



The Eyepiece

Neville Public Museum Astronomy Club

Volume 35, Issue 8

August 2023

What's Up August 2023

As our nights get longer this month the sky is loaded with objects to observe. First, we have two full moons this month. On Aug. 1st we have a super full moon often referred to as the Sturgeon Moon. Then, on Aug 30th we have a super blue moon. What makes them super? When a full Moon occurs when the Moon is at perigee, its closest approach to the earth, the Moon looks to be larger and we then refer to it as a Super Moon. Look for the Moon at Moon rise to get the best Super Moon effect.

The Perseid meteor shower is scheduled to peak the night of Aug. 13th. This meteor shower occurs when the Earth passes through the material deposited by the Comet Swift-Tuttle on its 1992 close approach to the Earth. This year the Moon will only be at 10% illuminated during the peak of the meteor shower when over 100 meteors per hour may be observed from a dark sky location. Don't worry if it is cloudy on the 13th, the Perseid meteor shower can produce activity from July 14th to Aug. 24th.

The Moon has close approaches with both Saturn and Jupiter this month. On the 2nd the Moon and Saturn rise together at about 9:30 PM and have their closest approach at about 4 AM on the morning of Aug. 3rd. The Moon and Jupiter rise together on the night of Aug. 7th about at midnight. They will cross the sky together that morning with a closest approach that is just over 2.5 degrees apart. You should be able to capture them together with any lens that is less than 400mm in focal length.

Saturn is at opposition on the 27th.

The asteroid 8 Flora is at opposition on the night of Aug. 26th. It rises in the constellation Aquarius and will be at its highest point in the sky at about 1 AM at 27° above the southern horizon. The coordinates for the asteroid can be obtained from the web site in-the-sky.org for any day of the year.

The third annual Astronomy Show, "Big Thing in Far Away Places" will be held during the month of October 2023 at the Ladybug Glass Studio & Gallery, 219 Steele St., Algoma, WI. The call for art can be found on page 3 of the newsletter.

August Meeting

When:
Wed. Aug. 2nd
7:00 - 9:00

Location:

Barlow
Planetarium

1478 Midway
Road

Menasha, WI

Aug. Events:

11-12 Parmentier
Observing Weekend

16-20 Northern Nights
Star Fest,
Palisade, MN

18-20 Northwoods
Starfest
Fall Creek, WI

2023 Schedule of Events for NPMAS

January

- 11 Holiday Party
- 20-22 Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya Winter Weekend

February

- 1 Monthly Meeting – John Briggs
- 13-19 Winter Star Party

March

- 1 Monthly Meeting
Drake Equation
- 11 Sheboygan Swap-n-Sell,
Sheboygan Airport
- 18 Messier Marathon

April

- 5 Monthly Meeting
Amy Hannon Drew
- 15 Messier Marathon backup date
- 28-30 NCRAL Convention
Bloomington, IL
- 29 Public Observing
Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary

May

- 3 Monthly Meeting
James Webb Telescope
- 19-20 Parmentier Observing Weekend

June

- 7 Monthly Meeting
Jerry Schaefer
- 9-10 Parmentier Observing Weekend
- 15-18 Wisconsin Observers Weekend
Waupaca, WI
- 16-17 Parmentier Observing Weekend

July

- 5 Monthly Meeting
Dick Francini
- 12-16 Pike River Starfest
Amberg, WI
- 14-15 Parmentier Observing Weekend
- 16-22 Nebraska Star Party
Valentine, NE

August

- 2 Monthly Meeting
Barlow Planetarium
- 11-12 Parmentier Observing Weekend
- 16-20 Northern Nights Star Fest,
Palisade, MN
- 18-20 Northwoods Starfest
Fall Creek, WI

September

- 6 Monthly Meeting
Jerry Schaefer
- 15-16 Parmentier Observing Weekend
- 23 Public Observing
Brillion Nature Center

October

- 4 Monthly Meeting – TBD
- 13-14 Parmentier Observing Weekend
- 21 Public Observing
Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary

November

- 1 Monthly Meeting – TBD

December

- 6 Monthly Meeting
Year in Review

Call for Art

Big Things in Far Away Places

How Astronomers See the Universe

Ladybug Glass Studio & Gallery, 219 Steele St., Algoma, WI will host an exhibit of the artwork of members of the Neville Public Museum Astronomical Society and the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society during the month of October 2023 at the gallery in Algoma Wisconsin.

