



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron
www.acaoh.org

Volume 37 Number 1

January 2015

Next Meeting: Friday - January 23, 2014 - 8:00 PM - Kiwanis

The President's Column

By John Shulan



The ACA needs your help!

Astronomy magazine is offering a prize to an astronomy club who does outstanding outreach. Marissa brought this to the attention of the board and last night the board approved writing the grant request. The award is \$2,500.00. The board needs any information of participation from outreach events with its membership. Documents, letters of appreciation, photo's will all be a great help. The application is limited to 500 words but allows for an unlimited portfolio of the above requested documents. SO PLEASE help the ACA apply for this grant. The boards goal is to add a solar scope which would greatly expand the ability of our club to reach out and share the universe! (Plus they are really cool to look through!)

I have been working with Rotary International, a service club, for a grant towards a solar scope. They can fund up to \$3,425.00 of the scope. The question they challenge me is how to make this a "Rotary" project. Some of the answers are: 1. Willing to host both a day and night astronomy program when they have the district regional meeting at Quail Hollow. 2. Doing some programs with the special



The moon just before total eclipse on October 8, 2014. Captured with a Canon T3i attached to a WO Z80 with a 2x barlow on an iOptron ZEQ25 mount. Image by ACA member Bob Benedict.

needs Rotary camp at Rex Lake. 3. Doing a solar program when the local cluster of clubs does a meeting at the Akron Rubber ducks. 4. Have club members willing to visit other Rotary clubs in the area and do a solar program (there is always food involved so I have done seven of those programs as a PowerPoint). 5. Get the Rotary astronomy website members involved with our club and

if any of our club member are Rotarians, that would greatly help. Any club member with ideas of information that would help with this grant are much appreciated.

Keep warm and clear skies!

*Article by John Shulan,
ACA President.*

OFFICERS 2014 – 2016

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Lou Poda

January General Membership Meeting

Dear Fellow Member of the ACA,

In 1997, Cassini, an unmanned spacecraft began its voyage in one of the most ambitious missions to another planet, Saturn. Upon arriving in Saturn's orbit on June 30, 2004, Cassini and side-kick Huygens hobnobbed with the moons and rings of our sixth planet. Over the years, tremendous amounts of data have been collected and amplified with the aid of high powered Ka-Band signals; discoveries of Saturn's ionosphere, occultations, planetary rings and gravitational waves....the list goes on, have been studied.

Dale Force, Electronic Engineer from Glenn NASA Research Center will give an overview of the Radio Science Experiments and High Power Ka-Band (32GHz) amplifier used on Cassini/Huygens.

Please see our Website page at <http://www.acaoh.org/meetings/2015/2015-01-23.htm> to read more about the GRC contribution and view a photo of the actual amplifier used on Cassini.

Meeting Place:

Kiwanis Club - 8 p.m.
728 Portage Lakes Drive
Akron, Ohio 44319

We will host a dinner for our speaker at 93 Prime on Manchester Rd. at 6:30 p.m.
E-mail Ann Ferrell for reservations:
annhagemaster@gmail.com

Respectfully,
Ann Ferrell, Vice President.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

YOUR FELLOW AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Submit your astronomy related articles and images to the newsletter editor for publication! Share your adventures, observation data, and or experiences with your fellow astronomers WORLD WIDE! Ohio astronomy clubs are welcome to publish announcements, data, experiences as well!

Send your submissions to the newsletter editor at:

jgshinn2014@gmail.com

November Treasurer's Report

By Glenn Cameron

11/1/2014 Through 11/30/2014

Checking Beginning Balance	\$3,377.37
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Income

Magazine Subscriptions	37.95
Deposit (from petty cash)	20.65

Total Income	\$58.60
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Expenses

Speakers Dinner	-52.57
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Total Expenses	-\$52.57
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Income Less Expenses	\$6.03
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Checking Ending Balance	\$3,383.40
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,579.87
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Earned Interest	0.06
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Savings Ending Balance	\$2,579.93
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Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$70.55
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Donation	0.10
Deposit to Checking	-20.65

Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
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Petty Cash	50.00
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Savings	2,579.93
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Checking	3,383.40
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Grand Total	\$6,013.33
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Article by Glenn Cameron
ACA Treasurer.

