



# The Eyepiece

Neville Public Museum Astronomy Club

Volume 35, Issue 1

January 2023

## What's Up January 2023

Welcome to a new year. I hope all is well with you and your family.

The winter sky is dominated by Betelgeuse, Bellatrix, Saiph, Rigel, Alnilak, Alnilam, and Mintaka the major stars of the constellation Orion, the hunter. In this constellation you can find the Orion Nebula, M42. This naked eye nebula with an apparent magnitude of 4.0 is only 1340 light-years away and is the most massive star forming region in our part of the Milky Way. Viewed thru a telescope with moderate aperture reveals a tight star cluster called the Trapezium in the center of the nebula. The nebula itself is predominately excited hydrogen atoms and it shows structure due to the turbulence of the gas. It was a real treat to view this nebula thru a 14" SCT a few years ago. The Orion Nebula is a small part of the Orion molecular cloud complex. Roughly outlined by Barnard's Loop the Orion molecular cloud spans the entire Orion constellation and is home to a dozen or more cataloged nebulae, more than enough for a few evenings of winter observing.

On New Years day a lunar occultation of Uranus will occur. The Moon will move in front of Uranus at 14:37 CST and reappear at 15:34 CST, The Moon will be 10 days old(waxing gibbous) and Uranus will be occulted by the dark side of the Moon and will emerge from behind the Moon from the illuminated side of the Moon.

The Quadrantids Meteor show is usually considered the first meteor show of the calendar year. This year it is considered to run from Dec. 26, 2022 to Jan. 16, 2023. The peak of this shower is somewhat uncertain with one reference predicting the night of Jan. 2-3 as the peak and another predicting the night of 3-4 for the peak. This meteor show can show up to 120 meteors per hour during its peak activity with a number of fireball meteors. Unlike most meteor showers, the Quadrantids has a peak activity that is only a few hours long. The origin of the debris that produces this shower is believed to be from 2003 EH1 an asteroid or a possible rock comet. Unfortunately, this year the peak of this shower is a few days before a full moon. But, with luck you may be able to catch some of the brighter meteors.

On Jan. 15th the asteroid (2) Pallas, the third largest asteroid in our solar system, will be at opposition. It will be in the constellation Canis Major about 3° east of the magnitude 2 star Adhara. (2) Pallas will shine with a magnitude of 8.

On Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Venus and Saturn will lie about half a degree apart low in the WSW sky. At about 5:30 PM the pair will sit about 10° above the horizon. The one day old moon will set at about 5:50 PM and Venus will set at 6:37 PM on this day. The next night the planets will lie about 1.5° apart.

On Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> Mercury will be at its greatest eastern elongation. On this morning Mercury will be at its greatest distance from the sun as viewed from the Earth. The bright planet will rise at approximately 5:45 AM on the ESE horizon and will be approximately 10° above the southeastern horizon when it is lost to the glow of the rising sun at about 7AM.

On January 25th a close approach of the Moon & Jupiter will occur. The Moon will be 4.7 days old (Waxing Crescent) and will pass about 4° below Jupiter. A 135mm lens or shorter will capture this pair nicely. On the southwestern horizon Venus and Saturn will be following the setting sun. A 14mm lens can catch all four in a single shot.

January Meeting  
Annual Holiday Party

When:

Wed. Jan. 11,  
6:00 PM Drinks  
7:00 PM Dinner

Location:

Mackinaws

2925 Voyager Dr

Green Bay, WI

NPMAS  
Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya  
Winter Weekend

Jan. 20-22

Suring, WI

# Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya Winter Weekend

As 2022 comes to a close, it's time to look ahead to our 32nd annual NPMAS Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya Winter Weekend! Please join us on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at YMCA Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya. The Camp is at 12101 Y Camp Road, Suring, WI (715-276-7116) and is located on Chute Pond, just south of Mountain, WI. Arrival time on Friday is 4:00 pm and checkout time on Sunday is 1:00 pm.

