



# The Night Sky

The Newsletter of  
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 34 Number 4

April 2012

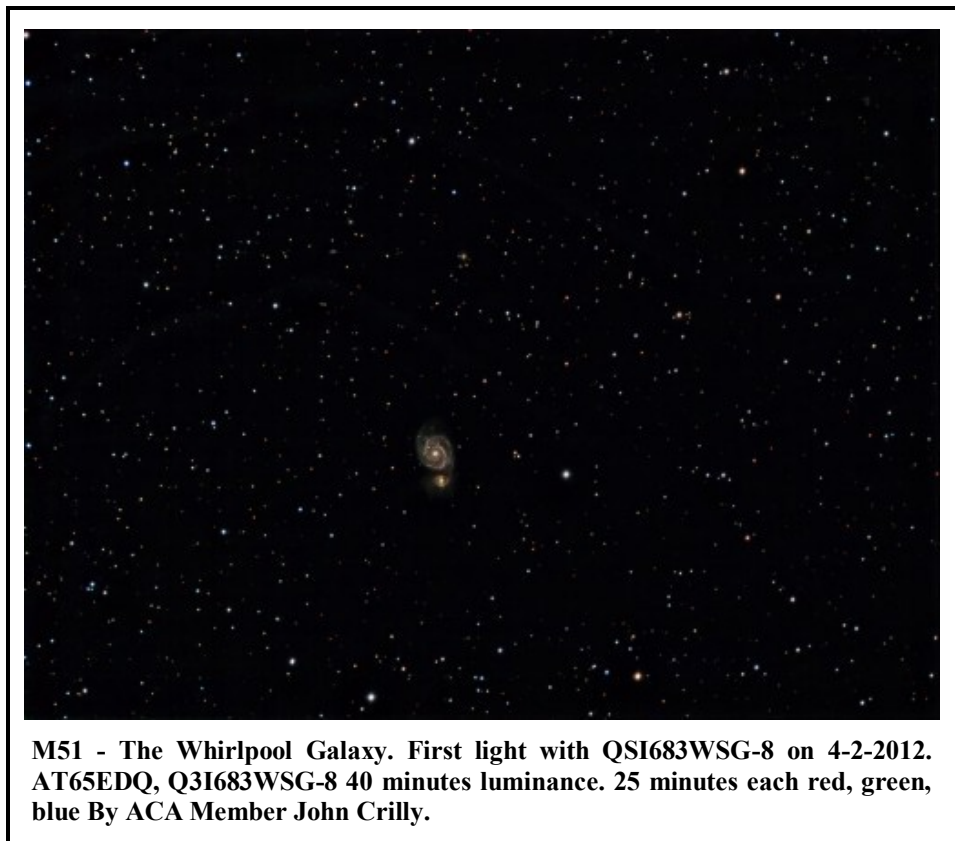
Next Meeting: Friday, April 27, 2011 8:00PM.

## This and That

By Tom Mino



We had our March monthly meeting on the evening of the 23rd at the Portage Lake Kiwanis community center. For the first time in a long time, we actually had a good turnout for the meeting. Evidently the secret to getting good attendance is sending out the announcement to the member list. Thanks to Jason Shinn and Gary Smith for sending out a meeting reminder to the member email list. Although we didn't have a formal presentation we discussed quite a few new business items. Jason Shinn gave the lowdown on his certificate program, which is sure to generate interest in getting club members out to the various outreach events that we perform. The program is well thought out and hat's off to Jason for putting much work into the endeavor. Jason also gave out his new membership cards to members in attendance. In an effort to embrace the new membership cards I thought it would be a good idea to have a member's only raffle at the next meeting. Bring your membership card to the next meeting and I'll give you a special raffle ticket. I have not decided on the prize yet, but I'll think of something. You must be a current member in order to get a



**M51 - The Whirlpool Galaxy. First light with QSI683WSG-8 on 4-2-2012. AT65EDQ, Q3I683WSG-8 40 minutes luminance. 25 minutes each red, green, blue By ACA Member John Crilly.**

raffle ticket. We have had various criticisms in the past that we don't do enough for club members...perhaps these new programs will go a long way in dealing with this issue.

