

GLPA NEWSLETTER

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IMAGE CREDITS

Cover Design: Emily Hromi (emilyhromi@gmail.com)

Cover Caption: Emily Hromi's cover features a montage of photographs taken by Anna Green during the 2022 GLPA Conference.



The current design of the *GLPA Newsletter* incorporates small sections of several NASA images for its page mastheads. These and other images can be accessed from NASA websites such as Mars Exploration (<https://mars.nasa.gov>), Scientific Visualization Studio (<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov>), NASA/ESA Hubble (<https://esahubble.org/images/>), HubbleSite (<https://hubblesite.org>) and the Webb Space Telescope (<https://webbtelescope.org/resource-gallery/images>). Because all these photos are from NASA, they are free to use (with proper credit).

Image Credits page background image: NGC 2074 in the Large Magellanic Cloud

Credit: NASA, ESA, and M. Livio (STScI)

Image Credits page inset image: M96: A Galactic Maelstrom

Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA and LEGUS Team

State News Masthead: Young stars in the “wing” of the Small Magellanic Cloud

Credit: NASA, ESA, CXC and University of Potsdam, JPL-Caltech, and STScI

Bulletin Board Masthead: M13: A Celestial Snow Globe of Stars

Credit: NASA, ESA, and Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Articles Masthead: Supernova remnant E0102 explodes within the Small Magellanic Cloud

Credit: NASA, ESA, and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)



I'm not sure March will ever come around for me again without the reminder of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It's hard not to reflect on this massive, shared tragedy we all experienced. I remember leaving the California Academy of Sciences on Thursday, March 12, 2020. Our weekly evening programs were canceled and we announced that following guidance from the city and state we would be closing for two weeks. I was unlocking my bike and I looked back at the museum and said to myself, "this feels like the last normal day."

It's hard to believe three years have gone by since then, in the strange timewarp of the pandemic where days

stretched on, but on reflection, blur together without the usual bookmarks and signposts of events and travel that help us structure our memories. Things will never return to the same normal again – but they never do. Every big change is the end of one normalcy as we start to find the next one.

I will always be deeply thankful that in the immediacy of that new normal my dear friend (and now IPS President) Michael McConville started the Planetarians' eConferences. I think there is something fairly unique about the strength of our community as planetarians. I'm not sure it could ever be exactly defined what unites us, but whenever we gather, in person or virtually, there seems to be a powerful energy. I'm sure it's something different for each of us, we all have unique backgrounds and experiences in life, but even from that diversity, something about the wonder of the work we are doing, our combined effort to discover the potential of the planetarium unites us as colleagues, allies, and friends. Spending two hours a week on Zoom with this community gave me support and strength in that first year of the pandemic and I don't know what I would have done without it.

This spirit of community is also what has me looking forward to this year's **Stars for All** Conference in Bays Mountain, Tennessee. I was a huge fan of the 2017 Pleiades Conference in St. Louis, which gathered together all seven U.S. regional planetarium associations (and many international planetarians as well), and I have been looking forward to the next opportunity we would have to bring together the entire U.S. planetarium community again. Although GLPA's Executive Committee, I admit, was trepidatious about joining this conference, I'm glad we did and I really look forward to what Adam Thanz and the Bays Mountain team have planned for us. I also think it's a great opportunity for GLPA. We were very involved in the planning and organization for the Pleiades Conference. This time we are taking more of a

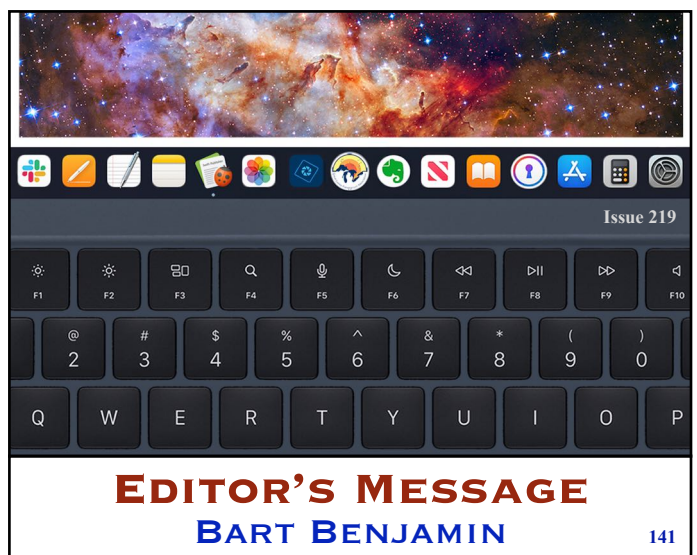
(continued on page 15)

Although this issue of the *GLPA Newsletter* is short compared to last month's record-breaking 74 pages, it contains some important news, beginning with Adam Thanz's illustrated preview of the upcoming **Stars for All** national planetarium conference in eastern Tennessee (June 20-24). In Adam's article on [page 21](#), you'll not only learn about what's planned for the conference, but more about Bays Mountain Park, their one-of-a-kind planetarium with a Zeiss ZKP-4 star projector, the four-star MeadowView Marriott Conference Center and Resort, [three](#) different conference t-shirts, and much more!

There's also an article by Roy Kaelin (on [page 29](#)) that combines his interests in astronomy and amateur radio in an effort to encourage people to "observe the night sky by radio."

Unfortunately, there is also sad news to report. David E. Parker, who served as GLPA's Secretary-Treasurer for a record 14 years, recently died. His obituary appears on [page 17](#), along with Dan Goins' tribute to him on [page 27](#).

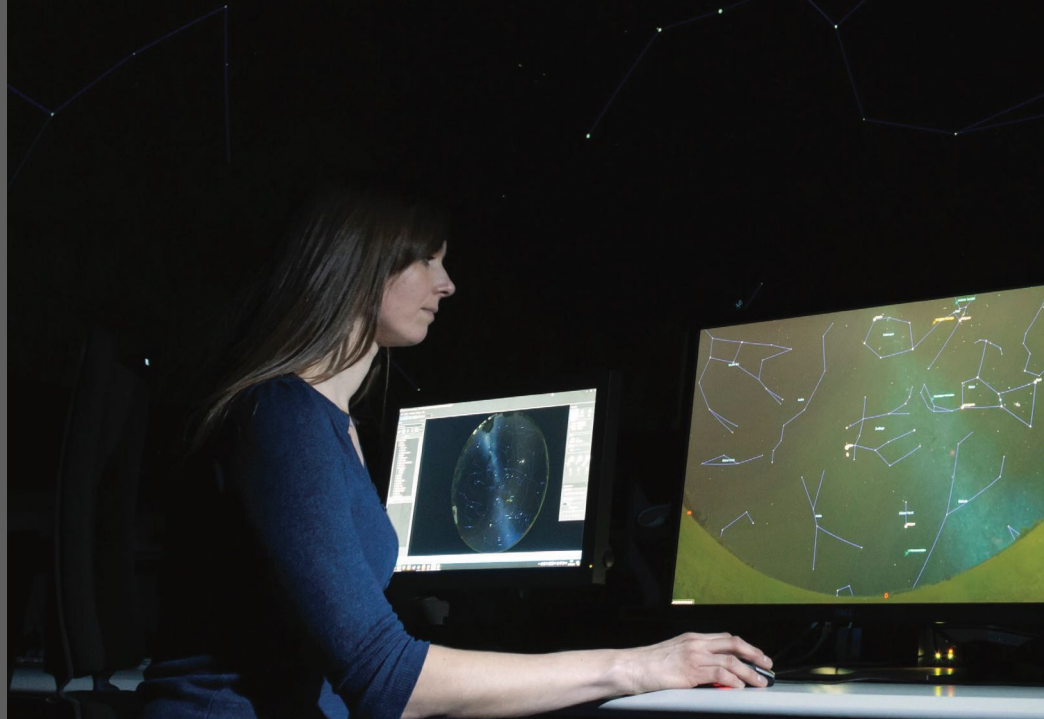
Please note that the deadline window for the summer issue of the *GLPA Newsletter* is **early May**. Please submit your facility reports to your State Chairs by the end of April. Have a wonderful spring and enjoy your state meeting!



