



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

March 2024

ACA MEETING - Sunday, March 17th, 2024 at 2:00 PM

President's Column

By Cathy Loboda

Next ACA Meeting

The next ACA monthly meeting is scheduled for March 17th at 2:00 pm. Ron Kalinoski of Hoover-Price Planetarium at McKinley Presidential Library and Museum in Canton and ACA Observatory Director will present "Mirror Grinding – How to Make Your Own Telescope Mirror." The lecture covers rough grinding, fine grinding, polishing, correction to paraboloid, and mirror testing. All ACA meetings are held at Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron. Join us for an engaging presentation and discussion. Looking forward to seeing you on the 17th!

Club Elections

In preparation for the election of ACA officers, nomination committee chair Ron Kalinoski will present the slate of nominations to membership at the March meeting. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time. Voting will take place at the April membership meeting

Star Parties

As weather improves with the coming of spring, members are reminded to keep an eye on their email accounts for star party announcements. Observatory Director Ron Kalinoski sends announcements of upcoming star parties through email and the ACA website. Naturally, star parties are held weather

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Astronomy Club of Akron members have been visiting township community centers, libraries, and Boy Scout & Girl Scout group meeting halls to inform the public about the upcoming 2024 total solar eclipse on April 8th. Dean Philip, Earl Rodd, Robert Kinsey, and Ron Kalinoski have been leading the effort in this endeavor. Some of the places, the group has or will be giving solar eclipse presentations are Reed Memorial Library, Richfield Township Masonic Hall, Amazon Distribution Center, Cuyahoga Falls Rotary Club, Akron Summit Library (North Hill Branch), Streetsboro Township Community Center, and scout troops in New Franklin, Medina, and Cuyahoga Falls.

Photo right is at Reed Memorial Library, Ravenna, OH



OFFICERS 2022 — 2024

President: Cathy Loboda

- E-mail: president@acaoh.org

Vice President: Gary Smith

- E-mail: vice.president@acaoh.org

Treasurer: Dave Hartsook

- E-mail: treasurer@acaoh.org

Secretary:

- E-mail: secretary@acaoh.org

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer: Reece Davis

- E-mail: secretarytreasurer@acaoh.org

Observatory Director: Ron Kalinoski

- E-mail: observatory.director@acaoh.org

ACA Webmaster: Jeff Hudson

- E-mail: webmaster@acaoh.org

Publications Secretary: Glenn R. Cameron

- E-mail: newsletter.editor@acaoh.org

Trustee: Mike Sanders

- E-mail:

Trustee: Katie Adams

- E-mail: katiemarie1678@gmail.com

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

- E-mail: statutoryagent@acaoh.org



(President's Column continued)

permitting and the best opportunity for viewing could quickly change. Always check the ACA website before venturing out to a star party in the event weather conditions have prevented the planned star party from taking place.

Solar Eclipse

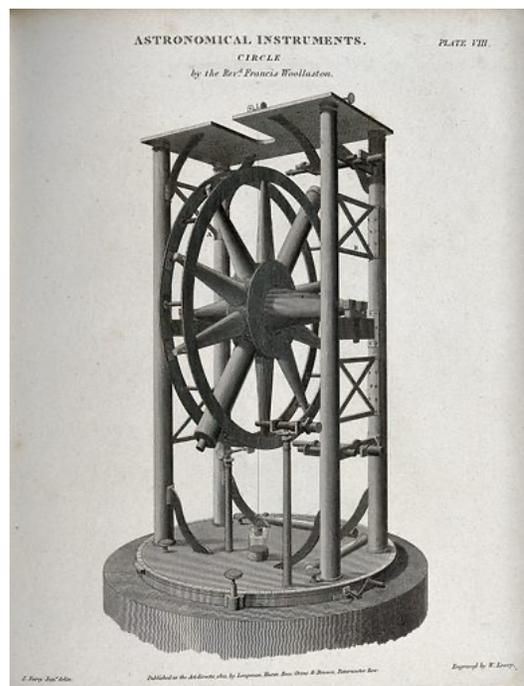
As the count down to the total solar eclipse on April 8th continues, please take time to plan for the event and how you will protect your eyes while viewing. ACA presenter Phil Creed provided a comprehensive list of resources and information for our membership. You can access the list on the ACA website or through this link: <https://www.acaoh.org/2024EclipseResources.pdf> May our skies be clear for this life changing event!

New Members

ACA extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

- Gary & Marty Hartman
- Chris Titus
- Elizabeth Hediger
- Jim Elshaw

ACA thanks you for your membership and interest in our club! We look forward to seeing you at future club events!



