



# The Night Sky

The Newsletter of  
The Astronomy Club of Akron  
[www.acaoh.org](http://www.acaoh.org)

Volume 43 Number 3

March 2021

## ACA ZOOM MEETING - March 26, 2021 AT 7:30PM

### President's Column

By Gregg Crenshaw

### March 2021 ACA News

Due to the continuing COVID-19 Pandemic the ACA must STILL cancel all face to face meetings and programming. We will continue meetings via Zoom and promote online Astronomy programming.

MARCH 2021 ACA MEETING MARCH 26 7:30 PM - As I type this article we have no speaker for the March ACA meeting. Our usual contacts have not shown any interest. Any members have an area of Astronomy that is a particular focus of study that they would like to speak about? If no speaker is secured I will check internet resources. There will be a social time 7:30 PM until 8:00 PM

Here is the Zoom link and phone number (sound only) for the March ACA meeting.

To join Zoom meeting with computer or tablet: <https://zoom.us/j/93052288593>

To join Zoom meeting with a phone (voice only): +1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 930 5228 8593

### VIRTUAL MESSIER MARATHON SATURDAY, MARCH 13 BEGINNING AT 8:30 PM EST

It is March. March it time for MESSIER MARATHONS!!! You can go out by yourself with a telescope or, if you have a broadband connection to the internet you can click the following link (or cut and past to your browser):

<https://youtu.be/cBWGIPAJVVA>

Which will take you to the LOWELL OSERVATORY YouTube Channel and the MESSIER MARATHON 2021 INTERNATIONAL STAR PARTY! Here is a description:

Join Lowell Observatory's Messier Marathon, an all-night virtual star party during which we'll hunt for all 110 objects in Charles Messier's famous catalog. These are among the most prominent deep-sky objects visible in the night sky. We'll broadcast live from the Giovale Open Deck Observatory, using our state-of-the-art PlaneWave telescope and shiny new MallinCam system.

\*This livestream will be simulcast on Twitch (<https://www.twitch.tv/lowellobservatory>).

The party begins at 6:30pm MST on March 13, just before local sunset here in Flagstaff, Arizona, and ends at 6:30am MST on March 14, just after local sunrise. (Note: Daylight Savings Time begins at 2am local time on March 14, but Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings. Outside of Arizona, the Messier Marathon begins at 8:30pm EST/5:30pm PST and ends at 9:30am EDT/6:30am PDT.) I will also be sending an email to members around March 8 about this unique event.

## Perseverance Rover Drives on Mars

NASA's Mars Perseverance rover had its first drive on Mars' surface March 4. It was only 21.3 feet, but hey baby steps first. The drive lasted about 33 minutes.

*Article By Gregg Crenshaw  
ACA President*

## SUPER HOT NEARBY EXOPLANET DISCOVERED!

By Marnie Sanders

A recent debut of another “alien visitor” to earth show on TV has once again trivialized the possibility of life on other planets. Have you seen “Resident Alien”? He crashed landed, causing his plan to instantly destroy the “misguided” earthlings to be confounded. So the Alien has to disguise himself and inhabits the nearest (& unfortunate) human’s body. Invisible as an alien by his powers to 99.9% of the humans, he is “outed”, ie., seen by one little boy in the show, whose declarations are, of course, attributed to his over-active imagination. So since his crash landing flung his “destroyer” weapon somewhere in the Rockies, yet to be found, he must search a vast area and attempt to “fit in“. But as the alien learns how we speak and act by watching TV, “Law & Order” particularly, he also begins to acquire some human thoughts. These are further expanded as he interacts with the townspeople and becomes more involved in their daily lives.

A second new alien visitor show debuted last week, and these “Aliens” are so far only represented by the wreckage of their alien ship, the “debris”, also the name of the show. The team of humans investigating the damaging effects of the debris are themselves damaged by life, and both story points drive this show.

Thank goodness that scientists continue to explore for scientific properties that may yet yield the possibility of life on other planets! And of course, technological advances beyond the radio waves exploration of the “SETI” project have made this exploration more feasible. And while Mikey and I have visited the Very Large Array in New Mexico, and of course, seen in the movie “Contact”, and admired all that “SETI” has accomplished to date, the randomness of searching the vast of space with such technology has always seemed.....well, tedious if not predictably unproductive despite the excitement of that “WOW” signal.

According to an article in EARTH SKY.org, newsletter, (Astronomers spy a nearby, blazing hot super-Earth | Space | EarthSky, posted by Paul Scott Anderson, March 4, 2021) Anderson reports that The CARMENES consortium in Europe has identified such a planet, as published in the peer-reviewed journal “SCIENCE”, March 4.