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At Chicago's **Adler Planetarium**, the staff is excited to be marking one full year of normal operation since reopening in March of 2022. "It's been an exciting year and very rewarding to have the public filling our theaters again," commented Nick Lake. Adler was the filming location for a CNN segment focused on Dr. Katya Echazarreta, the first Mexican-born woman in space. The video, which can be found on YouTube

under the title *Making More Space in STEM* at <https://youtu.be/n1Jy6QO26Aw>, seeks to inspire a new generation of female explorers. The Theaters team worked with the producers to show off the Grainger Sky Theater and other Adler spaces. [see photo on page 6] In December, the staff was excited to host attendees of the American Geophysical Union's fall meeting during one of their Wednesday evening *Adler At Night* events. [see photo on page 6] The Grainger Sky Theater hosted a dome session with full-dome content from Carter Emmart, Ryan Wyatt, and Mark Subbarao. In January, the staff said goodbye to the full-scale replica models of the Perseverance rover and Ingenuity helicopter that have been on display since July as part of NASA's *Roving with Perseverance* traveling exhibit. [see photo on page 6]

The **Staerkel Planetarium** in Champaign has been working on smaller maintenance projects recently. They had an E&S site visit to upgrade their Digistar operating systems to Windows 10 and to optimize the functionality of Digistar 6. The staff also sorted through old paperwork, slide sets, and equipment for archival and disposal. They are taking the first steps to adopt an online ticketing system and revising their pricing and policies. Staerkel will present *The Hot and Energetic Universe* to the public for the first time in March, and they will bring back *Expedition Reef* in May. Their Spanish-language shows and sensory-friendly shows in January reached much wider audiences thanks to their increased efforts at promotion. This success has encouraged them to shop for more shows targeting their youngest audiences that include tracks in Spanish and possibly French.

The team at Peoria's **Dome Planetarium** is gearing up for their 24th annual Interplanetary 5K race this March 25th, in which participants will run to the orbit of Mars and back in their Community Solar System scale



model. In April, the staff will be participating in the community event for *Big Astronomy*, and plan to show the film the entire month of April. Starting in May, they will be showing *Eclipse: The Sun Revealed*, to help spread the word about the upcoming solar eclipses. On April 1st, the Dome Planetarium will host the Illinois State Meeting. All are welcome to join!

The **Illinois State University Planetarium** in Normal is pleased to offer *Destination Mars: The New Frontier* through early March. More information about *Destination Mars* can be found on their website at <http://www2.phy.ilstu.edu/~trw/planet.html>. The ISU Planetarium continues to offer a variety of programs for schools and community groups on weekdays, ranging from children's shows like *The Little Star That Could* to more general shows like *From Earth To the Universe*. Finally, the ISU Planetarium is currently relocating its ticket counter and gift shop from an adjacent room to the planetarium lobby. This will consolidate the planetarium's public-facing area and provide ticket sales directly across from the planetarium entrance.

The Elgin School District's **U-46 Planetarium** has recovered from burst water pipes with minimal damage and no stoppage of classes. Whew! They will be ramping up the Eclipse 2024 information that they offer to school groups, scouts, and the general public as we approach the one year mark of the April 8, 2024 event.



Upper Left: In December, the Adler Planetarium staff hosted attendees of the American Geophysical Union's fall meeting.

Above: Adler Planetarium was the filming location for a CNN segment focused on Dr. Katya Echazarreta, the first Mexican-born woman in space.

Left: In January, the Adler staff said goodbye to the full-scale replica models of the Perseverance rover and Ingenuity helicopter that have been on display since July.



NGC 2014 close-up. Credit: NASA, ESA, and STScI



In January, a resolution was read on the floor of the Indiana Senate to bring attention and awareness to the 2024 solar eclipse in Indiana. **Mitch Luman**, from the **Evansville Museum's Koch Immersive Theater & Planetarium**, championed the resolution through work with his state senator in order to bring greater recognition state-wide to the upcoming eclipse. [\[see photos below\]](#)

The **Brown Planetarium** at Ball State University has continued to meet and connect with local Muncie organizations and representatives in planning for the upcoming total solar eclipse that will be visible on April 8, 2024. As a part of their ongoing projects funded by the IMLS Inspire! Grant for Small Museums, they have incorporated telescope viewings into their public programming with their Coronado SolarMax III 90mm solar telescope and Meade 8-inch telescope, both with computerized mounts and tripod dollies for portability. [\[see photo →\]](#) In addition to telescope viewings, they have installed the first of their lobby exhibits and banners supported by the grant. To help guests of the planetarium explore the electromagnetic spectrum, large-scale window clings were installed on the windows in the main building entrance and lobby area, each representing a different color of the visible light spectrum. [\[see photo below\]](#) The prints highlight the Lobster Nebula, the Elephant's Trunk Nebula, the highest resolution image of the Sun's surface, Cassiopeia A, the Pleiades, and the Orion Nebula. A separate floor banner is on display to highlight their Carina Nebula mural and allows guests to explore it on their own before entering the dome. More lobby exhibits are in development and coming soon! They are continuing to offer virtual programming through the Constellation Crew, and other special programs, which can be found on their YouTube channel @BrownPlanetarium and other social media platforms.



Above: The Brown Planetarium installed window clings in their main building entrance and lobby area that represented the colors of the visible spectrum.

Right: Indiana State Senator Jim Tomes and Koch Planetarium's Mitch Luman worked together to pass Senate Resolution 6.

Far Right: The Indiana General Assembly's Senate Resolution 6, which brings awareness to the 2024 total solar eclipse.



State of Indiana



Indiana General Assembly

SENATE RESOLUTION SIX

A SENATE RESOLUTION bringing awareness to the 2024 total solar eclipse.

WHEREAS, North America will be experiencing a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, that will travel from the Pacific coast of Mexico to the Canadian province of Prince Edward Island;

WHEREAS, Only seven years ago, North America experienced the "Great American Eclipse" on August 21, 2017, but Indiana was not in the path of totality;

WHEREAS, The 2024 total solar eclipse will be extra special due to the path of totality, which will be around 115 miles wide. The path is projected to encompass much of Indiana and will cross directly over many parts of the state;

WHEREAS, The solar eclipse will begin at 1:50 p.m. Eastern time and last until 4:23 p.m., when the solar eclipse is over;

WHEREAS, At 3:06 p.m., a darkness will fall over Indianapolis, as well as other cities and towns encompassed in the 115 mile wide path of totality, when the sun is totally eclipsed;

WHEREAS, The totality of the solar eclipse will cause darkness to last nearly four minutes with a small glow of sunlight in the distance; and

WHEREAS, According to Butler University, Indianapolis has not experienced a total solar eclipse for 810 years, making this event a once in a lifetime opportunity;

Therefore,
Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:


SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate wishes to bring awareness to the 2024 total solar eclipse that will encompass many parts of Indiana.

SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Senator Jim Tomes for distribution.

Adopted by voice vote this twenty-third day of January, 2023.




JIM TOMES
State Senator

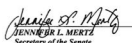




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At the University of Michigan's **Argus Planetarium**, the staff is continuing to produce many live shows, both for their own needs and for their partnership with the Ann Arbor Public School district in increasing the use of the Argus Planetarium at Pioneer High School. They also recently partnered with the Center for Chinese Studies on campus to offer a Chinese Lunar New Year live presentation, which included Chinese stories and mythology presented by local people of Chinese heritage. It went over very well with six sell-out crowds! The staff encourages other planetariums to look for these types of partnerships in their area. Other production work continues and they are still working toward an initial release of a custom lighting engine.

The **Longway Planetarium** in Flint has been busy implementing new programming for the community. The past few months have been filled with exciting additions and learning opportunities for all ages. Monthly cultural astronomy lectures have provided guests with fascinating information regarding the astronomical origins of Halloween, winter solstice celebrations across the globe, Vedic traditions in ancient India, and the origins of western constellations. Guests will virtually travel to South America in their upcoming lecture in March. The addition of live planetarium programs to the 2022/2023 school year has provided students with an opportunity to engage with educators in a unique classroom setting. Utilizing the full dome, students may observe the patterns of motion in a changing sky, see the shifting conditions across the globe, and explore landforms on a different planet. The live format allows for the educator to tailor the course and meet the needs of each unique class. The new year saw the introduction of two new public programs. The fulldome feature *Secrets of the Universe* takes guests on a journey to the beginning of the universe to find clues for creating clean energy solutions for planet Earth. The new section of the live *Space Academy* series explores the workings of some of the most mysterious objects in the universe — black holes. A future section will examine the beautiful northern lights.

Projector upgrades are now complete at the **Eastern Michigan University Planetarium**. The resolution is more than double that of the original Digitarium Epsilon system installed in 2011 and presents crisp images along with bright, vibrant colors. Their show library is undergoing the process of re-rendering to the higher resolution and appropriate frame rates. Public shows resumed on a limited basis in December and a full schedule is being offered this winter including their newest show *Forward! To the Moon*. In the coming weeks, HVAC repairs will be completed, thereby making the planetarium experience more comfortable for all.



There is sad news from Ohio. On January 9th, the **Ward Beecher Planetarium** sustained severe damage from a fire. Details may be found in a separate news story on [page 18](#).

Nick Anderson reports from the **Cleveland Museum of Natural History** that with a full lineup of daily programming, new employees, and future renovations in the works, his new leadership role has been keeping him busy. The **Nathan and Fannye Shafran Planetarium** is announcing the hiring of **Monica Marshall** as the newest member of the CMNH Astronomy Department. Monica has years of experience in STEM outreach and outdoor education and has already proven to be a vital asset to the team. Nick, Destiny, and Monica were also excited to host the February meeting of the Cleveland Regional Association of Planetariums. The trio showcased recent improvements to the planetarium and discussed big plans for the future.