Meeting Minutes: February 18th, 2024

Submitted by Carol Spears on behalf of Secretary Marnie Sanders

The business meeting was called to order by President Cathy Loboda at 3:20 p.m.

Officers' Reports:

Vice President, Gary Smith: Reminded the group about the April 8th total eclipse, of the sun. Northeast Ohio is in the path of totality.

Secretary: Minutes are presented to members via the Night Sky Newsletter.

Treasurer Report, Dave Hartsook: Treasurer reports are presented to members via The Night Sky Newsletter.

There were no additions or corrections to the two reports.

Observatory Director, Ron Kalinoski: Announced that a limited supply of total eclipse viewing glasses were donated to the club by Dr. Jeffrey Woytack from NASA John Glenn Research Center, the speaker for the February 18th meeting. They are available for sale for \$1.00.

Observatory work that will be done soon:

1. Replacement of the focuser and the dew heater for the 5-inch refractor of the observatory telescope
2. Repair of the boards under the rails on which the roof of the building moves
3. Replacement of the paneling on the external west side of the observatory

The recent star parties were well-attended and revealed beautiful views of Jupiter and Uranus, the Great Orion Nebula, the Seven Sisters, Christmas Tree Cluster, open cluster M 37, and more.

The club continues to receive numerous requests for speakers about the total eclipse from outside organizations (e.g., libraries, Townships, businesses, community organizations such as the Rotary clubs). Flyers about the club's activities are handed out at these presentations. The members volunteering to speak at these organizations are:

Ron Kalinoski

Dean Philips

Robert Kinsey

Earl Rodd

Old Business:

Volunteers still needed to provide refreshments during membership meetings.

Donation for the Solar Eclipse 2024 T-Shirts brought the ACA \$112.00 in donation funds. The T-Shirts are available for pickup at the March 17th ACA public meeting.

The usual winter club social luncheon will be held later in the year during better weather. It will be held at the Galaxy Restaurant. Date will be decided at a later time and announced to members.

Club elections will be held Spring 2024. Those interested in running for office are instructed to contact Ron Kalinoski. The slate of nominations will be presented at the May meeting.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Observatory Director Report:

Member observations:

No report

Cathy Loboda adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.



2024 Membership Meeting Dates

By Ron Kalinoski

Hello Members. We have secured the following dates for 2024 membership meetings:

- January 21
- February 18
- March 17
- April 21
- May 19

- September 15
- October 20
- November 17

All meetings will start at 2:00pm.

We have the Kiwanis Civic Center reserved from 12pm to 5pm for set up and clean up.