We had nominations at the March meeting. I'm very pleased to announce that we have a full slate of officers for the next two-year term. Gary Smith, President; Anthony Scarpetti, Vice-President; Mary Pickelsimer, Secretary; Glen Cameron, Treasurer; Anne Ferrell,

Assistant-Secretary Treasurer; and Jason Shinn, Publications Secretary. It's really refreshing to see some new members volunteer to run the club. As there are a couple vacant positions for club trustee, Gary and the new board will have a chance to appoint new trustees. The trustee term is three years. Typically a club trustee is best served by someone who has been around a while. If you fit the bill, please let Gary know. The new board will take to their positions on May 1, 2012. (Con't Page 3)

## OFFICERS 2010 – 2012

### President

Tom Mino

E-mail: [tjmino@neo.rr.com](mailto:tjmino@neo.rr.com)

### Vice President

Tom Mino

E-mail: [tjmino@neo.rr.com](mailto:tjmino@neo.rr.com)

### Treasurer

Lew Snodgrass

Phone: 330-819-4886 E-mail: [CHRPLY@aol.com](mailto:CHRPLY@aol.com)

### Secretary

Mary Pickelsimer

E-mail: [marypickelsimer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marypickelsimer@sbcglobal.net)

### Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Rosaelena Villaseñor

E-mail: [revillasenor@hotmail.com](mailto:revillasenor@hotmail.com)

### Observatory Director

Ron Kalinoski

Phone: 330-837-5848

### ACA Webmaster

Dave Jessie

E-mail: [DJessie@neo.rr.com](mailto:DJessie@neo.rr.com)

### Editor, Night Sky

Jason Shinn

Phone: 330-685-5382 E-mail: [truemartian@aol.com](mailto:truemartian@aol.com)

### Trustee

Freddy Huffman

Phone: 330-535-8009 E-mail: [trusstube2@gmail.com](mailto:trusstube2@gmail.com)

### Trustee

John Shulan

Phone: 330-836-0800 E-mail: [john@shulans.com](mailto:john@shulans.com)

### Statutory Agent

Mark Kochheiser

Phone: 330-882-3713 E-mail: [mkochheiser@neo.rr.com](mailto:mkochheiser@neo.rr.com)

### OTAA Representative

Lou Poda

## March Treasurer's Report

By Lew Snodgrass

3/1/2012 Through 3/31/2012

---

Checking Beginning Balance	\$3,636.04
----------------------------	------------

### Income

Dues	70.00
------	-------

Magazine Subscriptions	34.00
------------------------	-------

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>104.00</b>
---------------------	---------------

### Expenses

Sky Publishing	32.95
----------------	-------

Kalmbach Publishing	102.00
---------------------	--------

Astronomy	
-----------	--

Lew, Tom, Rich.	
-----------------	--

Observatory Improvements	707.77
--------------------------	--------

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$842.72</b>
-----------------------	-----------------

<b>Income Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$738.72</b>
-----------------------------	-----------------

Checking Ending Balance	\$2,897.32
-------------------------	------------

Charter One Ending Balance	\$2,897.32
----------------------------	------------

---

Savings Opening Balance	\$6,434.14
-------------------------	------------

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

<b>Savings Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$6,434.41</b>
--------------------------------	-------------------

---

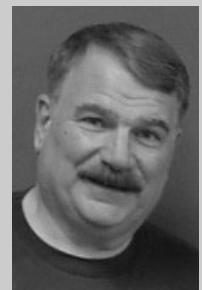
Petty Cash	50.00
------------	-------

Savings	6,434.41
---------	----------

Checking (Charter One Balance)	2,897.32
--------------------------------	----------

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,381.73</b>
--------------	-------------------

---



Article by Lew Snodgrass  
ACA Treasurer.

## This and That Con't

I want to thank all the people who stepped up to the plate to serve the Club. As I indicated during the meeting, I am finding it more difficult to attend the various club events, so I will be resigning from the ACA Board effective May, 1, 2012 ( I would normally be on the board fulfilling the role of immediate past-President). I think it's time for new blood to take the helm, I have been an officer one way or another for too long.