Members are encouraged to submit any kind of astronomical artwork that they would like to share with the public. Two dimensional, photographs, paintings and sketches and 3-D works are all welcome. Works can be for display only or offered for sale.



There is no charge to display your work. A 25% commission will be collected from the sale price for any works sold during the show.

All submissions should be display ready, ie, framed with hanging hardware attached. A brief description of the subject of the work should be provided with any additional information that the artist wishes to share with the public such as the equipment used in producing the work. If the work is to be offered for sale, the sale prices should be provided.

This year photographs can also be submitted digitally. If accepted for the show we will have the work printed in an appropriate format. The work will be offered for sale. If the work is sold the person submitting the work will receive 25% of the sale price. If the work is not sold during the October show the person submitting the work may purchase the print from the gallery at our cost for printing. Works that are not sold or purchased by the submitter will be added to the Gallery's collection of images that are offered for sale in the Gallery. The submitter will continue to receive 25% of any future sale price and will hold the copy right for the image. Works submitted digitally should be sent as TIFF images and cropped to the desired print aspect ratio by September 15th to LYONJ@UWGB.EDU.

As in all art shows, space is limited. The gallery reserves the right to limit the number of items displayed. Every effort will be made to display works from all members who submit works for the show.

To help us plan, please send the following to LYONJ@UWGB.EDU before Sept. 15.

- 1) description of work with submitters name
- 2) size of work
- 3) medium (photography, drawing, sculpture, etc)

While every precaution will be taken to avoid damage or loss, Ladybug Glass Studio & Gallery assumes no liability for works while on display.

The gallery will accept works for the show in September. Contact either Kimberly Lyon at 920-591-2883 or John Lyon at 920-366-5566 with questions or to arrange for the submission of your work.

Sky Events - August 2023

Moon Phases

Full Moon	Aug. 1
Third Quarter	Aug. 8
New Moon	Aug. 18
First Quarter	Aug. 24
Full Moon	Aug. 31

Meteor Showers

Perseids
 July 14 - Sept. 1
 Peak Aug. 12-13

2023 Planet Opposition Dates

Mars	next in 2025
Jupiter	Nov. 3
Saturn	Aug. 27
Uranus	Nov. 13
Neptune	Sept. 19

Astro Twilight Times

Date	Ends	Begins
Aug 1	22:19	3:35
Aug 15	21:49	4:01
Aug 31	21:14	4:28

<https://www.space.com/39240-when-to-see-planets-in-the-sky.html>

Rise Time / Set Time for the Brighter Planets

Planet	8/1	8/15	8/31
Venus	7:27/20:28	Not visible	4:21/17:44 (morning star)
Mars	8:39/21:41	8:30/21:05	8:20/20:24
Jupiter	23:57/13:57	23:05/13:08	22:05/12:08
Saturn	21:23/8:04	20:26/7:04	19:20/5:55

