



The Night Sky

The Newsletter of
The Astronomy Club of Akron

www.acaoh.org

Volume 48 Number 5

May 2026

ACA MEETING - Sunday, May 17th, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Member Photo

By Ron Kalinoski

On April 30th, the Oaks of Righteousness Homeschool Group from Akron came out to the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center for two presentations on astronomy. Part of the homeschool group had previously visited our observatory for a public star party. Further e-mail discussions resulted in scheduling a visit to Kiwanis Civic Center for a learning session. We gave two presentations titled: "Planets, Phases of the Moon, and Eclipses" and "What Do Astronomers See Looking Through a Telescope". There were about twenty attendees. At break-time, children were able to experience looking through a telescope. Oaks of Righteousness Homeschool Group donated \$84 to the Astronomy Club of Akron.



President's Column

By Diwakar Chandrasekaran

Continuing the Legacy

Clear Skies to All,

As we begin this new two-year board term, I want to start by extending my gratitude to our outgoing Board Members. I specifically want to thank Cathy Loboda, our past President, and Carol Spears, our past Secretary, for their immense contributions. Their dedication has kept our club thriving, and our mission to share the wonders of the universe remains strong because of their hard work. I am also very pleased to welcome our incoming Board. It is great to see several familiar faces returning to their roles; your continued support and institutional knowledge are the bedrock of this organization.

Building ACA Together

Looking ahead, our primary focus this term is to bridge the gap between our scheduled events and our club members. We want to see more of you—our members—actively involved in the heartbeat of the club. Whether it's assisting at a public outreach night, sharing a presentation, or helping maintain our observatory, your participation is what transforms a club into a community. We welcome

your inputs, fresh suggestions, and feedback on how we can make our activities more engaging for everyone.

Club Picnic: Committee Volunteers Needed

We are excited to host an ACA Club Picnic on Saturday, May 30th, at 2:00 PM at the Walker Pavilion in Portage Lakes State Park. While these gatherings are a fantastic way to bond outside of our dark-sky sessions, they do require a team effort to pull off. We are currently looking for volunteers to join the Picnic Committee to help with planning and coordination. If you are able to lend a hand, please reach out to me directly.

New Board Appointment

I am pleased to announce that we have a new ACA Trustee joining the leadership team. Please join me in welcoming Nick Mihiylov back to the board! Nick's past experience and his dedication to our public star parties make him an excellent addition as we move forward.

Thank you for your clear-sky spirit and your dedication to the ACA. I look forward to seeing you all under the stars very soon.

Ad Astra

OFFICERS 2026 — 2028

President: Diwakar Chandrasekaran

- E-mail: president@acaoh.org

Vice President: Gary Smith

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

Treasurer: Dave Hartsook

- E-mail: treasurer@acaoh.org

Secretary: Christina Hoehn-Shackelford

- E-mail: secretary@acaoh.org

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer: Drew Carlson

- 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: Nick Mihiylov

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Trustee: position vacant

- E-mail:

Statutory Agent: Mark Kochheiser

- E-mail: statutoryagent@acaoh.org



Latest meeting and unearthed old video available on YouTube

By Glenn R. Cameron

2026-04-19 ACA Public Meeting Speaker Cyrus Taylor https://youtu.be/10oj_f6FNA8

2022-01-28 ACA Public Meeting Speaker Glenn Cameron <https://youtu.be/MfTctLfn6K0>



Meeting Minutes: April 19th, 2026

Submitted by Carol Spears/written by

Christina Hoehn-Shackelford

Meeting called to order by Vice President Gary

Smith: 3:45 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.

Old Business:

- None.

New Business:

Members voted on the following slate for officers:

President: Diwakar Chandrasekaran

Vice President: Gary Smith

Treasurer: Dave Hartsook

Secretary: Christina Hoehn-Shackelford

Newsletter Editor (Publications Secretary): Glenn Cameron

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer: Drew Carlson

Due to all candidates running unopposed, Glenn Cameron moved to vote for all candidates at once, and Susan Lowry seconded. Seventeen voted aye. No nays. All candidates were elected to their positions. The new 2-year terms begin May 1, 2026.

Newly elected President Diwakar Chandrasekaran thanked all who were nominated and all who voted, and also brought up the goal to engage more people in the club and encourage memberships, asking for ideas from club members.

