



The Night Sky

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

Volume 41 Number 5

May 2019

Next Meeting: Friday - May 17, 2019 - 8:00 PM - Kiwanis

ACA NEWS AND NOTES **May 2019**

ACA Meetings

The ACA May meeting was the last meeting before our summer hiatus. Meetings will resume with our September meeting scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on Friday, September 27th. Membership fees are due for the upcoming year on or before that date. Feel free to mail your dues to treasurer Nick Mihiylov at:

The Astronomy Club of Akron
c/o Nick Mihiylov
13495 Mogadore Avenue NW
Uniontown, Ohio 44685-9347

Membership dues pays for observatory maintenance and insurance, dinner for our guest speakers, membership picnic entree, pavilion fees, and any costs incurred in support of our outreach programs. Your membership is needed and much appreciated!

ACA's 70th Anniversary

Continuing our celebration of ACA's 70th anniversary, the ACA Board has planned these upcoming events:
On June 20th, in collaboration with the Akron-Summit County Public Library, ACA hosts NASA astronaut Mike Foreman for a special public event at the Akron Main Library from 7:00pm-8:00pm.

ACA is celebrating its anniversary along with the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing on July 20th. A day of activities is planned for the whole family. Details are forthcoming.

The annual Members Picnic is Sunday, August 4th at Big Oaks Pavilion in Portage Lakes State Park. The picnic is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. ACA will provide the burgers and dogs. Members attending will bring a dish to share. Please mark your calendars and join us!!

Star Parties

Upcoming Star Parties are scheduled for 9:00 p.m. on May 25th, June 1st, and June 29th. For details about what Observatory Director Ron Kalinoski has on the viewing list, see the 2019 Observatory Schedule found on the ACA website. Also check out the website often for notice of Impromptu Star Parties. Stop in at the ACA Observatory to support these outreach events!

ACA Outreach

ACA committed to participate in the Astronomy Day program at the Akron Public Library Main Branch on Saturday, June 22nd. Thanks to all who volunteered to represent the club! We are still in need of a few volunteers to help man the ACA table. The program is scheduled between the hours of 10 am and 3:30 pm. Contact Trustee Gregg Crenshaw if you are able to help.

ACA Anniversary Bash

A heartfelt thanks to Ann Ferrell and Marnie Sanders for providing cake, special refreshments, and decorations to celebrate ACA's 70th year of serving Akron and its surrounding communities. Your efforts made the night special!



ACA member Mike Sanders celebrating the 70th anniversary of the astronomy club by the refreshments table.



Celebration cake at the 70th anniversary bash provided by Ann Ferrell and Marnie Sanders.

OFFICERS 2018 – 2020

President

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Trustee

Susan Swift
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E-mail: contighe@hotmail.com

Statutory Agent

Mark Kochheiser
Phone: E-mail:

OTAA Representative

Lou Poda

April Treasurer's Report

By Nick Mihiylov

4/1/2019 Through 4/30/2019

Checking Beginning Balance	\$1,072.79
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Income

T-Shirt & Astronomical League Deposits	165.00
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Total Income	\$165.00
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Expenses

CK#1234 - Cotton Expressions, Ltd. (Shirts)	-450.98
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Speaker Dinner - April	-63.00
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CK#1235 - Reimbursement for Office 365	-75.05
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Stop Check Fee for lost Check# 1233	-35.00
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Total Expenses	-624.03
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Income Less Expenses	-\$459.03
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Checking Ending Balance	\$613.76
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,567.24
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Earned Interest	0.04
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Savings Ending Balance	\$2,567.28
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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	2,567.28
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Checking	613.76
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Grand Total	\$3,231.00
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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:

**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 March 22, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 PM by Vice President Justin Phillips.

The Treasurer's report was read by Nick Mihiylov: Checking \$519.26, Money Market Savings \$2567.24, Petty Cash \$50.00, Total \$3136.50; Check were written for Microsoft Office and the first T-shirt order.

Glen Cameron moved to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Marissa Fanady seconded, All were in favor by voice vote.

Minutes of the April meeting were read by Trustee Susan Swift due to Secretary Terry Taylor's illness. Glenn Cameron made a motion to except the minutes as read, Marnie Sanders seconded. All were in favor by voice vote.

Old Business:

There was a discussion regarding the field trip to Observatory Park/Nassau Astronomical Station. Gregg was only member who went. He spoke about the program being on gibbous moon so nothing besides the moon could be seen through the 36" F=13 Classical Cassegrain Telescope. "Nice observatory but no on this night."

New Business:

May 31 Camp Ed Bear at Camp Carl: need volunteers with telescopes to go and show the universe to campers who are battling Cancer or in remission and staff from Children's Hospital.

ACA 70th Anniversary T-shirts: Marnie Sanders and Ann Ferrell: Marnie had received the first order. See Marnie to pick up any T-shirts you have ordered. She is taking one more order hopefully to be delivered by the May 17th meeting. WEAR YOUR T-SHIRTS TO THE MAY 17th MEETING!!!!

