



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 33 Number 9

September 2011

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011 8:00PM.

***** IMPORTANT NOTICE OF CHANGE OF VENUE *****

The September general membership meeting will be held at the Tudor House Franklin Center in Portage Lakes State Park. See page 4 for directions.

Observatory Report

By Ron Kalinoski



On August 27th Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society held an OTAA event at Cortese Observatory in Braceville, Ohio. Nine ACA members attended the event. As usual, there was plenty of good food to start off the event. During the event MVAS held two raffles. Everybody won at least one prize. Fred Huffman won the grand prize, an iOptron 90mm telescope. Fred really showed his character when he gave the telescope to Marissa Fanady whose telescope had been accidentally broken last month. After the raffle, Pat Durell of Youngstown State University gave a talk titled 2012 Fact or Fiction? Following Pat's talk, amateur astronomers were treated to heavenly views from an array of telescopes set up on the observatory grounds. The eight-inch refractor provided a stunning view of Comet Garradd set in a rich star field. Walking around the observatory grounds to look through different telescopes, I arrived at the 12.5"



Fred Huffman won the Grand Prize at the OTAA event sponsored by Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society on August 27th. Fred gave the iOptron 90mm telescope to Marissa Fanady.

Newtonian to find Jeff Kreidler sizing up the telescope. To our amazement, Rosemary Chomos from MVAS gave us permission to operate the telescope for the evening. Wow! This was incredible. Jeff and I started off locating some of the more popular objects for the star party attendees...M57, M13, and M11. Although Hurricane Irene was

showing her presence on the eastern horizon, the sky stayed sufficiently clear to find celestial objects without interference from clouds. Comet Garradd, M22, M31, the Double Cluster, and Hershel's Garnet Star were some of the other treats observers got to see through the large Newtonian.

(Con't Page 4)

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Lou Poda

2011 - September Activities Calendar - 2011

Club

September 3 - BRAS OTAA Convention.

05:00 pm EDT (2011 09 03 21:00 UT)

September 24 - OBSERVATORY: Public Event.

08:00 pm EDT (2011 09 24 00:00 UT)

September 17 - OBSERVATORY: Public Event.

08:00 pm EDT (2011 09 17 00:00 UT)

September 23 - TUDOR HOUSE: General Membership

Meeting 08:00 pm EDT (00:00 UT)

Celestial*

September 3 - Mercury at greatest elongation (morning)
at 6h UT.

September 26 - Uranus at opposition at 0 UT.

September 4 - First Quarter Moon at 17:39 UT.

September 27 - New Moon at 11:08 UT.

September 12 - Full Moon at 09:26 UT.

September 28 - Moon at perigee (closest) at 1h UT.

September 15 - Moon at apogee (farthest) at 6h UT.

September 20 - Last Quarter Moon at 13:39 UT.

September 23 - SEPTEMBER EQUINOX at 09:06 UT.

**Source: www.skymaps.com*

The ACA wishes to welcome our newest members:

**Sheila Schmidt
Chaz & Laura Villwock
with son Jason
and daughter Lynae**

We look forward to seeing you at all Club functions!

FOR SALE

DO YOU HAVE
SOMETHING FOR
SALE OR TRADE?

POST YOUR ITEM

HERE!

Contact the newsletter editor with the
details of your item for sale or trade at:
truemartian@aol.com

- 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 ASCII FORMAT OR ANY VERSION OF WORD TO MINIMIZE IMPORT PROBLEMS. ALL IMAGES MUST BE SAVED IN .JPG FORMAT. SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL TO:

truemartian@aol.com

August Treasurer's Report

By Lew Snodgrass

8/1/2011 Through 8/31/2011

Checking Beginning Balance	\$3,546.32
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Income

Dues	30.00
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Total Income	\$30.00
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Expenses

Website Expense	45.00
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Total Expenses	\$45.00
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Income Less Expenses	\$15.00
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Outstanding Checks	\$0.00
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Checking Ending Balance	\$3,531.32
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Charter One Ending Balance	\$3,531.32
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Difference	\$0.00
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Savings Opening Balance	\$6,432.29
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Earned Interest	0.27
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Savings Closing Balance	\$6,432.56
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Petty Cash	50.00
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ACA Savings	6,432.56
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ACA Checking	3,531.32
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Total	\$10,013.88
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Article by Lew Snodgrass
ACA Treasurer.



