50th Anniversary Year

Astronomy At The Beach

I’d like to thank the members of the W.A.S. for their part in making Astronomy at the Beach a truly enjoyable and memorable experience this weekend. In spite of Friday's rain and some iffy skies on Saturday, in spite of a near-to-full moon and nothing spectacular going on in the sky, we had an great number of active volunteers both at the pavilion and down on the beach-- and, on Saturday in particular, we had a crowd of people eager to learn astronomy, so everyone's participation was absolutely needed and very welcome.

When I looked at the W.A.S. table at pavilion at Maple Beach this year, I saw a club that looked vibrant, diverse, and dynamic, a club with a rich history that's poised to keep on going for another fifty years. Down at the beach, the Big Dob attracted so much talk and attention from visitors even before sundown that it was clear that we have something very, very special. This weekend, I heard several figures of the amateur astronomy community-- including our featured presenter David Eicher-- reminisce about the high profile that the W.A.S. of the 1970s and 1980s cut at events like the Apollo Rendezvous, where a swarm of blue-and-gold jackets made an impression on all present. Well, we haven't lost that. From what I saw and heard this weekend, the members of the W.A.S. are still turning out in force to bring the joys of astronomy to the public, and doing it in a way that puts across that the Warren Astronomical Society is an organization to reckon with... and, hopefully to join!

So, thanks to everyone who participated, whether you've been in the club for a year or for decades. Thanks to all of you who came to Maple Beach, representing our shared passion in blue and gold jackets and caps, in logo wear and Stargate shirts, armed with telescopes and knowledge and the desire to connect with the people of Southeast Michigan. I'm proud to be a member of "this august Society," and this weekend demonstrated why.

Thanks again to all of you for making Astronomy at the Beach 2011 a wonderful experience.

- Diane Hall, W.A.S. delegate to GLAAC

Astronomy Magazine's editor David Eicher was the keynote speaker at Astronomy At The Beach. He also wrote an article about the event, available at Astronomy Magazine's web site.

http://tinyurl.com/6egd72y

Of note in the article: “I strongly encourage you to attend this event if you can next year — it is a model of how astronomy events should be occurring around the country.” This is strong praise from one of very few people qualified to compare such events.
The SWAP SHOP
This column is for those interested in buying, trading or selling. Ads run for six months. The month and year the ad will be removed is shown. Submit ads to Stephen Uitti, 313 389-5609 publications@warrenastro.org.

FOR SALE: Celestron Ultima 2000, an 8" Schmidt-Cass go-to scope. It's in good shape, works well, and has fine optics. Includes hard case. Asking $900. Contact Bob Zinke, 586-264-0884, email: r1d3z@yahoo.com [7-2011]

FOR SALE: Late 1970's model Criterion RV-6 Dynascope 6" Newtonian reflector. Original owner. Well used, but good condition. Mirrors rarely cleaned and could use another cleaning. Original pier, German equatorial mount, setting circles, finder scope and Ramsden eyepieces. Clock drive motor died & replaced with a hand-made manual slow-motion control. Includes hardware for mounting a camera & solar projection screen. I can no longer lift it and am looking for something smaller and lighter. Asking $200 or best offer. Contact Brian Klaus 586-731-0011 [10-2011]


FOR SALE: 14 eyepieces: 5 mm Ortho, 7 mm, 7.4 mm Tele Vue, 8 mm RKE, 12 mm EDSCORP, University 12.5mm illuminated plossl, 16 mm University Konig, 17 mm Tele Vue, 18 mm Criterion, 23 mm & 24 mm University Plossl, 25 mm super plossl, 26 mm, 40 mm University plossl. Barlows: Criterion CP-4 2 No. 2 focal reducer. x, Meade variable tele 2x-3x
Video eyepiece, SBIG ST-5C , SBIG ST-7 JMI Moto-focus
Scopes: 80 mm refractor - 400 mm FL (below) Meade 102 mm SCT 1000 mm FL.
Celestron 45 degree diagonal
Contact Brian Johnston at 248-622-6612 or Bjohnston47@comcast.net [12-2011]
FOR SALE: Large 30” x 40” NASA 1982 framed Manned Space Achievements poster. Starting with Mercury it shows all the teams, logos and descriptions of the flights. NASA stickers that represent the flight logos. Several front pages from these flights including Shepard etc. Can be brought to meeting. nbiz@sbcglobal.net [12-2011]