The night before the meeting, on Thursday, March 22, Mary Pickelsimer, Jason Shinn, John Shulan and myself from the ACA Board, and club member Tom Alexander met with Chris Norman from the Crown Point Ecology center to tour the Crown Point grounds for a

possible observatory location. First of all, I want to thank those from ACA who were in attendance. Chris had a couple locations scoped out but we ended up looking at only two of them. The first one that we looked was the best, with a very excellent North, and East horizon, a good South and an acceptable West horizon. The spot looks like it will have fairly good access to a road and parking. The area looks very promising. The model of the facility could be very similar to the Maria Mitchell Foundation in Nantucket, MA. ([www.mmo.org](http://www.mmo.org)). The Crown Point Center encompasses 155 Acres in Bath Ohio. For more information check out Crown Point's website [www.crownpt.org](http://www.crownpt.org). While this project is in the very early planning stages, this offers the ACA a unique opportunity to partner with other entities such as local universities. Such partnerships would be beneficial

to the club with increased membership and media exposure. I am confident the the new board will be able to interject their enthusiasm into the project.

While I had been working on a couple leads for a speaker for the April meeting, so far I have not heard from the speakers. Barring any breaking news in the next week or so, it looks, like we will not have a speaker for the meeting. Evidently, even a free dinner is not enough to sweeten the pot. Perhaps we can rustle up a video or something for the meeting.

That's all for now.

*Article by Tom Mino,  
ACA President.*

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Dave Jessie

There's a free planetarium show at Kent State University that may be of interest to you.

### **COSMIC BEGINNINGS**

KSU Planetarium,  
108 Smith Hall

Fridays, 4/13/2012 and 4/20/2012 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, 4/14/2012 at 8:00pm (of course, we'll all be at the ACA observatory for a Messier Marathon on this night.)

If you plan on attending:

- 1) Call 330-672-2246 to make reservations
- 2) Be there no later than 7:45pm.

More information is available here:

<http://planetarium.kent.edu/users/planet/>

Extremely important outreach event on Friday, June 1.

**Camp CHOPS (Children's Hospital Oncology Patients and Staff** - all campers are undergoing cancer treatment) takes place at Camp Carl in Ravenna.

Camp Carl

8054 Calvin Rd

Ravenna, OH 44266

(near the intersection of Calvin Rd and Alliance Rd)

*Article by ACA member,  
Dave Jessie*

---

## 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](mailto:truemartian@aol.com)

# SWAP & SHOP



**For sale:**

## Orion SkyView Deluxe EQ Mount

- Orion AccuTrack SVD RA Drive
- Polar Finder Scope
- Losmandy Adapter Plate
- OPT Vixen Style Dovetail Mount Adapter

**Asking: \$150**

**Contact: Glenn Cameron**  
**Phone: 330-737-1472**  
**Email: glenn@cameronclan.org**



**For sale:**

## 15mm Ultra-Wide Angle Eyepiece

- 2 inch barrel
- FOV: 80°
- Eye Relief: 20mm

**Asking: \$40**

**Contact: Lew Snodgrass**  
**Phone: 330-819-4886**  
**Phone: 330-867-4800**  
**Ask for Lew.**  
**Email: chrply@aol.com**



**For sale:**

## Two Televue Radian 12 mm Eyepieces

- Excellent condition.

**Asking: \$300 for both or \$170 each, cash.**

**Contact: Fred Fry**  
**Email: riverfry@gmail.com**



**For Sale:**

## Meade Autostar 495

- Upgraded to a 497

**Asking: \$95**

**Contact: Glenn Cameron**  
**Phone: 330-737-1472**  
**Email: glenn@cameronclan.org**



**For Sale:**

## Two Televue Radian 18 mm Eyepieces

- Excellent condition.

**Asking: \$300 for both or \$170 each, cash.**

**Contact: Fred Fry**  
**Email: riverfry@gmail.com**



**For Sale:**

## Pentax XW 20mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.
- Small mark on 1.25" barrel.
- Always used in a compression clamp.

**Asking: \$250 cash.**

**Contact: Fred Fry**  
**Email: riverfry@gmail.com**

# Minutes of the March 23, 2012 General Meeting

By Mary Pickelsimer

**8:20PM** Attendance for this meeting was great, with enough for a quorum. There was no presentation for the evening, so the entire time was taken to discuss business.

## Topics discussed:

- Certificate program – Jason created, assembled, and presented a well thought-out program of recognition for the astronomy club to inspire and encourage observing.
- The Spring dinner time and location to be determined.
- Membership Cards were

presented to all members present at the meeting.