This annual adventure includes cross country skiing on over seven miles of trails in and around the Nicolet National Forest, snow shoeing, ice skating, broomball on the ice rink, ice fishing, snow tubing/sledding, wood sauna on the lake, and relaxing by a warm fireplace with your NPMAS friends. The Camp has a big supply of cross country skis with poles, ski boots, ice skates, and snow shoes, all free of charge! You can choose to do as much or as little as you like.

More good news! The cost this year will be **LESS** than last year: Only \$45.00 per adult and children 15 and under are only \$30.00 each. Included in this cost are your two nights lodging for the weekend, two free meals, and access to all camp facilities, equipment, and activities. Usually the majority of our group will travel to a local restaurant and eat together on Friday night. The club will provide a free breakfast (pancakes, sausages, etc.) Saturday morning and a free supper (TBD) on Saturday night!

We have reserved cabin #9 which we have had for a number of years prior to last year. It sleeps 24 people and has a furnace and fireplace. The bunks have mattresses only, so bring your own sleeping bags and linens. Parking is available right next to the cabin. Here is a link to a virtual tour of the entire camp including Cabin #9 (It is at the extreme lower right on the map):

[YMCA Camp-u-nah-li-ya \(core-crafted.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com\)](https://core-crafted.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com)

What to bring: Sleeping bags, pillows, warm clothes, swimsuit (for the sauna), towel, toiletries, white flashlight, red flashlight for observing area, outdoor equipment, reading material, snacks, drinks (other than coffee and hot chocolate which will be provided for you), observing equipment, telescope or binoculars, board games, cards etc. The skies are among the darkest in Wisconsin so bring your telescopes along and brave the frozen lake.

This is always a really fun time so if you've never gone before give it a try! We will pass a sign-up sheet at the next club meeting and again at the Club Holiday party on January 11th, 2023 at Mackinaw's. Please provide names and ages of all attending adults and children. You can also email me (Wayne Kuhn) at [waylin98@new.rr.com](mailto:waylin98@new.rr.com) if you intend on going so we can get a head count for the Camp and coordinate arrival times and activities. This is really a great value for two nights in the woods of northern Wisconsin and with two free meals included. We look forward to you coming along and making the NPMAS Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya Winter Weekend a weekend to remember!

Wayne Kuhn      Cell: 920-680-0657

# NPMAS Holiday/Christmas Party 2023

The 2023 NPMAS Holiday/Christmas Party has been setup on Wednesday January 11th , **there will be no club meeting on January 4th.** We are going back to Mackinaws at 2925 Voyager Dr. on Green Bay's East side as most members seemed to like the room and the food. Mackinaws also gives me more flexibility in setting up the dinner choices, allowing me to offer a couple of less expensive options.

Drinks start at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00. We will have a cheese, cracker, and meat platter for the cocktail hour. Like in the past, please pay for drinks when you order them. We will have a limited menu of five options;

**All the dinners include the house salad and dinner roll.**

## **1. New York Strip \$37**

14 oz Certified Angus beef strip chargrilled to perfection. Cooked between medium to medium rare.

## **2. Baked Icelandic Cod \$23**

A 12 oz. steamed cod filet, seasoned with lemon pepper butter, sliced lemon and our homemade tartar sauce.

## **3. Cheddar Broccoli Stuffed Chicken \$25**

An 8 oz. chicken breast stuffed with cheddar cheese and broccoli. Topped with a creamy white sauce.

## **4. Shrimp Scampi \$26**

Fresh jumbo Gulf shrimp sautéed in a white wine garlic sauce with onions and bell peppers. served over linguine topped with parmesan cheese.

## **5. Pasta Primavera \$20**

A creamy parmesan white sauce over fettuccine noodles, topped with mixed vegetables and parmesan cheese.