Snacks Form
A new web based form is up as an alternative way to sign up for snacks. Sheila Judd will see it, and use it to coordinate who’s bringing snacks when. If there’s a conflict, Sheila will contact you.
http://tinyurl.com/6zo6jt6

WAS Club logo wear at WAS meetings
(Diplomas and modeling by Jon Blum)
Diane Worth, dianewsky-night@yahoo.com or 248-980-7832 sells club logo clothing (hats, shirts, sweatshirts, jackets). Stephen Uitti brings a catalog of available items to meetings.

Astronomical Phenomena - October 2011
Day Hour Event (Times in EST)
2 2 Antares 3.9°S of Moon
2 16 Moon furthest South (−22.9°)
3 22 Pluto 2.6°N of Moon
4 8 FIRST QUARTER
4 15 Venus 2.9°N of Spica
7 3 Mercury 1.7°S of Saturn
8 3 Neptune 5.4°S of Moon
9 23 Mercury 2.3°N of Spica
10 21 Uranus 5.6°S of Moon
12 7 FULL MOON
12 17 Moon at apogee
13 21 Jupiter 4.7°S of Moon
14 2 Saturn at conjunction
17 6 Moon furthest North (22.7°)
20 8 LAST QUARTER
22 19 Regulus 5.4°N of Moon
26 10 Spica 1.9°N of Moon
26 17 Moon at perigee
27 0 NEW MOON
28 7 Mercury 0.3°N of Moon
28 9 Venus 1.9°N of Moon
29 6 Jupiter at opposition
29 11 Antares 4.0°S of Moon
30 1 Moon furthest South (−22.7)
31 6 Pluto 2.3°N of Moon

Note: This month is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Warren Astronomical Society (WAS).
Observatory Rules

1. Closing time depends on weather, etc.
2. May be closed one hour after opening time if no members arrive within the first hour.
3. Contact the 2nd VP for other arrangements, such as late arrival time. Call 586-992-0498.
4. An alternate person may be appointed to open.
5. Members may arrive before or stay after the scheduled open house time.
6. Dates are subject to change or cancellation depending on weather or staff availability.
7. Postings to the Yahoo Group and/or email no later than 2 hours before starting time in case of date change or cancellation.
8. It is best to call or email the 2nd VP at least 2 hours before the posted opening with any questions. Later emails may not be receivable.
9. Generally, only strong rain or snow will prevent the open house... the plan is to be there even if it is clouded over. Often, the weather is cloudy, but it clears up as the evening progresses.

- Bob Berta, 2nd VP

Seven Ponds Open Invitation

WAS members are invited to The Seven Ponds Astronomy Club monthly meetings. More information about upcoming meetings, maps to Seven Ponds Nature Center, etc. is available at at http://bhmich.com/sevenpondsac/. Please let me know if you might attend so that appropriate plans can be made. Any questions, please contact me.

- John Lines

2011 Stargate Observatory Open House
Sept 24, Oct 22, Nov 19, Dec 3

2011 WAS Meetings

Cranbrook Meetings: 1st Mondays
Sept 12, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5

Macomb Meetings: 3rd Thursdays
Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17

WAS 2011 Upcoming Presentations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>3 Oct</td>
<td>Jonathan Kade</td>
<td>Last Shuttle Launch</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Oct</td>
<td>Dale Partin</td>
<td>Cosmic Ray Astronomy</td>
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<td>20 Oct</td>
<td>Dale Ochalek</td>
<td>Astro Jeopardy</td>
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<td>7 Nov</td>
<td>Phil Martin</td>
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<td>17 Nov</td>
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<td>David Cinabro</td>
<td>Golden Age of Cosmology</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Dec</td>
<td>Chuck Dezelah</td>
<td>Open Clusters: The Trumpler Classes</td>
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Events

