

## The Evansville Astronomical Society



Along with The Louisville Astronomical Society  
Presents the:

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Stars on the Beach"

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Schedule of Events

### At the Patoka Lake Beach Area

**8:30 PM: "The Night Sky over Patoka"** – An interactive discussion about astronomy and the skies at night.

**9 to 10 PM (or later!): Views of the Night Sky** - Telescopes will be set up for public observations of the sky. Amateur astronomers will share their knowledge of our solar system, our galaxy, and many wondrous things within, and distant galaxies.

**9 to 10 PM (or later!): Electronically Assisted Astronomy** – Specialized telescope equipment will be set up to allow stargazing for those who do not have the visual acuity or ability to view through a telescope eyepiece.

This event may be rescheduled to August 12th if there is rain or dense cloud cover.

### **Rainout date: Aug 12<sup>th</sup>**

Visit our web pages:

<http://evansvilleastro.org/>

<https://louisville-astro.org/>



This event a cooperative effort of the Evansville Astronomical Society and the Louisville Astronomical Society.

The **Evansville Astronomical Society (EAS)** is a non-profit organization fully incorporated in the state of Indiana. It has, as its primary goal, the advancement of amateur astronomy. Founded in 1952, the society seeks to:

- 1... maintain adequate facilities for its members and the public in order to extensively study the skies and
- 2... promote an educational program for those who wish to learn more about the science of Astronomy.

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month, except June, when the annual EAS picnic is held. The society also sponsors monthly Open House events during the warmer seasons that afford the public an opportunity to tour the observatory.

### EAS 2023 Officers and Contacts

President – Tony Bryan  
812.827.3234

[evansvilleastro@gmail.com](mailto:evansvilleastro@gmail.com)

Vice President – Scott Conner

Secretary – Dave Kube  
740.223.6854

Treasurer – Mitch Luman

Counselors  
Michael Borman (2021)  
Ken Harris (2022)  
Kent Bretton (2023)

Webmaster – Michael Borman

Program Director  
Chuck Allen

Newsletter editor – Dave Kube  
[dasiceman@yahoo.com](mailto:dasiceman@yahoo.com)

For more information about the EAS or directions to the Observatory, please visit the club's web page:

[www.evansvilleastro.org](http://www.evansvilleastro.org)



## Local Events and Information

### EAS Update

Please Note: We have our annual Patoka Lake Event scheduled for Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 beginning at 6:30pm Eastern Daylight Time on the Patoka Lake Beach. Please see our Facebook Group and Webpages for Updates.

### EAS Update

Please Note: We have a Regular meeting scheduled for Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 7:30pm. Please see our Facebook Group and Webpages for Updates.

### EAS Update

Please Note: The Patoka Lake Rain Makeup Date is scheduled for Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 if needed. Please see our Facebook Group and Webpages for Updates.

### EAS Update

Please Note: We have a Regular meeting scheduled for Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:30pm. Please see our Facebook Group and Webpages for Updates.

### EAS Update

Please Note: We have a PSW scheduled for Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:30pm. Please see our Facebook Group and Webpages for Updates.

### EAS Update:

Please visit our website <http://www.evansvilleastro.org> and our Facebook Group page to keep yourself up to date for any changes.

### Telescopes and accessories for sale...

As mentioned in last month's issue, Mike Borman still has some excellent telescope equipment and imaging accessories for sale. Some of the gear has already been sold. If interested, go to Mike's web page. Here is the link: <http://www.mborman.org/forsale.htm>

## Building blocks of life could survive in Venus' hostile atmosphere.



*Researchers found that organic molecules crucial to life are stable in conditions similar to Venus' sulfuric acid clouds.*

*Photo Courtesy: ESA - C. Carreau*

Venus is a planet similar in structure and size to Earth, but with a thick atmosphere of toxic sulfuric acid clouds. These clouds completely shroud Venus, creating a greenhouse effect that heats the planet's surface to a scorching 900 degrees Fahrenheit (475 degrees Celsius). These temperatures are hot enough to melt lead and too blistering to support life.