The **Lake Erie Nature & Science Center** is gearing up for what will be a very busy spring of school field trips, public programming, and evening family programming. They are still on the search for their summer astronomy intern. The intern will work with students and families inside the dome and out one day a week this summer. If anyone knows any college age students in the greater Cleveland area looking to try on a planetarium for the summer, have them email KatyD@Lencs.org.

The **Smith Middle School Planetarium** in Vandalia is back and better than ever! After a decade of limited service (caused by failed levies and budget cuts) the planetarium is back to half-day use. The beginning of the year saw every fifth grader in the district receive a full semester of *Exploratory Astronomy*. The second semester will be dedicated to shows for the entire district with emphasis on the younger grades and special needs. Original monthly public shows continue this school year. September's show about the JWST was followed by one focusing on NASA's DART mission.

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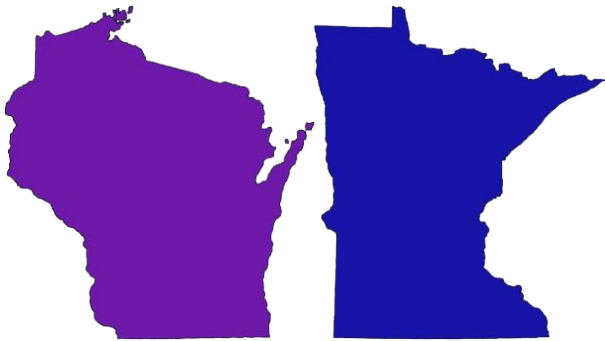


November's show was canceled due to renovations (i.e. new controls, thanks to Lion's Club, Ash Enterprises, and E.C.C.S.) and December brought *Santa and A Scope for Christmas*. January opened with *Taurus, that's no bull!* (a BIG THANKS to Steve Russo for the bulb donations) and February brought everyone together with *Valentines Under the Stars*. The dome will get people looking up this spring with *What's that in the Sky?* (green comets, Chinese balloons, etc.) and April will be the twice scrubbed feature about Artemis. As is tradition, the year will conclude with *Cosmic Jams*, letting the presenter rest his voice as stars are spun to music.

Alex Mak is enjoying retirement from Ritter with a trip to Nassau. He toured Ritter the other day, which is in the midst of the D7 upgrade. He saw the new star field; even unaligned and untweaked, it was breathtaking!

Suzie Dills notes that the **Hoover-Price Planetarium** will be hosting the Ohio State Meeting on Saturday, May 6th. The planetarium is located in the William McKinley Presidential Library & Museum in Canton, Ohio.

The **Bowling Green State University Planetarium** has been running a double feature this winter. One show is *The Sky We Don't See* showcasing the wonders of the southern hemisphere sky and produced by BGSU alum Dan Zielinski and his students at the Jenks Planetarium near Tulsa. The other show is *Constellations* from Bob Bonadurer and team in Milwaukee. BGSU is also running the "Humanities and Stars Festival" in early March featuring eleven shows from the Humanities and Stars series produced many years ago by Eileen Starr.



The **Minnesota State University Moorhead Planetarium** hosted its 6th annual *Stars of PBS* this January, a partnership between the planetarium and Prairie Public. This year, they saw record attendance with over 500 people attending planetarium shows throughout the day and many more participating in activities and engaging with community partners. Recently, they ramped up for Valentine's Day with their *Romance show* and will be hosting *LaserFest* with 27 hours of programming over a weekend! With their 50th anniversary celebration over, they are not slowing down anytime soon! The staff is looking forward to the fact that this *LaserFest* will be the last one with a rented system! They will be

debuting some student-created shows this spring and will continue to develop programming for their NASA Community Anchor grant.

The **Mayo Planetarium** in Rochester, Minnesota has been busy! Director Ben Joslin teaches two astronomy classes in the morning, then for the rest of day hosts visiting classes from schools all over southeastern Minnesota. Ben also teaches evening community education classes every week, and is happy that the planetarium now welcomes so many visitors! Recently, his efforts were featured in a newspaper feature story, which can be read at <https://www.postbulletin.com/news/local/cosmos-classroom-ben-joslin-brings-the-heavens-to-mayo-high-school-students>.

The **Bell Museum** in St. Paul, Minnesota welcomed visitors back for their first in-person *Space Fest* since 2020! Over 2,500 people visited the museum for activities held on February 3-5. The Friday *Star Party* was clouded out, but over 400 visitors still came to enjoy the wonderful space fun activities that were also offered. On that Saturday, they hosted Minnesota native and retired astronaut Captain Heidemarie M. Stefanyshyn-Piper, USN. They also offered talks and activities from University of Minnesota researchers, NASA Solar System Ambassadors, and Twin Cities Public Television's SciGirls! The Bell Museum was featured in the new SciGirls in Space episode *Making Space*, which can be found at <http://www.scigirlsconnect.org/resources/making-space/>.

The **Soref Planetarium** in Milwaukee is offering *Deep Space* class for adults this March. The class meets for two hours every Wednesday in March. *Surviving in Space*, featuring NASA astronaut Karen Nyberg will also be offered. Soref's eclipse show has a new subtitle — *Lights Out! Eclipse Whys, Wonders and Wows!* This show will be available in August of 2023.

The **L.E. Phillips Planetarium** at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is debuting a new show titled *Lives of the Stars* for its spring season.

The **Southwest Minnesota State University Planetarium** presented the laser show *Pink Floyd Dark Side of the Moon* with beams and fog on the weekend of the 50th anniversary of the album's release. The SMSU Planetarium recently

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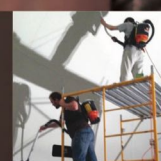
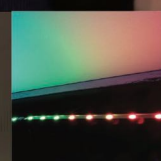
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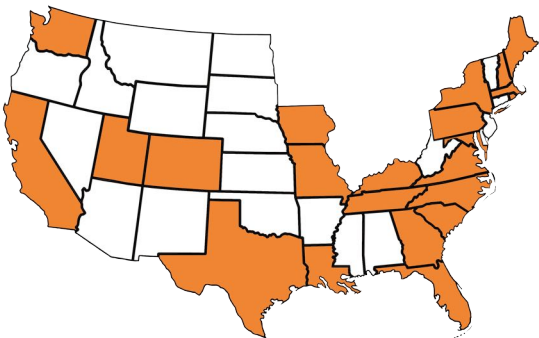
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upgraded its Skylase with much brighter RGB lasers. This spring, they will also present Soref Planetarium's production of *Surviving In Space*. OpenSpace continues to be the primary tool for their live presentations.

The **Manfred Olson Planetarium** at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee kicked off the year with nearly 400 people attending its annual Open House, the first such event since before the pandemic, and sold out shows for the popular Friday night show series *Northern Lights*. Jean Creighton is proud to collaborate with students and faculty on a weekly series in February titled *Under African Skies*; an undergraduate student from Tanzania and a graduate student from Algeria will talk about their cultures and a faculty member with a musician will talk about Senegal. The early planning for the centennial is bearing fruit. UWM will be hosting a planetarium from Kenya and is collaborating with the Horwitz-DeRemer Planetarium, the Metropolitan Madison School District Planetarium, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to purchase large numbers of eclipse glasses.

The second round of fundraising has begun at the **Horwitz-DeRemer Planetarium** in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Their goal is to raise enough funds to install the rest of their planned interactive activities to their lobby area. If they are fortunate enough to receive an excess of funds, they would like to upgrade their current planetarium seats and purchase a laser system (instead of renting one, as needed). One of their new interactive displays is in the design phase. It is their *Night Sky* display, where visitors can select and illuminate the constellations that they want to see on the display board. They hope that this addition will be installed during the summer of 2023. Their second display will be a large interactive planisphere that can be adjusted to see what is visible in the night sky at any time of the year. Finally, the staff has seasonally updated their lobby and changed out their educational panels for certain holidays. For Christmas, they were able to find several images and ideas on NASA's website to highlight astronomical pictures and add holiday quotes or messages. They recently completed a large collection for Valentine's Day [see photo →] and will eventually design several for Halloween as well!



At the **California Academy of Sciences**, their new Hohfeld Hall show about asteroids, now called *Asteroid Adventures*, is on track and will be exploring where we find asteroids, what they are, and some of the many missions that are finding and visiting them. *Asteroid Adventures* will premiere in mid-May. The planetarium team is excited to be bringing back a show series that they haven't done since before the pandemic — *Academy Updates*. They used to have *Academy Updates* once a month at *NightLife*, where an Academy scientist or sometimes an outside partner would come and talk about their work. They'll be re-launching *Academy Updates* in April, focusing on the Academy's new initiatives with the first of several shows: *Thriving California*, *Hope for Reefs*, and *Islands 2030*.