Gary Smith showed a video of the Artemis II mission that demonstrated the path of the Orion capsule. Gary described the success of the mission and how this paves the way for Artemis III, tentatively planned for mid-2027. Gary discussed Space X progress and launch plans.

A member asked about planning for a Saturday summer picnic for club members. Ron Kalinoski stated that some members had previously mentioned wanting two summer picnics, one at the beginning of summer and one at the end. Club members discussed one picnic vs two picnics. Another member suggested creating a committee for picnic(s). Glenn Cameron stated this committee idea could be included in the next newsletter. Dates proposed for early summer picnic were May 30th or June 6th. Secretary Christina Hoehn-Shackelford will inquire when the Portage Lakes Walker Shelter is available and reserve the facility. The board will have more information for members at next month's meeting.

The club purchased the refreshments for the meeting; thanks go to Ron Kalinoski for making the purchases.

Observatory Director Report by Ron Kalinoski: No report.

Member Observations: No report.

Member Inquiries: No member inquiries.

Meeting adjourned by Gary Smith: 4:07 PM

April 2026 ACA Treasurer's Report By Dave Hartsook 5/2/2026
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Checking Beginning Balance	\$ 1,454.34
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Inflows

None	\$ -
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Total Inflows	<u>\$ -</u>
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Outflows

Reimburse Observatory Director for refreshments, water at ACA Meeting	\$ (36.10)
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Total Outflows	<u>\$ (36.10)</u>
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Inflows Less Outflows	\$ (36.10)
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Checking Ending Balance	\$ 1,418.24
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Savings Beginning Balance	\$ 1,769.43
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Interest Income	\$ 0.02
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Savings Ending Balance	\$ 1,769.45
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Petty Cash Beginning Balance	\$ 50.00
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No Activity

Petty Cash Ending Balance	\$ 50.00
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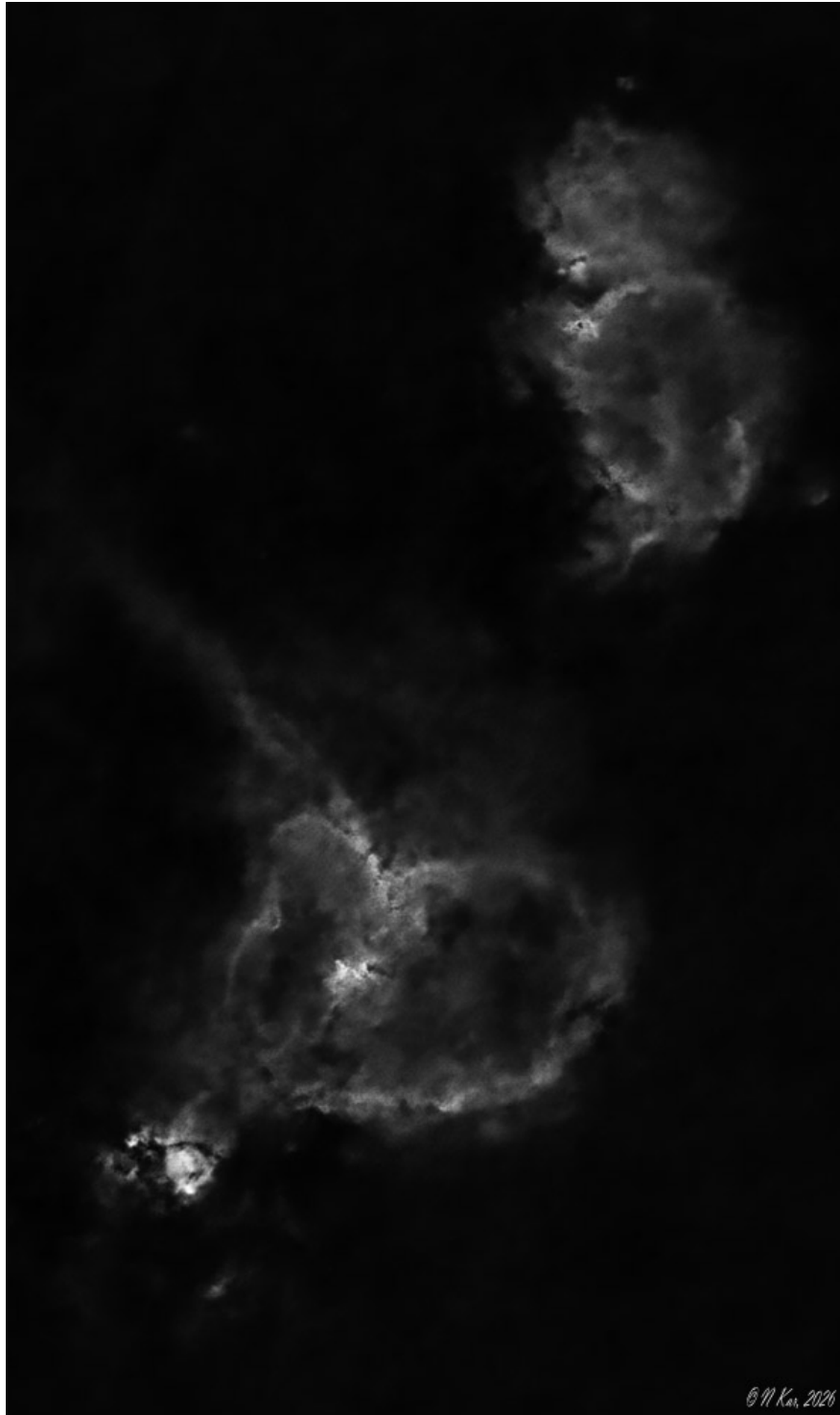
Grand Total	\$ 3,237.69
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Member Photos - Heart and Soul Nebulae