This group has identified the star Gliese 486, a red dwarf, just 24 light years away from earth, is orbited by the exoplanet Gliese 486b, which “appears to retain its atmosphere.... and is an ideal target for testing different scientific models depicting rocky exoplanet atmospheres.” Additionally, “the composition of the planet is likely similar to Earth and Venus, including a metallic core” according to the report. But, 486b is currently thought to have a much thinner atmosphere, the report continues, making it easier for telescopic study.

I am excited to read more about this study in the future, especially, as they intend to utilize the upcoming “James Webb Space Telescope” as well as the future “Extremely Large Telescope” because of 486B’s proximity! If you would like to know more about this study, check out the article listed above and google for CARMENES....that was interesting too! Enjoy!

*Article By ACA Member  
Marnie Sanders*

## March Astronomical Events

Day Hour (UT)

01 00 Venus 6.3° W  
02 00 Moon Perigee 00:19  
03 18 Mars-M45 18:32  
05 00 Mercury-Jup 00:11  
05 19 Moon D Node 19:56  
05 20 Last Quarter 20:30  
06 05 Mercury West 05:59  
07 15 Moon S Dec 15:45  
09 18 Moon-Saturn 18:02  
10 10 Moon-Jupiter 10:35  
10 18 Neptune Sun 18:36  
10 20 Moon-Mercury 20:02  
13 05 New Moon 05:21  
18 01 Moon Apogee 01:04  
19 13 Moon-Mars 13:48  
19 23 Moon A Node 23:31  
20 05 Spring Eq 05:37  
20 15 Mars-Aldeb. 15:15  
21 10 First Quarter 10:40  
22 04 Moon N Dec 04:35  
24 05 Moon-Beehive 05:58  
26 02 Venus Super 02:17  
28 14 Full Moon 14:48  
30 02 Moon Perigee 02:12

*Sky Events Calendar by Fred Espenak and Sumit Dutta (NASA's GSFC)*

## April Astronomical Events

Day Hour (UT)

01 00 Venus 2° E  
01 22 Moon D Node 22:41  
03 22 Moon S Dec 22:08  
04 06 Last Quarter 06:02  
06 04 Moon-Saturn 04:34  
07 03 Moon-Jupiter 03:15  
11 22 New Moon 22:31  
14 13 Moon Apogee 13:47  
16 01 Moon A Node 01:53  
17 08 Moon-Mars 08:09  
18 12 Moon N Dec 12:02  
18 21 Mercury Super 21:31  
20 02 First Quarter 02:59  
20 14 Moon-Beehive 14:25  
22 08 Lyrids 08:16  
26 23 Full Moon 23:31  
27 11 Moon Perigee 11:24  
29 05 Moon D Node 05:17  
30 17 Uranus Sun 17:15

*Sky Events Calendar by Fred Espenak and Sumit Dutta (NASA's GSFC)*

# 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:

mfanady@yahoo.com

## OFFICERS 2020 – 2022

### President

Gregg Crenshaw

Phone: E-mail: mars3c273@gmail.com

### Vice President

Glenn Cameron

Phone: E-mail:

### Treasurer

Dave Hartsook

Phone: E-mail:

### Secretary

Gary Smith

Phone: E-mail:

### Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Swift

Phone: E-mail:

### Observatory Director

Ron Kalinoski

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### ACA Webmaster

Dave Jessie

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### Publications Secretary - Editor, Night Sky Newsletter

Marissa Fanady

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### Trustee

E-mail:

### Trustee

Susan Swift

E-mail: swiftsm@windstream.net

### Trustee

Connie Tighe

E-mail: contighe@hotmail.com

### Statutory Agent

Mark Kochheiser

Phone: E-mail:

### OTAA Representative

Lou Poda

## February Treasurer's Report

By Dave Hartsook

02/1/2021 Through 02/28/2021

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Checking Beginning Balance	\$2,606.71
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### Income

Membership Dues Collected (1 Adult)	30.00
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Net Paypal Fee/Adj	0.18
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<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$30.18</b>
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### Expenses

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$0.00</b>
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<b>Income Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$30.18</b>
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Checking Ending Balance	\$2,636.89
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$2,567.99
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Earned Interest	0.01
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<b>Savings Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$2,568.00</b>
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Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$50.00
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	0.00
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<b>Petty Cash Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
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Petty Cash	50.00
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Savings	2,568.00
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Checking	2,636.89
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<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,254.89</b>
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*Article by Dave Hartsook  
ACA Treasurer.*

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Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron

c/o Marissa Fanady, Editor

2993 Midway Ct.

Akron OH, 44319

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**The Astronomy Club of Akron**  
c/o Dave Hartsook  
4174 Meadow Wood Lane  
Uniontown, OH 44685-7717

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

Check one:  New Membership  
 Renewal

[www.acaoh.org](http://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.

Initial dues for New Members are prorated. If joining in Sep-Nov, pay full amount below; Dec-Feb pay 75%; Mar-May pay 50%; Jun-Aug pay 25%

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](http://www.acaoh.org)