business Meeting for the voting of the proposed By-Laws amendment.

IPS Report: Jeanne Bishop asked who attended the 2012 IPS conference. The next IPS conference will be held June 23 - 27 of 2014 at the new Beijing Planetarium in Beijing, China, with many opportunities to participate in additional excursions. There are three proposals for the 2016 IPS Conference: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; Warsaw, Krakow, and Wieliczka Poland; and Toulouse, France. Jeanne requests for members to write concerns for her to take to the IPS Council meeting August 9-10, 2013 in Bolzano, Italy. Candidates that are standing for election are for President: Gail Chaid, Paul Knappenberger, Marc Moutin, and Joanne Young. Shawn Laatsch is running unopposed for the office of Treasurer and Lee Ann Hennig is running unopposed for the office of Executive Secretary. Jeanne will present a paper on the Baton Rouge IPS Conference Thursday in the dome at Buhl. Renewal of IPS membership must now take place online. Election voting will also occur online. If the e-mail bounces back then a paper ballot will be issued by mail. Election results will be announced in December and Jeanne will write a report for the newsletter. Jeanne encourages everyone to be a member of both GLPA and IPS. Jeanne recognized Sharon Shanks for the phenomenal job she is doing as editor of the Planetarian and the others also carrying a GLPA presence into IPS are Dale Smith, Dave Weinrich, and Susan Button.

Membership’s Report: John Potts discussed the Membership Benefits brochure, thanked everyone for assistance with the new brochure, and was recognized by the Executive Committee for his efforts for the production of the brochure. It will be distributed at state meetings, new member conference orientation, in conference registration packets, and available at IPS conferences. Sue Batson moved that 500 be printed for distribution. The motion was seconded and carried.

John discussed the number of current members, 224 (23 are retired, 102 are Fellows, and 78 are also IPS members).

Publication’s Report: Bart Benjamin reported that the GLPA Newsletter currently has 10 advertisers providing 12½ pages of advertising, generating annual revenue of $3,745.00. Additional advertising brought the annual revenue to $4,060.00. Ninety members opt to download the electronic version, 38 members opt to receive the printed version, and 80 members opt to receive both versions. Following Geoff Holt’s initiative to build redundancy into key GLPA functions, Bart has uploaded newsletter template documents to the online server so that Geoff could access these documents in an emergency. December 1 is the deadline for the Winter Solstice edition of the GLPA Newsletter, GLPA’s 178th issue, and Bart’s 100th issue as its Editor.

Dale Smith mailed out the 2011 GLPA Proceedings in December 2011. The upcoming 2012 Conference Proceedings will be GLPA’s 29th issue and Dale’s 25th issue as its Editor.

GLPA continues to increase its presence on both Facebook and Twitter. GLPA’s Twitter Page has 53 followers (up from 23 reported last fall) and its Facebook Page has 154 people who “like” GLPA (up from 92 reported last fall). Administrators Geoff Holt and Bart Benjamin continue to solicit feedback from members so that GLPA’s social networking pages can continue to improve and evolve.

Instructional Materials Report

General: Geoff Holt reported that the proposal that the membership will vote on at the conference Business Meeting will include the Executive Committee’s proposal to change the name of the Instructional Materials Committee to “Technology”. The Technology Ad Hoc Committee has been assigned as a sub-committee under Instructional Materials. Instructional Materials also includes oversight of the website, e-mail discussion lists, and electronic communication.

Print Materials: Over the past six months, no orders or transactions were made. All of the printed materials are now available for immediate download as PDF files for members on the website. Members do need to log in to download the files. Non-members can still order materials through the online store. Two new scripts have been added to the Script Bank: ArcticSaurs by April Whitt and The Missing Universe by Ronald Kaitchuck. Note that you can list the scripts online by Script Year simply by clicking on the column header.

Technology Standards Ad Hoc Committee: Progress toward establishing technology standards has slowed while IMERSA digests the feedback they received at the IPS conference. A fulldome TIPS booklet is currently being developed.

Website: Utilization of the GLPA website continues to grow. Geoff thanked Bart Benjamin and Tom Dobes for their help with the website. We now have the ability to send e-mails to our members directly from the site. E-mails can be sent to
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individuals, subgroups based on search criteria, all members, etc. Geoff suggested that members make sure that their spam filter will allow messages from “glpaweb.org”. The History Committee has created descriptions for almost all of the past conferences. (See “GLPA History” under “About GLPA”).