- Crown Point visit – March 22nd members of the club went to see the location of a possible observatory. The plan is in the beginning stages, with a lot of potential and enthusiasm.
- No Treasures Report: Treasurer out due to illness.
- Club member survey – Jason compiled and discussed survey submissions. Purpose of survey was to see what we're doing right, what we could be doing better in order to increase membership.
- Nominations for position in 2012-2014:

President – Gary Smith

Vice President – Anthony Scarpitti

Treasurer – Glenn Cameron  
Newspaper Editor – Jason Shinn  
Secretary – Mary Pickelsimer  
Assistant Secretary – Anne Farrel

Since we had a quorum a motion was made to carry on with the voting and all nominations were voted on and approved by the membership present.

**10:00PM** Meeting adjourned. Next general meeting will be April 27, 2012

*Article by Mary Pickelsimer,  
ACA Secretary.*

---

## Notes From The Editor

By Jason Shinn



### Membership Cards

Don't forget! For those of you who have not done so please remember to pick up your membership cards at the club meeting on April 27th at Kiwanis. This will be the last opportunity to pick them up at club meetings before summer break. After this they will be available only at scheduled club observatory events throughout the summer, pending I am able to make it out to events due to my current employment obligations.

If you have membership issues, as a few of you have already indicated to me, please be patient as I am working to correct them for you. We are in a transition period between officers and so there are a few more hands in the pot than is efficient at the moment but we are working to get your issues taken care of. Don't forget that all memberships expire on June 1, 2012

this year. Some of you have already renewed through 2013 and for those of you who haven't, once you have renewed I will stamp your membership cards with a June 1, 2013 expiration date.

### Certificate Program

We have some certificates to present! Congratulations to Fred Fry, Ron Kalinoski, Lou Poda, Gary Smith, and Ann Ferrell for earning their Polaris certificates! If you are having problems finding the north star or the big and little dippers, these fellow club members are able and willing to show you how to locate them! I look forward to more of you coming out to the observatory events and earning your certificates! If you want to earn a certificate and don't have the time to go to an event please let me know. I may be able to work something out with you myself to help teach you constellations, stars or observe planets and Messier objects.

A few of you have suggested that we implement a certificate program for bright stars with names. What an excellent idea! Please feel free to

submit to me a list of star names you would like to see on the certification list by email or in person. As always you can contact me any time for anything by my email address [truemartian@aol.com](mailto:truemartian@aol.com) or phone number 330-685-5382.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting on April 27. It promises to be another great gathering! I will again bring the certificates out for you to take a look at and present our certificate earning club members with their awards. Tom Mino says he has a secret surprise in store for us so you will definitely want to come find out what that is. Thanks so much to each and every one of you for continuing to support the Astronomy Club of Akron and its programs!!

Clear Skies!

Jason

*Article by Jason Shinn,  
ACA Publications Secretary.*

# Observatory Report

By Ron Kalinoski



March was a good month for star parties. We held three impromptu star parties and one public star party. Our public star party on March 17th had cloudy skies, but that didn't stop about

thirty people from showing up to look at stars. I didn't pull back the observatory roof because of the sky conditions, but following Jason Shinn's lead, I set up the 8" Dobsonian just outside the observatory door. Jason had two Dobsonians setup. John Shulan cranked up the 11" Schmidt Cassegrain. Gary Smith was targeting with another 8" Dobsonian. Glenn Cameron had binoculars setup on a tripod and one non-member was observing with a primitive refractor. There were enough holes in the clouds for the fast moving dobs to find their targets and allow the public



**Fred Fry sets up the "Leviathan of Akron", a 15 inch Dobsonian capable of probing deep into the Universe.**

to stargaze. We observed Venus, Jupiter, Mars, Orion Nebula, Herschel's Double Cluster, M37 & the Castor multiple star system. Each of our impromptu star parties also

