



# The Night Sky

The Newsletter of  
The Astronomy Club of Akron

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

Volume 47 Number 4

April 2025

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**ACA MEETING - Sunday, April 27th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.**

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## President's Column

By Cathy Loboda

### Upcoming Meetings

**Next ACA Monthly Meeting Scheduled for April 27, 2025**

**PLEASE NOTE:** ACA's next membership meeting is Sunday, April 27th at 2:00 pm. The meeting location is the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron. Dr. Cyrus Taylor from Case Western Reserve University will present "Verification of the Standard Model of Particle Physics."

Dr. Taylor will discuss verification of the predictions of the Standard Model of Particle Physics. The Standard Model of Particle Physics classifies all known elementary particles and describes the electromagnetic force, strong force, weak force and

how those forces are conveyed. Hope to see you on the 27th! Meeting refreshments will be provided by Ron Kalinoski. Thanks, Ron!

### Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars now for future ACA events:

ACA Meeting, May 18, 2025

Gary Kader, Baldwin Wallace University, Director of Speaker: Burrell Observatory and Lecturer

Subject: Cosmic Distance Ladder

Description: This presentation offers discussion on the various methods called "standard candles" that astronomers use to determine the distances to celestial objects.

All ACA meetings are held at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron.

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## Honorary Membership Announcement

The Astronomy Club of Akron Executive Board has voted to give Mark Kochheiser Honorary Membership status. Mark has been a member since 1981 and has served as Publication Secretary and President of our organization. Mark has loved the night sky from an early age. One of his first astronomical experiences was looking at Saturn through his brother's home-made telescope. Mark's interest in astronomy was further elevated by watching Carl Sagan's "Cosmos Series" released in 1980. Mark was also inspired by his neighbor Earl Zimmerman who was the builder of ACA's 5-inch refractor. Mark worked with several ACA members to obtain approval for the construction of the ACA Observatory in Portage Lakes State Park which opened in the Autumn of 1988. Currently Mark is Statutory Agent where he keeps our non-profit 501c3 organization in compliance with Ohio state laws. **CONGRATULATIONS MARK!**



## OFFICERS 2024 — 2026

President: Cathy Loboda

- E-mail: [president@acaoh.org](mailto:president@acaoh.org)

Vice President: Gary Smith

- E-mail: [vice.president@acaoh.org](mailto:vice.president@acaoh.org)

Treasurer: Dave Hartsook

- E-mail: [treasurer@acaoh.org](mailto:treasurer@acaoh.org)

Secretary: Carol Spears

- E-mail: [secretary@acaoh.org](mailto:secretary@acaoh.org)

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:

- E-mail: [secretarytreasurer@acaoh.org](mailto:secretarytreasurer@acaoh.org)

Observatory Director: Ron Kalinoski

- E-mail: [observatory.director@acaoh.org](mailto:observatory.director@acaoh.org)

ACA Webmaster: Earl Rodd

- E-mail: [webmaster@acaoh.org](mailto:webmaster@acaoh.org)

Publications Secretary: Glenn R. Cameron

- E-mail: [newsletter.editor@acaoh.org](mailto:newsletter.editor@acaoh.org)

Trustee:

