



The Night Sky

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

Volume 39 Number 2

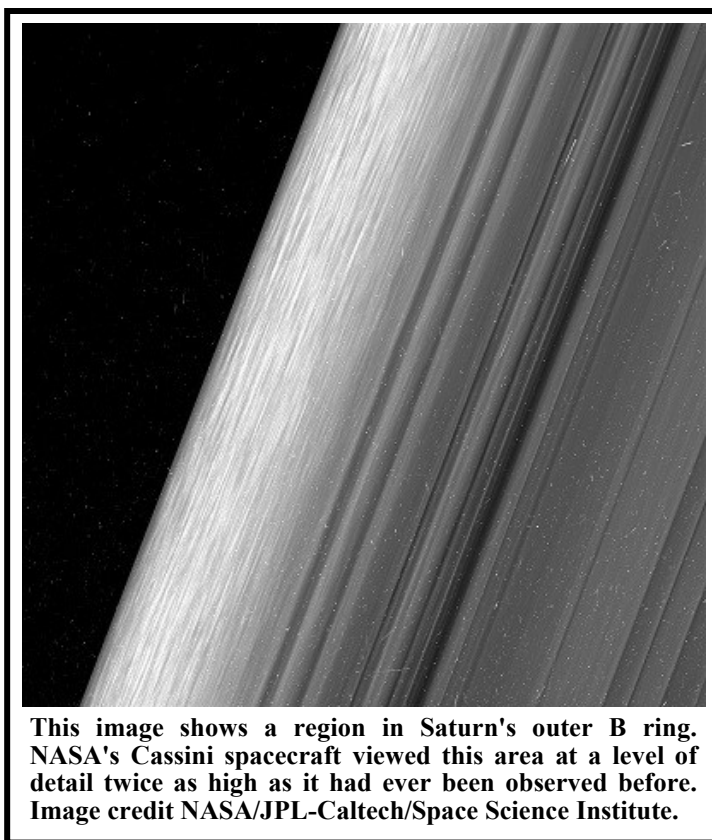
February 2017

Next Meeting: Friday - February 24, 2017 - 8:00 PM - New Franklin

Member Events

By Marissa Fanady

During the past year the board members of the Astronomy Club of Akron made it known that besides a subscription to the ACA newsletter, voting rights, running for an office position, bringing up concerns or new ideas to the club there are really no significant perks to those who join the astronomy club. Our organizations activities, our observing events, monthly meetings, and outreach opportunities are open to the public. So why would anyone want to pay for a membership? What's so special about that? We realized that we needed to create member only events to entice people to join or stay in the organization. Throughout the year the ACA will schedule activities for our membership that include a star party, trips to observatories or perhaps NASA Glenn, our yearly picnic and a lunch/dinner at a restaurant of the memberships choosing. These events will become vital to strengthen the organization, they give us a chance to discuss more advanced topics of astronomy, new astronomical discoveries, new telescopes or equipment and they provide opportunities to meet each other and create or keep the bonds between us. After all deep down we all know why each chose to join an astronomy club, not just to learn more about the science and to spread the knowledge, but to also not be alone in loving the universe.



This image shows a region in Saturn's outer B ring. NASA's Cassini spacecraft viewed this area at a level of detail twice as high as it had ever been observed before. Image credit NASA/JPL-Caltech/Space Science Institute.

On February 5th we had a brunch for our members at the Galaxy out in Wadsworth. The restaurant had a very nice atmosphere and the name was just too fitting for our club to not have a gathering at this location. We had a good attendance by our members and their families or guests, we filled up two tables to enjoy the buffet and share great conversations as well as laughs. Besides our ACA picnic this was the best attendance so far for these membership only activities. We planned on having a star party but unfortunately that was cancelled due to the weather, the plan is to reschedule that event for the spring. Last year during the fall we were set up to travel to Pittsburgh Pennsylvania to tour an observatory which required reservations. Unfortunately a lot of members who planned on attending did not show up, only four to five members were there. For these member only perks to be successful we need people to be committed to the activity when they plan to participate; these outings are great opportunities to see places that the public is largely unaware of and to have a chance to talk with each other. We will continue to schedule these activities in the hopes that many of you will join in the fun and good times that are had by all.