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center

725 Portage Lakes Drive

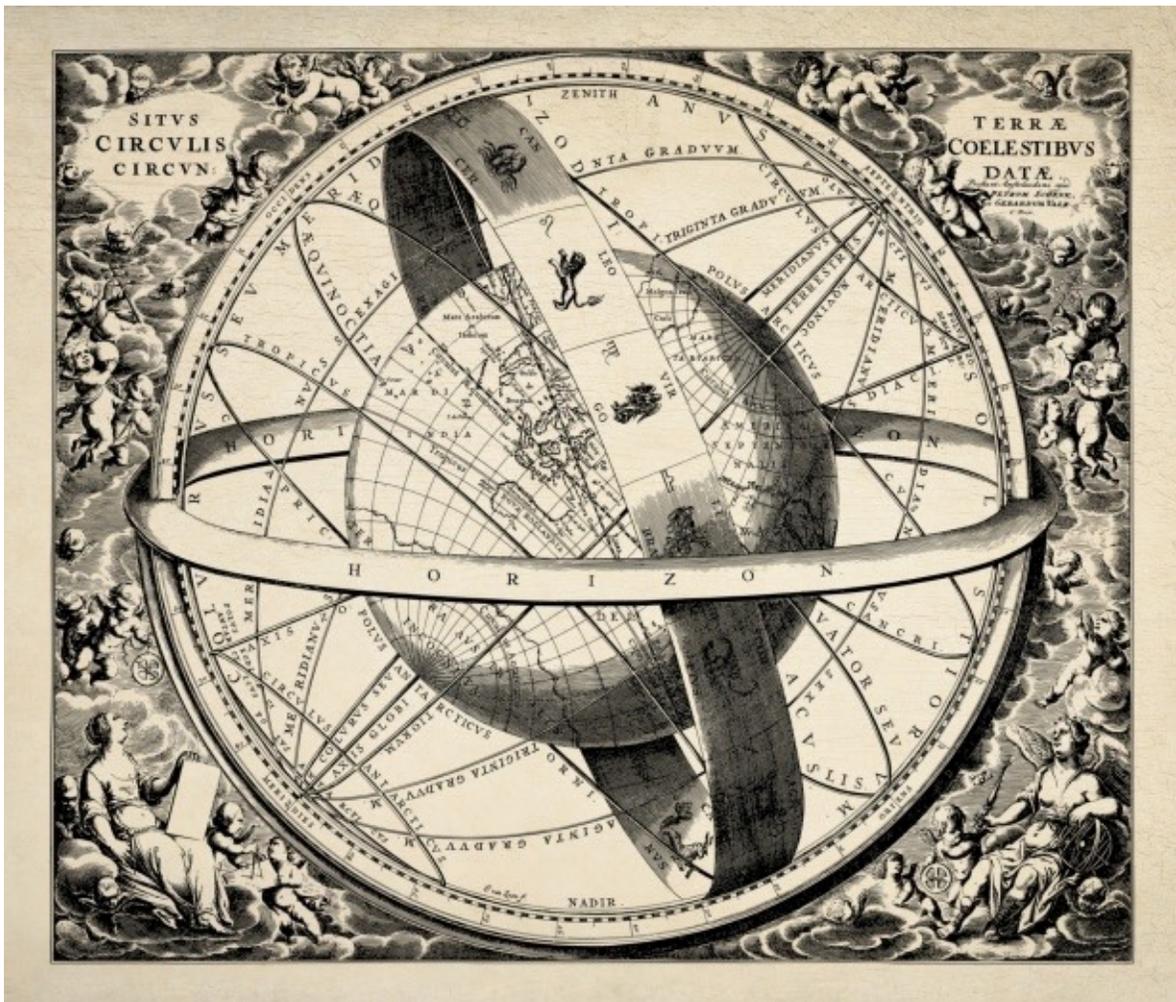
Akron, Ohio 44319

Member Meeting Video

By Glenn R. Cameron

The video of Dr. Jeffrey Woytack's talk on 2024-02-18 is available on YouTube at this link.

https://youtu.be/5g1tsGrJIBU?si=_T-K3nvfsk1i52iT



February 2024 ACA Treasurer's Report
By Dave Hartsook
3/2/2024

Checking Beginning Balance	\$2,237.67
Income	
Membership Dues Received	\$92.50
Donations	119.50
PayPal Net Fee/Charge	0.06
Total Income	<u>\$212.06</u>
Expenses	
Total Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>
Income Less Expenses	\$212.06
Checking Ending Balance	<u><u>\$2,449.73</u></u>
Savings Beginning Balance	\$1,968.96
Interest Income	\$0.01
Savings Ending Balance	<u><u>\$1,968.97</u></u>
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
No Activity	
Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
Grand Total	\$4,468.70

March Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
03	08:16	Antares 0.4°S of Moon
03	15:24	LAST QUARTER MOON
08	04:59	Mars 3.5°N of Moon
08	17:01	Venus 3.3°N of Moon
10	07:06	Moon at Perigee: 356895 km
10	09:00	NEW MOON
12	01:18	Moon at Ascending Node
14	01:02	Jupiter 3.6°S of Moon
15	02:54	Pleiades 0.4°N of Moon
17	04:11	FIRST QUARTER MOON
17	11:00	Neptune in Conj with Sun
17	17:00	Mercury at Perihelion
19	06:44	Pollux 1.5°N of Moon
19	17:00	Venus at Aphelion
20	03:07	Vernal Equinox
21	22:00	Venus 0.3°N of Saturn
22	04:46	Regulus 3.6°S of Moon
23	15:44	Moon at Apogee: 406292 km
24	22:00	Mercury at Grtst Elong: 18.7°E
25	07:00	FULL MOON
25	07:13	Pen. Lunar Eclipse; mag=0.956
26	04:07	Moon at Descending Node
26	19:40	Spica 1.4°S of Moon
30	14:24	Antares 0.3°S of Moon



April Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
02	03:15	LAST QUARTER MOON
06	03:51	Mars 2.0°N of Moon
06	09:20	Saturn 1.2°N of Moon: Occn.
07	16:39	Venus 0.4°S of Moon: Occn.
07	17:53	Moon at Perigee: 358850 km
08	12:20	Moon at Ascending Node
08	18:17	Total Solar Eclipse; mag=1.057
08	18:21	NEW MOON
10	19:00	Mars 0.4°N of Saturn
10	21:08	Jupiter 4.0°S of Moon
11	12:38	Pleiades 0.4°N of Moon
11	23:00	Mercury at Inferior Conj
15	13:47	Pollux 1.5°N of Moon
15	19:13	FIRST QUARTER MOON
18	11:14	Regulus 3.6°S of Moon
20	02:09	Moon at Apogee: 405625 km
22	07:00	Lyrid Meteor Shower
22	10:45	Moon at Descending Node
23	02:02	Spica 1.5°S of Moon
23	23:49	FULL MOON
26	20:00	Antares 0.3°S of Moon





Astronomy Club of Akron

2024 Activity Schedule

View Celestial Objects through the area's Largest Amateur Club Telescope

5031 Manchester Road, Akron, OH www.acaoh.org

Astronomy Club of Akron has been a distinguished northeast Ohio organization since 1949. The objective of the ACA is to promote the education of the public in the area of astronomy and related sciences through our public star parties and membership meetings.