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

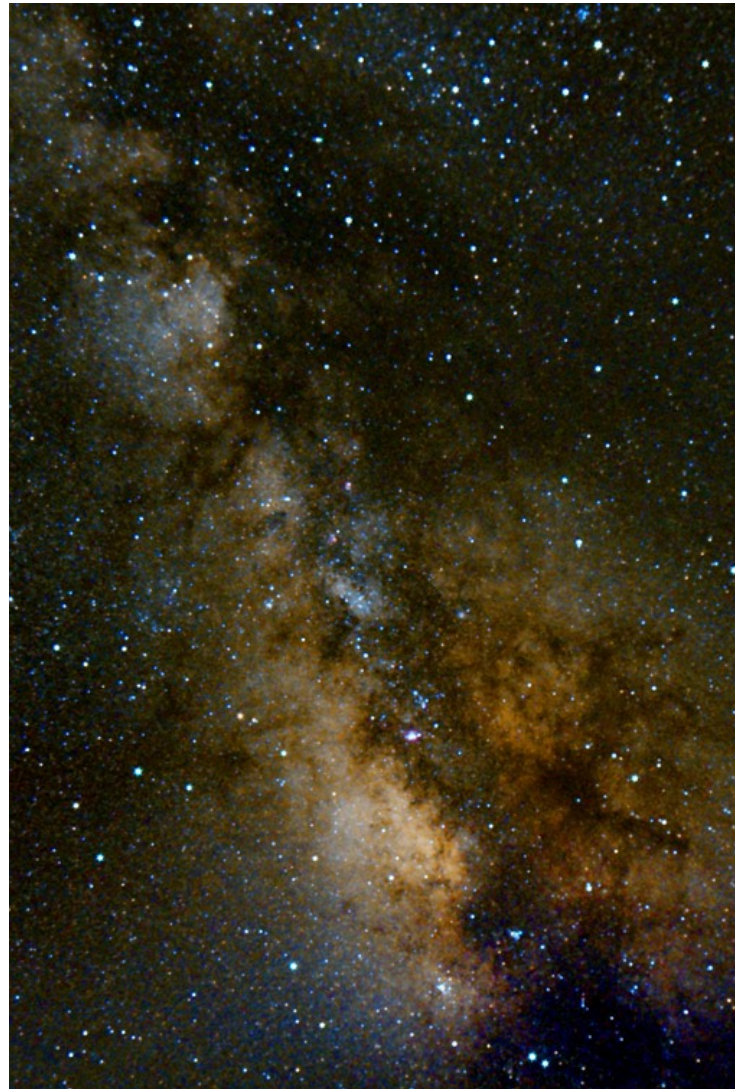
- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

- E-mail: [statutoryagent@acaoh.org](mailto:statutoryagent@acaoh.org)





## Meeting Minutes: March 16, 2025

### By Secretary Carol Spears

**Meeting called to order:** By President Cathy Laboda at 2:12 p.m.

#### Officers' Reports:

##### Vice President, Gary Smith:

No report.

##### Secretary Report, Carol Spears:

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.

##### Refreshments:

Thanks to Cathy Laboda and Ella Betka for the refreshments for today's meeting.

##### Old Business:

None

#### New Business:

Next month April 27th (fourth Sunday) for the public/member meeting due to the Easter holiday.

Discussion occurred about possible dates for the ACA Summer picnic at Old Portage Lakes State Park Shelter. July 20 or August 17, both Sundays, were recommended. Secretary Carol Spears will inquire about the availability on those dates and cost and report at the April meeting.

#### Observatory Director Report, Ron Kalinoski:

Have had many star parties in the last several weeks due to clear skies and opportunities for good views of several planets and Orion Nebula.

#### Member observations:

Earl Rudd noted he had received an email about a dark sky place for astronomy viewing on Beaver Island in Lake Michigan.

#### Member inquiry:

No Member Inquiries.

**Meeting adjourned:** By President Cathy Laboda at 3:20 p.m.



**March 2025 ACA Treasurer's Report**  
**By Dave Hartsook**  
**4/2/2025**

<b>Checking Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,307.70</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Transfers from Savings	\$ 1,200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Annual Insurance Premium	\$ (925.00)
Speaker Honorarium- March 2025 ACA Meeting	\$ (100.00)
Reimburse Obsy Director- 243 copies of Spring 2025 Activity Schedule to Main Library	\$ (58.28)
Reimburse Obsy Director- water, creamer, and cookies for March 2025 ACA Meeting	\$ (13.14)
Reimb Obsy Director- new microphone for ACA Meeting Speaker Presentations	\$ (190.22)
Reimb Obsy Director- rock salt for Observatory sidewalk areas	\$ (10.63)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$ (1,297.27)</u>
<b>Income Less Expenses and Transfers</b>	\$ (97.27)
<b>Checking Ending Balance</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,210.43</u></u>
<b>Savings Beginning Balance</b>	
<b>\$ 2,969.20</b>	
Transfers to checking	\$ (1,200.00)
Interest Income	\$ 0.02
<b>Savings Ending Balance</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,769.22</u></u>
<b>Petty Cash Beginning Balance</b>	
<b>\$ 50.00</b>	
No Activity	
<b>Petty Cash Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,029.65</b>