*Article by Marissa Fanady
ACA Publications Secretary*

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

January Treasurer's Report

By Nick Mihiylov

1/1/2017 Through 1/31/2017

Checking Beginning Balance	\$1,728.57
Income	
Membership Dues	40.00
Total Income	\$40.00
Expenses	
	-0.00
Total Expenses	-0.00
Income Less Expenses	\$40.00
Checking Ending Balance	\$1,768.57
<hr/>	
Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,566.16
Earned Interest	0.04
Savings Ending Balance	\$2,566.20
<hr/>	
Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
	0.00
Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$50.00
<hr/>	
Petty Cash	50.00
Savings	2,566.20
Checking	1,768.57
Grand Total	\$4,384.77

Article by Nick Mihiylov
ACA Treasurer.

SWAP & SHOP



FOR SALE:

Orion Sirius 40mm Plossl

Asking: \$25

Contact: Glenn Cameron

Phone: 330-737-1472

Email: glenn@cameronclan.org

FOR SALE:



Televue Radian 12 mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.

Asking: \$180 (cash)

Contact: Fred Fry

Email:

riverfry@gmail.com

FOR SALE:



Televue Radian 18 mm Eyepiece

- Excellent condition.

Asking: \$180 (cash)

Contact: Fred Fry

Email:

riverfry@gmail.com

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 adaptor.
- 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:

Refractor Renaissance SDF 540 mm f/5.4 brass finish.

Accessories:

- Barlow lens.
- Plossl 17.4mm lens.
- Nagler 7mm lens.
- Gibraltar mount with walnut tripod and an air chair.

The equipment has had little use and is in excellent condition.

Contact: Lowell Steinbrenner

Phone: 234-249-0440

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.

Advertise in the Swap n Shop!

Send a picture of your **ASTRONOMY RELATED** item and relevant information to the newsletter editor:

speedymissy@yahoo.com

ACA Meeting Minutes January 27, 2017

Venue: New Franklin City Hall.

Attendance: 36.

Guest speaker: 8:06 Dr. Geoffrey Landis of NASA-Glenn, presented “Mars Now.”

Break 9:39 to 9:50.

Business Meeting: Called to order at 9:50 by Cathy Laboda.

Lew Snodgrass: read the minutes from October’s meeting.

Lew also gave thanks to ACA members Jim Watson, Gregg Crenshaw and Marissa Fanady for their participation in Akron Public School’s Astronomy Day.

Dave Jessie: Out for health reasons (Get Well Soon) Dave.

Treasurer: Nick was unable to attend. The information is available online.

ACA Club Dinner: (Freddy) Tentative date Feb. 5th, we need a more accurate head count. P.S. The event worked out fine.

Observatory report: Ron, Winterization is working out fine.

Glenn Cameron donated a Tasco telescope.

Good of the Order: Discussion on the upcoming eclipse.

Big thanks to Terry and Connie for our refreshments.

Board Meeting: Sunday February 12 at the Waterloo at 2pm.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13.

*Lew Snodgrass
ACA Secretary*

February 24, 2017 - General Membership Meeting

Speaker: To be announced.

Presentation: To be announced.

About our speaker: To be announced.

New Alternate Meeting Location!!!

New Franklin City Hall
5611 Manchester Road
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!

ACA Outreach

By Marissa Fanady



Lew Snodgrass teaching a group of students about telescopes. Behind him are some examples of the different types. Image by ACA member Lew Snodgrass.

kids from many of Akron's high schools in attendance. Lew Snodgrass was informed of this activity by Firestone and was asked if the club could participate, after bringing this up to the ACA we had four volunteers step up to help which consisted of Lew, Gregg Crenshaw, Jim Watson, and Marissa Fanady. Firestone had the ACA set up in the library with each of us having our own tables to set up for the specific topic that each of us had chosen to educate the children with. Lew had telescopes set up to talk about the different types of telescopes, how to use them, accessories needed, and why size matters with what one wants to observe. Gregg talked about astrophotography and astronomy in general; what really lies out there in our incredible universe. Jim held a discussion on radio astronomy, telling the students that they can not only see space but hear it as well, with the proper equipment. Really how amazing is it that someone can listen to the sun, Jupiter, Saturn and even pick up the low sound of the Big Bang itself! My presentation was on meteorites, rocks from space, that they were free to hold in their very own hands. The oldest material that a human being could ever touch, at least 4.5 billion years old. We were able to bring a great range of astronomy topics to these young minds, they learned that not only can we observe space but that we can hear and even touch the universe as well.