22-25 Sept Gladwyn – Great Lakes Star Gaze
18-23 Oct Beers’ Star Party West
15 Dec – WAS Annual Banquet 50th Anniversary

Oakland Astronomy Club newsletter
http://oaklandastronomy.ulmb.com/oacnews.html

Clear skies,  
  - Bill MacIntosh
October Cranbrook Talks Oct 3
The main talk will be *The History of Cosmic Ray Astronomy* by Dale Partin. Cosmic rays were discovered in the course of initial studies of radioactivity. The early history of research into the nature of cosmic rays will be presented. In some cases, key experiments have been replicated by the author, and the results of these experiments will also be presented. The more recent history of cosmic ray studies will then be reviewed, with an emphasis on particles with stupendous energies of 1020 electron volts, which is millions of times larger than the highest energies produced with any man-made particle accelerator, including the Large Hadron Collider.

The short talk will be about the final space shuttle launch. On April 12, 1981, a group of WAS members saw the first Space Shuttle launch. On July 8, 2011, five members of the WAS (Jonathan Kade, Diane Hall, Tony Semenuk, Dale Mayotte, and Ben Handlesman) saw the final Space Shuttle launch. Those who went in 2011 will share their thoughts and photos with the group.

October Macomb Talk Oct 20
We will play *Astro Jeopardy*, presented by Dale Ochalek from the Ford Amateur Astronomy Club (FAAC).

After serving as club secretary, VP, and pizza guy, Dale became FAAC president, and was tasked to help with the annual dinner. He came up with the idea of an *Astro Jeopardy* contest in 2005. It was such a hit, the FAAC has included it at their annual dinner ever since.

**The rules:** You can play or watch others. Players answer short questions about astronomy.

Dale Ochalek shows the Astro Jeopardy board in front of the room. Participants state the question that gives that answer. Answers are accepted whether stated in question or answer form. The board shows categories at the top of each column, and the answers in that column are sorted according to the amount of "money" winable for that question. Each person will be given a notepad and pencil on which to write their answers. Everyone keeps their own score.

Anyone can name the first column and money amount for the first question. Dale will then open the square on the screen, and read the "answer". But do **NOT** say anything out loud! Each person who knows the correct question (answer) writes a word (or so) on their note-pad and holds up their notepad facing the front of the room, so the presenter can see it, but the rest of the audience cannot. Answers are displayed within about 15 seconds, until Dale or Jon calls Time.

Dale or Jon will then call on one of the first people who held up an answer, to state their answer out loud. Dale will state whether it is correct or not. If it is wrong, then we will call on somebody else to state their answer, until somebody gives the correct answer.

Those who wrote the correct answer on their pad gets the number of imaginary dollars that this question was worth. Those who wrote a wrong answer on their pad **SUBTRACTS** the number of dollars that this question was worth. People who did not hold up their pad with an answer do not add or subtract any dollars from their score.

Dale or Jon will then choose one of the first people who answered correctly, to name the category and dollar amount for the next question.

A couple of special points questions are hidden on the board. These are called the "Daily Double." When one of them is selected, each person can choose to bet any amount of money, with a minimum of $100, up to the maximum of the number of dollars you presently have in your total.

At the end of the game, there is usually one more chance to bet anything from $100 to your total winnings, on one bonus question.

The winner is the person with the most "dollars" at the game end. Winner gets bragging rights.
Annual Election of Officers Nov 7 at Cranbrook

At the meeting at Cranbrook on November 7, we will have our annual election of officers. The WAS is managed by a board consisting of seven elected officers. They each serve for one year at a time, with a limit of two consecutive years in any one office. None of the current officers will remain in their current positions next year. Four plan to drop off of the board, and three plan to run for a different office. The names of the current officers are listed in the upper right corner of the front page of every issue of the WASP newsletter, and on our website at www.warrenastro.org (click on Officers in the left column).

The current board, with help and advice from past-president Ken Bertin and other long-term members, has created a slate of recommended candidates for office for the coming year. Each of the people on this list has agreed to run in the November 7 election, and to serve in these offices for the year beginning on January 1.