# Astronomy Club of Akron

## 2025 Activity Schedule

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

5031 Manchester Road, Akron, OH    [www.acaoh.org](http://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 public 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](mailto: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).

**Public Meetings:** Free and open to the public featuring professional speakers

**Meeting Place:** Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center  
725 Portage Lakes Drive    Akron, OH

### **2025 Spring Schedule:**

**February 16, 2025 2:00pm**

**Jeffrey Woytach, NASA Glenn Research Center**

#### **OSIRIS-Rex and DART Missions**

This presentation covers two NASA missions. OSIRIS-REx is an asteroid sample return to Earth endeavor and DART investigates the possibility of deflecting an asteroid by a kinetic impactor. Jeffrey Woytach will explain how these missions were executed and the successes of each mission.

**March 16, 2025 2:00pm**

**Dr. Donald Terndrup, Ohio State University**

#### **Astronomy in the Era of Giant Surveys**

This talk features the challenges faced in an upcoming sky survey by a giant collaboration of astronomers including Dr. Terndrup, that wants to understand quasars and the evolution of black holes.

**April 27, 2025 2:00pm**

**Dr. Cyrus Taylor, Case Western Reserve University**

#### **Verification of the Standard Model of Particle Physics**

Dr. Taylor will discuss verification of the predictions of the Standard Model of Particle Physics. The Standard Model of Particle Physics classifies all known elementary particles and describes the electromagnetic force, strong force, weak force and how those forces are conveyed.

**May 18, 2025 2:00pm**

**Gary Kader, Baldwin Wallace University, Director of Burrell Observatory and Lecturer**

#### **Cosmic Distance Ladder**

Gary will discuss the various methods called “standard candles” that astronomers use to determine the distances to celestial objects.

\*\*\* 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](mailto: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.

## April Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
01	15:28	Pleiades 0.6°S of Moon
04	21:15	FIRST QUARTER MOON
05	11:46	Pollux 2.0°N of Moon
05	14:04	Mars 2.2°S of Moon
08	06:51	Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
10	07:00	Mercury 2.1°N of Saturn
10	14:56	Moon at Descending Node
12	19:22	FULL MOON
12	20:39	Spica 0.3°N of Moon
13	17:48	Moon at Apogee: 406295 km
16	17:00	Mars @ Aphelion: 1.66606 AU
16	17:19	Antares 0.4°N of Moon
20	20:36	LAST QUARTER MOON
21	14:00	Mercury at Grtst Elong: 27.4°W
22	08:00	Lyrid Meteor Shower
24	20:21	Venus 2.4°N of Moon
24	21:23	Moon at Ascending Node
24	23:15	Saturn 2.3°S of Moon
25	20:05	Mercury 4.4°S of Moon
27	11:15	Moon at Perigee: 357119 km
27	14:31	NEW MOON
28	14:00	Venus 3.7°N of Saturn
29	01:35	Pleiades 0.5°S of Moon



## May Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
02	19:02	Pollux 2.1°N of Moon
03	18:12	Mars 2.1°S of Moon
04	08:52	FIRST QUARTER MOON
04	21:00	Eta-Aquarid Meteor Shower
05	12:58	Regulus 2.0°S of Moon
07	18:44	Moon at Descending Node
10	02:43	Spica 0.4°N of Moon
10	19:49	Moon at Apogee: 406245 km
12	11:56	FULL MOON
13	23:10	Antares 0.3°N of Moon
17	20:00	Uranus in Conjunction with Sun
20	06:59	LAST QUARTER MOON
22	03:05	Moon at Ascending Node
22	12:51	Saturn 2.8°S of Moon
23	18:52	Venus 4.0°S of Moon
25	20:37	Moon at Perigee: 359023 km
26	22:02	NEW MOON
29	23:00	Mercury at Superior Conj
30	04:13	Pollux 2.3°N of Moon
31	08:00	Mercury at Perihelion
31	21:00	Venus at Grtst Elong: 45.9°W
30	00:26	Moon at Perigee: 358127 km