For this reason, the possibility of life on Venus is often overlooked for other places like Mars and Europa. But a new study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences suggests that conditions more hospitable for life may be hidden in the cooler clouds instead. The researchers found that nucleic acids, the information-carrying molecules that make up DNA and RNA, are stable in laboratory conditions simulating the sulfuric acid droplets in Venus's clouds.

## Name Day: IAU contest names 20 new exoplanets



*A worldwide event to name extrasolar planets and their stars has wrapped up. Here are the winning selections.*

*Photo Courtesy: ESA - C. Carreau*

Stars and their planets are typically named with numbers and letters from the surveys that discovered them. But those titles can seem nonintuitive and confusing to the public. Now, a set of 20 exoplanetary systems have been awarded proper names, thanks to teams of students, teachers, and amateur and professional astronomers from around the world.

The International Astronomical Union (IAU), whose rulings on astronomical definitions and names ensure a common language for science, is also dedicated to the promotion of astronomy and astronomical education around the world. In celebration of its Office for Astronomy Outreach's 10th anniversary and to further encourage global participation in astronomy, the IAU recently hosted its third worldwide contest for naming exoplanetary systems. Called NameExoWorlds 2022, the contest invited teams to submit themed names for a set of extrasolar systems.

Although the winning names won't replace the systems' current scientific designations, they are sanctioned by the IAU and can be used in addition to or instead of the letter-and-number combinations used now.

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Stars On Beach Rain Date
13	14	15	16	17	18 Reg.Mtg 7:30pm	19 PSW 7:30pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Moon Watch Museum 8-9:30pm
27	28	29	30	31		

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## Up and Coming Events 2023

**Please Note Stars on the Beach is scheduled for 6:30pm EDT on Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ Patoka Lake.**

**Please Note we have a Reg. Mtg. scheduled for 7:30pm on Friday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 @ Observatory.**

**Please Note Stars on the Beach Rain Date is scheduled for 6:30pm EDT on Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ Patoka Lake.**

**Please Note we have a Reg. Mtg. scheduled for 7:30pm on Friday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ Observatory.**

**Please Note we have a PSW scheduled for 7:30pm on Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ Observatory.**

**Please visit our Web Page <http://www.evansvilleastro.org> or our Facebook Group Page for updates. Events may be cancelled due to Covid and/or Weather at time of event.**

## Moon Phases

New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Third Quarter
August 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	August 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	August 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	August 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
<a href="http://MoonPhases.courtesyofTimeandDate.com">Moon Phases courtesy of Time and Date.com</a>			

## ***EAS Meeting for June – 2023***

The EAS did not hold a monthly meeting for June 2023 – Instead of a monthly meeting the EAS held its annual club picnic. I am therefore reposting below the minutes from the May 2023 meeting.

Meeting was called to Order by President TonyBryan @7:33pm. The reading of the minutes from the April 2023 meeting was motioned to be accepted as printed in the May 2023 Newsletter by Ken Harris. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote. There were 10 members present including President Tony Bryan and Secretary Dave Kube. There were no visitors.

Secretary Dave Kube announced our upcoming events.

<b>Public Star Watch</b>	<b>Saturday, May 20</b>	<b>7:30 PM @ Observatory</b>
<b>Public Star Watch</b>	<b>Saturday, June 10</b>	<b>7:30 PM @ Observatory</b>
<b>EAS Picnic &amp; Observing Session</b>	<b>Saturday, June 17</b>	<b>6:00 PM @ Ken Harris's House</b>
<b>Moon Watch</b>	<b>Saturday, June 24</b>	<b>8:00 – 9:30 PM @ Museum</b>
<b>Stars on the Beach</b>	<b>Saturday, July 17</b>	<b>6:30 PM EDT @ Patoka Lake</b>
<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Friday, July 21</b>	<b>7:30 PM @ Observatory</b>

Secretary Dave Kube read our Treasurers report submitted by email from Mitch Luman. There were no areas of concern just a reminder that our membership dues are upcoming July 1st

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Special Projects Status – Bathrooms:** both are usable now, but some work is still needed in the men's restroom.  
**Office:** Complete.