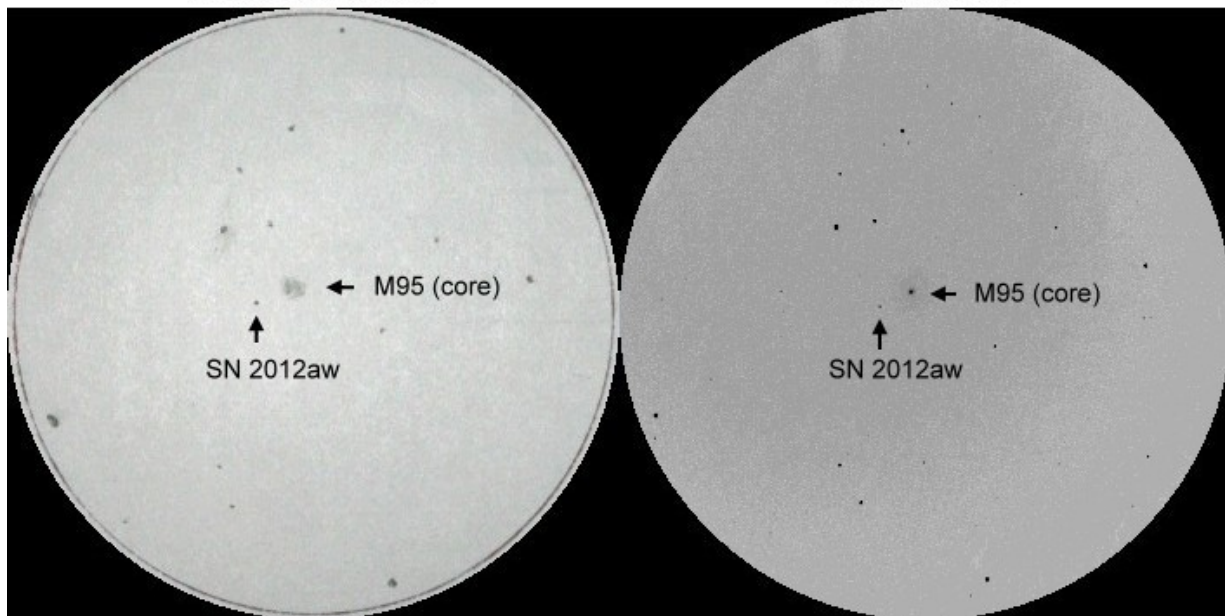
totaled about thirty observers with excellent sky conditions. Orion Nebula was the showcase object with Mars showing some dark surface detail on a bright orange disk. At our March 26th star party we observed NGC2419, a globular cluster 304,000 lightyears distant. That's pretty far for a globular cluster considering our galaxy is 100,000 lightyears across. It's not known whether NGC 2419 is still gravitational bound to our galaxy or if it is a rogue cluster. At the end of the March 26th star party, we slewed the 14" Meade to M95 to observe the supernova. We had a map of the galaxy with the marked location of the supernova. Although faint we were able to see the supernova and estimated the magnitude at 12.5. Jason Shinn sketched what he saw in the eyepiece for later confirmation. We'll continue to host impromptu star parties as long as weather conditions are good and the Moon is out of the sky. So come out and join us!

*Article by Ron Kalinoski, ACA Observatory Director.*

## Supernova SN 2012aw and Galaxy M95

Sketch UT201203270209

Image UT20120407



ACA Observatory  
14 inch Schmit-Cass

6 inch Meade LXD-55  
Canon Digital Rebel XT

**M95 & SN 2012aw - A long, long time ago in a galaxy far, far away a single star exploded with so much energy that it outshined all of the other stars in that galaxy combined.... By Jason Shinn, ACA Publications Secretary.**

# Binocular Monopod Mount

By Glenn Cameron

Recently I was trying to figure out a good steady setup for my 20x60 binoculars. The 60mm objectives let in a pretty decent amount of light for quick astronomical observing but the 20x magnification makes it a little tricky to hold steady enough for observing. So I came across a monopod and ball head combination that I like very much. The total list of components is as follows: binoculars, tripod adapter, ball head with quick release base, and monopod.

When I put it all together it improved my quick observing sessions immensely. Just give the grip a squeeze to adjust. The moment you release the squeeze the binoculars are locked into the new position. The monopod height is quickly adjusted too. The main thing to remember is to put one hand on the monopod and one hand on the pistol grip. Keep your elbows low and close to your body while you relax your arms and shoulders. You would be surprised how wobbly you are if your elbows are raised and your arm muscles are tense.



**The essential components of a binocular monopod mount for steady, quick, and easy observing with high power binoculars.**

The binocular adapter must be suited to your model of binoculars and may cost from \$15 to \$30. The monopod and ball head cost under \$50 shipped to my door. I bought them from Amazon.com.