## Swap-n-Shop

Glenn Cameron

Email: [glenn@cameronclan.org](mailto:glenn@cameronclan.org)

- iOptron AZ Mount Pro with:
  - Go2Nova 8407 hand controller
  - Model FY1262000 AZ Mount Pro Li-Ion Battery Charger
  - Aluminum hard case
- 12V car battery power cable
- Aluminum Hard Case
- iOptron PowerWeight CW Battery with Model FY1441500 Battery Charger

The tripod and pier extension are not included.

It's posted on [CloudyNights.com](http://CloudyNights.com) and my user account is grcameron. Email to ask questions or to set up a time to see the gear.

\$700.00



## Swap-n-Shop

Freddy Huffman

Phone: 330-535-8009

Email: [trusstube2@gmail.com](mailto: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



## Swap-n-Shop

Nick Mihiylov

### Meade 12" LX200 ACF w/ UHTC optical coatings

Purchased new November 2010 and sent directly to Dr. Clay Sherrod for Super Charging – works great – GOTO's are right on.

Included:

- Meade 12" Dust Cap
- Star Lite Feather Touch® Rotatable 2.0" Diameter Dual Speed 1.5" Draw Tube Travel, Brake, and Compression Ring
- ADM MDS – OTA Counter Weight ( 1 only not 2 as shown in pictures)
- ADM MDS - extra Dovetail Bar w/curved Radius Blocks
- Televue Everbrite Satin 2" diagonal, w/ insert for 1.25" eyepieces
- Meade 26mm Plossl
- Astro-Zap 12" Dew Shield (Black)
- Astro-Zap Dew Shield Cap
- JMI Wheeley Bars Large Universal Size w/Battery Pack Holder Tray
- Cen-Tech 3in1 Portable Power Pack with Power Cord

**All in VERY GOOD condition – complete set-up, all you need are eyepieces.**

Price: \$2,600

Contact: Nick Mihiylov

Phone: (330)760-0746

Email: nmihylov@aol.com





## Dark Sky Notice

### From email forwarded to webmaster Earl Rodd

Hello, fellow skywatchers! I know you're looking for dark places, and I'd just like to throw one at you. Let me add, I do NOT work for the Chamber of Commerce or tourism bureau, but I am lucky enough to be a camp host there, also promoting astronomy and dark skies.

Last year, DSI (formerly IDA) designated Beaver Island, MI USA as an International Dark Sky Sanctuary. There are no lights at all in the Sanctuary unless you bring them, and mostly very few even outside the Sanctuary across the 55 square mile island, including the harbor town of St. James. You do have to get there by boat or plane. Vehicles require a reservation, as far ahead as possible, to

get over on the ferry, a two-hour ride out of Charlevoix, MI. For more details, go to <https://darksky.org/places/beaver-island-state-wildlife-research-area/>, and for general visitors info see [beaverisland.org](http://beaverisland.org).

I've been fortunate to be involved with the Dark Sky Project, progenitor of the Sanctuary, since 2020, and landing the camp host gig in my retirement (2022) at the best spot for the often-seen aurora borealis. Come on up and visit! You don't have to camp; there's a variety of local motels and AirBnB/VRBO as well as all basic amenities. Feel free to contact me if checking out the links above leave you wanting more information. I'll be on-island from mid-May through mid-October 2025.

Tony Miller  
Ottoville, OH / Beaver Island, MI  
[Skygawker@hotmail.com](mailto:Skygawker@hotmail.com)



# ***The Night Sky***

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](http://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](http://www.acaoh.org)