ASTRONOMY CLUB OF AKRON
www.acaoh.org

The Night Sky

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

Volume 48 Number 2 February 2026

ACA MEETING - Sunday, February 15th, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Winter Social

By Ron Kalinoski

The Astronomy Club of Akron held their winter social luncheon at the Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth, Ohio on February 1st. We had an amazing group of people attend the event with good food and great conversation. In our group photo from back row to front row, from left to right: Back row - Jim Haas, Gary Peters, Earl Rodd, Robert Folk Jr., Glenn Cameron, Dean Philips. Next row - Sam Nuzum, Linda Bozick, Linda Murphy, Diane Rodd, Mikey Sanders, Carol Spears, Maryellen Cameron, Stuart Clary, Susan Burton Lowry. Next row - Christina Hoehn Shackelford, Nicole Meadows Hale, Marnie Sanders, Gail Spears, Cathy Hartsook. Front row - Ron Kalinoski, Dave Hartsook.

There are more pictures elsewhere in this newsletter issue.



President's Column

By Cathy Loboda

Upcoming ACA Meeting

Our next membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 15th at 2:00pm. Gary Kader, Baldwin Wallace University and Director of Burrell Observatory, will speak about the Hertzsprung Russell Diagram. Stars are born, live their lives, and experience death. Kader will explain how data represented on the Hertzsprung Russell Diagram tells us about the lives of stars. All ACA meetings are held at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron. Hope to see you on the 15th!

We Want You

This spring ACA members will elect a new ACA Board to serve a two year term. Please consider serving on the board and making a difference in ACA's future. See Ron Kalinoski at our February meeting or connect with him via email: observatorydirector@acaoh.org. A slate of members running for office will be announced at the March membership meeting and elections will take place during the April membership meeting. The new Board begins their 2 year term in May 2026.

Mark Your Calendars

Below are the remaining ACA meetings before our summer break. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

March 15, 2026 2:00pm Dr. Patrick Durrell, Youngstown State University

Topic to be announced soon.

Dr, Durrell is a professor of Physics, Astronomy & Geology at Youngstown State University. He has used the Hubble Space Telescope to research galaxies and globular star clusters.

April 19, 2026 2:00pm Dr, Cyrus Taylor, Case Western University

Global Warming

Dr. Taylor, a String Theorist and Particle Accelerator Scientist, has now decided to take on an even more challenging role. Dr. Taylor will explain how emissions into our atmosphere impact planet Earth.

May 17, 2026 2:00pm Jeff Woytach, Space Systems Consulting, LLC

James Webb Telescope: Looking Back to the Edge of Creation

Jeff Woytach will explain the complexities of the James Webb Telescope and how it is being used to discover history of the earliest times after the creation of the universe.

The Astronomy Club of Akron Welcomes New Member

Jim Haas

We look forward to seeing you in future club events.



OFFICERS 2024 — 2026

President: Cathy Loboda

- E-mail: president@acaoh.org

Vice President: Gary Smith

- E-mail: vice.president@acaoh.org

Treasurer: Dave Hartsook

- E-mail: treasurer@acaoh.org

Secretary: Carol Spears

- E-mail: secretary@acaoh.org

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:

- E-mail: secretarytreasurer@acaoh.org

Observatory Director: Ron Kalinoski

- E-mail: observatory.director@acaoh.org

ACA Webmaster: Earl Rodd

- E-mail: webmaster@acaoh.org

Publications Secretary: Glenn R. Cameron

- E-mail: newsletter.editor@acaoh.org

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

- E-mail: statutoryagent@acaoh.org



Latest meeting video available on YouTube

By Glenn R. Cameron

2026-01-18 ACA Public Meeting Annual Telescope Seminar
https://youtu.be/Su35DrDwJ_g



Meeting Minutes: January 18th, 2026

By Carol Spears

Meeting called to order by President Cathy Loboda: 3:37 PM

Officers' Reports

Vice President report by Gary Smith: No report

Secretary Report by Carol Spears: Secretary minutes are presented to members via the Night Sky Newsletter. No additions or corrections.