You will be billed individually at Mackinaws, you don't need to pay in advance. **The gratuity of 20% will be automatically added to the bills.** I will need to give them the number attending and a breakout of dinners by Friday Jan 6th. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the December meeting . If you don't sign up the December meeting, and still want to come please drop me an email at [dfrancini@att.net](mailto:dfrancini@att.net) with who is coming and entree selections. **BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

**WE HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS, so pay special attention to this section.** We will continue with the recent tradition, of having a white elephant gift exchange. For those of you not familiar with this tradition, you bring one wrapped gift for each person from your family attending. They are put on a table and people go up and select a gift. If they don't like it, you can "trade it" for a gift already taken by someone else. So please pay attention to who gets what gift, the better gifts sometimes get hidden. As you can probably guess the few best gifts make the rounds around the room. It has turned out to be a fun and highly anticipated tradition. It is entirely up to you to buy/bring any gift you would like, use your creativity. As a guide, in the past only about 60% of gifts turn out to be "good" gifts, and the balance are tongue in cheek, gag type gifts. You are NOT required to spend a lot of money, it's totally up to you; make something, re-gift that turkey gift you got for Christmas last year, or buy an actual good gift or a crazy gift. This is what makes it fun. **IMPORTANT,** you need to have a gift for each person attending who wants to get a gift. If you don't want to participate in the white elephant gift exchange, that's fine, please come anyway and just inform me so we will end up with the correct number of gifts.

**One more very important issue; if you have signed up and can't make it at the last minute, you must call me and cancel or email me the cancellation. If you fail to do so the club will be expected to pay, and you guessed it, I will expect you to pay anyway.**

See you at Mackinaws for the January 11th Holiday Party! Dick Francini.

Message from the club treasurer.

Dues for membership in 2023 are coming due and that they made be paid either by going on-line paying by credit card or paying by check or cash at a meeting or mailing in a check to:

NPMAS Treasurer,  
1418 Chicago St.,  
Green Bay, WI. 54301-3840.

Dues are still the same - \$25.00 for single membership and \$35.00 for family. If dues for 2023 have already been paid, then please disregard this notice.

As a dues paying member of NPMAS you receive The Astronomical League's Reflector magazine. You have four options as to how you wish to receive your copy. They are:

1. Mailed edition only
2. Digital edition only
3. Have both mailed and digital edition sent
4. Member doesn't want either edition.

Please let me know how you wish to receive your copy of the Reflector magazine.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Tom C.  
NPMAS Treasurer

# Sky Events - January 2023

## January Moon Phases

Full Moon, Wolf Moon	Jan. 6
Third Quarter	Jan. 14
New Moon	Jan. 21
First Quarter	Jan. 28

## January Meteor Showers

Name	Peak Dates	# per hour
Quadrantid	Jan. 3/4	115 at peak
γ-Ursae Minorid	Jan. 20	3

## 2023 Planet Opposition Dates

Mars	next in 2025
Jupiter	Sept. 26
Saturn	Nov. 3
Uranus	Nov. 14
Neptune	Sept. 19

## Astro Twilight Times

Date	Ends	Begins
Jan. 1	18:07	05:42
Jan. 15	18:20	05:40
Jan. 31	18:38	05:29

## Rise Time / Set Time for the Brighter Planets

Planet	1/1	1/15	1/31
Venus	8:33/17:43	8:31/18:19	8:18/19:01
Mars	13:46/5:15	12:48/4:16	11:53/3:23
Jupiter	11:11/23:11	10:20/22:27	9:23/21:38
Saturn	9:42/19:50	8:51/19:03	7:52/18:10

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/>

## 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](mailto:gerryk@kockenwi.com)

## New Member Welcome

### John Miller & Family

## 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](mailto: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

### Officers

President  
 Gerry Kocken  
[president@npmas.org](mailto:president@npmas.org)

Vice President  
 Scott Dickson  
[vicepresident@npmas.org](mailto:vicepresident@npmas.org)

Treasurer  
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[treasurer@npmas.org](mailto:treasurer@npmas.org)

Secretary  
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[secretary@npmas.org](mailto:secretary@npmas.org)

### Board Members

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Trevor Dammon

Dick Francini

## Staff/Committee Chairs

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 Awards Coordinator .....Lynn Ward  
 Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya .....Wayne Kuhn  
 Einstein Science Expo .....Gerry Kocken  
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 Website .....Scott Dickson  
 Newsletter Editor .....John Lyon

### The Eyepiece

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Submissions can be emailed to [LYONJ@UWGB.EDU](mailto:LYONJ@UWGB.EDU) or mailed to N6618 Hillside Rd. Casco, WI 54205

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