- President - Jon Blum
- 1st Vice President (programming) - Diane Hall
- 2nd Vice President (observatory) - Riyad Matti
- Treasurer - Dale Partin
- Secretary - Dale Thieme
- Publications (newsletter) - Debra Chaffins
- Outreach - Bob Berta

Any club member can run against any of the above people for any of those seven offices at the election on November 7. If you would like to run, please email to board@warrenastro.org. You can announce your intention to run at any time up to the time of the election. In addition to performing the duties of each office, board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings held at 6:30 PM on the first Monday of each month at Cranbrook, to attend general meetings each month at Cranbrook and Macomb, and to keep up with daily board business via email.

- Jon Blum

Asymmetrical Cosmos

The cosmos is overwhelmingly symmetrical. At a recent WAS discussion group meeting, when the subject of asymmetrical cosmological events came up, WAS members quaked. Even Victor, Gary Gathen's fearless Great Dane, put his paws over his ears.

But when asymmetrical events do arise attention must be paid, to quote Arthur Miller's iconic play Death of a Salesman. Popular theories of the Big Bang hold that matter and anti-matter were created in nearly equal amounts, a symmetry which would have pleased the cosmologists of the initial nanosecond. Some examples of asymmetry in today's cosmos include Tidal locking, Pulsar kicks, and Asymmetrical supernovae.

I will give a short talk on asymmetry in the cosmos at the January 9 WAS meeting.

- Fred Gluckson
THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS!
One can only view the WAS at times with a certain bemusement, to wit, the August meeting at Macomb as example. People have to be insulted into submission during reports. Once the members are released from the constraints of polite attention to a speaker, pandemonium breaks out. The crowded quarters in the computer lab looked like the Chicago Board of Trade on a busy day with shoving, maneuvering, barely coherent yelling, food spilling and scattering. (Note to future snacks captains: no more chips, eh?) Practically standing room only called for a belated trip for even more seats. What a crew.

Compare this with another astronomical group: like a Quaker meeting house. Tentative, almost shy conversation. Many empty seats. No gauche Coney Island joint with a Bailey-equivalent attacking a Matterhorn of an ice cream sundae. No Bertin-equivalent doing a term paper every two weeks whilst the programme chairman looks significantly at the clock. No hawking of outlandish goods. No Beers-equivalent throwing open his vacation paradise. In this alternate universe uninvolvment hangs like a pall. The president there thanks people for coming to a meeting. Would I dream of thanking WAS members? Never -- because it would not fail to go to their heads.

Just one item is enough to convince of the Society’s uniqueness. The speaker/programme list is hard to squeeze into until months in advance. Bribes have allegedly changed hands. Jon Blum has had to function as diplomat and psychiatrist. All this coming forward to share, astround, or simply obfuscate on a twice per month regime, which does not include the Stargate gigs and the Interest Groups of which Herr Gathen’s used to be the jewel in the crown. Sacre bleu!, Cadillac West is gaining on him fast.

What Warren has sustained for fifty years is remarkable. The culture is not the scientific and engineering knowledge. Far more significantly it is intellectual curiosity and joie de vivre. We have a good Board and will have another one, but as Tolstoy would opine, they are the manifestation of historical trends and merely execute their roles within them. Such may or may not be my view, but is worth a good going over. - Gary Ross

Treasurer’s Report
MEMBERSHIP Three new memberships this month: Pat Domanski and Peter Hoffmann (of Wayne State’s Department of Physics and Astronomy), Gregory Frederick (a friend of Brian Klaus’s), and Robert Trembley (a frequent contributor to our Facebook page).
ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE We have fourteen members joining the AL. We will continue accepting applications through September 15.
NONPROFIT STATUS We owe $560 to Maddin-Hauser for their consultation on our status.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURES We took in $168.13 and spent $200.97. We have $7294.56 in the bank account, $37 in uncashed checks, and $342.72 in cash, which means we are pushing $8000 total liquid assets. I will be making bank deposits at the end of this week.
COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS $93.45 to Bob Berta for picnic supplies. We need to review the supplies in storage at Stargate, store things securely to avoid insect and dust encroachment, and avoid buying more of the same stuff next year.
$72 Meetup 6-month renewal
$30.22 to Brian Thieme for nametag expenses
$5.60 Fedex for Astronomical League flyers
INCOME
Renewals: $37
Astronomical League: $60
Donations: $19.4 (Cranbrook), $17.73 (Macomb).
$20 snack reimbursement at Cranbrook, $17.01 snack reimbursement at Macomb.
Magazine subscriptions: $34 - Jonathan Kade
Aug 1 Board Meeting

