



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 47 Number 1

January 2025/December 2024

ACA MEETING - Sunday, November 17th, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

President's Column

By Cathy Loboda

Best Wishes

Your ACA Board sends you and your loved ones best wishes for the New Year! We hope you took time to relax and spend precious time with family and friends during the holiday season. We also hope 2025 brings good health, happiness, and prosperity to all!

Upcoming Meetings

ACA's next membership meeting is Sunday, January 19th at 2:00 pm. The meeting location is the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron. Speaker Phil Creed will present "The Newtonian Telescope," a talk on the Newtonian design, history, current and future trends, and a demonstration on the collimation of

Newtonian optics. Hope to see you on the 19th! Meeting refreshments will be provided by Earl Rodd. Thanks, Earl!

Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars now for future ACA events:

Members Winter Social at the Galaxy Restaurant, February 2, 2025 at 12:00 pm, 201 Park Center Drive, Wadsworth.

ACA Meeting, February 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

Jeffrey Woytach, NASA Aerospace Engineer, presents "OSIRIS-REx and DART Missions". The presentation covers two NASA missions: OSIRIS-REx attempts the return of an asteroid sample to Earth and DART investigates the possibility of deflecting an asteroid by a kinetic impactor. All ACA meetings are held at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron.



OFFICERS 2024 — 2026

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: Carol Spears

- E-mail: secretary@acaoh.org

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:

- 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: position vacant

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

- E-mail: statutoryagent@acaoh.org

New Members

ACA extends a warm welcome to new members:

- Fred Antoon & family
- Greta Leas

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



Meeting Minutes: November 17th, 2024

Submitted by Secretary Carol Spears

Meeting called to order: By president Cathy Loboda at 3:38 p.m.

Officers' Reports:

Vice President, Gary Smith: Wishing everyone a happy holiday. No Meeting in December.

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.

Thanks to Carol Spears for the refreshments for today's meeting.

Old Business: None reported.

New Business: Cathy reviewed to the members the following two proposed amendments to update the Bylaws:

Article II--Membership, Section 2, last paragraph. change to permit the ACA Honorary Members to hold office, either elective or appointive.

Article VII—Executive Board, Section 4, change to read that the Board shall meet not less than twice a year.

Prior to the vote the Board President inquired if any member wanted to vote on either proposal separately; no member asked for separate votes.

Members voted to accept both of the amendments to the Bylaws as presented.

The club's Winter Social was scheduled to take place at the Galaxy Restaurant, 201 Park Centre Drive, Wadsworth, for the Sunday Buffet on February 2, 2025.

Observatory Director Report, Ron Kalinoski:

Maintenance completed at the observatory (see Newsletter for details). Repairs on rebuilding the boards under the rail in the roof roll off area till Spring. Weeding and other landscaping work was done.

Member observations: There were no member observations.

Member inquiry: No member inquiries.

Meeting adjourned: President Cathy Loboda adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.



Observatory Report

By Ron Kalinoski

There have been some changes at our observatory. We replaced our Orion wide field telescope with a TeleVue TV102. The TV102 provides a little longer focal length that enables us to achieve more magnification for objects like Herschel's Double Cluster and Andromeda Galaxy. Yet, it still gives us a wide 3.3 degree field of view when paired with Meade's 4000 Series 56 mm eyepiece; just perfect for viewing Pleiades. The TV102 has roughly the same diameter objective as the Orion 100 mm, but the optics are superior. The TV102 is now mounted piggyback on our 16-inch observatory telescope.

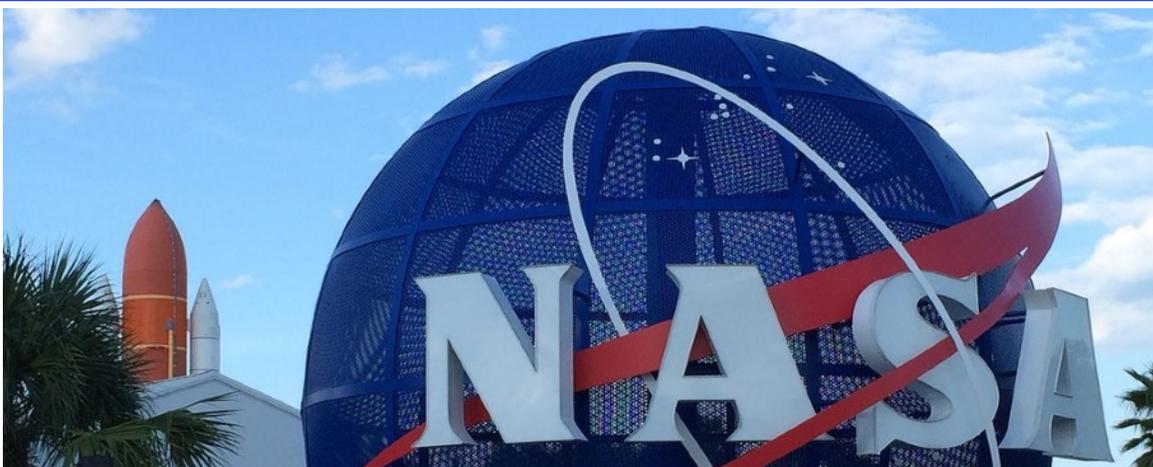
Now is a great time to view the planets. Venus, Saturn, Jupiter, and Mars are all visible in the night sky. Around January 25th, those planets will be visible in the evening sky all at the same time, stretching northeast to southwest. Jupiter is well-placed on the ecliptic that positions it very high in the sky allowing magnificent views through the telescope with minimum atmospheric distortion.

