

## BECOMING A MEMBER

Have you always loved night skies and learning about planets, stars, meteors, constellations, and telescopes? Whether you have an extensive background in astronomy or absolutely none, you are WELCOME to join us as a visitor or member... we are friendly, enthusiastic, welcoming and will share our knowledge with you. Membership in the CAA is open to any individual or family. There are over one hundred members in the society.

### Benefits:

- Monthly e-newsletter, *The Prime Focus*
- Astronomical League (AL) membership
- AL quarterly magazine *Reflector*
- Discounts on astronomy magazine subscriptions and books
- Access to the Pal-Dows facilities, telescopes and resources, including a monthly member night
- Participation at the monthly business meeting
- Loaner telescopes to take home and try out
- Astronomy library with hundreds of books, magazines, video recordings and reference books.

The CAA also has a social media presence with over 1000 members on Facebook..

### Annual dues:

Regular Membership	\$25
Family Membership	\$30
Supporting Member	\$40
Benefactor	\$100

Membership forms are available at the Observatory or on the web at: [www.cedar-astronomers.org/become-a-member](http://www.cedar-astronomers.org/become-a-member). Or join by using the online form and remitting the dues by PayPal.

Cedar Amateur Astronomers  
P.O. Box 10786  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52410



## EIOLC AT A GLANCE

### Operation:

A collaboration between the CAA and the Linn County Conservation Department (on the web at [www.linncountyparks.com](http://www.linncountyparks.com)).

### Hours:

Open for Public Observing Nights and by arrangement for groups and organizations.

### Contact:

Phone 319.848.2068 (Voicemail)  
Email [President@Cedar-Astronomers.org](mailto:President@Cedar-Astronomers.org)  
[Inquiries@Cedar-Astronomers.org](mailto:Inquiries@Cedar-Astronomers.org)

### Location:

Rural Linn County at 1365 Ivanhoe Rd. Watch for Dows Preserve and Observatory signs.

- From US Highway 30, take Ivanhoe Rd. or Jappa Rd. exit approximately 6.5 miles southeast of Cedar Rapids.
- From Highway 1, take Ivanhoe Rd. exit approximately 3 miles southwest of Mount Vernon.



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## Bringing the Universe to Eastern Iowa

[www.cedar-astronomers.org](http://www.cedar-astronomers.org)  
Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning Center

Cedar Amateur Astronomers (CAA)



## Promoting Public Interest and Education in Astronomy and Related Sciences



## A Unique Opportunity

In 2003, The University of Iowa, in collaboration with the UI Department of Physics and Astronomy, donated a research grade Boller & Chivens telescope to the CAA. This remarkable 24-inch Cassegrain telescope, built in 1965, was originally installed

at The University's Hills Observatory where it served as their primary teaching and research optical telescope.

## The Premier Astronomy Center in Iowa

In 2008, the CAA and Linn County Conservation completed work on the Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning Center (EIOLC). The 4,600 square-foot Learning Center contains a classroom, large presentation room, catering kitchen, restrooms, exhibit areas, and two attached domed observatory buildings.

Visitors are welcome to attend the free Public Observing Nights hosted by CAA members. In addition, many requests for arranged programs or special presentations are accommodated. The CAA is a member society of the Astronomical League and NASA's Night Sky Network.

### Charter

The CAA promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) through astronomy. We host observing sessions and special programs available to community organizations, scouting, church groups, schools, universities, and the general public.

### Meetings

In addition to member nights at the observatory, we meet on the first Thursday of each month at the Observatory and/or virtually using Zoom. See [www.cedar-astronomers.org/monthly-meetings](http://www.cedar-astronomers.org/monthly-meetings) for the next meeting location and time. These meetings usually start with a program followed by section reports such as imaging, stellar, solar system and so on, refreshments then the business meeting. The public is welcome.

### Public Nights

We host 12 public events at the Observatory each year. These include astronomy-related educational programs and observing. Supervised access to permanently mounted telescopes including the centerpiece 24-inch Boller & Chivens research grade telescope is featured.

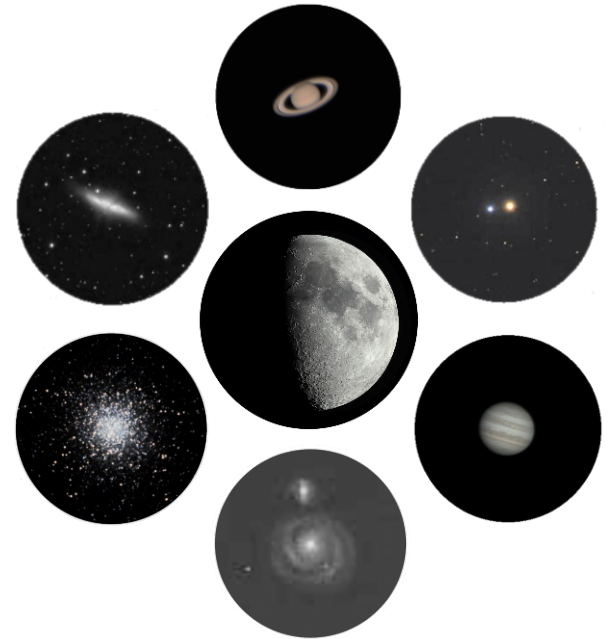
### Telescopes

- The 24-inch Boller & Chivens Cassegrain telescope.
- A purpose built 14.5 inch computer controlled Cassegrain telescope operated as an imaging telescope.
- A 16-inch Celestron Schmidt Cassegrain telescope .
- A 6-inch refracting telescope.
- Two 40-mm Coronado PST H-Alpha Solar telescopes.
- A 90-mm H-Alpha Solar telescope.
- A 14-inch Celestron EdgeHD GoTo computer controlled telescope.
- Several portable telescopes.

Elevation 836 ft.

91° 30' 0.8" W

## Views through our Telescopes



41° 53' 21.8" N