*Article by ACA Member,  
Glenn Cameron*

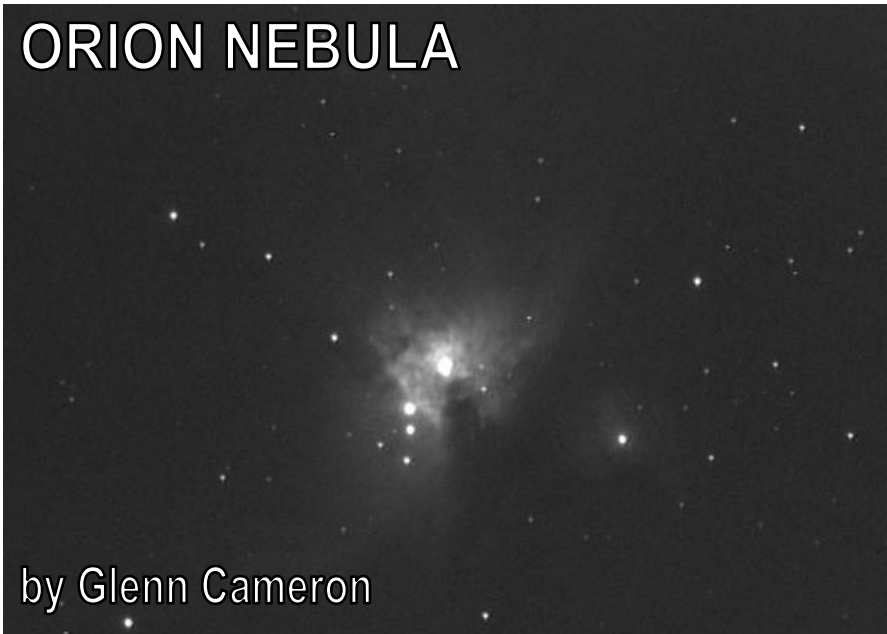
## Parts List

- Opteka TS-1 TacShot Pistol Grip Ball Head with Quick Release Plate for Tripods & Monopods
- Opteka MP100 67" Professional Heavy Duty Photo / Video Monopod



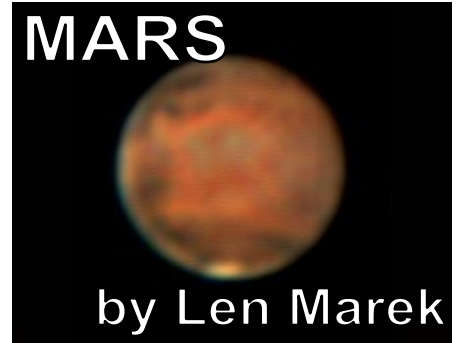
# NEW IMAGES

ORION NEBULA



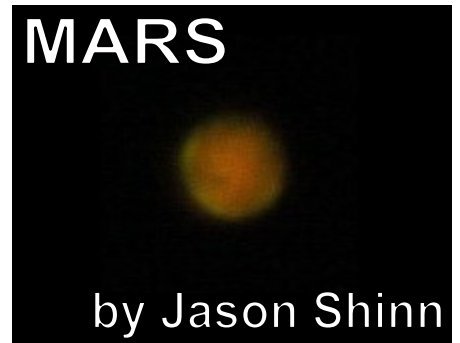
by Glenn Cameron

MARS



by Len Marek

MARS



by Jason Shinn

THE MOON



by Juan Contreras

VENUS, JUPITER, and MOON







by Marissa and Rachael Fanady



THE ASTRONOMY CLUB OF AKRON

# APRIL 2012 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Full Moon 19:19 UT 	7 Moon at perigee. (closest) 17h UT
8	9	10	11	12	13 Last Quarter 10:50 UT 	14 ACA OBSERVATORY PUBLIC EVENT 08:30p
15 Saturn at opposition at 18h UT.	16	17	18 Mercury at greatest elongation 17h UT. (morning sky)	19	20	21 ACA OBSERVATORY PUBLIC EVENT 08:30p New Moon 7:19 UT 
22 LYRID METEOR SHOWER PEAKS AT 05:30 UT Moon at apogee. (farthest) 14h UT	23	24	25	26	27 ACA MEMBERSHIP MEETING (KIWANIS) 08:00p	28 ASTRONOMY DAY 2012 CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
29 First Quarter 09:57 UT  NEAF	30				NEAF	NEAF

# *The Night Sky*

*Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron*

c/o Jason Shinn, Editor  
1025C Hemlock Hills Dr.  
Akron, OH 44313

---

**The Astronomy Club of Akron**  
c/o Lew Snodgrass, Treasurer  
1865 Stabler Rd  
Akron, OH 44313-6124

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

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