

ACA NEWS AND NOTES

May 2017

Meeting Location

Just another reminder that our May 26th monthly meeting will be held at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron 44319. Please check our website for map and directions. This is the final meeting before our summer break.

May Meeting Refreshments

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Ann and Russ Ferrell for volunteering to provide refreshments for our May meeting!

ACA Members' Annual Picnic

The ACA Annual Members' Summer Picnic and Swap & Shop is scheduled for Sunday, July 30th at 3:00 p.m. The event will be held at Big Oaks Pavilion, Portage Lakes State Park, rain or shine. Please RSVP the number attending and note the food item you intend to share to President Cathy Loboda at cnloboda@aol.com. ACA will provide burgers, dogs, buns, condiments, drinks, and paper products. Last year's picnic was enjoyed by all in attendance....good friends + good food = good times! Hope to see you there!

Star Parties

Upcoming star parties are scheduled for May 20th at 7:45 p.m., May 27th at 9:00 p.m., June 17 at 9:00 p.m. and June 24 at 8:45 p.m. Preceding the May 20th star party, ACA members will present a telescope seminar during which members will explain advantages and disadvantages of each type of telescope. Come out to the observatory and support!

The Night Sky Newsletter

Publications Secretary Marissa Fanady is asking members to contribute articles for the July 2017 publication. Any member who has passion for a topic related to astronomy is encouraged to share that passion and subject knowledge through an article for the upcoming newsletter. Please consider playing an important role in sustaining this vital informational outreach.

Eclipse 2017

Marnie Sanders is writing for the ACA newsletter about all things associated with the Solar Eclipse of August 2017. If you have plans for the event or other information you would like to share, feel free to contribute to Marnie's column. Let's create a club experience for Eclipse 2017!

Astronomy Day

ACA sends a big thank you to Marissa Fanady for representing us at the Astronomy Day event held at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on April 29th. Your dedication to the club is much appreciated!

Camp Carl

Just a reminder that Camp Carl is scheduled for June 2nd. For more information and to volunteer to help, call Vice President Dave Jessie.

OTAA EVENT

Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society is hosting its annual Scenic Vista Public/OTAA Star Party on May 20th at 9:00. Those with telescopes are encouraged to set up anytime after 6:30 p.m. ACA is one of the founding members of the Ohio Turnpike Astronomers Association. OTAA events give us a wonderful opportunity to spend time with others who share a passion for astronomy. Come out, support, and make new friends!

ACA Meeting Minutes April 28, 2017

Venue: Portage Lakes Kiwanis Hall.

Attendance: 24.

Guest speaker: 8:10 Dave Jessie introduces our guest Dr. Dan Rothstein, adjunct Professor at Kent State University. Topic: "Red Shift".

Break 9:45.

Business Meeting: Called to order at 10:03 by Pres. Cathy Loboda.

Lew Snodgrass: read the minutes from March's meeting.

Treasurer: Nick: \$3897.81, plus proceeds from the sale of Dave Jessie's equipment and book donations to the ACA.

Observatory report: All is well, Wednesday's impromptu star party was a hit. Look for upcoming star parties.

Old Business: Salt Fork cancelled. Solar eclipse plans, Camp Carl reminder, June 2nd, 8pm.

New Business: The ACA picnic is Sunday July 30th same shelter as last year at Portage Lakes State Park.

O.T.P.A. Soc., NASA's, Night Sky Network, are soliciting photos and stories for the "Night Sky", Glenn Cameron has all the details.

Freddie said N.E.A.F. was great.

Ron suggested we do the Galaxy again sometime in September.

Lew offered thanks to Gregg, Marissa, and Jim for a job well done at the Akron Public Schools (Astronomy Day) 2.0 at Firestone High School.

Big thanks to Jim Watson for helping solve technical problems for our speaker. Jim, you da man!

Note from the Secretary: I would like to suggest that we respectfully ask our speakers to limit their presentations to one hour.

Adjourned: 10:27 by voice vote.

*Lew Snodgrass
ACA Secretary*

May 26, 2017 - General Membership Meeting

Speaker: Dr. John Feldmeier, Youngstown State University Dept. of Physics and Astronomy.

Presentation: "HETDEX: Looking for DARK ENERGY" Dr. Feldmeier will discuss his HETDEX research at the McDonald Observatory using the Hobby Eberly Telescope. One of the biggest mysteries in astronomy today is that an unknown force called dark energy, may comprise 74% of the total mass-energy of the universe. In west Texas, a new scientific instrument, called HETDEX, will try to measure the dark energy by looking at the "cosmic web" of distant galaxies. As a member of the HETDEX team, I will outline what we are observing, and show some initial results from the HETDEX survey, which is now in its earliest observing stages."

