

May 3, 2005

Meetings Tuesdays at 7:30 ish

**May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2,
September 6**

**Board meetings will be held on club nights in
June, August & September, none in July**

**Club Nights are the Saturday after the
meetings,**

**COOKOUT- club nights are June, July,
August and September**

Star parties start at 9 PM

Lackawanna State Park

Fridays - June 24, July 15, Aug. 12

Promised Land State Park

Thursdays - July 7, August 4

Frances Slocum State Park

Saturdays - July 30, August 27

Lacawac Wildlife Sanctuary

Fridays - August 5, September 9

**LAS bus trip to NYC ... Sept 17
(see the enclosed flyer)**

**ASTRONOMY DAY OPEN HOUSE MAY
14 -7 pm**

**PUBLIC NIGHTS AT TGCO ARE WED. &
FRI. UNTIL JUNE 17**

**JULY PUBLIC NIGHTS ARE MON. &
WED.**

JULY 11 TO 27 (3 WEEKS)

PRESIDENTS NOTE:

The information on this first page was handed out to members at the May meeting, and e-mailed to all on our e-mail list. What follows is more details (most of which has been sent out in pre-event e-mails as well).

For the upcoming year, we will be needing a new president, since there is (luckily) a 2 year term limit, all the other offices are also up for grabs. Want to prevent club stagnation? Seize power!

DIRECTIONS TO ALL STAR PARTY SITES (Join the fun. Help the LAS show the public the universe, in person)

LACKAWANNA STATE PARK (LSP)

If there is rain, the slide show will go on at the new Environmental Learning Center.

Come up from Scranton or Clarks Summit area through Waverly. Just after you enter the park on route 407 go past the first left you see but take the second left a few hundred feet further.

Other LSP Star Parties:

When we set up in the old spot, continue on 407 across the bridge, turn left and follow the road almost to the end. Turn Right into the main camping area.

The slide show goes on at the amphitheater, scopes get set up at the dumping station.

We will be going here because that's where the campers are and our main concern is showing them the skies not the slides. But you may want to bring a piece of cardboard or something to shield the observers from the lights on the incoming cars.

FRANCE SLOCUM STATE PARK (FSSP)

As usual, there are several ways to get here and I think I've taken them all.

1. You can take Main St from Scranton. Going through West Side, Taylor, and Old Forge, and then into Pittston, you'll come to the Fort Jenkins Bridge (the first bridge you come to). Go over this bridge and then turn left and take Wyoming Ave several blocks to 8th St. Turn right and follow 8th St a while until you see a sign for FSSP. Not long after, you'll come to the entrance.

2. You can also zip down (or up) 81, take the Cross-Valley Expressway to Carverton Road. Take this to 8th St, turn left, and see above. This route may be longer but it may be faster since you don't have to go through towns.

3. You can go the "back way". Go up to Falls, PA, cross the river, take 92 south a ways, and then work your way to the park by taking one of the hundred or so back roads that only locals know about. With a little luck, you'll get there.

We'll be at new location at the park. It's the Environmental Interpretation Center on the day-use side of the park. To get there, drive past the main office and instead of taking the first left as we did last year keep going straight until you come to the end of the road. Then turn right, then right again at the next "Y". You should see the building at the end of the road.

This should be a darker site but it's also quite far from the camping area.

PROMISED LAND STATE PARK (PLSP):

Take Rt 84 East to the Promised Land exit. It used to be exit 7 but what it is now I don't know and I don't have to because it still says Promised Land.

Take 390 south (Right) for about four miles to an intersection sign near the park office. Turn Left here and follow the road down for about one mile.

You'll come to an intersection with a building and large parking lot on your left.

Turn Right and go up the road a hundred feet or so to the Deerfield Camping Area. We set up in the field on the left.

Warning: if it's your first time there the drive seems to go on forever but it's not really all that long. Watch out for the deer that seem to be everywhere.

LACAWAC SANCTUARY

Direct From their web page.

From Interstate 84:

Take the Lake Wallenpaupack Exit (20) and follow Route 507 north for half a mile. Turn left onto Ledgesdale Road. Follow to stop sign, then turn right (toward Hawley). Go one mile and turn right onto St Mary Church Road. Go 0.2 miles and turn right onto Lacawac Road. After about half a mile turn right at the Lacawac sign onto a dirt road. Follow this to the main entrance marked by a stone gate. Parking for the nature trail is ahead on the right. For public programs, continue to the Carriage House.

From Hawley or Honesdale:

Take Route 6 to Route 590 west. Travel on 590 for 8.1 miles and turn left at Pranzo's Auto Service onto

Everly Road. Go 2.3 miles, passing St Mary's Church. Turn left onto Lacawac Road, go about a mile and make a left at the Lacawac sign onto a dirt road. Follow this to the main entrance marked by a stone gate. Parking for the nature trail is ahead on the right. The program is given at the Visitors Center. Scopes are set up right next to that place.

KEYHOLDERS LIST

All Keyholders have the keys to the gate and the LAS observatory. Only the observatory assistants also have the keys to TGC Observatory's classroom building and the dome. So for the most comfort while observing on unscheduled nights, contact Jo-Ann and John first.

Both Dave Barrett and Jim Waltich like to get to the observatory early, sometimes even before nightfall (!), so if you think the same way, call them first.

Please keep in mind that just taking your chances is not the most reliable way to be guaranteed entry and that some of us like knowing that someone else wants to be up there besides us.

LAS members are encouraged to bring up their own scopes but there are several scopes available up at the observatory for member use.

