



Astronomy Club of Akron

2014 Observatory Schedule

Portage Lakes State Park, 5031 Manchester Road, Akron, OH 44319

www.acao.org

- Our star parties are free and open to the public. Please join us for stargazing and educational activities. Star parties will begin promptly.
- Events may be cancelled if skies are cloudy. If the skies are questionable, please call for the latest information: 330-837-5848
- This is an outdoor activity in an unheated environment. Nighttime temperatures drop rapidly, even in the summer. A general rule of thumb is dress for 15 degrees colder than predicted nighttime low temperature.
- Please be considerate of those who bring their own telescopes. Children should be supervised at all times. Pets should be left at home.
- Please, **no smoking** on observatory grounds. Smoke and optics don't mix and your fellow observers will appreciate your consideration.

March 22 – 8:00pm

Binocular Night: Bring your binoculars; we'll be viewing Beehive Cluster, Pleiades, M37, and Orion Nebula. Jupiter is well-placed for evening viewing. Explore stellar nursery of Orion Nebula with our new 16" observatory telescope.

March 29 – 8:00pm

Special Event: Messier Marathon – our members will try to observe all 110 Messier objects in one observing session; Best Free Coffee in Akron brewing all night.

April 19 – 8:30pm

Spring Galaxy Night: Whirlpool Galaxy, Sombrero Galaxy, Cigar Galaxy, Black Eye Galaxy, and more will be observed through our observatory telescope.

April 26 – 8:30pm

Ghost of Jupiter and the planet Jupiter are both in the evening sky and give us an opportunity to understand why Herschel coined the term "planetary nebula."

May 24 – 9:00pm

Mars is well-placed for evening viewing but already fading quickly as Earth moves ahead in its orbit around the Sun. Sky Tour of Spring Constellations.

May 31 – 9:00pm

View the most distant object within reach of the observatory telescope: Quasar 3C273 at a distance of 2.4 billion ly.

June 21 – 9:00pm

Saturn's rings tilt 22 degrees for Earthling observers and summertime globular clusters can be viewed while listening to the finest acoustical treasure played all evening.

June 28 – 9:00pm

Asteroids Ceres & Vesta make a close approach and tonight are about ¼ degree apart in the constellation Virgo. They shine at magnitudes 8 and 7, respectively.

July 19 – 9:00pm

Sagittarius is rich with Messier objects and we'll be viewing them tonight including: Butterfly Cluster, Swan Nebula, M22, Lagoon Nebula, and more.

July 26 – 9:00pm

Planetary Nebula observing features Dumbbell Nebula, Cat's Eye Nebula, and Ring Nebula. We'll go on a Sky Tour of the Summer constellations.

August 16 – 8:30pm

Classical Music Night: Listen to the best musical selections of Mozart, Vivaldi, & Bach by which to gaze at the stars.

August 30 – 8:30pm

Come out tonight to view craters, mountains, valleys, and seas on a 5-day old Moon.

September 13 – 8:00pm

Globular Cluster observing featuring the best clusters the Northern Hemisphere has to offer: M13, M92, M22, M15, NGC6229, M71, M80, and more.

September 20 – 7:30pm

Best Free Coffee in Akron Night: Featuring the best Open Clusters of the Autumn sky: Wild Duck Cluster, ET Cluster, M24 Star Cloud, NGC 6633, and more.

September 27 – 7:30pm

Observe a 4-day old Moon; arrive on time as the Moon sets early.

October 18 – 7:00pm

Sky Tour of Autumn constellations & observing Blue Flash Nebula, Andromeda Galaxy, Saturn Nebula, Blue Snowball Nebula, galaxy NGC7331, and more.

October 25 – 7:00pm

Uranus & Neptune are well-placed for evening viewing.

*** Solar Parties will be planned based on sky conditions and availability of members & equipment. We hope to hold at least two this year, including cookout.

*** 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.

*** Blood Moon Eclipses: April 15th, 3:06am EDT; October 8th 6:24am EDT. No observatory event.