The Indiana Astronomical Society (IAS) is an association of over 200 individuals from central Indiana who are interested in studying, observing, and promoting the science of Astronomy to the public. Our membership includes people of all ages and professions. We are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

Explore the Wonders of the Sky!

Where We Meet

Each month the Society holds a general meeting featuring a guest speaker. We hold our general meetings at the Mooresville Public Library, 220 West Harrison Street, Mooresville IN with star gazing after the meeting, clear skies permitting, at Link Observatory, south of Mooresville, about 35 minutes from downtown Indianapolis. McCloud Nature Park, west of Brownsburg, is another site that provides a setting for our regularly scheduled observing and outreach events. Details of our meetings and events are featured in our online newsletter and are announced on our group Facebook page.

Get to Know Fellow Astronomers

IAS members have a wide range of experience that they are eager to share. For the newcomer, the members can assist you with visual observation and navigating the night sky. For the more experienced observer, the Society can assist you with pursuing interests in deep sky observing, astrophotography, and electronic viewing. Come observe, have fun, and meet with IAS members at the Link Observatory. Experience the 36” Link telescope and our Society’s 14” SCT housed in the Tanager Hill Observatory on the north lawn.

Solar Observation

You do not need perfect, cloudless days to have fascinating views of our sun. Learn about the proper equipment required to view and photograph.

Astrophotography Workshop Sessions

Share equipment and software experiences in an informal setting. “How to” sessions are offered to members of all experience levels.

Equipment Loan Program

Part of the learning and sharing process for beginners and intermediate observers is determining what equipment meets your needs. We have telescopes to loan to help you in your discovery process. Also, our members will be glad to let you observe through their instruments at our stargazing events. They can guide you in selecting the best equipment when you are ready to make a purchase.

Check our calendar for scheduled dates and times of events. Our monthly meetings are held at the Mooresville Public Library, 220 West Harrison St., Mooresville and stargazing after the meeting at Link Observatory, south of Mooresville. For maps and directions to these meeting sites, see our website www.iasindy.org
Community Outreach Stargazing
Visit the IAS online calendar for community, educational, and Society events. Discover dark sky observing sites throughout the state. Interact with members to grow your knowledge of observing and equipment. Share your experiences to introduce and encourage visitors and students to actively participate and be enlightened.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE IAS
The origin of the IAS goes back to the early 1930’s. Mr. Samuel Waters, an avid amateur astronomer, invited Boy Scout troops to view the skies through his home-built telescope in his backyard in Indianapolis. Prior to the viewing sessions he would give a lecture about what was up in the night sky. Soon public awareness of the sessions generated larger and larger crowds and Mr. Waters formed an organization to promote astronomy to the public. The first meeting of the Amateur Astronomers of Indianapolis was on May 7, 1933. This organization subsequently became the IAS. Mr. Waters died in 1949, but the Society continued to flourish. A number of dark sites and smaller observatories were used by the IAS until 1988 when Indiana University offered the IAS access to the Goethe Link Observatory for meetings and use of the historic 36" telescope.

• For more information about the IAS and the history of the Goethe Link Observatory, visit our IAS webpage www.iasindy.org

GET INVOLVED!
Join us at one of our upcoming meetings and observing events. Learn how to become a member by visiting our website www.iasindy.org