**Discussion Points:** Geoff discussed the possibility of moving the site to a fully managed hosting site, with a current estimate of $750/year plus first time set up fees. This would make it easier for others to take over the site in the future. Geoff discussed GLPA e-mail list versus Forum with subscription options and suggests going with the new system. Geoff suggested adding a conference data entry volunteer to the Conference Planning Committee who would learn the data entry system.

Geoff then discussed plans to live stream all invited speakers at this conference. John French moved that the videographer be compensated the same as the photographer for the conference. The motion was seconded and carried.

**A/V Report:** Dave Leake reported that Geoff and he are working on the Image Bank. Dave has sent out 16 Cosmic Colors shows this year: nine traditional, five fulldome, and two licenses only.

**Education’s Report:** Sue Batson requested that John French report on the future project review committee. John will write a Vernal Equinox GLPA Newsletter article to outline the criteria for the evaluation of potential projects.

Sue directed the discussion regarding teachers receiving Continuing Education Units for attending the conference. Sue then invited Gary Tomlinson to report on the National Standards subcommittee report. Jeanne Bishop took the astronomy literacy document policy and identified as to what is best done in the dome and what can be effectively done in the classroom. It will be reviewed by the committee, sent to our regional partners, and then updated on the website. Gary thanked Spitz for providing the planetarium graphic to replace the bullet points. Jack Northrup and Alan Davenport are aligning our document with the Framework. Sue and Gary Sampson attended NSTA’s functions. The National Science standards have not yet been adopted. There will be a public opportunity to comment.

**Development’s Report:** Bob Bonadurer reported on the number of vendors, levels of support, and vendor time in Buhl Planetarium and led the discussion regarding possible changes to levels of support.

**Conference Planning’s Report:** Gary Tomlinson invited Sue Batson to report on the current conference and Sheldon Schafer for the 2013 conference. John Schroer moved that GLPA increase the conference subsidy to $4,500.00 for the 2013 conference. The motion was seconded and carried. There are no invitations beyond the 2013 conference.

**Old Business:** John Schroer moved to accept the proposed budget. The motion was seconded and carried. Geoff Holt mentioned that he keeps track of all e-mail votes cast by GLPA’s Executive Committee members.

**New Business:** The Spring Executive Committee meeting will be April 13, 2013 in East Lansing, Michigan. John Schroer proposed a 50th anniversary planetarium show. Geoff Holt proposed a commemorative video. John Potts questioned how long to keep Membership documentation. John Schroer moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.
In the cover story titled “The Illogical Persistence of Astrology,” Leith Holloway speculates on the reasons why astrology remains popular in “this scientifically enlightened age.” The author comments that it is understandable why astrology was important in pre-scientific times, but asks the reader why it remains so popular today. To answer this, the author presents his own ideas, including the notion that astrology satisfies the human desire to predict and plan for future events, provides a means for young people to protest against the adult establishment, and offers an alternative to religion.

Lloyd Bodie from the Allen Memorial Planetarium in Terre Haute, Indiana describes his facility’s “cook book” approach for teaching the night sky. In the example he gave, each student is given a pocket-sized card (like a recipe card) with directions for finding the North Star, which each student can keep to reinforce the sky lesson long after they leave the planetarium.

The recent ISPE (predecessor to IPS) convention was described in some detail. Held in the San Francisco area in mid-November of 1972, the convention featured talks by Apollo 15 astronaut Al Worden and Dr. James Pollack from NASA-Ames Research Center. Also offered was a “special effects clinic” and tours of Lick Observatory and the Stanford Radio Telescope.

Planetarians from two GLPA states – Indiana and Wisconsin – met in two separate regional workshops to share ideas and lessons. [Editor: As reported in the previous issue of the newsletter, GLPA appointed State Representatives in the autumn of 1972 to report activities to the Newsletter Editor. These “regional workshops” were a new initiative that would later evolve into GLPA’s spring state meetings].
GLPA’s 98th newsletter and the fourth issue of 1992 contained the following articles and columns:

★ In his President’s Message, Dale Smith discussed the idea of creating a National Planetarium Council that would “act as a coordinating body and allow us to speak with a single national voice when needed.”

★ President Dale Smith mentioned that planetarians who are faced with institutional closure should inform GLPA of their plight. “We will all go to bat for you,” proclaimed Smith. [A couple years later, GLPA released its TIPS booklet titled “Hints for Keeping Your Planetarium Open,” which has undergone at least one revision since its debut. GLPA makes this TIPS Booklet available to everyone for free. It can be found on the GLPA website at www.glpaweb.org/sites/default/files/files/Tips16a.pdf].

