



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 35 Number 2

February 2013

Next Meeting: Friday - February 22, 2013 - 8:00 PM - Kiwanis

Observatory Report

By Ron Kalinoski



Without the existence of technology, the event that will occur on February 15th would go unnoticed by every creature on Earth. Asteroid 2012 DA14 will pass within 20,000 miles of Earth.

That's pretty close; that's inside the orbit of geosynchronous satellites. Only the slightest deviation in orbit of the 45 meter rock would bring the asteroid into collision course with Earth and release energy equivalent to a 3 megaton nuclear blast. This event would be on the same order of magnitude as the impactor that created Meteor Crater in Arizona. Not even close to an extincator, but large enough to get world news coverage for many weeks or months. 2012 DA14 won't hit Earth on this orbit, but stirs our imagination of what could happen. I remember the impact of Shoemaker-Levy 9 into Jupiter during July 1994. Astronomers before the impact almost universally stated there would not be much to see. One astronomer predicted a "cosmic fizzle" while another made the analogy of a mosquito running into a battleship; still other astronomers thought the event would not even be visible in



Asteroid 2005 YU55 - As photographed by ACA member Jason Shinn in November 2011. A single thirty second exposure using a Canon Digital Rebel XT and Meade LXD-55 6" refractor.

large observatory telescopes. Well boy, they were wrong! All week I watched from Fitchville, Connecticut through my 10" telescope, viewing huge black blotches created by each impact; slowly coming into view as Jupiter rotated. I cannot express the excitement I felt watching this event. For a week, a series of 21 cometary fragments pounded Jupiter coinciding with absolutely pristine Connecticut skies. The most memorable impact was the "triple whammy"; three large impacts separated by about 10 hours, the time it takes Jupiter to rotate on its axis, thereby causing the fragments to

hit Jupiter in the same spot. What a sight! Well, 2012 DA14 won't put on a show as good as Shoemaker-Levy 9; it would have to hit Earth to do that. In fact, it won't even be visible from North America at closest approach. Singapore will have the best view at closest approach. Hopefully some Asian astronomers will capture a fleeting glimpse of the asteroid to share with the rest of the world.

*Article by Ron Kalinoski,
ACA Observatory Director.*

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Lou Poda

The ACA wishes to welcome our newest member:

Ronald Palcic

We look forward to seeing you at all Club functions!

January Treasurer's Report

By Glenn Cameron

1/1/2013 Through 1/31/2013

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Checking Beginning Balance | \$5,959.56 |
|----------------------------|------------|

Income

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Magazine Subscriptions | 66.95 |
|------------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Total Income | \$66.95 |
|---------------------|----------------|

Expenses

| | |
|--------|-------|
| Checks | 45.00 |
|--------|-------|

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Magazine Subscriptions | 66.95 |
|------------------------|-------|

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Total Expenses | \$111.95 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Income Less Expenses | \$45.00 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Checking Ending Balance | \$5,914.56 |
|-------------------------|------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Savings Beginning Balance | \$6,436.80 |
|---------------------------|------------|

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Earned Interest | 0.27 |
|-----------------|------|

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Savings Ending Balance | \$6,437.07 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Petty Cash Beginning Balance | \$47.11 |
|------------------------------|---------|

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|---------|------|
| Postage | 0.45 |
|---------|------|

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Petty Cash Ending Balance | \$46.66 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|

| | |
|------------|-------|
| Petty Cash | 47.11 |
|------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Savings | 6,436.80 |
|---------|----------|

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Checking | 5,959.56 |
|----------|----------|

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grand Total | \$12,398.29 |
|--------------------|--------------------|

Article by Glenn Cameron
ACA Treasurer.