Treasurer Report by Dave Hartsook: Treasurer reports are presented to members via The Night Sky Newsletter. No additions or corrections to the December and January reports.

Old Business:

* The date for the winter social luncheon for club members was Sunday, February 1, 2026 at noon, at the Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth.

New Business:

- Annual insurance will be due in March with a slight increase this year. The insurance covers the club for liability and the observatory equipment.
- Ron is preparing the slate of potential Board officers for this year's elections. In March the slate will be presented to members at the member meeting. Elections will be in April for the 2-year terms to being in May.
- Thanks to the ACA for sponsoring the refreshments for the January meeting, and to Ron Kalinoski for making the purchases.

Observatory Director Report by Ron Kalinoski:

- Board-approved observatory budget for 2026, will be published in the next Newsletter. Some observatory work approved in 2025 which was not completed will be done and paid for from the 2025 funds.
- Two main differences this year were:
  - Approval of a $200 donation to the Portage Lakes Kiwanis in gratitude for being able to have our meetings in their facility.
  - $150 for copies of the 2026 Activity Schedule.
- There have not been many clear skies, so minimal star parties were held.

Member Observations:

- No member observations.

Member Inquiries:

- No member inquiries.

Meeting adjourned by Cathy Loboda: 3:49 PM



January 2026 ACA Treasurer's Report
By Dave Hartsook
2/2/2026

Checking Beginning Balance	**$**	**1,352.72**
Inflows		
Membership Dues	$	62.50
Donations - Unrestricted	$	57.50
Donations - to Sponsor ACA Meeting Refreshments	$	30.00
Paypal Fee Calc Overage	$	0.06
Transfer from Savings	$	1,500.00
Total Inflows	$	1,650.06
Outflows		
Speaker Honorariums	$	(50.00)
Charitable Donation to Portage Lakes Kiwanis	$	(200.00)
Reimburse Board Mbr for Activity Schedule Printing- for distribution to Akron-Summit CO Libraries	$	(20.00)
Reimburse Obsy Director for rock salt, sky and moon maps, and donated scope refurb parts	$	(78.10)
Reimb. Obsy Director for Jan ACA Mtg refreshments, cups, finderscope battery, paint stripper	$	(182.73)
Total Outflows	$	(530.83)
Inflows Less Outflows	$	1,119.23
Checking Ending Balance	**$**	**2,471.95**

Savings Beginning Balance	**$**	**3,269.38**
Interest Income	$	0.02
Transfer to Checking	$	(1,500.00)
Savings Ending Balance	**$**	**1,769.40**

Petty Cash Beginning Balance	**$**	**50.00**
No Activity		
Petty Cash Ending Balance	**$**	**50.00**
Grand Total	**$**	**4,291.35**

Member Photos - Winter Social

By Ron Kalinoski

Astronomy Club of Akron members enjoyed a quiet Sunday afternoon at the Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth on February 1st. We were set up in The Cellar Room, which is a private room reserved for larger groups or organizations. We ordered off their regular menu and Al La Carte menu. An awesome group of people attended the event with good food and great conversation. The Cellar Room has a large gas fireplace that was burning during our event to provide a cozy environment and was great for removing the chill from the frigid winter freeze outdoors!





Member Photos - Winter Social continued

By Ron Kalinoski





Member Photos - January ACA Public Meeting

By Diwaker Chandrasekaran







Member Photos - January ACA Public Meeting continued

By Diwaker Chandrasekaran





Member Photos - January ACA Public Meeting continued

By Niladri Kar

Pacman Nebula (NGC281, IC11 or Sh2-184); Dec 2025.

80mm Refractor, IMX585 Color Camera, 32x4min Ha-Oiii dual NB filter; stacked in DSS, processed in Siril and PixInsight, Bortle 5.



Astronomy Club of Akron

2026 Activity Schedule

View Celestial Objects through the area's Largest Amateur Club Telescope

5031 Manchester Road, Akron, OH www.acaoh.org

Astronomy Club of Akron has been a distinguished northeast Ohio organization since 1949. The objective of the ACA is to promote the education of the public in the area of astronomy and related sciences through our public star parties and public lecture meetings.

