



# The Night Sky

The Newsletter of  
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 47 Number 2

February 2025

**ACA MEETING - Sunday, February 16th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.**

## President's Column

**By Cathy Loboda**

### Upcoming Meetings

ACA's next membership meeting is Sunday, February 16th at 2:00 pm. The meeting location is the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron. Speaker Jeffrey Woytach from NASA Glenn Research Center will present a talk on the OSIRIS-Rex and DART Missions. The OSIRIS-Rex mission was an endeavor to bring an asteroid

sample back to earth and the DART mission investigated the possibility of deflecting an asteroid by a kinetic impactor. Woytach will explain how these missions were executed and the successes of each mission. Hope to see you on the 16th! Meeting refreshments will be provided by Glenn Cameron. Thanks, Glenn!

### Members Winter Social

ACA members and family gathered at the Galaxy Restaurant on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to enjoy the Galaxy's Sunday Buffet with friends. The event was well  
**(Continued on page 3)**

## Annual Winter Social by Carol Spears



Pictured in photo from left to right, front row: Inta Huffman, Diane Rodd, Gail Spears, Carol Spears, Gary Smith, Cathy Hartsook, and Nicole Hale. Back row: Freddy Huffman, Noah Carter, Robert Folk Jr., Dave Hartsook, Earl Rodd, Gary Peters, Stuart Clary, Dean Philips, and Ron Kalinoski

**Astronomy Club of Akron hosted their annual Winter Social at Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth, OH on February 2nd**

## 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

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Secretary: Carol Spears

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Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:

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Trustee: Mike Sanders

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Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

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## Renewed Members

ACA extends a warm welcome to renewed members:

- Susan & James Falkman family

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



## (Continued from page 1)

attended and the food offering at this buffet never disappoints. As they say, “good friends and good food make for a good time!”

### Thank You

The ACA Board and members want to thank Ron Kalinoski, Ron Smith, Jim Watkins for their efforts in purchasing a microphone system for our ACA meetings. A special thank you goes to Jim for saving funds by lending ACA his speaker. I know our presenters and audience appreciate this! As a reminder, when approved by the Board, membership dues are used for improving and updating all equipment used by ACA to further its mission.

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## Meeting Minutes: January 19th, 2025

### Submitted by Secretary Carol Spears

**Meeting called to order:** By president Cathy Loboda at 3:19 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.

Cathy introduced two guests from the Richland Astronomical Society in Bellville OH, Michael and Delores Malay. They spoke about their club and the Astronomical League, which is a national nonprofit that functions regionally.

Thanks to Earl Rodd for the refreshments for today's meeting.

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## Kent State University Planetarium News

### By Glenn R. Cameron

Professor of physics, Robert “Bo” Polak, at Kent State University has resumed operation of the university's planetarium. They are now running public shows, presented by undergraduate students. The next two shows are on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. All are welcome. You can RSVP Bo at [rpolak@kent.edu](mailto:rpolak@kent.edu) or call him at 330-672-2246.

## Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars now for future ACA events:

ACA Meeting, March 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Dr. Donald Terndrup from The Ohio State University will present “Astronomy in the Era of Giant Surveys.” The talk will feature the challenges Dr. Terndrup and fellow astronomers face in an upcoming sky survey that seeks understanding of quasars and the evolution of black holes.

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

**Old Business:** The club's membership Winter Social is scheduled to take place at the Galaxy Restaurant, 201 Park Centre Drive, Wadsworth, for the Sunday Buffet on February 2 at noon.

**New Business:** Thanks to Ron Kalinoski, Jim Watson and Gary Smith for the new microphone system for the membership/public meetings. The 2025 activity schedule for the winter/spring is published on the ACA website. Thanks also to Earl Rudd for many recent updates to the ACA website.

#### Observatory Director Report, Ron Kalinoski:

Look in newsletter for updates to the club's resources, such as the updated moon calendar. Weather recently has been not good for star parties.

