

Nite-Net



Welcome to the inaugural edition of Nite-Net

This newsletter is intended as a forum to help Sections in their volunteer work to keep the skies natural. Any time that you want to send in information that you feel will help other Sections you are welcome to submit their stories, web-links, pictures, or just congratulations for a job well done.

If there is ever a volunteer you would like to spotlight that has done some really great work on behalf of IDA, we would love to hear about it, because we can't do this without our volunteers.



There are several areas that I would like to address: good lighting design, wildlife conservation, marketing, volunteering issues and general networking.

2008 20th Anniversary AGM

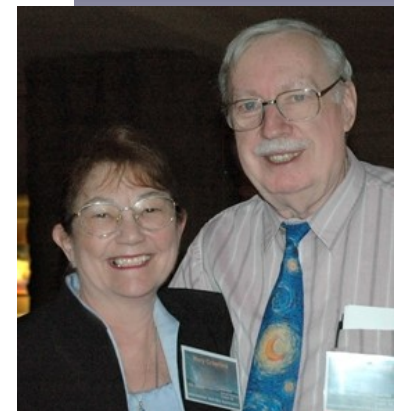
The Annual General Meeting is over now and will remain a fond memory. Thank you to all of you who participated throughout the event and helped to make it one of the most successful AGMs we've ever had.

Especially memorable about the three days was my introduction to all of you. Thank you for making me feel so welcome and part of the team. I am very happy to be a part of IDA. I learned a lot about the mission of our organization, and how passionate you all are about the work you do, especially during the Sections workshops where so many people had so many ideas. You will keep me busy for months to come.

The silent auction was a big success, thanks for your great response to the items presented for sale. The donation amount was almost \$2,000, and most of those sales were possible because of our Sections.

Thanks, Johanna

Special Thank You and a happy, healthy retirement to Dr. David Crawford. Your foresight and dedication to the International Dark-Sky Association will never be forgotten. You are proof that one person can make a difference.



Award to a Sections Leader

New Board Director Chris Monrad presented the first David L. Crawford Lifetime Achievement Award to invaluable volunteer Jack Sales. Jack extended his commitment to dark skies from development of the IDA Web site and involvement on the IDA Board to an active section leadership in California, where he visited many cities to advocate in favor of local lighting ordinances. In 2007 Jack received the Sacramento Environmental Commission Award for "Providing Leadership Toward the Protection and Enhancement of the Environment in the Greater Sacramento Community." Way to go Jack and it's great that the first award goes to a Sections lead.



NET-FLASHES

Advertising: Please feel free to encourage advertising in Nite-Net, Nightscape, as well as the web site. Direct any inquiries to me at johanna@darksky.org

Articles: If you have an article for Nightscape please forward it to our new editor, Rowena Davis at Rowena@darksky.org. She would love to have your input. If you have an article that you feel we should feature a link to on our web site, or for Nite-Net please let me know.

Accomplishments: Anytime you have a presentation, legislative language that you have used, or light friendly ordinances that have passed, please let us know.

Photographs: Same here, nothing sells our product, natural skies, like a photo. Photos of skies, a star party, or shaking hands with the mayor are good examples.

E-News Alerts: If you would like to be included on the e-news alerts, please let Johanna know and we will add your email to the list. Remember if you change your address, please let us know.



Astronomy CD: Anyone who elects to try out the educational CD presented by Teresa Hudson is encouraged to give us feedback about the program. Positive as well as negative comments are welcome because we want to make this better for all Sections. Teresa's email is teresa@darksky.org.

Congressional Briefing

"The audience at the Congressional Briefing was highly receptive to what IDA, and the speakers had to say."
*Kim Patten,
Public Relations
Director, IDA*

On June 20th IDA co-sponsored a successful briefing on light pollution with the office of AZ (08) Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Legislative aides from the U.S. House heard several speakers present information about light pollution. It is hoped that this new understanding of the consequences of not keeping the skies dark will

initiate further lobbying efforts to have light pollution recognized by the EPA.