★ In Illinois State News, the Lakeview Museum Planetarium in Peoria announced that their Community Solar System Model had recently been accepted by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world’s largest solar system model. This true-to-scale model (in both planet size and orbital distance) is centered on Lakeview Museum and extends throughout Central Illinois. [Editor: Located in downtown Peoria, the new Peoria Riverfront Museum had its grand opening on October 20th. As Sheldon Schafer explains, “The original solar system model was based on the size of the planetarium at Lakeview Museum. Since the new planetarium is larger, the Solar System is being rebuilt from scratch. The new Sun is laid out on the museum’s plaza in yellow and red brick pavers, 46’ in diameter, and the planets’ locations are all moving to be centered on the new Sun. It will be inaugurated later on in 2013.”]

★ In the Bulletin Board section, it was announced that GLPA member James Seevers from Chicago’s Adler Planetarium had been given the award of “Fellow” at the GLPA Conference in St. Louis.

★ Membership Chair Eric Schreur reported that there were 253 members of GLPA in the 1991-92 year. Of these, 231 were regular memberships, 5 were student, 4 were seniors, 2 were patron, and 11 were honorary members. Ohio led all states in the number of GLPA members at 38.

★ The location of the next three GLPA conferences was announced – Dayton, Ohio in 1993, Wheeling, West Virginia in 1994, and Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1995.
**Cosmic Colors: An Adventure Along the Spectrum** is a dynamic new planetarium show from the Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA). It premiered on October 20, 2011 at the GLPA Conference in Champaign, Illinois.

*Cosmic Colors* will take you on a wondrous journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. Discover the many reasons for color — like why the sky is blue and why Mars is red. Take a tour within a plant leaf and journey inside the human eye. Investigate x-rays by voyaging to a monstrous black hole and then back at your doctor’s office. You will even see the actual color of a dinosaur, based on recent evidence. Get ready for an amazing adventure under a rainbow of cosmic light! 31 minutes in length.

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For FullDome versions, each planetarium must ship an appropriate hard drive to GLPA. Show encoding is the responsibility of each planetarium.

**TRADITIONAL VERSION:**  
$100 for traditional version with two discs -- a playable *Cosmic Colors* show DVD and a DVD data disc containing all-sky images, digital JPEG images, audio tracks, flattened video scenes, teacher guides, and documentation.

For more information on *Cosmic Colors*, please contact Dave DeRemer at (262) 896-8423 or Bob Bonadurer at (414) 278-6985. To order *Cosmic Colors*, contact Dave Leake at (217) 351-2567 or dleake@parkland.edu. Credit card purchases should go through the GLPA Online Store at www.glpaweb.org/online-store.
The Great Lakes Planetarium Association acknowledges the following companies and organizations for their generous support in Fiscal Year 2012-13:

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The 2011 redesign of the *GLPA Newsletter* incorporates small sections of several Hubble Space Telescope images for its page mastheads. These and other images can be accessed from the Hubble Heritage Project website at heritage.stsci.edu or the HubbleSite Gallery website at hubblesite.org/gallery. And because the photos are from NASA, they are free to use (with proper credit).

**Cover:** Infant Stars in the Small Magellanic Cloud (NGC 346)
Credit: NASA, ESA and A. Nota (STScI/ESA)

**State News:** Prototypical Barred Spiral Galaxy NGC 1300
Credit: NASA, ESA, The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

**Bulletin Board:** Hubble Ultra Deep Field (STScI-2004-28)
Credit: NASA, ESA, R. Windhorst (Arizona State University) and H. Yan (Spitzer Science Center, Caltech)

**IPS Update:** August 29, 2011 GOES East Full Disk Satellite Image
NASA/NOAA GOES Project Science website

**Image Credits page background image:** Abstract Art Found in the Orion Nebula
Credit: NASA, ESA, and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)
THE GREAT LAKES PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION (GLPA) offers membership opportunities to all individuals in any way connected with the operation of planetariums regardless of geographic location. GLPA is an affiliate of IPS (International Planetarium Society), NSTA (National Science Teachers Association), and IMERSA (Immersive Media Entertainment, Research, Science & Arts). 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 GLPA, 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 © 2012.

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UPCOMING GLPA CONFERENCES:
2013 October 16-19
Peoria, Illinois

2014 To Be Determined

Astronomical photographs used within the GLPA Newsletter are courtesy of NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI).

PLEASE NOTE:

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For a replacement copy of this newsletter, please contact Dale Smith (address given above).