About our Speaker: Dr. Feldmeier started in astronomy as a member of the San Antonio Astronomical Association (SAAA). He received his undergraduate degrees at the University of Texas in Austin in 1994 and his PhD in Astronomy and Astrophysics at Penn State in 2000. He was a National Science Foundation Astronomy and Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow before joining Youngstown Faculty in 2006. He is interested in extragalactic planetary nebulae, high redshift galaxies, galaxy clusters, and extrasolar planets. John has observed over 150 nights on professional telescopes (from 24 inches to 8-meter class in size) in Arizona, Chile, and Texas, and has used the Hubble, ASCA, and the Spitzer space telescopes. He is also very interested in astronomy policy and astronomy education and public outreach, especially using planetariums. He is currently a member of the American Astronomical Education Board.

We're back at the Kiwanis Civic Center!!!

**Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center
725 Portage Lakes Dr.
Akron, OH 44319**

Please note that we ALWAYS encourage the public to attend ANY of our events, including meetings. Come and enjoy the lecture and talk to us about astronomy!

NOTE!! Tonight is the last meeting prior to our three month summer break. If you need to renew your dues, please come prepared to do so and make our Treasurer happy.

May Astronomical Events

Day Hour(UT)

2 14 Mercury stationary
3 03 FIRST QUARTER
4 10 Regulus 0°.5 N. of Moon Occn.
7 07 Mars 6° N. of Aldebaran
7 21 Jupiter 2° S. of Moon
7 23 Mercury 2° S. of Uranus
8 08 Juno stationary
10 22 FULL MOON
12 20 Moon at apogee
13 23 Saturn 3° S. of Moon
17 23 Mercury greatest elong. W. (26°)
19 01 LAST QUARTER
20 06 Neptune 0°.5 N. of Moon Occn.
22 13 Venus 2° N. of Moon
23 05 Uranus 4° N. of Moon
24 01 Mercury 1°.6 N. of Moon
25 20 NEW MOON
26 01 Moon at perigee
27 02 Mars 5° N. of Moon
31 17 Regulus 0°.3 N. of Moon Occn.

*Information Credited,
Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office,
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office.
US Naval Observatory.*

June Astronomical Events

Day Hour(UT)

1 13 FIRST QUARTER
2 15 Venus 1°.8 S. of Uranus
3 13 Venus greatest elong. W. (46°)
4 00 Jupiter 2° S. of Moon
6 00 Ceres in conjunction with Sun
8 22 Moon at apogee
9 13 FULL MOON
10 01 Saturn 3° S. of Moon
10 05 Jupiter stationary
12 11 Mercury 5° N. of Aldebaran
15 10 Saturn at opposition
16 13 Neptune 0°.7 N. of Moon Occn.
16 23 Neptune stationary
17 12 LAST QUARTER
19 16 Uranus 4° N. of Moon
20 21 Venus 2° N. of Moon
21 04 Solstice
21 14 Mercury in superior conjunction
22 15 Aldebaran 0°.5 S. of Moon Occn.
23 11 Moon at perigee
24 03 NEW MOON
28 01 Regulus 0°.03 N. of Moon Occn.

OFFICERS 2016 – 2018

President

Cathy Loboda
Phone: 330-655-2923 E-mail: cnloboda@aol.com

Vice President

Dave Jessie
Phone: 330-688-9043 E-mail: DJessie@neo.rr.com

Treasurer

Nick Mihiylov
Phone: E-mail: nmihylov@aol.com

Secretary

Lew Snodgrass
Phone: 330-867-4800 E-mail: CHRPLY@aol.com

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Ann Ferrell
Phone: 330-697-7279 E-mail: annhagemaster@gmail.com

Observatory Director

Ron Kalinoski
Phone: 330-837-5848

ACA Webmaster

Dave Jessie
Phone: 330-688-9043 E-mail: DJessie@neo.rr.com

Publications Secretary - Editor, Night Sky Newsletter

Marissa Fanady
Phone: 330-531-2443 E-mail: speedymissy@yahoo.com

Trustee

Fred Huffman
E-mail: trusstube2@gmail.com

Trustee

Gregg Crenshaw
E-mail: rigelstarman@gmail.com

Trustee

Statutory Agent

Mark Kochheiser
Phone: 330-882-3713 E-mail: mkochheiser@neo.rr.com

OTAA Representative

Lou Poda

April Treasurer's Report

By Nick Mihiylov

4/1/2017 Through 4/30/2017

Checking Beginning Balance	\$1,241.53
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Income

Family Membership	40.00
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Total Income	\$40.00
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Expenses

Total Expenses	0.00
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Income Less Expenses	\$40.00
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Checking Ending Balance	\$1,281.53
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,566.28
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Earned Interest	0.04
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Savings Ending Balance	\$2,566.32
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Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
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Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
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Petty Cash	50.00
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Savings	2,566.32
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Checking	1,281.53
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Grand Total	\$3,897.85
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*Article by Nick Mihiylov
ACA Treasurer.*