

# GRAND RAPIDS AMATEUR ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

**For new memberships only.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the information below as completely as possible. For *Family* memberships, please include all persons for whom membership is desired. **(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(If you have both Home & Cell phones, please indicate which one you would prefer as a contact number)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED:** (check type and include applicable dues)

ADULT (18 or older, \$40.00) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT (8-17 years old, \$25.00) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY (all members of one family, \$50.00)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Contributions greater than the minimum dues amount are considered a donation and are tax-deductable).

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** (from all Categories): .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about us?**  TV  Radio  Newspaper  Chaffee Planetarium

School  Friend  Internet  GRAAA Member  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**

GRAAA Treasurer  
c/o Jerry Persha  
PO Box 214  
Lowell, MI 49331

PLEASE MAKE CHECK or MONEY ORDER  
PAYABLE TO: **GRAAA**

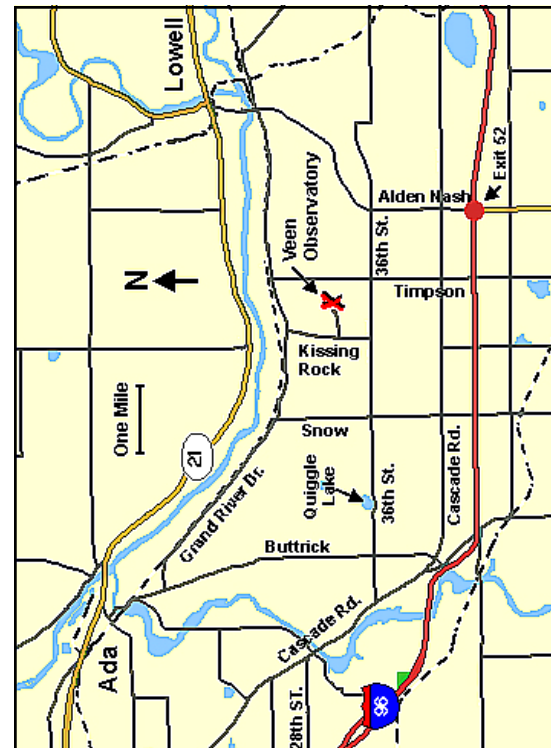
# PUBLIC NIGHTS

The Association invites the public to tour the Veen Observatory on the second and last Saturday of each month, April through October, but **ONLY IF THE SKY IS CLEAR**. There is a small admission charge that the GRAAA uses for maintenance and improvements of the building and equipment. The facilities are closed to the public at all other times except for groups, which can visit by appointment. Please visit the Group Information area of the GRAAA website for more information on appointments.

**STARWATCH**

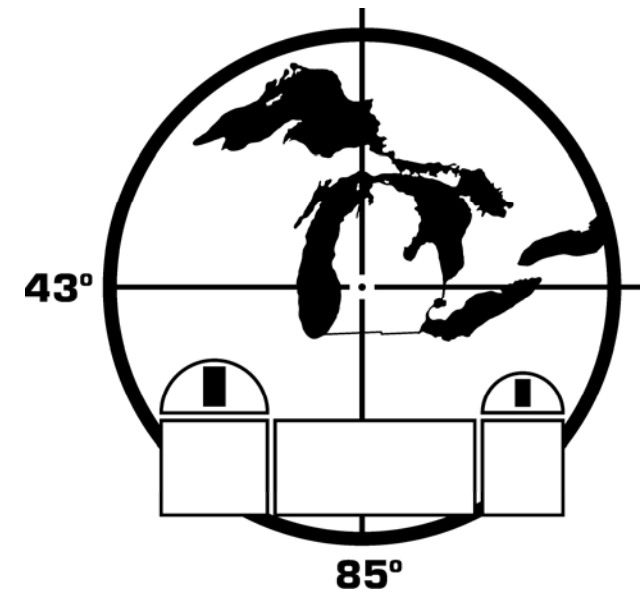
GRAAA 24hr. Information Service  
Call **616-897-7065** for upcoming GRAAA activities and status of Public Nights

Visit our website: [www.graaa.org](http://www.graaa.org)



# GRAND RAPIDS AMATEUR ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION

and the  
*James C. Veen*  
Observatory



3308 Kissing Rock Ave SE  
Lowell, Michigan 49331  
85°24'13" +42°54'16"

[www.graaa.org](http://www.graaa.org)

## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

Since 1955, the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association (GRAAA) has been a leader in the promotion of astronomy in West Michigan. The GRAAA welcomes members of all ages and interest levels, from the casual observer to the telescope owner who observes at every opportunity.



16-inch Jeffrey Borr Memorial Telescope

## MEETINGS

Everyone is invited to meetings of the GRAAA. Regular meetings are held each month and feature speakers on various topics of interest to amateur astronomers.

Most meetings are held at the Association's James C. Veen Observatory in Lowell Township. Some winter meetings are held in centrally located sites in Grand Rapids, and are announced in the GRAAA Newsletter and the Website.

## MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Anyone is welcome to participate in the many varied activities of the GRAAA. The only prerequisite to joining is an interest in astronomy and the desire to share that interest with others. The sky's the limit for your involvement with the GRAAA!

## TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- \* Adult members are persons 18 years of age and older
- \* Student members are persons 8 through 17 years of age.
- \* The entire family can become members of the GRAAA. Family memberships offer all the same privileges as individual memberships, but at a substantial savings.



14-inch James & Evelyn Marron Telescope

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

### Members receive:

- \* The opportunity to meet with other astronomy enthusiasts with similar interests and varying levels of expertise and to share your experiences with them.
- \* The opportunity to learn more about astronomy and to share your knowledge with fellow Association members and the public.
- \* The opportunity to learn observational techniques from experienced GRAAA members.
- \* The opportunity to attend monthly meetings featuring programs on a wide variety of astronomical subjects.
- \* The monthly journal/newsletter of the GRAAA, the ***Inside Orbit***.
- \* The chance to participate in various projects and assist visitors during Public Nights at the Observatory.
- \* The privilege of using the telescopes and facilities of the James C. Veen Observatory, upon the completion of the proper training sessions.
- \* The opportunity to learn astronomical imaging, using film or digital, with the telescopes at the Observatory.
- \* The opportunity to learn about a variety of telescopes and their features, including the many different designs and the accessories that can be used with them.
- \* Access to exclusive information on the Association's website.



## JAMES C. VEEN OBSERVATORY

The home of the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association is the James C. Veen observatory, located at 3308 Kissing Rock Ave near Lowell, Michigan. The observatory was designed and built by the members of the Association in the 1960's. It's named after the Association's co-founder, James C. Veen. It is among the most elaborate amateur-built astronomical facilities in the Midwest.

The Observatory houses several fully equipped optical telescopes, a meeting/presentation room, and an extensive astronomical research library.

Members use the facilities of the James C. Veen Observatory almost every clear night for observation and research.

*The GRAAA is a 501c3 non-profit educational and scientific organization dedicated to advancing the study of astronomy and promoting astronomy and science education to the community.*