Mary Holt is working closely with several teams including Viz Studio, Engineering, and Thriving California to get these started back up. On the Viz Studio end of things they are still working hard on the new full-dome show that is set to premiere in November about stellar life and death and the origin of elements. No name has been picked yet for the new show, but the team should be deciding on one soon. After taking a break in January, the monthly Benjamin Dean Lecture series continued in the dome in February, featuring Dr. Risa Wechsler from Stanford University. In March, the team is excited to have their very own GLPA President Dan Tell giving the lecture! And last but not least, the presenters have finished up the run of *Tour of the Night Sky* and the daily 4:30 p.m. show is back to *Tour of the Universe*, which is also live-streamed from the dome on Wednesdays.

The **Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS)** presents *Star Stories* on the first Sunday afternoon of each month using a GeoDome Portal by The Elumenati with sky views provided by Stellarium. Late last year, AMOS purchased a



Dell Alienware laptop to replace its aging Prostar P950HR. The new laptop works much faster and more reliably than the old one with one not-so-glaring exception – no Moon! Elumenati Support is working on restoring it to their sky.

The centerline of the April 8, 2024 total solar eclipse goes right through downtown Buffalo, New York and the **Williamsville Space Lab Planetarium** is doing its best to get people ready for it. Director Mark Percy has been leading monthly meetings of the Buffalo Eclipse Consortium. Educators, museums, government representatives and tourism agencies have been joining the group and learning about how to make the most of this incredible opportunity. Check out their website at <https://buffaloeclipse.org/> to learn more. Mark will be leading sessions of his “Solar Eclipse Deputy Training” through the spring and summer. [see photo below] The class teaches participants the safety guidelines and how to set up the various observation techniques. Each participant gets to aim a telescope, look through each of the types of solar filters, and set up devices like the sun funnel and the Sun Spotter. Simulations of the eclipse in the planetarium show participants what to expect and how Eclipse Day will unfold. As this eclipse will create a demand for experts far beyond anything in the past, Mark hopes to train as many deputies as possible so that Western New York will have a corps of volunteers available for the many events that will be taking place on Eclipse Day. Recently, they received the good news that most schools in Western New York have decided to give students the day off on E-Day, including the Williamsville Central School District. The WCSD has also committed to a large purchase of eclipse glasses. Mark is hoping to have community viewing events at all three WCSD high schools. The eclipse occurs during afternoon dismissal time from school, so it is good to know that at least they won’t have their students stuck on a school bus in the middle of a traffic jam during this once in a lifetime event!



Right: “Solar Eclipse Deputy Training” at the Williamsville Space Lab Planetarium.



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 in the latter half of April.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

If you ever have a GLPA-related question, but are not quite sure to whom you should direct that question, GLPA may have your answer. The GLPA website has a page that provides a helpful way to determine who best could answer your question. To use it, please visit <https://glpa.org/contacts>.

2023 STATE MEETING DATESFind the latest updates at <https://glpa.org/states>

ILLINOIS:	April 1, 2023	Peoria Riverfront Museum and Dome Planetarium, Peoria Renae Kerrigan (RKerrigan@peoriariverfrontmuseum.org)
INDIANA:	No spring meeting. An autumn meeting will be planned instead.	
MICHIGAN:	May 13, 2023	Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University, East Lansing Shannon Schmoll (schmolls@msu.edu)
OHIO:	May 6, 2023	Hoover Price Planetarium, McKinley Museum, Canton Suzie Dills (sdills@mckinleymuseum.org)
WI/MN:	April 28-29, 2023	Madison Metropolitan School District Planetarium, Madison Ben Senson (bsenson@gmail.com)
BEYOND THE LAKES:	Beyond the Lakes has quarterly meetings over Zoom. For more information, please contact Jackie Baughman (qnbaughman@gmail.com).	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

backseat to the other regionals, and as we are always looking to evolve our conferences and offer the best experience possible, I think it will be a great learning opportunity to see new ideas and alternative ways of doing things to inform our future conferences and, I hope, more regular national gatherings in the future.

GLPA is truly special to me, a deeply important part of my own journey, but I think the regional borders of all of our organizations have blurred more and more over the last few decades, and, just like during Pleiades or the eConferences, the more of our community we bring together in one place, the more of our energy and enthusiasm we share with each other, the more ideas we are all exposed to, the closer we will get to discovering that potential of the planetarium. I hope to see as many of you as possible at **Stars for All**.

Now is also the time for GLPA's Executive Committee to look ahead to the future. Aside from our upcoming officer election and 2024 site selection, we are also redeveloping the front and back-ends of our website to make it easier to browse and more useful than ever. We have issued grant awards for some exciting new projects to benefit the planetarium community and we are also looking at a potential major new phase of our conference scholarship program. I look forward to writing more about that in my next message. I also must specifically congratulate our Treasurer Shannon Schmoll on her election to the office of President-elect for IPS, and express my heartfelt optimism for the future IPS leadership is building for the global planetarium community.

The world is always changing. There are always new normals. Sometimes they creep up on us slowly over decades. Sometimes they are an abrupt change in a single day. Sometimes they come with great pain, sometimes with great joy. We always try to plan and anticipate the changes we can see, but new unexpected variables always confront us. Maybe part of what is special about us planetarians is that we are aware, as Armand Spitz wrote in his famed letter to GLPA that, "we as thinking beings occupy a unique vantage point in nature between the macrocosm and the microcosm and that we have the intellectual capability of comprehending both." This perspective can give us the confidence, as a community, that we can work together to figure out whatever comes our way and to do our best to prepare not just for ourselves in the short term, but also to build a better future for those who will come after us.

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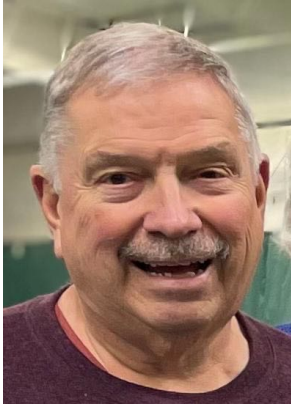
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DAVID E. PARKER (1944 - 2022)



David E. Parker, 78, died on December 28, 2022. David became a member of GLPA around 1973. He served as GLPA's Secretary-Treasurer from 1984 through 1997, making him the longest serving Secretary-Treasurer in GLPA's history.

David was born in Muncie, Indiana on May 7, 1944. He was a graduate of Daleville High School, and he continued his education at Ball State University, earning both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education.

Having grown up on a farm, David stood true to his roots by working for Pioneer Seed and Corn Inspection for 47 summers. From 1965 to 1967, David served in the United States Army, attaining the rank of Corporal. In June of 1969, he married Sondra (Hinchman) Parker, and they shared 19,554 days (over 53 years) of marriage.

David served on the Board for Indiana Computer Educators, Retired Tipton Teachers, Retired Teachers Association, Ark Christian Ministries, Thy Will Ministries, and the Great Lakes Planetarium Association. He was a member of Jerome Christian Church, where he served as an elder for 40 years, and was a member of the Greentown Lions Club. David retired as an educator from Tipton Community Schools after 40 years of service in education. In his free time, David enjoyed reading, astronomy, and traveling.

In addition to his wife of 53 years, David is survived by his two children, three grandchildren, and a brother.

[Ed.: A tribute article by Dan Goins can be found on page 27. The information for this obituary came from Dan Goins and the Hasler & Stout Funeral Home in Greentown, Indiana].

NEWS FROM THE GLPA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

by Peggy Hernandez, GLPA Education Chair

News Item #1. The GLPA Education Committee Grant Project initiative has received requests that have been approved. We look forward to a new professional development video for planetarians and some full-dome resources in Spanish in the coming year. If you have a project that you want to do and the end result would be a benefit to GLPA members if shared, you can apply for funding to get it done. To learn more, please go to the "Get Involved" section of the GLPA website at <https://glpa.org/project-proposal>.

News Item #2. We also host a monthly Professional Learning Chat (PLC) Zoom for planetarium educators. Each month, we delve into a topic associated with learning under the dome with informal discussion and sharing of tips. The December topic was creationism and religious exemptions under the dome and we had a lively discussion. February was a review of the original *Live from the Planetarium* PD video. We decide on the next month's topic at each meeting. The PLC is the second Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. Central Time and can be accessed on the GLPA website under "Resources" at <https://glpa.org/planetarium-professional-development>. While you are there, download or just preview the Education and Standards E-Handbook if you haven't already.

FIRE SERIOUSLY DAMAGES YSU PLANETARIUM

On Monday, January 9th, Youngstown State University’s Ward Beecher Planetarium was seriously damaged by fire. Early that afternoon, roofers using torches on the flat roof adjacent to the planetarium’s dome inadvertently caught the rafters above the dome on fire. It was the first day of classes at YSU and there were 90 students in the planetarium at the time. Everyone got out safely and the fire department extinguished the flames rather quickly, but their efforts opened the roof to the outside and poured a lot of water into the planetarium.