IDA's Washington DC Liaison, Milton Roney, and Public Relations Director Kim Patten were the hosts of the briefing. Milt Roney was instrumental in establishing this briefing. Thank you Kim and Milt for your efforts.

Twenty six different Representatives' offices attended, as well as other members of the dark-skies community. Former Board President Bob Gent put it very well when he described the meeting as, "the first step in a much needed raising of awareness on Capitol Hill." July 25th there will be a similar briefing for the Senate.



**BRIGHT
IDEAS!**

On the IDA web-site is an article titled, Preserving Stargazing Amid Urban Glare by William Hagle. This article is on the IDA home page, along with other related material that you are always welcome to reference.

New lighting Ordinance in Bar Harbor, Maine.

Read the story at:

http://www.maineoastnow.com/articles/2008/06/20/bar_harbor_times/local_news/doc4858d9449bf95953838474.txt

"Dark Skies" Ordinance for Kern River Valley under consideration.

Read the story at:

<http://www.kvsun.com/articles/2008/06/18/news/061808-6-darksbies.txt>

Sections Event Calendar

Please send events, presentations, awards, dates of council hearings, or trade shows to Nite-Net for monthly posting and for posting on the IDA web site.

This is an excellent opportunity for networking.

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 ^{Holiday}	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 ^{Senate Briefing}	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 ^{Europe Symposium in}	23 ^{Vienna Austria}
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Web-matters: Directory of Lighting Ordinances

Hello Fellow Sections,

In an effort to keep the IDA web site as up to date as possible we have included the link to the Directory of Lighting Ordinances. Are you all aware of this service? If not this is a great opportunity to look at what other areas have done about lighting ordinances in their region. This may be of help to you in the future.

For those of you who are familiar with this page,

please take a look and let us know if we have missed any of the pertinent regulations in your area. We will gladly put them in.

Please send your additions to me at johanna@darksky.org or you may fax them to the office at 520-293-3192. We would love to hear from you.

<http://www.darksky.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=58882> an

Web-matters: POINTS OF INTEREST

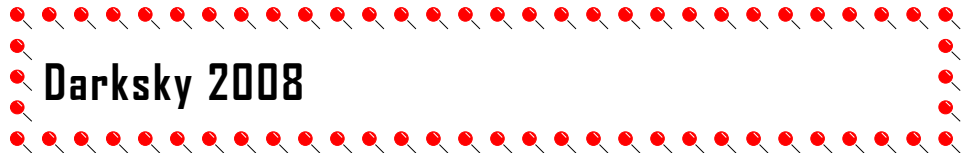
“...\$10 billion
a year in
wasted
cost.”

Pete
Strasser
IDA

Listen to the audio of the interview with NPR Marketplace on the IDA Web site, www.darksky.org. You will find the link on the home page of the site. Featured in the article is

Pete Strasser from our staff, Lee Cooper of PG&E, CA, and Anthony Arrigo of Starry Nite Lights. It's a short program, so you can listen anytime.

Also on the Web site is the newest edition of the Specifier Bulletin. This new feature highlights lighting manufacturers who are making a difference.



Darksky 2008

The 8th European Symposium for the Protection of the Night Sky, will be held on August 22-23, 2008, in Vienna, Austria.

lighting engineers, architects and landscape architects, biologists, medical experts, environmentalists and astronomers.

Topics covered by the scientific program include light pollution monitoring, impact of light pollution on the environment, animals, human health, the climate and the night sky. Further sessions deal with energy-efficient and low light pollution lighting technology, traffic safety, light pollution laws and finances. The symposium therefore reaches out especially to representatives of institutions for protection of natural heritage, mayors and authorities in charge for the lighting in municipalities, road experts, energy saving experts, manufacturers of lamps and power regulation equipment,

IDA will be represented by Friedel Pas, European Liaison Officer, and Board members Martin Morgan-Taylor of the UK, and Wout van Bommel of the Netherlands.