December Treasurer's Report

By Glenn Cameron

12/1/2014 Through 12/31/2014

Checking Beginning Balance	\$3,383.40
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Income

Dues	60.00
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Total Income	\$60.00
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Expenses

Magazine Subscriptions	-37.95
Observatory Expenses	-501.37

Total Expenses	-\$539.32
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Income Less Expenses	-\$479.32
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Checking Ending Balance	\$2,904.08
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,579.93
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Earned Interest	0.07
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Savings Ending Balance	\$2,580.00
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Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
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	0.00
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Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
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Petty Cash	50.00
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Savings	2,580.00
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Checking	2,904.08
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Grand Total	\$5,534.08
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Article by Glenn Cameron
ACA Treasurer.

SWAP & SHOP



FOR SALE:

22mm Orion Epic ED-2 ED Eyepiece
25mm Orion Epic ED-2 ED Eyepiece

Asking: \$25 each
Contact: Glenn Cameron
Phone: 330-737-1472
Email: glenn@cameronclan.org



FOR SALE:

Orion Sirius 40mm Plossl

Asking: \$25
Contact: Glenn Cameron
Phone: 330-737-1472
Email: glenn@cameronclan.org

FOR SALE:

Meade LX80 Mount

- Tripod.
- One counterweight.
- Autostar and battery box power supply.
- Cigarette lighter power cable.
- Selling because of upgrade to LX80 mount.
- LOCAL PICKUP is necessary.

Asking: \$325 OBO
Contact: Glenn Cameron
Phone: 330-737-1472
Email: glenn@cameronclan.org

FOR SALE:

Celestron CPC Deluxe 800 HD Telescope with tripod.

Accessories:

- Celestron 1.25" eyepiece and filter kit.
- Tele Vue nebula filter.
- Celestron UHC/LPR filter.
- Celestron 15mm 1.25" 82 degree wide field eyepiece.
- Stellarvue 1.25" Dielectric Diagonal.
- Stellarvue 1.25" erecting prism.
- Celestron power tank and dew shield.
- Astrozap sun filter.
- Celestron AC adapter.
- JMI custom hard shell case for telescope.

All 8 months old, brand new condition.

Asking: \$2200
Contact: Jim Hall
Phone: 330-268-8695

FOR SALE:



Pentax XW 20mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.
- Small mark on 1.25" barrel.
- Always used in a compression clamp.

Asking: \$220 (cash)
Contact: Fred Fry
Email: riverfry@gmail.com

FOR SALE:



Televue Radian 12mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.

Asking: \$180 (cash)
Contact: Fred Fry
Email: riverfry@gmail.com

FOR SALE:

Celestron NexStar 8i computerized to go 8" F/10 Schmidt-Cassegrain

Focal length 2032 mm with 406x highest useful power.

Includes:

- GPS module.
- Five multicoated Plössl eyepieces.
- 2X Barlow lense.
- Seven filters.
- A/C adaptor.
- Night vision flash.
- Celestron star pointer.

All rarely used and in new condition.
Cost \$1,689 new.

Asking: Best Offer
Contact: Nick Bade
Email: nb@tribco.com
Phone: 216-486-2000 weekdays and 440-585-8687 evenings and weekends.

FOR SALE:



Televue Radian 18mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.

Asking: \$180 (cash)
Contact: Fred Fry
Email: riverfry@gmail.com

FOR SALE:



15mm Ultra-Wide Angle Eyepiece

Asking: \$40
Contact: Lew Snodgrass
Phone: 330-819-4886
Phone: 330-867-4800
Ask for Lew.
Email: chrply@aol.com

Advertise in the Swap n Shop!