The event was supposed to start at about 9am but we didn't see any students until about 10:30 which actually worked out very well because a few of us, myself included, were a bit late. This gave us time to set up our areas before any kids arrived. To be completely honest we had no idea of how this event was going to play out, we were not aware that we would each get our own tables to set up a presentation. Had we known about the set up that was planned we would have prepared much better displays and discussions, but we did the best we could with what we had and the event seemed pretty successful. After all problem solving and creating quick fixes is an extremely common trait with scientific minded people, a must really if you plan to pursue a career in science. Finally we started seeing the students not much longer after setting up, they were being ushered around by their teachers in groups of four to eight at a time. We were given ten minutes at a time to talk about our topic and answer questions. Really there was supposed to be fifteen minutes given to each group but at the last minute they changed the events end time from 2pm to 1:30pm. This type of event, basically being a speaker,

The Astronomy Club of Akron strives to promote and educate the general public on the wonders of the night sky. We have given observing opportunities for camps throughout the summer, boy scouts to earn astronomy badges, and have had special observing events for unique astronomical phenomenon such as eclipses. We've also set up tables at special scientific events throughout the year in Akron and the surrounding areas showcasing our beautiful photos taken by members, educate on all areas of astronomy, and even offer real rocks from space for the public to inspect; to actually hold the universe in their hands. Recently the ACA was asked by Firestone High school to participate in a new event that the school was hosting; a little version of astronomy day where kids in the Akron Public Schools district comes to learn about the night sky. The school was very recently improved and still houses a little planetarium. We were asked to help educate the children on any area of astronomy that we could offer so four members of the club volunteered their time and knowledge to this event.

The event was on January 19th from 9am to 2pm with



Gregg Crenshaw talks about astrophotography and general astronomy to the kids. Our members photos are set up as examples. Image by ACA member Lew Snodgrass.

was very new to me and in fact a first in my outreach experiences thus far. With spending most of my free time studying and reading up on meteorites there was no shortage of information that could be shared. Four groups at a time were brought into the library and we sounded like broken record tapes repeating basic facts over and over. All we had time for was the basics. After a few hours we finally got a break! Everyone wandered over to my area to finally sit for a little while after standing the whole time. The assistant that they had for us was kind enough to run out and grab lunch although he did not make it back before it was time to start up again. After another hour or so we were finally done having seen all the kids and we were exhausted. All of us must have educated at least ten groups of students, not an easy feat but definitely worth the effort.



Pictured above is Jim Watson educating students on the science of radio astronomy. Image by ACA member Lew Snodgrass.

Yes this was very tiring work, my body was not happy with me afterwards, but if this is held again volunteering my time, energy and knowledge will certainly happen. The others looked just as tired as myself but hopefully they or others will jump at the opportunity to do this again in the future. Why do this when it's hard work? Why return when most of the students were completely uninterested and couldn't care less? Well it's simple, because this potentially inspired one if not a few of those kids. That itself is a success. Perhaps one of those students will now take a big interest in astronomy and even attend college to be an astronomer, an astrophysicist, an engineer, a physicist, an astronaut, even an astrobiologist. The careers offered in astronomy are much more diverse these days and we need children to become interested in these fields, to carry on the search for knowledge as well as the exploration of our universe. Next time we will be better prepared for another event like this; to make our set ups much more interactive and interesting to capture their attention much better. All in all we did a pretty good job with this and a big thank you goes out to our ACA members who took time out of their lives to participate and educate. This is what the Astronomy Club of Akron is all about.