**Member observations:** There were no member observations.

**Member inquiry:** No member inquiries.

**Meeting adjourned:** President Cathy Loboda adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

**January 2025 ACA Treasurer's Report**  
**By Dave Hartsook**  
**2/1/2025**

<b>Checking Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,292.98</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Dues	\$ 130.00
Paypal fee calc overage	\$ 0.20
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 130.20</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Speaker Honorarium for January ACA Meeting	\$ (50.00)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (50.00)</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses and Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 80.20</b>
<b>Checking Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,373.18</b>
<b>Savings Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,969.15</b>
Interest Income	\$ 0.03
<b>Savings Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,969.18</b>
<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>\$ 4,392.36</b>



More Annual Winter Social Photos by Carol Spears





# 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.

## February Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
01	15:27	Venus 2.3°N of Moon
01	17:06	Moon at Ascending Node
01	21:43	Moon at Perigee: 367457 km
05	03:02	FIRST QUARTER MOON
06	01:43	Pleiades 0.5°S of Moon
09	07:00	Mercury at Superior Conj
09	14:36	Mars 0.8°S of Moon: Occn.
10	00:19	Pollux 2.1°N of Moon
12	08:53	FULL MOON
12	18:21	Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
15	01:53	Moon at Descending Node
17	07:01	Spica 0.3°N of Moon
17	20:11	Moon at Apogee: 404882 km
19	13:00	Venus at Perihelion
20	12:33	LAST QUARTER MOON
21	03:21	Antares 0.4°N of Moon
27	19:45	NEW MOON
28	23:03	Mercury 0.4°N of Moon: Occn.



## March Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
01	00:40	Moon at Ascending Node
01	16:18	Moon at Perigee: 361967 km
04	09:00	Mercury at Perihelion
05	07:32	Pleiades 0.6°S of Moon
06	11:32	FIRST QUARTER MOON
08	01:00	Mercury at Grtst Elong: 18.2°E
08	19:27	Mars 1.7°S of Moon
09	06:06	Pollux 2.0°N of Moon
12	01:07	Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
12	05:00	Saturn in Conj with Sun
14	01:55	FULL MOON
14	01:59	Total Lunar Eclipse; mag=1.178
14	08:45	Moon at Descending Node
16	14:16	Spica 0.3°N of Moon
17	11:37	Moon at Apogee: 405754 km
19	17:00	Neptune in Conj with Sun
20	04:02	Vernal Equinox
20	10:58	Antares 0.5°N of Moon
22	06:30	LAST QUARTER MOON
22	20:00	Venus at Inferior Conjunction
24	15:00	Mercury at Inferior Conj
28	11:29	Moon at Ascending Node
29	05:47	Partial Solar Eclipse mag=0.938
29	05:58	NEW MOON
29	14:29	Mars 3.9°S of Pollux
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



## ACA Co-sponsor event with Notre Dame Club of Akron

### By Carol Spears

The Astronomy Club of Akron is co-sponsoring an exciting event, the 2025 Annual Hesburgh Lecture, with the Notre Dame Club of Akron on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at Hoban High School. Dr. Clive Neal, Notre Dame Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences will present a program titled: **Establishing a permanent Human Presence on the Moon: Science Fiction or Science Fact?**

DATE/TIME: **February 20th arrive 6:00-6:15pm** (for the FREE Pasta Dinner); Hesburgh talk begins at 7:00pm

LOCATION: Archbishop **Hoban High School** (Holy Cross Room)

COST: FREE --- just bring a dessert to share! Also (optional) bring school supplies to be donated to an inner-city Akron grade school.

RSVP: [CLICK HERE to RSVP](#) as soon as possible but no later than **February 16**



## Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences

### Contact

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[neal.1@nd.edu](mailto:neal.1@nd.edu)

PHONE

574-631-8328

OFFICE

106D Cushing Hall

### Areas of Interest

My research uses petrology, geochemistry, and more recently geophysics to investigate the origin and evolution of the Moon and large igneous provinces, i.e., "supervolcanoes." In recent years I have become more active in human space exploration, primarily on the Moon, but with the goal of getting humans further out into the Solar System. Current research areas include:

- Human exploration of the Moon
- Origin and Evolution of the Moon
- Lunar Basalt Petrogenesis through Crystal Stratigraphy
- Formation of Impact Melts
- Geophysical Instrumentation and Investigations of the Moon
- Origin and Evolution of Large Igneous Provinces
- Evaluation of lunar resources and utilization

### Websites

[Prof. Clive Neal](#)

### Education

Ph.D, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 1986

B.S., Geology, University of Leicester, United Kingdom, 1982



**HAVE YOU SEEN  
THE STARS TONIGHT?**

**TEXAS STAR PARTY, INC.'S  
TSP 2025 STAR PARTY**

**"The Premier Amateur Astronomy Event"**

**Prude Guest Ranch, Fort Davis, Texas**

**April 20 to 27, 2025**

**For additional information visit our website  
<https://texasstarparty.org> or contact [tsp@texasstarparty.org](mailto:tsp@texasstarparty.org)**

**Book your TSP 2025 attendance online at <https://texasstarparty.org/book/>**



# ***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)