SWAP & SHOP



For Sale: I believe I'm the second owner of this very clean **Takahashi NJP mount with Temma 2 goto**. I believe the specs are 5 arcsecond p-p PE (no PEC) and 60-65 pounds conservative capacity. I've never had it outside except in the observatory. It includes all standard accessories (three 14 pound painted counterweights, DC cable, PC cable, autoguider cable, 4 button handbox as in photo, fixed-height wood tripod) plus lots of purchased accessories - aftermarket Losmandy-compatible saddle, "beer can" counterweight bar extension, polar scope illuminator, Tak 24VDC power supply. I'll probably add items to the list as I think of them. This has been in the observatory for a few years and although it performs very well for me, it's time to stir things up in there and play with something different.

I will package VERY well and ship at buyer's expense (CON US only) but for the buyer who can and will travel to pick this up near Akron, Ohio I will throw in some more expensive accessories: a wheeled Scopeguard case and at least two more 14 pound counterweights. Between those bonus items and the shipping costs, that's a pretty good incentive! It's worth it to me to avoid the hassle of packaging and shipping. I won't ship the case under any circumstances but it'll be available for sale (pick up only) if it remains after the sale. Same for the extra counterweights.

Asking: \$5200 plus shipping for everything in the first list if shipped (Paypal only, please!), \$5200 and no shipping for both lists if picked up (Paypal or cash; \$100 discount for cash). Any telescopes or cameras shown in photos are NOT included.

Contact: John Crilly
Phone: 330-730-6924
Email: John@johnrcrilly.com



For Sale:
22mm Orion Epic ED-2 ED Eyepiece
25mm Orion Epic ED-2 ED Eyepiece
Asking: \$40 each or \$75 for both
Contact: Glenn Cameron
Phone: 330-737-1472
Email: glenn@cameronclan.org



For sale:
15mm Ultra-Wide Angle Eyepiece
Asking: \$40
Contact: Lew Snodgrass
Phone: 330-819-4886
Phone: 330-867-4800 Ask for Lew.
Email: chrply@aol.com

Advertize in the Swap n Shop!

Send a picture of your item and relevant information to the newsletter editor:
truemartian@aol.com



**WE NEED
YOUR
ARTICLES!**

PUBLISH YOUR ARTICLES AND IMAGES





THE NIGHT SKY NEWSLETTER IS LOOKING TO PUBLISH YOUR ARTICLES! SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, EXPERIENCES, STORIES, OPINIONS, LATEST ASTRO-IMAGES, AND ADVICE WITH YOUR FELLOW AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS.

ARTICLES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE SIXTH OF EACH MONTH. ARTICLES MUST BE RELEVANT TO OUR FORUM. ALL TEXT FILES SHOULD BE SAVED IN PLAIN .txt OR .rtf FORMAT TO MINIMIZE IMPORT PROBLEMS. ALL IMAGES MUST BE SAVED IN .jpg FORMAT. SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL TO:

truemartian@aol.com

THE ASTRONOMY CLUB OF AKRON

FEBRUARY 2013 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | Earth at Perihelion (Closest) at 5h UT. | | | |
| Last Quarter 13:57UT 3  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Moon at perigee (closest) at 12h UT. | 8 | 9 |
| New Moon 7:22UT 10  | 11 | 12 | 13 11 | 14 | 15 | 16 Mercury at greatest elongation. 21h UT (Evening) |
| First Quarter 20:30UT 17 6  | 18 Moon at apogee (farthest) at 6h UT. | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 ACA MEMBERSHIP MEETING (KIWANIS) 8:00p | 23 |
| 24 | Full Moon 20:28UT 25  | 26 | 27 | 28 | | |

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Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

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c/o Glenn Cameron
8019 Glendevan St. NW
Massillon, OH 44646-9018

Yes! I want to become a member of the Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Astronomy Club of Akron annual memberships renew in the month of May.

ADULT (ages 18 and older) ___\$30.00

JUNIOR (ages 12 to 17) _____ \$15.00

ADDITIONAL ADULT member ___\$15.00

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP _____ \$40.00

Visit us on the Web at www.acaoh.org,