

# Newsletter of the La Crosse Area Astronomical Society

L A C R O S S E A R E A A S T R O N O M I C A L S O C I E T Y  
( L C A A S )

## REACHING OUT TO GROW

### MARCH 3RD CLUB MEETING

MYRICK HIXON  
ECO PARK

- ELECTION OF OFFICERS
- PLEASE RENEW YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP

Mike Rowlands will offer a workshop on laser collimators. Bring yours if you'd liked to have them checked and possibly aligned. He'll bring his small Newtonian and go through a laser collimation with and without a Barlow. He can also cover visual tools if there is interest.

### PROGRAM

#### A GALAXY FULL OF BLACK HOLES

What happens to a spaceship that falls into a black hole? Will the black holes in our Galaxy eventually suck up everything in it - a cosmic vacuum cleaner? What would happen to Earth if the Sun was replaced by a black hole of the same mass? If we can't see black holes, how do we know they are there? Come find out.

### SATURDAY AT THE PLANETARIUM

Thanks to the efforts of Gordon, Stewart, John Boland, Mike Rowlands,



Mike Alderman, Harry Nay and Phil Yehle, "Saturday at the Planetarium", featuring "Starship Earth" was a great success. Due to the larger than expected audience, Gordon put on a second show. Over 100 adults and children took part in the two afternoon programs.



### ASTRONOMY DAY

APRIL 24

The club is preparing for Astronomy Day, Saturday April 24th. The event will be held at the MHEP and will feature Paul Kinzer's Starlab portable planetarium for the kids. Daytime activities will run from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Please contact Phil at rustyzip@charter.net or call 698 399 1155 to volunteer.

### SUMMER OBSERVING PROGRAM

Beginning the evening of Saturday May 15, the club will hold evening observing sessions at the Hixon Forest Trails near the National Weather Service station.

We need to work with the NWS to reduce the effect of a very bright "glare bomb" security light, but they have agreed to help us out. We also have tentative approval from the city to offer these sessions.

With bad weather, we may offer a "Cloudy Night" program at the MHEP.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### • Please renew your 2010 membership soon.

Please mail in, or better yet, bring it to a club meeting. To vote or hold office in the club you must have an up to date membership. See the back of this newsletter for details.

**\* Annual Banquet** Dr. Jennifer L.B. Anderson will be presenting at our annual banquets Saturday May 1. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Geosciences at Winona State University in southeastern Minnesota where she teaches astronomy, planetary geology, geophysics, historical geology, Time in Motion (a dance and science class), and WSU's Investigative Science sequence of science content course

for elementary education majors. She also maintains and operates the WSU Observatory on campus.

**\* Newsletter articles.** Have something you'd like published in the newsletter? The club may be interested. Contact me at rustyzip@charter.net