Planetarium Engineer Curt Spivey submitted photographs of the fire damage. Their video system and Chronos came through unscathed, but their speakers, cove lights, carpeting, seats, and (most importantly) the dome did not fare as well. They also lost three telescopes.

The planetarium will be out of service for the foreseeable future, perhaps as long as a year. Once the insurance claims are filed and approved, the restoration will begin. The staff and instructors at the Ward Beecher Planetarium (Patrick Durrell, Curt Spivey, Jill Mogg, and John Feldmeier) will now focus their efforts on repairing their facility and returning it as a shining star of astronomy and science education for their region.



The recent fire at the Ward Beecher Planetarium seriously damaged its dome, speakers, cove lights, and interior. Photographs submitted by Curt Spivey.

GLPA WEBSITE UPDATE

by Renae Kerrigan, GLPA Conference Planning Chair

GLPA is getting a new website! A team of GLPA members has been working under the leadership of Technology Chair Steve Burkland to preserve the content on our existing website and think about how the new website can best serve our members. GLPA's website was built by the hard work of volunteers, including Geoff Holt, Adam Leis, Bart Benjamin, Dayna Thompson, Tom Dobes and others, and is hosted on Tom's servers. We are very grateful for all this work. GLPA's website has served the organization well for over a decade.

We plan to build the new website on Wordpress, which can integrate with our new membership management system, Personify. The current GLPA website acts both as a resource to our members and a way to store information for our Executive Committee and Historian. The website team is exploring ways to split the Executive Committee functions off the main GLPA site, and perhaps some of GLPA's history as well, while still keeping those resources available to our members. New additions to GLPA's website will include a blog and job board.

Our goal is to have the new website created by April or May of 2023, and to make the transition as seamless as possible for our members. Because registration for this year's **Stars For All** Conference is being handled by SEPA, we have time to make the transition well in advance of the GLPA conference in 2024.

GET INVOLVED WITH GLPA

by Steve Crawford, GLPA Development Chair

The Great Lakes Planetarium Association is largely run by its Executive Committee, consisting of several elected and appointed members. The committee is looking for volunteers with the skills and motivation to help make GLPA the best it can be. If you're interested in volunteering, please complete GLPA's **Get Involved** webform at <https://forms.gle/T7THq3gGCth1sWj7>. There is a broad array of options available; GLPA needs work on everything from reviewing the educational recommendations. . . to coordinating with vendors. . . to writing or social media work. You wouldn't be committing yourself to anything right away; the Executive Committee members will contact you when they review the survey in the upcoming weeks.



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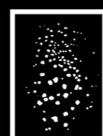
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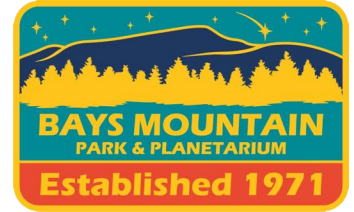
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STARS FOR ALL 2023

by Adam Thanz

Bays Mountain Planetarium; Kingsport, Tennessee



Greetings Friends! The planetarium staff at Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium are thrilled to be hosting the **Stars for All 2023** U.S. Planetarium Conference! We are looking forward to seeing you and have all of you be a part of this unique event.

We think we have a great event planned that includes everything you would want from a professional conference — education; inspiration; meeting with fellow planetarians and astronomy educators; great workshops, presentations, and activities; large vendor hall; great food; field trips; hospitality suite . . . and a gala to top it off!

This event is different from the normal planetarium conference in that it is a U.S. event. It represents all seven of the planetarium regionals. It is the second gathering like this ever. After the success of the Pleiades conference held in 2017 in St. Louis and led by the great staff at the McDonnell Planetarium of the Saint Louis Science Center, it was clear that our community wanted to do it again. This will be the only regional planetarium conference in the U.S. in 2023. We expect delegates from all over the U.S. as well as across the globe. Because of the expected large turnout, we must cap our attendance to 350 persons.

The dates of the event are **June 20-24, 2023**. Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium is a 3,750 acre nature preserve nestled in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains in East Tennessee. We are the largest city-owned park in Tennessee and Kingsport is our home. Our purpose is to educate and inspire children and the general public about nature and astronomy. Of our many jewels that make the crown of Kingsport, we also have an exceptional planetarium theater run by a dedicated staff. We want all delegates to enjoy this region and help celebrate our profession. Please help us make our theme come true, in that “It Takes a Universe.”

More About the Park

Bays Mountain Park is a unique facility. It includes a 44 acre lake, 30+ miles of hiking and biking trails (see the Park’s website at <https://www.baysmountain.com/park> for mountain biking guidelines), the main Nature Center that houses the planetarium and exhibits, the Herpetarium building with reptiles and the numerous outdoor animal habitat exhibits. Live animals in exhibits include wolves, raptors, river otters, bobcats, deer, red fox, and a host of reptiles. The park itself has much more in the wild including beavers and black bears! The Park’s beauty allows for relaxation while its amenities and animals provide an engaging experience. As a gift to all of our visiting delegates and their families, we are providing free entrance to the Park and its public programming (except the zip line) to cover the week of the conference along with the two weekends that surround the conference.



The Dome

Our theater is a rarity. . . the only one of its kind in the Western Hemisphere! We have a Zeiss ZKP-4 optical star projector with the new LED star lamps. We also have a 6-channel VELVET LED fulldome digital projection system. It provides a seam-free, bright and colorful fulldome projected image with absolute blacks. We are projecting a 4.3K image with excellent sharpness and a 30 bit color space (10 bit RGB each). Complimenting this is a Pleiades RGB LED cove lighting system from East Coast Control Systems. All of this is being projected on our 12.2m (40-foot) Astro-Tec dome with a flat springline. We have 98 seats and we will add additional chairs to accommodate all of us! Our audio system is an excellent 5.1 surround with two 18-inch subs.

Convenience to Attend

Bays Mountain Park is located in the heart of Appalachia [soft “a” pronunciation; ,apəˈlāCH(ē)ə]. We are central to most of the Eastern Seaboard of the United States and the Midwest. The city has a population of about 54,000 and is part of what is known as the Tri-Cities. Mostly rural or suburban, the Tri-Cities includes Bristol and Johnson City.

Driving is easy. The conference site/hotel is immediately off of I-26, exit 3. The Park is a short, three mile jaunt down a neighboring road from the conference site/hotel.

Thirty minutes away from the conference site is the Tri-Cities Airport (TRI) with Delta, American, and Allegiant carriers. A shuttle service provided by the hotel, for a modest fee, can be pre-arranged to pick you up and dropped off from the conference hotel.

The weather can be warm in late June and would be considered quite mild compared to other southern cities. Average highs should be in the mid 80s with lows in the mid 60s. Since we are in the mountains, those highs are concentrated in the afternoon hours and don’t linger into the evening.



Conference Site / Hotel

The conference site and hotel is the MeadowView Marriott Conference Center and Resort. It is a true four-star hotel with most any amenity available. Since the City of Kingsport has a close arrangement with the site, our event will benefit greatly.

The hotel rate is a low \$126/night + tax. For those wanting to extend their visit in the region, this rate has been set to cover dates extending outside of the conference itself. Free parking is available. WiFi is free in hotel rooms with free Marriott membership. WiFi will be provided to all delegates and vendors in all the meeting spaces throughout the conference. For those who enjoy golf, there is

a professional golf course with modest greens fees.

The Hospitality Suite has been especially chosen to be as far from the hotel rooms as possible while also providing a spacious and enjoyable place for us to unwind and share.

The link to reserve your hotel room is on the official website. Please see the end of this article for that address. And, if you prefer to stay at a different hotel, there are five other hotels within a quarter mile of MeadowView.

Vendor Sponsorships

We are happy to accommodate any vendor! We already have a great list of sponsors. All of the details are in the vendor sponsor packet, but here are some highlights.

The vendor hall is 35,000 square feet and has 28-foot ceilings. There is plenty of room for booths, domes, posters, freebie tables, and more. If you need electricity, please contact us. Dome time in our dome is extremely limited. Please contact us about that too.



Regional Planetarium Organization Flavor

This event is for all seven regions. This means we’ll all be lucky to enjoy each other’s traditions! The Margaret Noble/Armand Spitz Address from GLPA & MAPS will be combined and feature Michael McConville. He is IPS President and is also employed by COSM. He is a natural presenter so this should be a true highlight.

GLPA has the tradition of the Astronomy Update Lecture. This will give us a light and entertaining recap of astronomy news from the previous year.

SEPA has held a silent auction for many years now and the money it raises is for its professional development fund. This year, we'll all be part of donating items, bidding, and sharing the monies raised for each region's support funding program. Can you imagine the amount of tables filled with goodies to bid on?