Observatory Report Con't

We held a Comet party on Monday August 29th. The skies were clear and the seeing very good. Sixteen people showed up to view Comet Garrard and other celestial objects. Rick Burke set up his new 127mm TeleVue refractor on the observatory grounds. The refractor's image of the Double Cluster was the best I've ever seen. The quality of these top end refractors is truly amazing. Hopefully we can have more of this type of star party during the autumn observing season when earlier sunsets make weekday observing a little easier..

Article by Ron Kalinoski,
ACA Observatory Director.

ANSWERS TO AUGUST'S WORD SEARCH:

ALL ABOUT TELESCOPES

G O N W A N R G F L E C L B H
 O A B F L R A A K P A R A R A
 R X L X U M D A A T P E I I N
 V E R I M M M N A D E F Z R N S
 H A F A L O I D A O K T O F L
 X U R F L E I Z C H J I T R I
 T A B A A O O S A X C P A A P
 X R P B F C E G Z T M S U R P
 J A N T L L L T S A Q L Z Q E E
 P D R Z E F R O U L U A E D R
 T J J T K C E K R X I C G V S
 C O T E L O I V A R T E U O H
 R E F F L E C T O R B V A I O E
 O X K B K A E P T T I K Q E Y
 A R E C I B O J A H S E J A U

Loss Of A Guiding Star

By Mark Kochheiser

In the last month, the ACA lost one of its most dedicated members, Philip Hegenderfer. He was a guiding force in the organization in the early 1980s at a time when it appeared the ACA would fall apart. Phil put his heart and his soul into the ACA for many years. He initiated a working relationship with Portage Lakes State Park and thus obtaining a regular location for the club to hold "star parties". He led the work on obtaining the ACA's non-profit organization status, as well as the initial discussions on developing the Club's observatory. He organized many of the outreach programs and the astronomy day programs at the area's shopping malls. In recent years, he taught an astronomy course at the University of Akron which revealed his students to the ACA observatory.

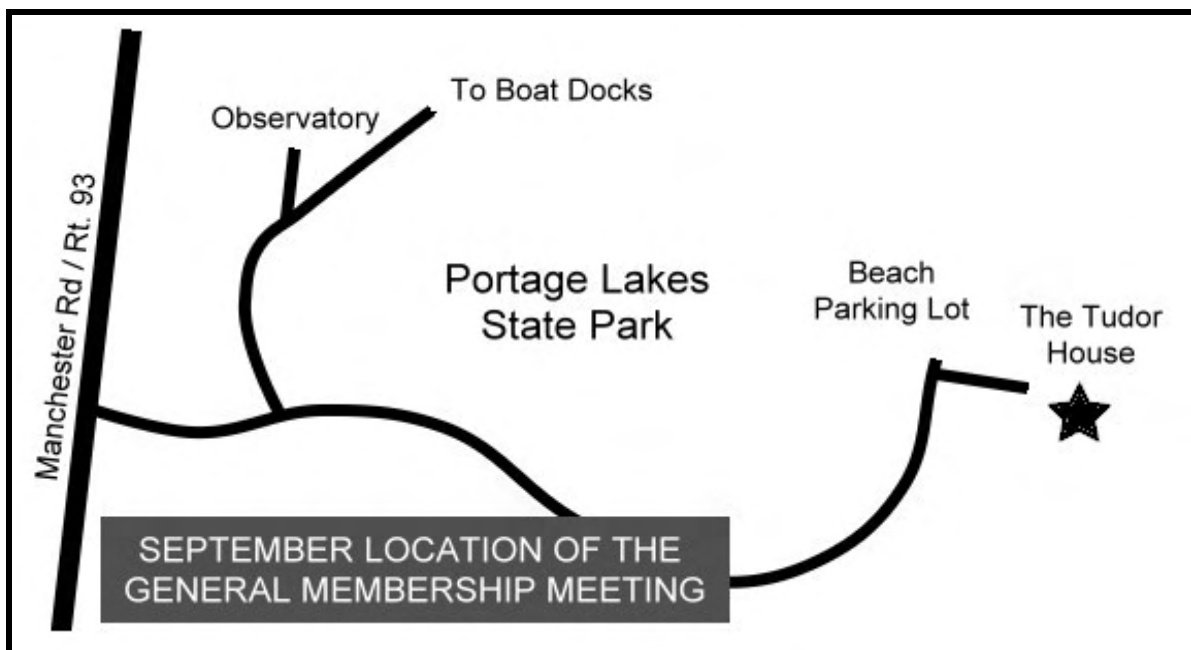
It was through Phil that I became involved with the ACA. It was at the time, right after the series "Cosmos" was broadcast on PBS, that I joined