May 17 "party bash" meeting. Plan is to have a Apollo 11 cake. Dr. Bryan Palaszewski from NASA Glenn will present: "Apollo 11 50th Anniversary."

June 20 7:00 PM Astronaut (retired) Mike Forman (he's from Wadsworth) will speak at Akron/Summit County Main Library Auditorium. ACA is co-sponsoring this event. First two rows are reserved for ACA members. ACA will have a table with club/educational information.

June 22 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM Astronomy Day at Akron/Summit County Main Library Atrium: ACA will have tables with club information and possible telescope display. There is a sign up sheet. Sign up and come down for an hour and talk to people about Astronomy!

July 20 Observatory star party: Possible Apollo 11 celebration .

August 4 Annual Members Picnic at Big Oaks Pavillion. ACA will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. You provide side dish to share.

August 17-18 Props and Pistons Festival Air and Car Show at Akron-Fulton Airport. We have been invited to have a table for one day or both days.

Observatory Director's Report: Ron Kalinoski
Star Party April 27 Messier Marathon will probably be canceled due to weather.

Astronomical League: Still collecting dues, annual dues are \$7.50 for 4 quarterly League publications. See Gregg Crenshaw.

Refreshments for May 17 meeting: Marnie Sanders.

Call for observations: Ron: April 22 Jupiter and the Moon in the early morning sky.

Call for a motion to adjourn: Motion by Nick, second Glenn.

*Article By Gregg Crenshaw
ACA Trustee*

Observatory Report

By Ron Kalinoski



Gary Ciesielczyk checks out the Zimmerman telescope after the recent upgrades he helped install. Image by Ron Kalinoski.

Last year we took the Zimmerman 5" refractor out of storage and set it up during a public star party. Todd Michel showed the public stunning views of Jupiter & Saturn. Operationally however, Todd reported some mechanical issues with the telescope that made the telescope challenging to operate. After the star party, we talked about the issues with members present and decided to upgrade the telescope to overcome these issues. If you ever saw the Zimmerman mount, you would agree it's a mechanical marvel, but there are a few issues with the mount that affect its performance. The first is backlash in the mount that requires the operator to overshoot the target in order to place the object in the field of view after the mount relaxes. An overhaul of the mount could solve this problem; however, other issues with the mount have a less easy solution. During the star party Todd was not able to use any of our other eyepieces because the focuser lacked sufficient back focus. Todd was only able to obtain a sharp focus with the Zimmerman 12mm eyepiece. In addition, while focusing, the pinion rolled out of the rack on both ends of the focal range. Stops appear to be missing. The last issue is balancing the telescope. There is no way to move the optical tube in either direction to balance the telescope's RA axis. This is because the telescope is bolted to a baseplate and the baseplate fastened to the mount. The drive we plan to use requires good balance; else the clutch will slip resulting in no telescope tracking.

Our upgrade included the following: replacing the mount with one that has a drive, replacing the 1.25 inch focuser with our 2 inch Van Slyke focuser, and adding tube rings to allow movement of the optical tube so the telescope can be balanced. We had a mount with a drive in storage that was donated to us by a non-member. The Van Slyke focuser was left over from the 16" focuser upgrade. It's a low profile focuser with one inch of travel. This is not the best focuser choice as we would want more travel, but free makes it quite attractive. Since we needed to adapt the new focuser to the optical tube, we set the location of the focuser to get the focal plane where we would like it to be in order to maximize the usefulness of the short travel. The last modification was adding tube rings. The closest commercially available tube rings we could find was Orion's with an inside diameter of 140mm. This was a little large for the custom optical tube, so we attached teflon inserts to the inside of each tube ring to make up the difference. And finally, we had a couple of choices on counterweights that we found lying around the observatory. We chose the lighter of the two; however the inside diameter was smaller than the mount counterweight shaft. Jim Watson bored out the counterweight to match the shaft size and fabricated two collars to hold the counterweight in place. We only needed to make some small modifications to attach the mount to the existing pier. Thanks to Jim Watson, Gary Ciesielczyk, and Dave Hartsook for their help on this project. And at our May 5th star party, Amy & Gary Ciesielczyk set up the 5" refractor to check out its performance. They viewed a number of celestial objects including the double star Mizar and Beehive Cluster. Amy & Gary reported the telescope tracked well and the 2" focuser had adequate range for our Meade 5000 series 18mm & 6.7mm eyepieces.



The 2 inch Van Slyke focuser fitted to the Zimmerman telescope. Image by Ron Kalinoski.



Zimmerman telescope with new mount & drive installed. Image by Ron Kalinoski.

*Article By Ron Kalinoski
ACA Observatory Director*

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Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

c/o Marissa Fanady, Editor

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Akron OH, 44312

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: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

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

Visit us on the Web at www.acaoh.org,