You may have noticed that our website monthly Moon Calendar ran out at the end of 2024. Dave Jessie was instrumental in creating those monthly calendars from 2009 to 2024. We had many requests from around the world asking to use the monthly calendars as well as compliments on their beauty as being one of the finest Moon Calendars available on the internet. Well, thanks to Niladri Kar, we have a beautiful continuation of our Moon Calendar tradition. Niladri is a highly capable individual, a man of multiple talents. Astronomy Club of Akron is lucky to have him as a member.

Niladri wrote computer code that pulled data from NASA's website to generate the 2025 Moon Calendar. Not only does the Niladri's Moon Calendar show the Lunar phase each day of the month, but it also shows Lunar Libration, all presented in the familiar format we are accustomed to seeing. Please check out ACA 2025 Moon Calendar now posted on our website and please thank Niladri when you see him for his talents in generating these monthly calendars.

Astronomy Club of Akron is also blessed to have Earl Rodd as a member. Earl volunteered to help our organization with our website. Earl has been keeping our website up to date with ever changing information. In addition, Earl has created an interactive area at the top of our website titled "Current Information". This area can uniquely be controlled by cell phone to provide immediate updates to members and the public. This is very helpful if we need to cancel a star party due to changing weather conditions. Please thank Earl when you see him for his fantastic work on our website.

This month ACA Board will meet for its bi-annual meeting. One of the items we'll be discussing is the 2025 Observatory Report. This year we would like to purchase two dew heater bands for the TV102; one band for the objective and one band for the eyepiece. Also in the proposed budget will be a TeleVue 12 mm or 13 mm eyepiece for the 5-inch refractor. This eyepiece will provide higher magnification for planetary observations. The board will discuss the observatory budget and vote to approve or reject it.





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

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: **Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic**
725 Portage Lakes Drive Akron, Ohio

2025 Winter-Spring Schedule:

January 19, 2025 2:00pm
Phil Creed – ACA Guest Speaker
The Newtonian Telescope

Phil Creed's talk will cover the basics of the Newtonian telescope design, history, current and future trends, and a live demonstration of the collimation of the Newtonian telescope optics.

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 incoming asteroid by kinetic impactor. Jeffrey Woytach will explain how these missions were executed and the successes of each mission.

March 16, 2025 2:00pm To be announced

April 27, 2025 2:00pm
Dr. Cyrus Taylor – Case Western Reserve University
The Standard Model of Particle Physics Verification

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

May 18, 2025 2:00pm
Dr. Donald Terndrup – Ohio State University
To be announced

*** 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.

November 2024 ACA Treasurer's Report
By Dave Hartsook
12/2/2024

Checking Beginning Balance	\$ 2,738.93
Income	
Membership Dues	\$ 240.00
Donations	\$ 20.00
Paypal fee calc overage	\$ 0.34
Total Income	\$ 260.34
Expenses	
Speaker Honorarium for October ACA Meeting	\$ (50.00)
Transfer funds from Checking to Savings Account	\$ (1,000.00)
Total Expenses	\$ (1,050.00)
Income Less Expenses and Transfers	\$ (789.66)
Checking Ending Balance	\$ 1,949.27
Savings Beginning Balance	
Savings Beginning Balance	\$ 1,969.11
Interest Income	\$ 0.02
Transfer funds from Checking to Savings Account	\$ 1,000.00
Savings Ending Balance	\$ 2,969.13
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$ 50.00
No Activity	
Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$ 50.00
Grand Total	\$ 4,968.40

December 2024 ACA Treasurer's Report
By Dave Hartsook
1/3/2025

Checking Beginning Balance	\$ 1,949.27
Income	
Membership Dues	\$ 30.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 30.00</u>
Expenses	
Speaker Honorarium for November ACA Meeting	\$ (50.00)
Reimb Observatory Director for 9.15.24 ACA Mtg creamer, cookies, and 3 jack plug for obsy	\$ (53.67)
Reimb Observatory Director for observatory maintenance materials on 10.28.24 Maintenance Day	\$ (238.98)
Reimb Observatory Staff Mbr N. Kar for Dew Heater system for 5" Zimmerman Refractor	\$ (343.64)
Total Expenses	<u>\$ (686.29)</u>
Income Less Expenses and Transfers	\$ (656.29)
Checking Ending Balance	<u><u>\$ 1,292.98</u></u>
Savings Beginning Balance	\$ 2,969.13
Interest Income	\$ 0.02
Savings Ending Balance	<u><u>\$ 2,969.15</u></u>
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$ 50.00
No Activity	
Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$ 50.00
Grand Total	\$ 4,312.13

January Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
03	10:24	Venus 1.4°N of Moon
03	10:00	Quadrantid Meteor Shower
04	09:00	Earth at Perihelion: 0.98333 AU
04	12:18	Saturn 0.7°S of Moon: Occn.
05	14:46	Moon at Ascending Node
06	18:56	FIRST QUARTER MOON
07	18:34	Moon at Perigee: 370173 km
09	20:01	Pleiades 0.3°S of Moon
09	23:00	Venus at Greatest Elong: 47.2°E
13	16:45	Pollux 2.1°N of Moon
13	17:27	FULL MOON
13	22:42	Mars 0.2°S of Moon: Occn.
15	20:00	Mars at Opposition
16	09:57	Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
18	11:00	Venus 2.2°N of Saturn
18	20:48	Moon at Descending Node
19	09:00	Mercury at Aphelion
20	22:53	Spica 0.1°N of Moon
20	23:55	Moon at Apogee: 404299 km
21	15:31	LAST QUARTER MOON
23	12:07	Mars 2.3°S of Pollux
24	18:34	Antares 0.3°N of Moon
29	07:36	NEW MOON
31	23:46	Saturn 1.1°S of Moon: Occn.



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.



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
 - 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 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

- 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



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
(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