STAR PARTIES: Portage Lakes State Park Observatory featuring a computerized 16 inch telescope

- Please join us for stargazing and educational activities. Our Star Parties are free and open to the public Please arrive on time to avoid headlight distraction.
- For notice of "impromptu star parties", send e-mail to ACAstarparty@att.net to request e-mail notification of our observing sessions.
- Events will be cancelled if skies are cloudy. Always check website for star party status two hours before event.
- This is an outdoor activity in an unheated environment. A general rule of thumb is to dress for 15 degrees cooler than predicted nighttime low temperature.
- Please, ***No Smoking*** on observatory grounds. Smoke reacts with optical surfaces, damaging optical coatings.
- Please, no use of cell phones or tablets in observatory (to preserve night vision).

Public Lecture Meetings: Free and open to the public featuring professional speakers

Meeting Place: Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center
725 Portage Lakes Drive Akron, OH

2026 Winter/Spring Schedule:

January 18, 2026 2:00pm
Astronomy Club of Akron Members: John Crilly, Phil Creed, & Ron Kalinoski
Telescope Seminar
Our members will explain the science and operation of optical equipment including binoculars, reflectors, refractors, and catadioptric telescopes. Some classic telescopes will be on display.

February 15, 2026 2:00pm
Gary Kader, Baldwin Wallace University, Director of Burrell Observatory and Lecturer
Hertzsprung Russell Diagram
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James Webb Telescope: Looking Back to the Edge of Creation
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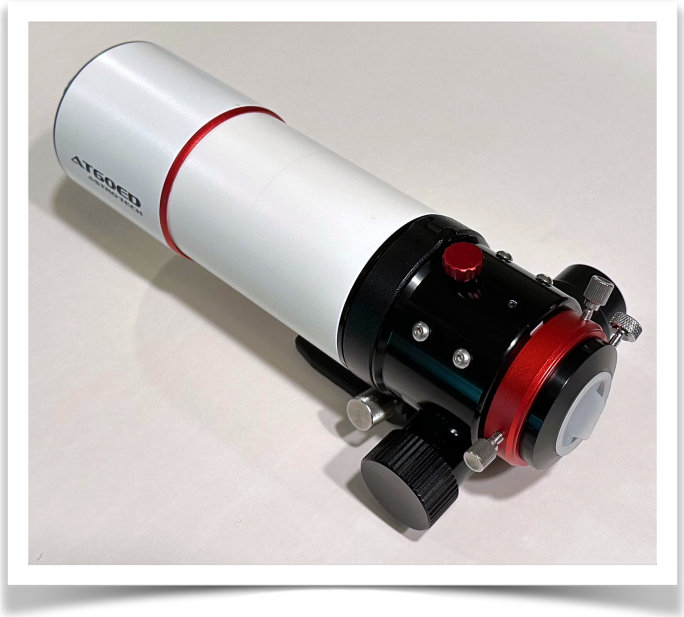
*** We hold unscheduled star parties when skies are clear. For an e-mail notification of impromptu star parties send a message to ACAstarparty@att.net to be added to the list. For private star parties (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Church Groups, School Groups, etc.) send a request to the same e-mail address.