Another tradition that has been spreading amongst the regions is the Constellation Shootout. This is a great way to enjoy testing each other's skills (and learning!) at identifying constellations, asterisms, stars, and deep sky objects in the night sky. They just need to have a proper name and be pointed out correctly. Arrow etiquette is a must!

Ending the conference will be the door prize drawings. Please bring something that you think would be enjoyed by another and help make this a nice conclusion before our goodbyes.



Field Trips

We are organizing a host of different field trip options on the Wednesday to highlight the beauty of our region. All are limited in space, but enough for everyone to attend one. The activities vary. What is in common is their experiential nature. You'll learn by doing and having a great time. The field trips will range from wheelchair accessible to extreme difficulty. Find the right field trip for you!

Gala Event

To cap off the conference, and to highlight another unique facet of East Tennessee, we are going to hold a gala event in Tennessee's oldest town. Jonesborough was first settled in 1769, established as a town in 1779 and was the provisional capital of the State of Franklin in 1784-1785. It is a quaint, small town with a beautiful, downtown main street. It will be a great way to wind down, stretch your legs while visiting the quirky, locally-owned shops and to enjoy the region's best caterer at the International Storytelling Center. We'll have an open bar highlighting local brews and wine. After the banquet, we'll have a little time for awards and announcements and then end with a world-class storyteller from the Center's Teller-in-Residence program!



Papers and Posters

In order to accommodate the amount of paper presenters we expect, and to work with our very full schedule, we will have to do two concurrent sessions. This will allow for 36 presentations by you. Once registration opens, you'll be able to submit your papers to the paper committee for selection. To accommodate papers beyond our capacity, we are offering a pre-recorded paper option. You record yourself presenting ahead of the conference and we'll include it with all of the streamed presentations on the conference's YouTube page. This way, all the delegates can enjoy and learn from every presentation!

Posters will be accepted as well. We are going to use a digital format to remove printing costs by you. We are also going to open up the creativity by allowing up to 30 seconds of video to be displayed per entry. This could be a paper with a video inset of yourself presenting. It could be a slide show with captions. It could be a complete video production. The only limit is that it is not an advertisement for anything.



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Workshops and Panel Discussions

As of this writing, there are a large variety of workshops being offered on the Friday morning. We also expanded the workshop time frame to be three hours. The workshop time windows are an hour long, but that needs to include 10-15 minutes of down time to take a restroom break or walking time to go from one workshop to another. There are some workshops that are 45 minutes, some are 1h 45m. Some are make 'n' take, some are panel discussions. Some have a fee and have very limited space. Those must be signed up and paid for with registration.

We also have at least three pre-conference day-long workshops offered on the Tuesday. All have limitations of space. Some have a fee. All include meals. If you want to do any of these, you must sign up and pay (if there's a fee) with registration.

Unique T-Shirts

What's so unique about T-shirts? The art. Our exhibits staff is very talented. So much so, we are going to offer three different T-shirts with custom front art. Each delegate will get one of their choice with registration and have the opportunity to purchase others at a reduced rate only for this conference.

For all the details, hotel reservation link, and more, please visit the main website:

<https://www.sepadomes.org/2023-conference-kingsport-tn>

Thank you for your interest and support of this special conference!

The staff at Bays Mountain Planetarium (Adam Thanz, Jason Dorfman, Edgar Bowlin III, and Mackenzie Henley)



Bays Mountain Park is home to many animals in their outdoor animal habitat exhibits.

2022 GLPA CONFERENCE RESOURCES

GROUP PHOTO. The 2022 Conference Group Photo and its keys can be found online at:

<https://glpa.org/groupphoto2022>

CONFERENCE PHOTOS. GLPA's 2022 Conference Photographs, taken by Anna Green, are now available in two ways: 1) They are posted to GLPA's Facebook page and 2) they can be downloaded from:

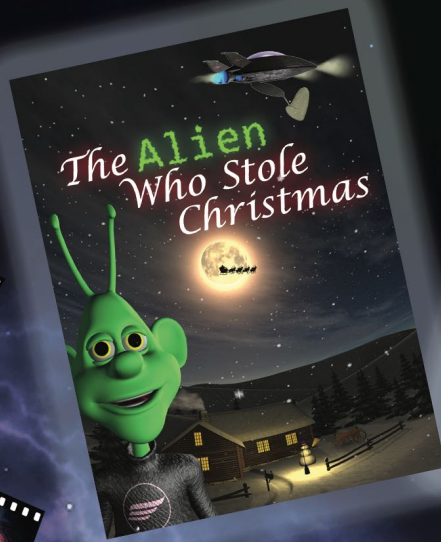
<https://glpa.org/history-conferencephotos>

Option #2 provides members with the ability to download all the conference photos (in their original size and resolution) assembled into a Zip file. A separate link allows the user to browse its Google Drive folder.

CONFERENCE VIDEOS. Video files for many of the 2022 Conference's paper sessions and presentations have been posted to GLPA's YouTube Channel, which can be found at

<http://bit.ly/2KLaiSX>

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DAVID PARKER TRIBUTE

by Dan Goins

David and I met at a college youth group called **Disciples Student Fellowship**. Hazelwood Christian Church had a group that met on Fridays. Because Ball State University dorms did not serve meals on Friday evening, the DSF students served meals at the church Fellowship House. David would go on to become a planetarium director at Tipton High School. I taught middle school general science at Daleville, his hometown.

A word about the DSF group: this was a very friendly and inclusive group. During our four years there, we met our wives from within the group. We made many friends there, and so did seven other couples who also met their spouses. David and Sondra began hosting reunions after their graduation. Dave called it the *Post-Harvest Moon Festival* since it was to be the fourth Saturday in September. We had our 53rd reunion last September. Others added Memorial Day (race day) and for a while a *Noel Gala* in early December. This group of very good friends has become family. We watched our kids grow up, go to college, marry, have their kids, and, unfortunately, have some pass away.

Sometimes while on one of his Pioneer field inspection trips to the Martinsville area, Dave would stop by to visit Sharon and me. He visited me when I was in the hospital with neck surgery. He stopped by BSU when my daughter was with the BSU Alumni association. He was like that.

David took me to his planetarium to see what he was doing. It looked interesting. I always liked astronomy and had a small astronomy unit in my science classes at Daleville. I was still working on my master's degree. David told me there was a class on becoming a planetarium director at BSU. I had already taken Dr. N. G. Sprague's astronomy class in undergraduate school. Although I was an invertebrate zoology major at the master's level, I could still squeeze in the planetarium class.

I went with Dave to my first GLPA meeting in Columbus, Indiana. When I joined GLPA, David and I went to just about all of the GLPA conferences and spring meetings. They were enjoyable road trips.

It was because of David I became a planetarium director. It was one of the best decisions I ever made and one reason why I will miss him. I believe our star projectors are now missing a star.



Tarantula Nebula by JWST. Image Credit: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI, Webb ERO Production Team

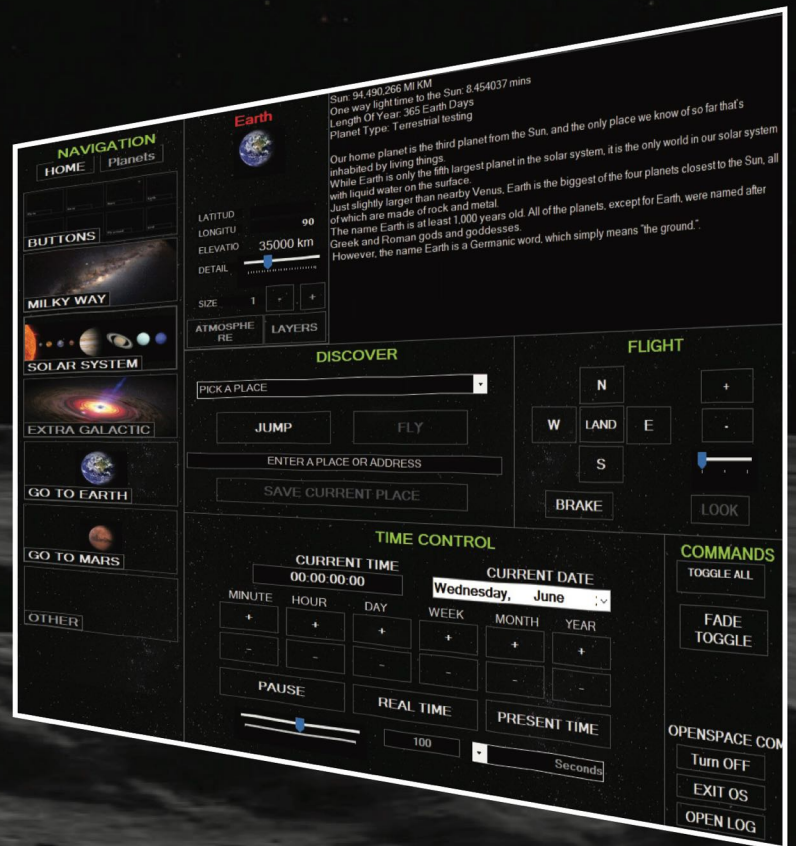
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OBSERVING THE NIGHT SKY BY RADIO

by Roy Kaelin

Assistant Professor of Science, National Louis University Chicago

Well known to many astronomers and educators is the role that radio astronomy has played in advancing our knowledge of the cosmos. But there is a more personal way that Roy Kaelin has found to attract interest in observing the night sky. It does involve radio antennas, but not the kind that astronomers have used for decades to plumb the depths of space at unseen wavelengths.

