

## Dues

Membership dues support the LCAAS mission, including public observing sessions and outreach.

Please fill out the following, make a check payable to LCAAS, and bring it to a LCAAS meeting or mail to us:

LCAAS  
PO Box 2041  
La Crosse, WI 54602-2041

Annual Membership Dues:  
Individual / Family \$20.00  
Student \$10.00

(All memberships include membership in the Astronomical League)

Date Applied: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

We accept tax deductible donations.

The La Crosse Area Astronomical Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Contact us through our web site if you would like to make a payment electronically!

## Starting Out?

- Get started in astronomy by just looking up into the night sky. With only your eyes, learn the names of bright stars or the location of constellations. There are free apps for your smart phone designed for this (Stellarium) or get a map of the sky that you can print at <http://www.skymaps.com>.

- Optics can help you see more stars in the night sky. But, you don't need a telescope. Binoculars are a good tool to spot many interesting objects such as star clusters, planets, the moon, or to just pan across the Milky Way.

- It will also help to see more stars if you avoid brightly lit areas. Darkness causes your eyes to adapt, both physically and chemically, gradually increasing your eyes' sensitivity to light over about 30 minutes. This will enable you to see fainter objects.

- To see a paper chart in the dark, use a dim red/amber light for illumination. A flashlight can be converted by covering the lens with red tape. Apply multiple layers until the light is dim.

- Dress appropriately for the weather. The sights may take your breath away but they will not warm you up. Dress like it will be 20 degrees cooler than what is forecast.

- Join our group! We are happy to help.



## Promoting Amateur Astronomy in La Crosse Since 1978



Meetings are held in the classroom adjacent to the La Crosse Central HS Planetarium (<https://sites.google.com/lacrossesd.org/exp/oratorium/home?authuser=0>) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor (Room 328) the first Wednesday of each month. Open meetings start at 7:00 PM.

The public is welcome to club observing sessions! Bring your own telescope or look through ours.

Check out our website for more details:  
<http://www.lcaas.org>

Founded in 1978, the La Crosse Area Astronomical Society (LCAAS) has been instrumental in furthering the hobby and science of amateur astronomy. Astronomy is the study and enjoyment of the celestial objects that share our universe. The range of experience and types of equipment to accomplish this can be quite varied.

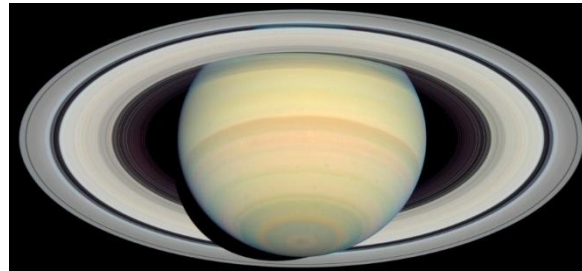
Some members have had a lifetime interest in astronomy while others are just getting started. The equipment and observing techniques used are just as diverse. Sometimes a star chart and lawn chair are all that is needed to enjoy watching the heavens. One benefit of group membership is the opportunity to share and learn with other astronomy enthusiasts.



Club activities include regular monthly meetings and a yearly banquet. Between scheduled meetings, members attend observing sessions at a number of local dark sky sites. These occur primarily around new moon weekends from April to October. Dates, times, and locations can be found at our website: [www.lcaas.org](http://www.lcaas.org). All are welcome to attend.

Every year, the club celebrates Astronomy Day in the spring and fall at a local park with both daytime solar viewing and night time star observing. We use this opportunity to show people the many beautiful and interesting objects in our night sky and the features visible on the Sun with special solar telescopes.

We post GO/NO-GO announcements on our groups site (in case weather impacts the event): <https://groups.io/g/LCAAS>



Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100048362485946>

Facebook group:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LaCrosseAreaAstronomicalSociety>



## Suggested Resources

Stargazing Basics: Getting Started in Recreational Astronomy, by Paul Kinzer

<http://www.lcaas.org>

<https://groups.io/g/LCAAS>

<https://sites.google.com/lacrossesd.org/exploratorium/home?authuser=0>

Other helpful websites:

<http://www.skymaps.com>

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com>

<http://www.astronomy.com>

<http://www.cloudynights.com>

<http://spaceweather.com>

<http://www.worldwidetelescope.org>

<http://www.stellarium.org>

<http://www.hubblesite.org>

<http://www.heavens-above.com>

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