If you would like to get more information about the symposium please go to the web site below for further details about costs, speakers, and accommodations .
<http://darksky2008.kuffner-sternwarte.at/work/default.html>





Need Help Preparing Presentations?

Whether your presentation is to a local Rotary Club, the City Council, or to your church, it can be daunting. Yes, you know all about IDA and what it does and you are very passionate about the subject, but maybe writing your speech is not where your talents lie. Consider asking a volunteer to help you write, or to give your presentation. Make sure you discuss with your volunteer the scope of their involvement, such as research only, or if you would like them to help with the actual presentation. Involving them at the beginning provides buy in to the IDA story.

Remember, you do not have to start from scratch. There are presentations and information sheets available on the IDA web site that you can use to begin the

research. Light Pollution is a great issue to create community involvement.

Go to your local high school honors society, university or college. Why? These students need volunteer/community service hours to complete their diplomas or degrees, sometimes up to 100 hours.

Areas to look at are students of marketing, urban planning, political science, public speaking, or technical writing.

This is a win-win-win situation because you get someone to write the speech, or the power-point presentation. The student gets their hours and the experience to put in their resume.



Post World War II
Volunteers are looking to be in on the decision making process in any organization.

Welcome Vermont Section

The International Dark-Sky Association would like to welcome the newest Section to our volunteer program, Vermont.

The Section Leader is W. Terry Kennaugh of Shelburne, VT. Please feel free to give him a welcome email from the Sections tab on the web site.

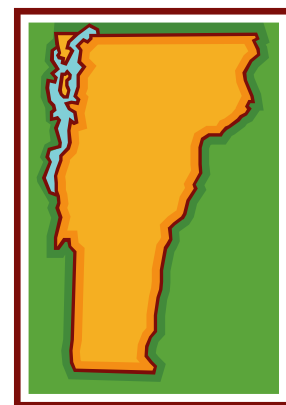
Quoting from Terry's application, "I learned of the IDA and its fight

against light pollution in a "Parade Magazine" article in 1998." He then became involved with outdoor lighting issues in Massachusetts and at the state level in Vermont.

Terry is currently retired, so I'm sure he will have lots of time to devote to this new office. He has a background in financial services and owning an automotive service company. His experience with diverse customers leaves him well

qualified to work with government officials. Welcome aboard Terry.

This Section was recommended to IDA by Leo Smith, Board Member and Northeast Region Manager. Thank you for your good work Leo.





Speakers at the Congressional Briefing

Dr. David Blask, Senior Research Scientist of the Bassett Research Institute Cooperstown, NY. Dr. Blask spoke about the consequences that artificial light has on humans. Breast Cancer rates are 73% higher in areas that are brightly illuminated at night.

Biologist **Travis Longcore** Ph.D. of the Urban Wildlands Group in Los Angeles CA. Dr. Longcore discussed the effects of light pollution on wildlife and the environment. He is the co-editor of "Ecological Consequences of Artificial Night Lighting."

Lee Cooper, Manager of Emerging Technologies at Pacific Gas and Electric, CA. He spoke about the waste of energy that is caused by light pollution. IDA estimates that \$10 billion is wasted annually with unnecessary lighting.



All the Dave's
2008 AGM

Community finds a dark-skies friendly alternative

The following information came from a story published in MyDesert.com, a subsidiary of the Desert Sun Paper of Palm Springs, CA. A neighborhood known as La Quinta Cove was having difficulty with people not being able to read the street signs.

This neighborhood typically uses pyramids that sit on the ground to name the streets, instead of overhead street signs or signs on the corner. They have tried for years to keep their neighborhood free from light pollution, but more people began to complain about the inability to see the signs.

Their solution was to propose different street signs with larger lettering. What a great natural-skies concept! New street lights were proposed of course, but the community decided against it. Go to: <http://www.mydesert.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080603/NEWS01/806030317/1141> for the story.

IDA's Mission:

To preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through quality outdoor lighting.

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