**First PSW of 2023 –** Our first PSW of 2023 was held on April 22. We had 17 guests (Most were from Matt Merlos Class) and 5 members helping out. Dave Kube mowed grass prior to the vent. Ken gave a presentation while Dave operated the telescope. Thanks to everyone.

**Library Telescope Presentation –** Tony Bryan gave a talk at the Chandler Library on April 27 on stargazing and how to use the 4.5" Dobsonian Library Telescope. Six people were in attendance. Tony stated he would work more with Presentations.

**Astronomy Day & Moon Watch -** National Astronomy Day took place on Saturday April 29. We had over 150 people take part in the daytime activities. Although the clouds presented us with a challenge that evening, it is estimated that more than 50 people viewed through our telescopes. Representing the EAS were; Mitch Luman, Scott Conner, Dave Kube, Mike Borman, Randy Chapman, Birk Fisher, Ken Harris, and Donna Bryan. Tony Bryan was acting in the capacity of a NASA Solar System Ambassador during the afternoon activities. Daytime was mostly cloudy but Mike Boreman was able to get a solar scope setup with some pot holes to view the sun. Night time also provided some potholes so some observing could take place.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Storage Locker Donation –** Mitch Luman located and arranged donation of a storage locker for use in the lounge area. Tony transported the locker to the observatory. Thanks go to Mitch for arranging the donation and to Dave Kube for helping to move it into our facility.

**Website Security** – Our website is in need of updating for security. There is a recurring cost of \$39.99 per year for a SSL Certification. Thanks to our webmaster Mike Borman for researching what is required and making the necessary changes to the code.

**Second PSW of 2023** – Our second PSW of 2023 will be May 20. If you have never assisted with a PSW, please consider doing so. PSW's are a great opportunity to meet others interested in astronomy, and likely you will learn something new along the way. Ken Harris and Dave Kube Volunteered.

**Third PSW of 2023** – Our third PSW of 2023 will be June 10. Ken Harris and Dave Kube Volunteered.

**EAS Picnic & Observing Session** – Our annual picnic and observing session will be Saturday June 17 at Ken Harris's house. A map will be emailed to members of the society about one week prior to the event.

**ALCON 2023** – The 2023 Astronomical League Convention (ALCon 2023) will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from July 26th to 29th. The theme will be "Astronomical Gumbo," which represents the blend of diverse subfields and people within the vast field of astronomy. Registration is now open online. Go to [alcon2023.org](http://alcon2023.org) for more details.

**New Chairs** – The Evansville Museum is donating like-new 50 conference room chairs to the EAS from their surplus inventory. The chairs are stackable, and feature chrome frames and lightly padded black cloth seating surfaces. The chairs in the dome will remain since they more easily cleaned. Thanks go to Mitch Luman for bringing the surplus chairs to our attention.

**Treasurer Position** – Our current Treasurer is moving away and unable to complete his 2023 term. The EAS Board is seeking a person to fill this position until regular elections are held for the next calendar year. Per our Bylaws, the Board can appoint persons to fill vacated positions. If you are a member in good standing, and interested in being our Treasurer, please speak with any officer.

**EAS in Evansville Living Magazine** – An article about the EAS is in the current addition of Evansville Living magazine. The title of the article is *Out of This World*. You can read it online at [www.evansvilleliving.com/out-of-this-world](http://www.evansvilleliving.com/out-of-this-world)

**Other New Business** – Dave Kube reported that he purchased and installed a new clutch switch for the mower which was beginning to act up. He reported this as a donation.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Next Monthly Meeting** – There will not be no EAS Meeting in June. Our next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:30 PM on July 21 at the Observatory.

**Tonight's Program** – Chuck Allen will be our presenter for the program this evening. His presentation is entitled Ringed Worlds

Meeting was adjourned by President Tony Bryan @7:52pm

Respectfully Submitted – Dave Kube – Secretary