Roy is a member of the faculty in the Science Department at National Louis University in Chicago. Though NLU does not have a planetarium or offer a formal set of courses in astronomy, Roy does teach physical science (which has included topics in astronomy) and environmental biology, and, brings to the classroom the importance and effects of the Sun as it drives weather and climate on Earth.

Roy is also an amateur radio operator (call sign: **KD9RSE**), and operates his own radio station, to spread the word about what's up in the night sky. Using commercial radio rigs and antennas he's fashioned himself, Roy conducts the Astro Net with a fellow ham-radio operator (Glenn KD9PNY).

Although not affiliated with NLU, the Astro Net is Roy's personal, on-the-air endeavor to gather an active listening audience interested in pursuing topics of astronomical interest and to inform that audience about engaging topics in amateur astronomy, such as the Sun and Moon, stars and planets, comets and meteors, telescopes, and astrophotography. In addition, the Astro Net often details solar activity and its effect on radio-wave propagation.

Not a series of dry on-the-air lectures, the Astro Net is a family-friendly network of lively talk, which airs twice monthly, live and unrehearsed, on Wednesday nights, starting at 8 p.m., during the second and fourth weeks of every month, on a frequency of 147.045 MHz, via the KA9QJG radio repeater near Hobart, Indiana.

Those radio operators holding a valid FCC amateur radio license are invited to check in and present their own night-sky observations or to discuss topics of astronomical interest, including the latest news from a variety of astronomy-related sources.

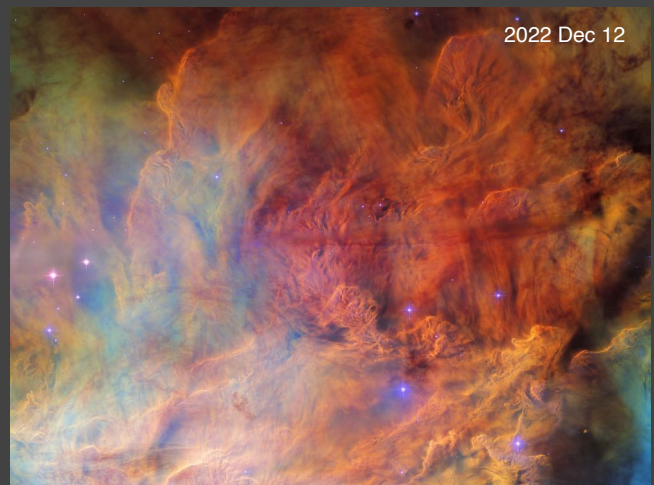
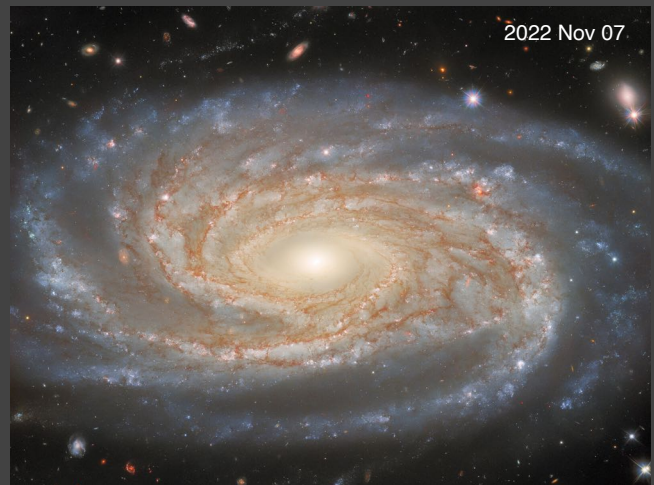
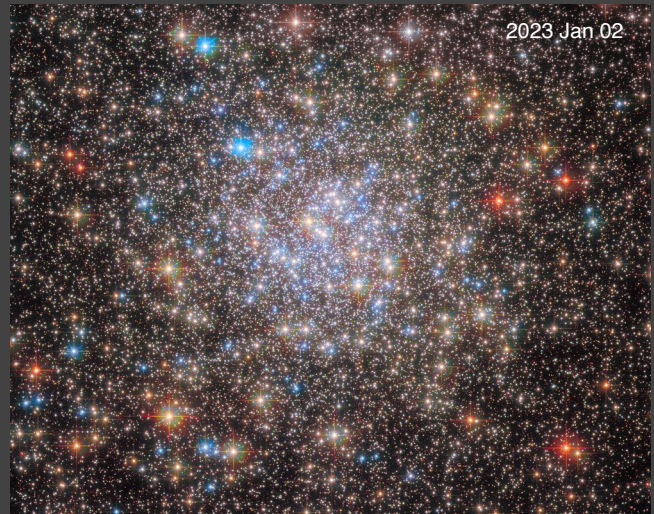
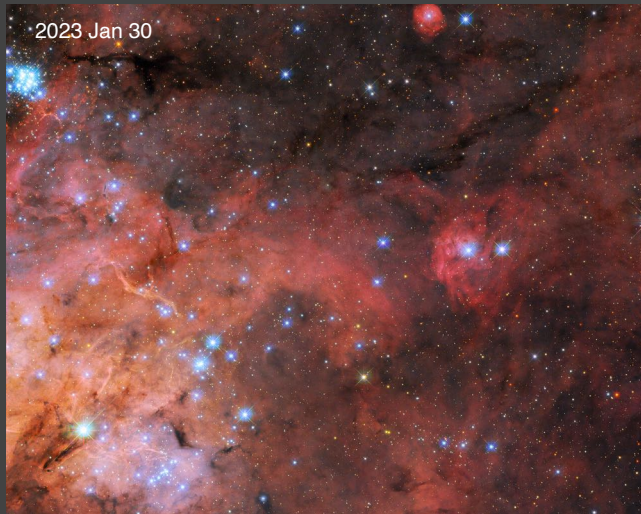
The Astro Net is a directed net, which means that topics and discussions are handled in a civil and engaging manner (according to pertinent FCC regulations <http://arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio>). The Astro Net is both informative and educational, and attracts a variety of participants and listeners, from teachers to technicians to tradesmen to truck drivers. No special background is required to participate, other than an interest to learn about the night sky. A written recap (with follow-up web links) is also prepared after every Astro Net and posted at its own web address at <http://roykaelin.com/astro-net.html>.

For those who are not amateur radio operators, one can still tune in the Astro Net (and listen for free) via RadioReference.com at <https://www.radioreference.com/>. If you want to learn more about the Astro Net, please contact Roy at his ham-radio email address (KD9RSE@gmail.com).



Roy Kaelin's radio station

HUBBLE PICTURE OF THE WEEK: RECENT IMAGES



The complete collection of ESA/Hubble “Pictures of the Week” can be found at <https://esahubble.org/images/potw/>.

PLANETARIUM SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES



GLPA's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/glpasocial/>

Administrators: Renae Kerrigan, Michael McConville, Tom Dobes, Paulette Epstein



GLPA's Twitter page

<https://twitter.com/GLPAsocial>

Administrator: Mike Smail



Instagram

GLPA's Instagram page

<https://www.instagram.com/glpasocial/>

Administrators: Jackie Baughman, Michael McConville



Slack (Planetarians team)

<https://planetarians.slack.com>

Workspace Owners (for #glpa): Derrick Rohl, Mike Smail, Steve Burkland



The Dome Dialogues

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/domedialogues>

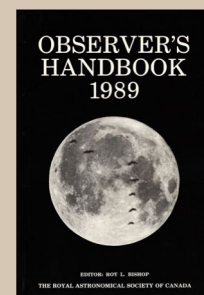
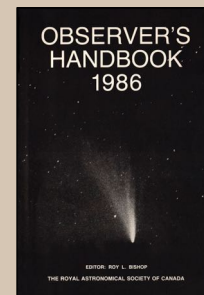
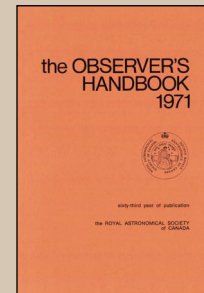
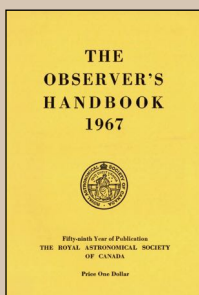
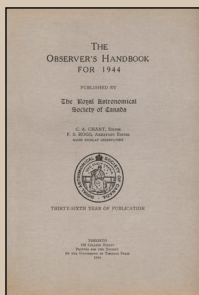
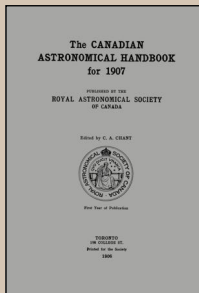
Administrators: Michael McConville, Derek Demeter, Anna Green, Renae Kerrigan, Dan Tell