Send a picture of your ASTRONOMY RELATED item and relevant information to the newsletter editor: jgshinn2014@gmail.com

Minutes of the ACA Board Meeting January 7, 2015

By Lew Snodgrass

Topics of discussion:

ACA purchasing a solar scope (Coronado Solar Max II 90) or similar scope and a proper mount through a Rotary grant supporting public outreach programs. Approximate cost \$6k; the grant, is apx. \$6k. Please note: ACA would be exclusive owners of this scope.

ACA would need examples of previous outreach events for the grant proposal. Several members have volunteered to compile the needed documentation.

ACA will apply for the "Astronomy Magazine, Out-of this world Award". This \$2,500 award is for non-profit educational or civic organizations involved in local community outreach in science and / or the hobby of astronomy. As mentioned before, ACA members have pledged to compile the needed documentation to apply for these grants.

A vote was taken on applying for these two grants and was passed by a unanimous vote.

A motion was discussed on doing an outreach program at Crown Point on Friday nights.

For example: How to use your scope, What's up in the night sky, and perhaps a solar program. No vote was taken on this discussion.

Members in attendance: Lew Snodgrass, Marissa, Garry, John Shulan, Glenn and Ann Farrell.

Clear Skies,
Lew Snodgrass
Secretary, ACA.

*Article by Lew Snodgrass,
ACA Secretary*

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Comet Lovejoy reports just as the newsletter was going to press.



Comet C/2014 Q2 Lovejoy - Man was this a tough one. I did all colors BUT, the comet moved way too much to combine them into one for if the stars were balanced, the comet was moving too much to balance it and it just turned out crappy. So, since the blue rendered the most tail information, I just processed the blue one only as a mono image. That's enough for me ... This is 3x3 minute subs using the Televue sdf with the SBIG 8300M camera. (no flats) It was cold out there! Image by ACA member Len Marek. UT20150113

COMET C/2014 Q2 LOVEJOY REPORT

By Tom Alexander

Greetings and Happy New Year, all!

UT20150114

Last night I took the binoculars out to try and spot comet Lovejoy. It's well placed, at least last night, forming a triangle with the Pleiades and Aldebaran, almost at the zenith around 10:00 PM. Through 7 X 50 mm binoculars, it looked like a bright globular with a solid bright core and a haze around it. I tried to find it a couple of weeks ago when it was in Lepus and close to M79, the only winter globular. I found something in the binoculars, but I'm still not sure if I found the comet of M-79! After checking charts, I probably had been looking at M79. Now I can understand why Messier made his catalog!

Anyhow, last night I couldn't detect a tail. The Sky and Telescope finder article





said the magnitude was 3.8 and once I found it, I could barely make out a faint smudge using averted vision, but that point magnitude of 3.8 spread out over the comet's coma made it appear much fainter to the unaided eye, at least from my ever increasing light polluted home.

It's supposed to be clear the next few nights so I encourage everyone to try and view this comet while it's well placed and fairly bright!

*Article by ACA Member
Tom Alexander*

THE ASTRONOMY CLUB OF AKRON

JANUARY 2015 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>AKRON, OH SUNRISE JAN 1 7:51AM EST JAN 31 7:38AM EST SUNSET JAN 1 5:08PM EST JAN 31 5:41PM EST</p>						
4 Earth at perigee (closest) at 7h UT.	5 Full Moon 4:53UT 	6	7	8	9 Moon at apogee (farthest) at 18h UT.	10 THE QUADRANTID METEOR SHOWER PEAKS.
11	12 Last Quarter 9:46UT 	13 Mercury at greatest elongation evening sky at 20h UT. (19°)	14	15	16	17
18 THE DECEMBER SOLSTICE OCCURS AT 23:03UT.	19 New Moon 13:14UT 	20 Moon at perigee (closest) at 20h UT.	21	22	23	24
25	26 First Quarter 4:48UT 	27 Juno at opposition.	28	29	30	31

EST = UT - 5 hrs, EDT = UT - 4 hrs

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Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

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8019 Glendevan St. NW
Massillon, OH 44646-9018

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,