John Sabia	586-0789
Jo-Ann Kamichitis	343-4006
Dave Barrett	High Point Scientific (973) 293-7200
Joe Krott	587-5917
Carol Leola	586-1582
Ron Murazzi	945-9645
Don Murray	343-2394
Bob Smith	333-4956
Jim Spangler	587-3972
Jim Waltich	822-5245
TGCO phone	945-3665

If any keyholder finds they no longer wish to be a contact person please just return the key. We know real life conditions change things.

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

If you find a dues notice enclosed you can be pretty sure that you haven't paid your dues for 2005. If

you believe you have paid, let me know. This is the last dues notice we'll be sending out.

For members who don't know, you can subscribe to Sky and Telescope magazine through the club and save \$10 on the subscription price. This also gives you a 10% discount on merchandise ordered from S&T. (We do not offer subscriptions to Astronomy magazine.)

As a reminder for those members who do get S&T through the club, when you get your renewal notice, be sure to give or send me the return envelope that comes with your notice.

Joe Kamichitis

Editor's notes:

In its current form the ECLIPTIC comes out 2 or 3 times a year on an "as needed" basis. It is primarily used to keep LASers informed of activities and important dates.

This "snail mail" paper form you are receiving is supplemented by e-mail reminders and updates so PLEASE keep us up to date with any e-mail address changes.

Phone calls are only made to members in EXTREME cases, such as being unable to e-mail you for the Christmas party.

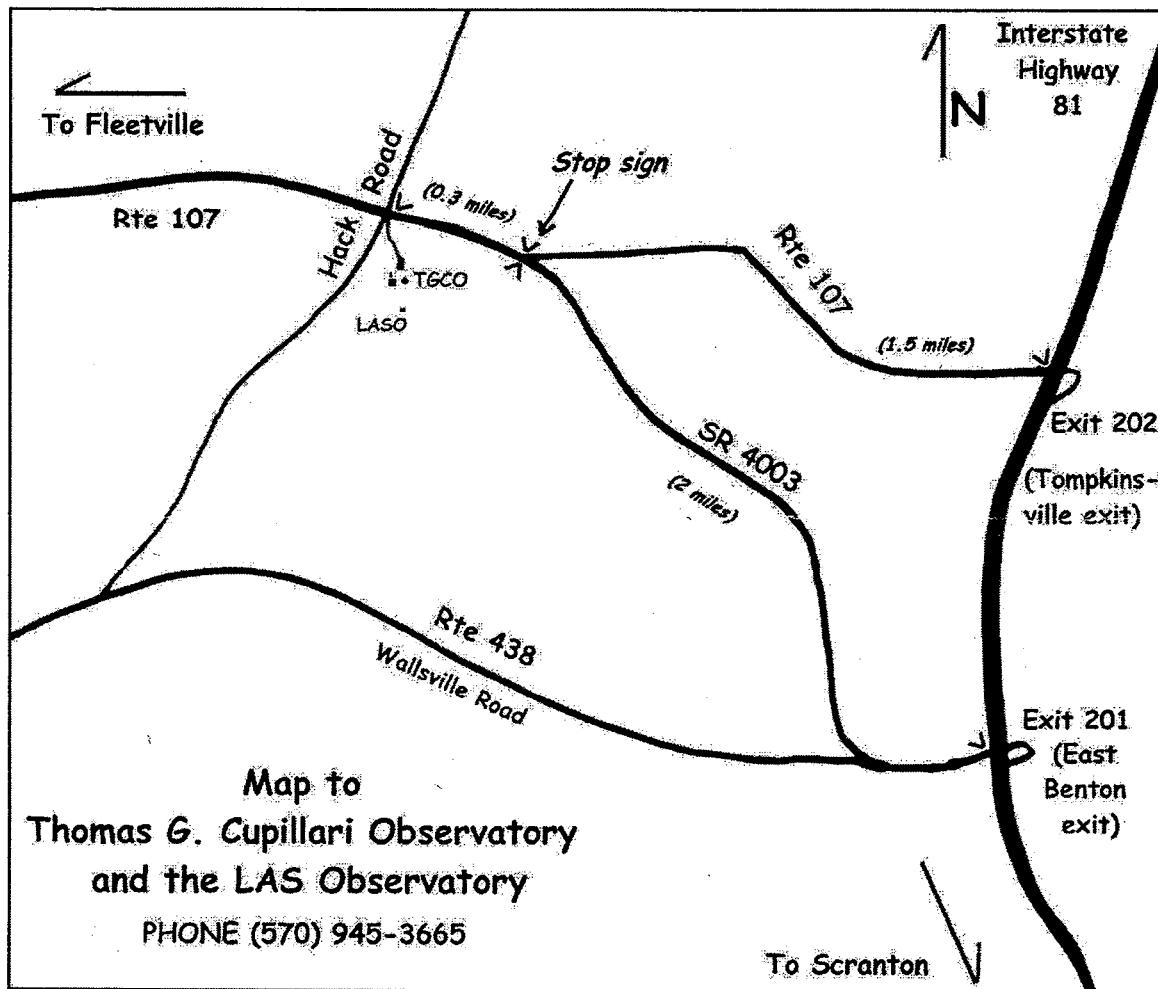
I am hoping to get an ECLIPTIC mailed out with all of the good articles LASers have sent me but this is not it. Keep sending me your stuff it will get published eventually.

Jo-Ann Kamichitis
1047 Mohawk Street
Scranton PA 18506

WANTED:
NEW EDITOR for the ECLIPTIC
ACTIVE MEMBERS,
DYNAMIC OFFICERS,
CLEAR SKIES when we need them

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