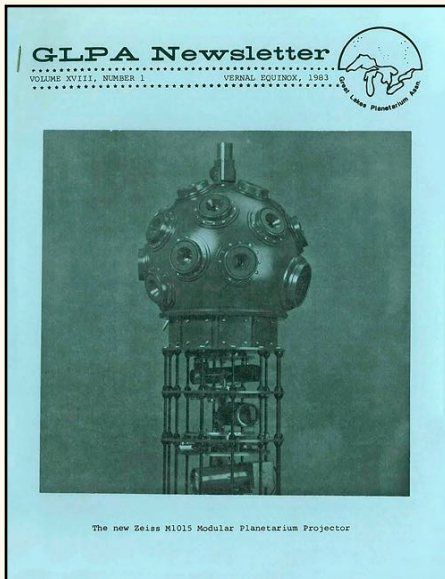
READ THE FIRST 82 YEARS OF THE OBSERVER'S HANDBOOK FOR FREE!

Many astronomers and planetarians use the *Observer's Handbook* as an astronomical reference and a great way to keep track of celestial events. The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) has published the *Observer's Handbook* annually since 1907. Their 2023 edition is available from a number of vendors, including the RASC's own website at <https://rasc.ca>.

Less well known is that every edition of the *Observer's Handbook* from 1907 through 1989 is available as a free PDF download from their website. So if you need to research a past astronomical event or are just curious about what was happening in the sky when you were born [sorry if you were born after 1989], you can visit <https://www.rasc.ca/handbook-history>. Thank you, RSAC!

The backstory: Since the *Observers Handbook* is published by the RASC, it catered solely to a Canadian readership for much of its 115 year history. Their decision to expand the scope of the publication to better include observers in the United States began with its 1980 edition. Soon thereafter, it became a much more valuable resource to U.S. astronomers as well.





GLPA: 40 years ago

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 1

VERNAL EQUINOX, 1983

(12 pages in length)

1983

GLPA's 59th newsletter and the first issue of 1983 contained the following articles and columns:

★ This issue's cover and page 2 caption described the Carl Zeiss M1015 opto-mechanical star projector, which was described in that issue as "developing on schedule. . . for initial world-wide distribution in early 1984." The cover featured the first official photograph from Zeiss of this all-new, medium sized planetarium projector. [Ed.: The William M. Staerkel Planetarium on the campus of Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois became the first planetarium in the western hemisphere to install this new and revolutionary projector. Its grand opening was held in October of 1987].

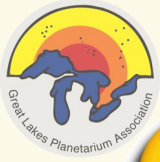
★ This issue previewed the May 20-23, 1983 joint meeting of GLPA and MAPS at the Strasenburgh Planetarium in Rochester, New York. Dr. Frank Drake, famous for his Drake equation and a leading authority on methods for the detection of extraterrestrial intelligent signals, delivered the Margaret Noble/Armand Spitz Lecture at that joint MAPS/GLPA meeting.

★ Members were reminded that GLPA possessed about three dozen taped programs, over 3,000 slides, and several hundred scripts in its resource collection. Conference attendees were encouraged to reserve time during the conference to inspect the collection and place their orders for copies of these resources. [Ed.: In the pre-Internet, pre-PC world, GLPA's Instructional Materials Chair would be responsible for transporting a sizable collection of slides and show scripts to each conference. Members would peruse the collection and place orders for those items that would serve their own production and presentation needs].

★ This issue cautioned that members should not be surprised if they received a questionnaire at the upcoming MAPS/GLPA conference concerning the quality of the conference. "These comments and evaluations should be invaluable to future conference hosts. Perhaps GLPA should also consider such a process." [Ed.: Indeed, GLPA did consider such a process, and conference evaluations have proven to be a valuable tool to maximize the value of GLPA's annual conference to its attendees].

★ This issue reprinted the lyrics of an astronomy related song titled "The Family of the Sun." Sung to the melody of "The Farmer in the Dell," this musical offering came from the National Air and Space Museum's *Exploring the Planets* gallery.

★ Carl Wenning of the ISU Planetarium wrote an article about the 3P-D process for creating black backgrounds for photographic slides. [Ed.: Named for the four steps of **Projecting**, **Painting**, **Photographing**, and **Double-mounting**, this was a popular technique for planetarians to eliminate frame lines from their projected slides].

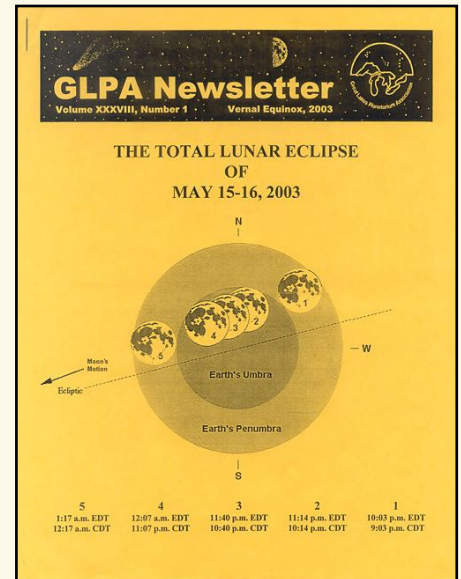


GLPA: 20 years ago

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 1

VERNAL EQUINOX, 2003

(16 pages in length)



GLPA's 139th newsletter and the first issue of 2003 contained the following articles and columns:

2003

★ In this spring 2003 issue, GLPA President Gary Sampson reflected on the sadness we all felt following the February 1, 2003 Space Shuttle Columbia disaster. In his President's Message, Sampson noted that "more than likely, most of us are still going through a grieving process as a result of the Columbia tragedy. We are passionate about the space program, and the loss of any astronaut is akin to the loss of life by one of our colleagues. Yet, we know that eventually we as planetarians (and we as a country) will emerge from this latest disaster with renewed conviction to continue onward . . . ad astra per aspera (to the stars through hardship)."

★ In this spring 2003 issue, GLPA took out a full-page ad to promote its newest show package, titled *The StarGazer*. Written and produced by GLPA in conjunction with the Minneapolis Planetarium, *The StarGazer* featured the story of University of Illinois astronomer James Kaler's personal look at astronomy. The program was narrated by Nichelle Nichols of Star Trek fame. The original show kit featured 159 plastic-mounted slides, a CD containing the 35 minute audio track, a VHS video tape containing multiple video sequences, an annotated script, and notes. Supported in part by a NASA/Space Telescope Science Institute IDEAS grant, the original show kit cost only \$150. [Ed.: Sadly, we lost both Dr. Kaler and Nichelle Nichols in 2022].

★ In fiscal year 2002-2003, GLPA had 12 total sponsors: 7 Conference Sponsors, 4 Patron Sponsors, and 1 Sustaining Sponsor. [Ed.: For comparison sake, in our current fiscal year (2022-2023), GLPA has 23 total sponsors: 3 Parallel Universe Sponsors, 3 Universe Sponsors, 8 Galaxy Sponsors, 4 Solar System Sponsors, and 5 Planet Sponsors].

★ In fiscal year 2002-2003, GLPA's elected officers were Gary Sampson (President), Joe DeRocher (President-Elect), Jeanne Bishop (Past President), Bob Bonadurer (Secretary-Treasurer), and Sue Button (IPS Representative).

★ In this spring 2003 issue, 5 pages were devoted to paid advertising. [Ed.: For comparison sake, this issue has 10 pages devoted to paid advertising].



Visit the *GLPA Newsletter Archive* at <https://glpa.org/history/gnews-archive>



**The Great Lakes Planetarium Association
acknowledges the following companies and
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Audio Visual Imagineering	https://av-imagineering.com
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Milwaukee Public Museum	https://www.mpm.edu

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OpenSpace	https://www.openspaceproject.com

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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 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, 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 members, or the editor. Deadlines for contributions fall on the first week of February, May, August, and November. Send information to *GLPA Newsletter* Editor (address below). **Copyright © 2023.**

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

2023 June 20-24: "Stars for All" national
Kingsport, Tennessee
2024 TBD

- ☆☆ Executive Committee (Elected)
- ☆ Executive Committee (Appointed)

Executive Committee members can be contacted using the Contact links on GLPA's Executive Committee page:

<https://glpa.org/exec>



GLPA Home Page:
<https://glpa.org>

PLEASE NOTE:

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For a replacement copy of this newsletter, please contact Dale Smith at dwsmith@bgsu.edu.