By Niladri Kar

Subject and Time: Heart Nebula (Sharpless 2-190) and Soul Nebula (Sharpless 2-199) in Ha; Feb-Apr 2026, 7 nights.

Details: 90mm Tamron lens, IMX585 Color Camera; 5hr 23min Ha-Oiii; stacked and processed in Siril; 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

Stars are born, live their lives, and experience death. Gary Kader will explain how data represented on the Hertzsprung Russell Diagram tells us about the lives of stars.

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.

*** 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



May Astronomical Events

Date	EST (h:m)	Event
01	12:23	FULL MOON
03	21:20	Antares 0.5°N of Moon
04	17:30	Moon at Apogee: 405843 km
05	03:00	Eta-Aquarid Meteor Shower
09	16:10	LAST QUARTER MOON
10	23:36	Moon at Ascending Node
14	09:00	Mercury at Superior Conj
14	23:00	Venus at Perihelion
16	15:01	NEW MOON
17	08:48	Moon at Perigee: 358074 km
18	05:00	Mercury at Perihelion
18	20:50	Venus 2.9°S of Moon
20	07:39	Jupiter 3.1°S of Moon
20	11:30	Pollux 3.4°N of Moon
22	11:00	Uranus in Conj with Sun
23	01:41	Regulus 0.0°N of Moon
23	06:11	FIRST QUARTER MOON
23	10:26	Moon at Descending Node
27	09:09	Spica 1.9°N of Moon
31	03:32	Antares 0.4°N of Moon
31	03:45	FULL MOON
31	23:32	Moon at Apogee: 406369 km

June Astronomical Events

Date	EST (h:m)	Event
07	01:19	Moon at Ascending Node
07	11:17	Venus 4.6°S of Pollux
08	05:00	LAST QUARTER MOON
09	15:00	Venus 1.6°N of Jupiter
13	08:15	Pleiades 1.0°S of Moon
14	18:18	Moon at Perigee: 357196 km
14	21:54	NEW MOON
15	15:00	Mercury at Grtst Elong: 24.5°E
16	14:32	Mercury 2.6°S of Moon
16	21:08	Pollux 3.6°N of Moon
17	01:54	Jupiter 2.5°S of Moon
17	15:21	Venus 0.3°S of Moon: Occn.
19	09:31	Regulus 0.3°N of Moon
19	12:57	Moon at Descending Node
21	03:25	Summer Solstice
21	16:55	FIRST QUARTER MOON
23	15:11	Spica 2.2°N of Moon
25	07:00	Mercury 3.8°S of Jupiter
27	09:32	Antares 0.5°N of Moon
28	02:11	Moon at Apogee: 406267 km
28	13:32	Mars 4.3°S of Pleiades
29	18:57	FULL MOON



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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

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