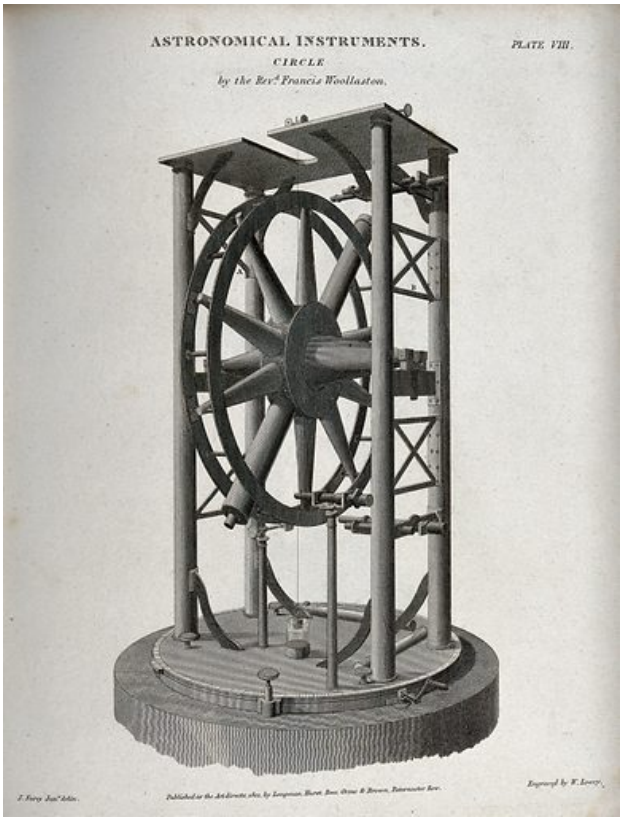
Swap-n-Shop

Glenn Cameron

Email: glenn@cameronclan.org

- Astro-Tech AT60ED 60mm F6 ED Doublet. Contains one FPL53 lens by Ohara in Japan which minimizes chromatic aberration. Price is $300





Swap-n-Shop

Freddy Huffman

Phone: 330-535-8009

Email: trusstube2@gmail.com

- 8” Dobsonian
- 8” SCT
- 6” SCT
- 6” Refractor
- 5” Refractor
- 100 mm Binoculars
- EQ Mount w/ dual axis tracking
- iOptron SkyTracker and tripod

Call to set up appointment to see if you are interested.

Thank you,

Freddy



February Astronomical Events

Date	EST (h:m)	Event
01	17:09	FULL MOON
02	21:48	Regulus 0.4°S of Moon
03	14:18	Moon at Descending Node
07	03:26	Spica 1.8°N of Moon
09	07:43	LAST QUARTER MOON
10	11:52	Moon at Apogee: 404577 km
10	22:19	Antares 0.7°N of Moon
17	07:01	NEW MOON
17	07:12	Annular Solar Eclps mag=0.963
18	01:19	Moon at Ascending Node
18	18:03	Mercury 0.1°N of Moon: Occn.
19	06:00	Mercury at Perihelion
19	13:00	Mercury at Grtst Elong: 18.1°E
19	18:54	Saturn 4.6°S of Moon
23	21:43	Pleiades 1.2°S of Moon
24	07:28	FIRST QUARTER MOON
24	18:18	Moon at Perigee: 370132 km
27	01:26	Jupiter 4.0°S of Moon
27	16:34	Pollux 3.0°N of Moon



March Astronomical Events

Date	EST (h:m)	Event
02	07:00	Regulus 0.4°S of Moon
02	23:35	Moon at Descending Node
03	06:34	Total Lunar Eclipse; mag=1.151
03	06:38	FULL MOON
06	12:24	Spica 1.8°N of Moon
07	06:00	Mercury at Inferior Conj
10	06:32	Antares 0.7°N of Moon
10	08:43	Moon at Apogee: 404385 km
11	04:39	LAST QUARTER MOON
15	14:00	Mercury 3.4°N of Mars
17	09:07	Mercury 2.0°N of Moon
17	10:22	Moon at Ascending Node
17	16:51	Mars 1.5°S of Moon
18	20:23	NEW MOON
20	07:39	Venus 4.6°S of Moon
20	09:46	Vernal Equinox
22	05:00	Neptune at Conj with Sun
22	06:40	Moon at Perigee: 366858 km
23	03:32	Pleiades 1.1°S of Moon
25	03:00	Saturn at Conjunction with Sun
25	14:18	FIRST QUARTER MOON
26	02:00	Mars at Perihelion: 1.38126 AU
26	07:13	Jupiter 3.9°S of Moon
26	22:18	Pollux 3.0°N of Moon
29	14:00	Regulus 0.4°S of Moon
30	06:34	Moon at Descending Node



Sky Event Almanacs Courtesy of Fred Espenak, www.AstroPixels.com

The Night Sky
Newsletter of the Astronomy Club of Akron
c/o Glenn R. Cameron, Editor

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
(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
Additional Adult Member ○ $15.00
Junior (ages 12 to 17) ○ $15.00
Family Membership ○ $40.00

Visit us on the Web at www.acaoh.org