the ACA. My interest in the night sky developed as a child because my neighbor built a telescope for my older brother. One look at Saturn's rings and I was hooked. I didn't realize then that the person who built the telescope was Erle Zimmerman, a prominent member of the ACA in the 1950s and the builder of the 5 inch refractor telescope now housed in the ACA observatory. My interest was rekindled by the musings of Carl Sagan in his series, "Cosmos." I decided then I wanted to learn much more about astronomy. Mr. Zimmerman had since passed away so I looked up information for the ACA. My first contact with the club was Phil. He shortly thereafter became my mentor and my friend. His enthusiasm and encouragement led me to get involved in the inner workings of the organization. I became a "core" member for many years, serving in various leadership roles and developing many friendships along the way. Godspeed my friend!

Article by Mark Kochheiser,
ACA Statutory Agent.

"Life does not require intelligence."

— unknown astronomer



MYSTICAL MAUNA KEA



(left) The Subaru Telescope observatory housing an 8.2 M optical scope. The Keck 1 dome is visible to the right of the Subaru observatory.

(right) The 100 mile Leviathan. The shadow of Mauna Kea Looking east at sunset



(above) From almost 14,000 feet above sea level to about 4 feet below sea level. We went diving in a shark cage! These are Galapagos sharks off the north shore of Oahu. (right) Leigh at the bottom of the shark cage! A long way from the 10,000 foot picture!



by Tom and Leigh Alexander

MVAS OTAA 2011



(left) ACA members Rick Burke, Tom Mino, Marissa Fanady, John Fanady, Fred Huffman, and Greg Crenshaw sit down for some pre-dinner astronomical discussion.

(right) Sam DiRocco and Bob Danko prepare for the MVAS raffle.



(left) Mahoning Valley's OTAA events are noted for their fine selection of food and drink. Buffet servings: sausage & peppers, rigatoni, fried chicken, barbecue, pizza, salad, baked beans, three large cheese cakes, brownies, and other desserts.

NEW IMAGES



Comet Garradd by Jason Shinn. This is a series of images stacked together revealing the motion of the comet over a period of about a half hour. Meade LXD-55 and Canon Digital Rebel XT at prime focus. Twenty six frames stacked using Registax, each a thirty second exposure at ISO 1600. UT20110902

Mine Eyes by Jason Shinn

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the wonders of the universe;
A trillion trillion stars to the snowy caps of Mars.**

**Mine eyes have seen the beauty of the cradle of life;
The birthplace of suns in the darkness of night.**

**Mine eyes have seen the vastness of the void, the deepest of sights;
The end of stars, and ghosts of explosive might.**

**Mine eyes have seen the sun, and moons, and cometary frights;
And planets too, and asteroids;**

Much to my delight.

The Night Sky

Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

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

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.