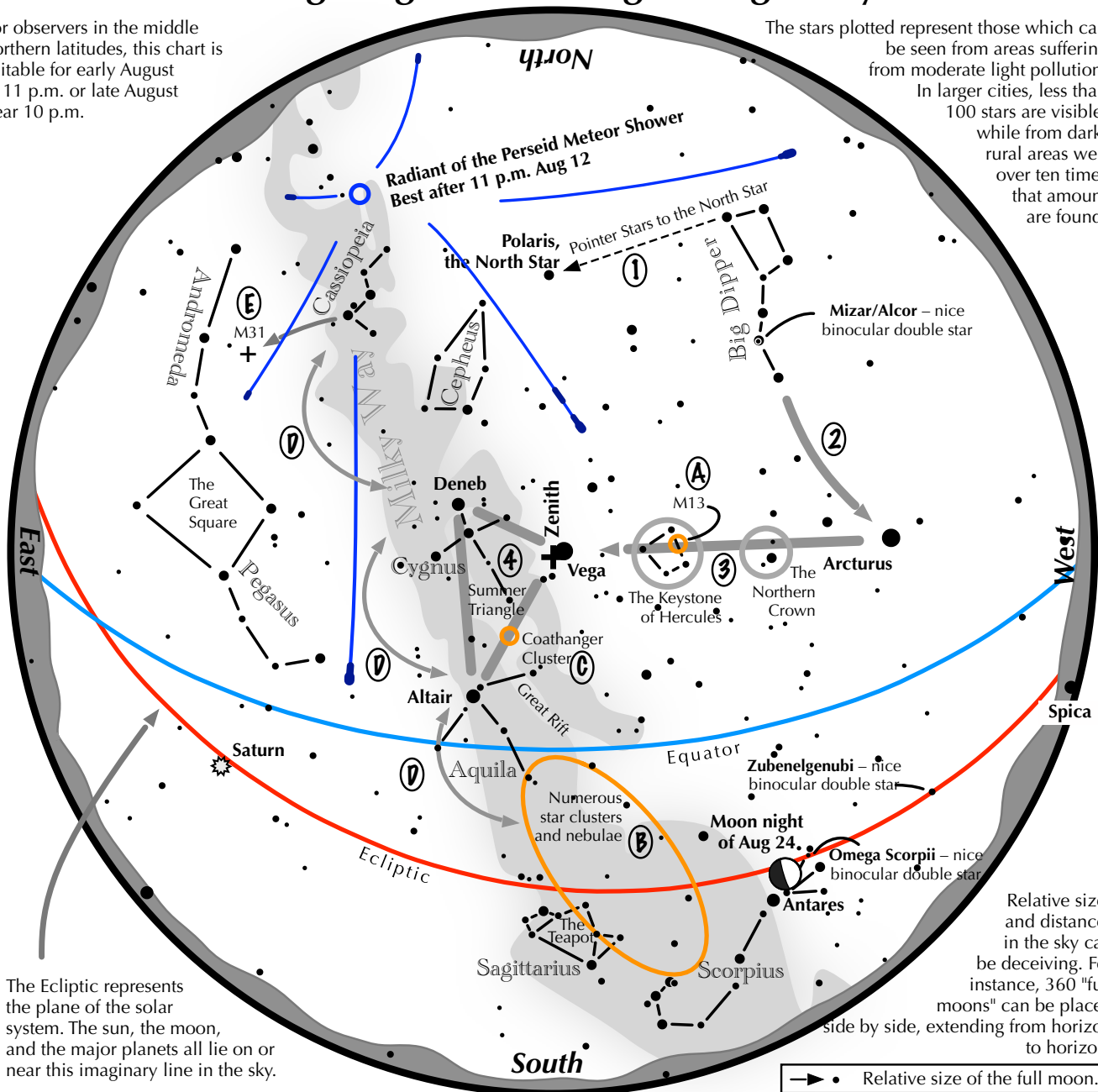
Source: [in-the-sky.org](https://www.in-the-sky.org)

A nice web site that gives the current relative positions of the planets, dwarf planets, moons, comets, and space crafts is <https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/overview/>

Navigating the mid August Night Sky

For observers in the middle northern latitudes, this chart is suitable for early August at 11 p.m. or late August near 10 p.m.

The stars plotted represent those which can be seen from areas suffering from moderate light pollution. In larger cities, less than 100 stars are visible, while from dark, rural areas well over ten times that amount are found.



The Ecliptic represents the plane of the solar system. The sun, the moon, and the major planets all lie on or near this imaginary line in the sky.

Relative sizes and distances in the sky can be deceiving. For instance, 360 "full moons" can be placed side by side, extending from horizon to horizon.

→ • Relative size of the full moon.

Navigating the mid August night sky: Simply start with what you know or with what you can easily find.