Article by Marissa Fanady
ACA Publications Secretary

February Astronomical Events

Day Hour(UT)
 1 01 Mars 2° N. of Moon
 2 08 Uranus 3° N. of Moon
 3 02 Ceres 1° 0 S. of Moon Occn.
 4 04 FIRST QUARTER
 5 22 Aldebaran 0° 2 S. of Moon Occn.
 6 14 Moon at perigee
 6 19 Jupiter stationary
 11 01 FULL MOON Penumbral Eclipse
 11 14 Regulus 0° 8 N. of Moon Occn.
 15 15 Jupiter 3° S. of Moon
 17 07 Venus greatest illuminated extent
 18 20 LAST QUARTER
 18 21 Moon at apogee
 20 23 Saturn 4° S. of Moon
 23 16 Jupiter 4° N. of Spica
 26 15 NEW MOON Eclipse
 27 08 Mars 0° 6 N. of Uranus
 28 20 Venus 10° N. of Moon

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

March Astronomical Events

Day Hour(UT)
 1 16 Uranus 4° N. of Moon
 1 19 Mars 4° N. of Moon
 2 03 Neptune in conjunction with Sun
 2 14 Venus stationary
 2 21 Ceres 0° 8 N. of Moon Occn.
 3 08 Moon at perigee
 5 03 Aldebaran 0° 2 S. of Moon Occn.
 5 12 FIRST QUARTER
 7 00 Mercury in superior conjunction
 7 03 Vesta stationary
 10 23 Regulus 0° 8 N. of Moon Occn.
 12 15 FULL MOON
 14 20 Jupiter 2° S. of Moon
 15 03 Pallas in conjunction with Sun
 18 17 Moon at apogee
 20 10 Equinox
 20 10 Saturn 3° S. of Moon
 20 16 LAST QUARTER
 25 10 Venus in inferior conjunction
 26 08 Neptune 0° 005 N. of Moon Occn.
 28 03 NEW MOON
 29 07 Mercury 7° N. of Moon
 30 13 Mars 5° N. of Moon
 30 13 Moon at perigee

ACA Eclipse Corner 2017

By Marnie Sanders

Despite the decidedly mixed reviews over the first HUGE eclipse of the year on January 20th, the true excitement for August 21, 2017 solar eclipse is growing. Some claim to have even chartered planes to fly on the Eclipse path!!!

“Sky and Telescope” will start their Eclipse Expedition in Nashville, Tennessee, claiming a quick sell-out is inevitable; but with no price listed, one probably can’t afford it if one has to ask...at least that is my experience. Nearby Indiana has an interesting website: <http://www.eclipse2017.org/2017/circumstances/in.htm>. Many cities are offering Eclipse packages, so if you are of that persuasion it’s time to get on their mailing lists. There is a bit of “Eclipse Mania” out there so don’t delay!

And don’t forget that our own Freddy Huffman found a nice and reasonable resort, Barren River Lake State Park, Lucas, Ky., tel 270-646-2151. He reported it was about five miles from the eclipse path, around \$90 per night in the lodge with cabins and camping is also available, and there are fun things to do around the Mammoth Cave area if an uncooperative sky occurs.

You can google any major city on the “path” and find some organized free events also. ACA members discussed some local plans during the 1/27 meeting, including our own “Solar-man” Dave Jessie at Stow (check out his new Eclipse link from the ACA homepage) and the Akron Library Lady, Michele. She hopes to set up Skype to other “on the line” locations via laptops on the library patio so it will still be as “real” as it can be if you are Akron-based and cloud covered.

She would really like ACA help, and to that end, Greg Crenshaw and I are asking for some of you to commit to assist if you are staying in the Akron area so she can finalize her Library event . My Mike and I are yet unsure of possible travel plans away from Akron, so if those of you who are staying in Akron can help at Library, please respond by email to me, msanders@kent.edu, so we can firm up a commitment to her. THANKS!

*Article By ACA Member,
Marnie Sanders*

The Night Sky

Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

c/o Marissa Fanady, Editor

443 Fernwood Ave.

Tallmadge OH, 44278

The Astronomy Club of Akron

c/o Nick Mihiylov

13495 Mogadore Avenue NW

Uniontown, Ohio 44685-9347

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

www.acaoh.org

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

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EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Astronomy Club of Akron annual memberships renew in the month of September.

ADULT (ages 18 and older) ___\$30.00

JUNIOR (ages 12 to 17) _____\$15.00

ADDITIONAL ADULT member ___\$15.00

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP _____\$40.00

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