Officers Present: Jon Blum, Gary Ross, Bob Berta, Jonathan Kade, Dale Partin, Stephen Uitti, Therese Oldani

Guests: Marty Kunz, Ken Bertin, Dave Baily

President: July 9th Annual picnic was good. Not enough workers that morning to work on the observatory.

2nd VP: Open house this past month was cloudy. Members took advantage of the time and worked on the observatory roof. Could put eye hooks on side of observatory to hang a screen when needed for presentation also put light on observatory to illuminate display Use furniture dolly to transport Blaine’s scope and 22 “ Dob.

Treasurer’s report: See WASP.

We will be accept applications for Astronomical League tonight. We have some more efforts plan for 501C3 in August.

Outreach: Sign up tonight for Astronomy at the Beach. Gary offered the whole day at the table for Saturday.

New Business: Dale moves that we purchase 25 planispheres for $75 for Astronomy at the Beach. Jon Blum seconds the motion. Discussion was how to handle the money. Folks at the table will collect the money, selling them for $5 a piece. After discussion, Vote was taken, motion passed.

Banquet: Preparation and conversation around the Dec banquet.

1. Food on time. 6:00 open 6:30 Bar 7:30 Serving dinner encouraged by Gary Ross.
2. Greeter at the door Therese will ask Bob Watt
3. Jonathan will help with unloading the boxes of goods.
4. Dale will volunteer.
   Website new design by Jonathan Kade. Up and running.

- Therese Oldani, Secretary

Aug 1 Cranbrook General Meeting

President: Introductions were made.
1st VP: Jon Blum reminded club members of the Macomb meetings now through August will be in room 151. Enter through the North West corner door. Arrive no later than 8:30pm because the door will be locked after that time. If you need a Warren name tag, see Jon.

Long talk presentations are filled through 2011 and first few months of 2012. email FirstVP@warrenastro.org if you are interested.

Brief introduction of talks for the evening and upcoming meetings were made. Great Lake Star Gaze coming up in September, find out more from google.

2nd VP and Observatory Chair: Last open house was hot and steamy, but folks who showed worked on the roof. Recognition was made of all those who worked on it. August 12 is next open house and Persieds meteor shower open house with a full moon.

Treasurer: We are collaborating with the Astronomy League and their award system with an additional $5 to our membership. Deadline is September 15th.

Secretary: collecting items for the Banquet. (books, eyepieces, coupons for astronomy gadgets.)

Publications: Accepting articles for the WASP.

Outreach: Astronomy at the Beach is at Kensington Metro Park, September 9 and 10 6pm – late. Main speaker is Dave Eicher, Editor of Astronomy Magazine. Looking for volunteers to help at the table. Marty: Suggestions for general public observing and protecting scopes. Bring extension cords, flashlights, pencils.

Discussion group will be held at Gary’s

Solar Observing: Marty ….. invitation to move to your location

Radio: Radio group meets Saturdays at 10am.

Historical Preservation: Dale
Astro Imaging: Dr. P Martin is offering a new SIG and will chair this group.

Observations: Friday, July 29, Jonathan and Diane had a great dark night at Stargate. 7 meteors and great viewing of globular clusters.

In the News: Vesta, “Earth Stalker”, next Mars rover to climb a mountain to be launched this year;

Radio: Long Wavelength Array; Atacama Large Millimeter Array in CHILE; FAST in Northern China to be finished in 2016.

Movie at DIA: Gary promoted Nostalgia for the Light, a film to be shown at the Detroit Film Theater in the DIA complex. The film will show on the 12th-14th of August and then on the 21st. It spans the “alpha and omega of human experience” in its account of both the observatories and the prison camps of the Atacama Desert.

Ford Astronomy Picnic Aug 6th 6pm Ford club invites us to their picnic at Island Lake State Recreation area in Brighton.