STAR PARTIES: Portage Lakes State Park Observatory featuring a computerized 16 inch telescope

- Please join us for stargazing and educational activities. Our Star Parties are free and open to the public. Please arrive on time to avoid headlight distraction.
- For notice of “impromptu star parties”, send e-mail to ACAstarparty@att.net to request e-mail notification of our observing sessions.
- Events will be cancelled if skies are cloudy. Always check website for star party status two hours before event.
- This is an outdoor activity in an unheated environment. Nighttime temperatures drop rapidly, even during summer. A general rule of thumb is to dress for 15 degrees cooler than predicted nighttime low temperature.
- Please, ***No Smoking*** on observatory grounds. Smoke reacts with optical surfaces, damaging optical coatings.
- Please, no use of cell phones or tablets in observatory (to preserve night vision).

Membership Meetings: Free and open to the public featuring professional speakers

Meeting Place: Kiwanis Building

2024 Schedule:

January 21, 2024 2:00pm

Dr. Geoffrey Landis

NASA Glenn Research Center, Aerospace Engineer and Science Fiction Author

Sample Return from Titan Mission

Lecture covers the plans for a spacecraft to land on Saturn's Moon Titan and return a sample back to Earth. This is Out of This World Engineering!

February 18, 2024 2:00pm

Dr. Jeffrey Woytach

NASA Glenn Research Center, Aerospace Engineer

Artemis Program, Return to the Moon

Lecture covers NASA's plans for Humans to return to the Moon and have a permanent presence there.

March 17, 2024 2:00pm

Ron Kalinoski

McKinley Museum, Planetarian

Mirror Grinding – How to Make Your Own Telescope Mirror

Lecture covers rough grinding, fine grinding, polishing, correction to paraboloid, and mirror testing.

April 21, 2024 2:00pm

Gary Kader

Baldwin Wallace University, Director of Burrell Observatory and Lecturer

A Short History of Telling Time

Lecture covers how we tell time; including solar time, civil time, universal time, and coordinated time. It's a lot more complicated than you might think.

*** We hold unscheduled star parties when skies are clear. For an e-mail notification of impromptu star parties send a message to ACAstarparty@att.net to be added to the list. For private star parties (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Church Groups, School Groups, etc.) send a request to the same e-mail address.

Swap-n-Shop

Glenn Cameron

Email: glenn@cameronclan.org

- iOptron AZ Mount Pro with:
 - Go2Nova 8407 hand controller
 - Model FY1262000 AZ Mount Pro Li-Ion Battery Charger
- 12V car battery power cable
- Aluminum Hard Case
- iOptron Star Knobs
- iOptron MiniPier
- iOptron PowerWeight CW Battery with:
 - Model FY1441500 Battery Charger
- Tripod (I don't know what model it is but it was included from the seller when I bought it. I think it's an older iOptron tripod. The legs are 1.5" diameter. It seems like a cross between the iOptron SmartStar-A AZ/EQ and one of their field tripods.)

I'll post this on CloudyNights.com soon.

Email to ask questions or to set up a time to see the gear.

\$1,300.00



Swap-n-Shop

Freddy Huffman

Phone: 330-535-8009

Email: trusstube2@gmail.com

- 8" Dobsonian
- 8" SCT
- 6" SCT
- 6" Refractor
- 5" Refractor
- 100 mm Binoculars
- EQ Mount w/ dual axis tracking
- iOptron SkyTracker and tripod

Call to set up appointment to see if you are interested.

Thank you,

Freddy



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Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

c/o Glenn R. Cameron, Editor

The Astronomy Club of Akron
c/o Dave Hartsook
4174 Meadow Wood Lane
Uniontown, OH 44685-7717

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

Check one: New Membership
 Renewal

www.acaoh.org
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

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

Initial dues for New Members are prorated. If joining in Sep-Nov, pay full amount below; Dec-Feb pay 75%; Mar-May pay 50%; Jun-Aug pay 25%

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