



# Astronomy Club of Akron

## 2024 Activity Schedule

*View Celestial Objects through the area's Largest Amateur Club Telescope*

5031 Manchester Road, Akron, OH      [www.acao.org](http://www.acao.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](mailto: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.

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\*\*\* 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](mailto: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.