- 1 Extend a line north from the two stars at the tip of the Big Dipper's bowl. It passes by Polaris, the North Star.
- 2 Follow the arc of the Dipper's handle. It intersects Arcturus, the brightest star in the June evening sky.
- 3 To the northeast of Arcturus shines another star of the same brightness, Vega. Draw a line from Arcturus to Vega. It first meets "The Northern Crown," then the "Keystone of Hercules." A dark sky is needed to see these two dim stellar configurations.
- 4 High in the East lies the summer triangle stars of Vega, Altair, and Deneb.

Binocular Highlights

- A: On the western side of the Keystone glows the Great Hercules Cluster.
- B: Between the bright stars Antares and Altair, hides an area containing many star clusters and nebulae.
- C: 40% of the way between Altair and Vega, twinkles the "Coathanger," a group of stars outlining a coathanger.
- D: Sweep along the Milky Way for an astounding number of faint glows and dark bays, including the Great Rift.
- E: The three westernmost stars of Cassiopeia's "W" point south to M31, the Andromeda Galaxy, a "fuzzy" oval.



Astronomical League www.astroleague.org/outreach; duplication is allowed and encouraged for all free distribution.

2023 Star Parties

For a complete listing of the 2023 Star Parties go to: (www.go-astronomy.com/star-parties.htm)

February 13 - 19 Winter Star Party, Big Pine Key, Florida Keys Hosted by Southern Cross Astronomical Society. www.scas.org/winter-star-party

May 14 - 21 Texas Star Party, Fort Davis, Texas. texasstarparty.org

June 15 - 18 Wisconsin Observing Weekend, Waupaca. www.new-star.org

July 16 - 22 Nebraska Star Party, Valentine NE www.nebraskastarparty.org

Aug. 18 - 20 Northwoods Starfest, Fall Creek, WI. Hosted by Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society, www.cvaastro.org/northwoods-starfest/

August 16-20 Northern Nights Star Fest, Palisade MN Hosted by Minnesota Astronomical Society, www.mnastro.org/events/northern-nights/

Sept. 8 - 16 Okie-Tex Star Party. Camp Billy Joe. Hosted by the Oklahoma City Astronomy Club, www.okie-tex.com/index.php

Club Monthly Meetings

The NPMAS monthly meetings are open to the public and are held at the Neville Public Museum on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

TELESCOPE WORKSHOP

Before each monthly meeting Gerry Kocken is offering to meet with club members who have questions about their telescopes or have telescopes that need adjustments or repairs. If you would like to meet with Gerry for this service he requests that you contact him prior to the meeting so that he knows what he needs to bring and to schedule his time. You can contact Gerry at gerryk@kockenwi.com

CLUB PUBLIC OUTREACH

The education of the public about astronomy is one aspect of our mission. Our public viewing sessions are one way we achieve this goal. Another is by accommodating requests from organizations in the region for astronomy related speakers or demonstrations. Types of organizations that have made requests are schools, public libraries, and scout troops. The club is always looking for individuals who would like to contribute to these activities. Ways that individuals can contribute is by preparing or giving presentations, assisting at public viewing sessions or by answering questions from the public. If you are interested in contributing to the club's public outreach activities you can contact any of the board members or the Public Outreach Coordinator Robert Nelezen at robertn330@gmail.com.

Loaner Telescopes

NPMAS members are welcome to use, free of charge for a one month period, one of the six club telescopes. Please contact one of the board members to make arrangements. The six telescopes available are:

- 10 inch Dobsonian Telescope
- 60 mm Bushnell Voyager
- 12 inch Orion SkyQuest IntelliScope
- Meade ETX125 Cassegrain Telescope with AutoStar
- 4" Meade Schmidt Cassegrain
- 8" F10 Celestron Schmidt-Cassegrain

NPMAS OBSERVING SITES

Parmentier Observatory

Parmentier Observatory is home to a 30 inch classical Cassegrain telescope, the largest private observatory in Wisconsin. Members may view through the 30 inch or setup their own telescopes in the adjoining field.

Address:

N4175 Doell Road
Luxemburg, WI 54217
Observatory Representative
Mike Monfils – 920-435-7350

Club Library

NPMAS has a collection of astronomy related books and videos covering a wide variety of topics including observing, the solar system, stars and more. Items can be checked out at monthly club meetings or by contacting Tom Cashman at 920-432-2261

NPMAS BOARD

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