



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

February 2024

ACA MEETING - Sunday, February 18th, 2024 at 2:00 PM

President's Column

By Cathy Loboda

Next ACA Meeting

The next ACA monthly meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 2:00 pm. Dr. Jeffrey Woytack from NASA John Glenn Research Center will present "Artemis Program: Return to the Moon." The program covers NASA's plans for Humans to return to the Moon and establish a permanent presence there. 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 18th!

Club Elections

This is the final reminder that club elections will be held this spring. If you are interested in serving on the ACA Board, please contact Ron Kalinoski. Elected officers of the club are President, Vice

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publications Secretary, and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. A slate of nominations will be presented to membership at the March meeting and elections will take place at the April meeting.

Star Parties

Keep an eye on your email for upcoming Star Parties! Observatory Director Ron Kalinoski continues to offer Star Parties throughout the year as weather permits. Ron sends out an announcement of the upcoming event and then emails on the scheduled day if weather prevents its occurrence. So please always check your email before leaving for the observatory.

New Members

ACA extends a warm welcome to the following new members: Dean Philips and the Tim Dundr Family. ACA thanks you for your membership and interest in our club! We look forward to seeing you at future club events!



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



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



Meeting Minutes: January 21, 2024

Submitted by Carol Spears on behalf of Secretary Marnie Sanders

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Gary Smith at 3:24 p.m.

Officers' Reports:

Vice President Gary Smith: Welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new year. He believes it will be a record-setting year for amateur astronomy and stargazing. In April the total eclipse of the sun coming to us in northeast OH along with other astronomical events throughout the year.

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 reports.

Old Business:

Volunteers still needed to provide refreshments during membership meetings.

Solar Eclipse 2024 T-Shirts are being sold by the Canton Hoover Price Planetarium. Orders will be taken by Carol Zeh after ACA meetings. Cost of T-shirts is \$15 payable by cash or check.

The winter club social 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.

New Business:

The club treasurer reported that the annual insurance policy bill for liability, the observatory building, and the business personal property is due in the next couple months. The bill of \$764.00 is about \$100.00 higher than in 2023. The coverage is the same as in 2023.

Observatory Director Report:

No Report

Member observations:

A member observed that the last star party had an international flavor. There were people attending from Latin America and Australia.

An announcement was made to the membership that if anyone does not receive information about the scheduled general meetings, please notify us.

Glenn Cameron moved the meeting to be adjourned. Earl Rodd seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 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

2024 Proposed ACA Observatory Budget

By Ron Kalinoski

1. Focuser for 5-inch refractor – The current focuser only has one inch of travel and does not properly clamp the diagonal. No matter how tight the thumb screws, the diagonal will not stay firm. Feathertouch or equivalent focuser - \$350
2. Dew Heater for 5-inch refractor. Dew Zapper or equivalent - \$175
3. Replace panels on west side of observatory building. Replace rail boards in roof roll off area.
 - a. 4 pressure treat panels - \$200
 - b. 6 x 2 x 10ft (4) pressure treat - \$200
 - c. Stain 2 gallons - \$75
 - d. Fasteners for above - \$50
4. Miscellaneous Maintenance \$25/month - \$300

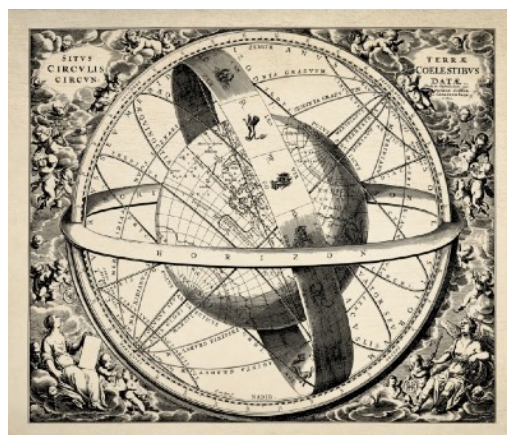
Total \$1350

Member Meeting Video

By Glenn R. Cameron

The video of Dr. Geoffrey Landis's talk on 2024-01-21 is available on YouTube at this link.

<https://youtu.be/ssBAjV18pYY>



Member Photos

By Ron Kalinoski



On February 5th, Astronomy Club of Akron met with Girl Scout Troop 90433 of Cuyahoga Falls to help them attain their Space Science Adventurer Badge. Ron Kalinoski gave a slideshow presentation about our Solar System, Stellar Nurseries, Galaxies, and the upcoming 2024 Solar Eclipse.

January 2024 ACA Treasurer's Report
By Dave Hartsook
2/2/2024

Checking Beginning Balance	\$2,255.66
Income	
Membership Dues Received (Pro-Rated)	\$52.50
Donation	0.50
Total Income	<u><u>\$53.00</u></u>
Expenses	
Speaker Honorarium paid at January 2024 ACA Meeting	-\$50.00
Reimburse Treasurer for coffee purchased for January 2024 ACA Meeting	-\$20.99
Total Expenses	<u><u>-\$70.99</u></u>
Income Less Expenses	-\$17.99
Checking Ending Balance	<u><u>\$2,237.67</u></u>
Savings Beginning Balance	\$1,968.94
Interest Income	\$0.02
Savings Ending Balance	<u><u>\$1,968.96</u></u>
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
No Activity	
Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
Grand Total	\$4,256.63

February Astronomical Events

Date	GMT (h:m)	Event
01	07:04	Spica 1.7°S of Moon
02	17:00	Mercury at Aphelion
02	23:18	LAST QUARTER MOON
05	00:15	Antares 0.6°S of Moon
08	06:30	Mars 4.2°N of Moon
09	22:59	NEW MOON
10	18:49	Moon at Perigee: 358088 km
11	00:37	Saturn 1.8°N of Moon
13	17:01	Moon at Ascending Node
15	08:15	Jupiter 3.2°S of Moon
16	15:01	FIRST QUARTER MOON
16	19:13	Pleiades 0.6°N of Moon
21	00:54	Pollux 1.6°N of Moon
22	09:00	Venus 0.6°N of Mars
23	22:45	Regulus 3.6°S of Moon
24	12:30	FULL MOON
25	15:00	Moon at Apogee: 406316 km
27	22:53	Moon at Descending Node
28	08:00	Mercury at Superior Conj
28	13:40	Spica 1.5°S of Moon
28	21:00	Saturn in Conjunction with Sun



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





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.



ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC

January 12, 2024

To the esteemed members of the Astronomy Club of Akron,

Congratulations to your organization on a stellar 75 years dedicated to astronomical observing and engaging the public. The Astronomical Society of the Pacific salutes your commitment to sharing the joy of astronomy with your community. Happy Anniversary!

We are honored to partner with you through the NASA Night Sky Network program and support the great work you do. Thanks to Catherine, Glenn, and all of your members who dedicate so much time to spreading the joy of astronomy in your community. We wish you continued success and many more years of partnership bringing the stars to everyone!

Keep up the wonderful work, and keep looking up!

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Vivian White' and the second is 'Katherine Troche'.

Vivian White & Katherine Troche

Night Sky Network Administrators
nightskynetwork.org

Astronomical Society of the Pacific
astro.society.org

Night Sky Network

Astronomy Clubs bringing the wonders of the universe to the public



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