Cody Holoday, the youngest member to regularly attend meetings, presented a short talk on Black Holes. The talk was well-received for sticking solidly to the facts!

Main presentation 9pm Solar and Jovian Radio Astronomy, by Sai Rajagopalan.

Attendance: 50 present

- Therese Oldani, Secretary

August 18, 2011 Macomb meeting

Meeting was whistled in to session at 7:32, 38 in attendance.

President: DeCarlos banquet Hall has been reserved for Dec 15 for the Christmas Banquet.

1st VP: Tonight’s meeting (Aug 18) is the last time in the current room, in September (15), we’ll resume meeting in 221, off the library. Because of Labor Day, the Cranbrook meeting is the 12th, three days earlier.

2nd VP: Saturday, Aug 20 is the next open house at Stargate, Last Friday’s "No Hope Perseid Meteor Party" was a success with about 30 in attendance, some meteors spotted along with a flyby of the ISS, an Iridium flare (accompanied by a meteor flash about a degree away).

Treasurer: We gained two members in July and 2 more so far in August. In July we took in $165 and paid out $28.

SIGs

Discussion Group Meets the Thursday after the Macomb meeting.

Star Party Great Lakes Star Gaze coming up Sep 22-25. Register before Sep 1 and it’s $35.

The Cadillac Star Party is October 18-23, Oct. 8 is the registration deadline.

History In the process of preserving past issues of the WASP in PDF form, 1970 is finished, 1971 is nearly done. Mark Kalinowski, the son of Larry Kalinowski, makes an appearance by way of a birth announcement. With the addition of Lois Thieme, the transcribing staff has increased to three.

Astronomy League: The AL Magazine, The Reflector, is available, along with membership application forms.

Observation: Perseids were seen, along with the ISS and an Iridium flare. Member Dale Mayotte took a video of the ISS passing over at dusk. Bob Berta showed an image he took of Pluto and one of the North American nebula.

In the News: Ken Bertin reported on:

- Moon may be 200 million years younger than thought.
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> moon’s remains may cover lunar far side.
- Dark streaks on Mars bolster case for liquid water.
- NASA bets on metal hydrogen and cosmic gas station
- Beyond Space-time: welcome to phase space.
- Anti-proton ring found around Earth.
- Water scouting probe left for Jupiter

Break - featuring home-made cookies by Lois Thieme, yum!
Main Talk: Mark Jeffery, Space Stone Stories. In the presentation, Mark discussed the history of meteor science, some famous meteorites, meteorite classifications and the hobby of collecting meteorites. During the talk, he passed around samples.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 - Dale Theime

WASP Archiving Project

Work on the the W.A.S. Paper archiving continues apace. We’ve added the typing skills of Lois Thieme to our arsenal. It turns out that we have complete years for 1975 and 1986, at least.

Dale has started working on an index (of sorts) of the archive.

The issues posted so far sometimes come in two versions, one complete and one abridged, the complete contain the addition of a sky calendar and a sky chart imported from outside sources. Jonathan and I felt our main focus would be on archiving what the members authored, but since we have the charts in hand anyway, we could offer the full version. At least the abridged are a smaller download.

- Dale Thieme

Announcing...

The Cadillac West Orionid Star Party
October 18 - 23, 2011
(Tuesday thru Sunday)
Hosted By: Bill Beers (Warren Astronomical Society)
Located 14 miles west of Cadillac, Mich. at Bill Beers cabin (Register for map)

Watch the Meteor Shower from
Dark Skies

Registration donation fee: $10 per person $20 per family
Contact Bill Beers to register before Oct 8

A/C POWER AVAILABLE ON FIELD

Accommodations Available:
Plenty of Space for Tents/Campers
Cabin at Crossings Motel (231-862-3330) 3/4 mile east
Cabin at Crossings Motel (231-862-3330) 1 mile east
Cabin at Crossings Motel (231-862-3330) 3 miles east
Roadway Inn (231-775-2455) 12 miles east

For More Info Contact:
Bill Beers Phone #666-321-8207 or E-mail "BEEZOLL@AOL.COM"