

To IDA - Southern Arizona DarkSkies Advocates

A few topics for your review. Our Meeting agenda for Wednesdays meeting is below.

Earth Day - Two SA-IDA members staffed a booth at the U of A on April 22nd, 11 to 3 pm. Many brochures were handed out and had many great conversations. Most attendees are aware of the light pollution problem but not many are aware of the extent and impact on the environment other than astronomy. One interesting observation is that Earth Days are becoming more about selling "gadgets" than addressing the real fundamental problems.

SARSEF - The Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair (SARSEF) judging on March 17th yielded only two dark skies/light pollution related projects. One on Light Pollution and how many stars you can see (5th grader), the other on light from moon phases (3rd grader). We do our own judging and are finding almost no projects dealing with outdoor lights, sky glow, wild life impacts, etc. Please encourage your children and students to consider this important topic for next year. We award certificates, cash prizes, and gifts for worthy projects.

Participation - You obviously do not need to attend our monthly meetings to participate and support our Southern Arizona IDA Section (SA-IDA). I very much appreciate comments and suggestions that I receive via email and phone calls. Everyone can help educate others about this important subject and the impacts on our environment that are being discovered every day.

Thanks,
Joe Frannea

SA-IDA Monthly Section Meeting:

(Southern Arizona Section of the IDA or SA-IDA)

When: **Next WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2009 at 5:30 PM**

Where: At the IDA office, 3225 N. First Avenue, just North of Ft. Lowell Road
(our usual meeting place)

Who: All are welcome, you do not need to be an IDA member to participate.

PROPOSED AGENDA:

1. Minutes for prior monthly meeting (March, no meeting in April)
2. Treasurers Report (Byron out of town, he reports bal. is \$3,652.21)
3. Follow up on Outdoor Lighting Complaints and Improvements
 - U of A women's softball field (upgraded Musco lights for HD TV broadcasts)
 - U of A women's swimming pool lights
 - Automotive dealers, meeting?
 - Foothills complaint for small observatory (River Rd near Sabino Canyon)
4. Education Outreach - Possible outings/events for Year 2009 - we need to continually update this list
 - Report on Earth Day event at U of A, April 22nd (Dave and Joe)
 - Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Summer Saturday Astronomy Nights (SA-IDA exhibit and telescope 6 to 10 pm) dates: June 27th, July 25th, Aug 22nd, and teacher's night Aug 29th (possibly 5 to 7 pm) - contact is Christine Conte
 - Ward VI environmental events.
 - HOA and other presentations to groups
 - Schools Math/Science nights
 - Fun Fest at the TCC (6,000 school children visit educational booths-November)

Need interactive activity ideas for sa-ida booth, considering light shield activity in semi dark tent. Other ideas?

 - Other environmental/scientific fairs/events ???
5. GLOBE AT NIGHT - data needs to be submitted to Connie Walker if not already submitted.
 - Other role/activities for IYA 2009
6. SARSEF Judging for SA-IDA Special Category - Dark Skies - March 17th., - Discuss results (Joe, John, Byron, Dave)
7. IDA Model Lighting Ordinance -out for review
 - comments or questions?
8. Other business
 - Outdoor Lighting Code enforcement initiative by the Outdoor Lighting Code Committee
 - Other items???
9. Next Meeting - Wed., June 9th (2nd Wednesday)

Adjourn promptly at 7:00 PM