

Antares



The Newsletter of the Kansas Astronomical Observers

Meeting time: **October 20, 2018** **3:00 pm**

Location: **Great Plains Nature Center (GPNC)**

Speaker: **Brent Newton**
Topic: **Astrophotography**

KAO Website: <http://www.kaowichita.com>
The Night Sky Network: <http://www.nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov>
The Astronomical League: <http://www.astroleague.org>

If you have comments or suggestions for an article in the newsletter, e-mail them to:
kevin.l.kight@gmail.com *Please begin the subject line with "Antares"

Current Club Officials

President: Jerelyn Ramirez jerelyn.ramirez@gmail.com
Vice-President: Tony Haidai thaidai@cox.net
Treasurer: Paul Ramirez ramirezpm2@gmail.com
Newsletter/Media: Kevin Kight kevin.l.kight@gmail.com

Next Month's Meeting: November 17 @ 3:00pm, Great Plains Nature Center (GPNC)

Club Updates:

Call for Meeting Speakers:

For those members that wish to create and present during a club meeting, or that have a suggestion for a guest speaker during the fall, contact Club Vice-President: Tony Haidai (thaidai@cox.net)

Newsletter Items for Publication:

Please submit items for publication prior to the 10th of each month to be included in that month's newsletter.

Eyepieces for Sale:

See addendum for a collection of TeleVue Eyepieces club member David Stanislaw is wishing to sell. Just a note that the prices are his asking price, and is open to negotiation.

New Club T-shirts available:

Club T-Shirts are in for those who ordered one, they can be picked up at the meeting. Make check out to KAO if you plan to pay by check.

Club Membership Update:

We have a total of 4 new club members since our last meeting, they are:

- Nick Campbell from Goddard
- Jonathan Peters from Wichita
- Brian Obermeyer from Cedar Point
- Gwen Obermeyer from Cedar Point

Current head count of 70 club members.

Nick Campbell and Jonathan Peters joined during our last meeting while we were conducting the Telescope Workshop. They came for the Workshop and became members.

Brian and Gwen Obermeyer and I were visiting at the Woodfest event. They were looking for a telescope. I arranged a meeting with Fred Gassert since he had a 16" telescope for sale. They bought his telescope after becoming club members.

September Club Meeting:

See addendum for a short summary about the September club meeting and the Telescope Workshop.

Astronomy Calendars are now available:

Contact [Paul Ramirez](#) to reserve your calendar today. Supply is limited but we can order more if needed. There will be some available at the meeting.

NSN Club Prizes:

See addendum for 2 awards that our club received from NSN. One each in August and September.

NASA Anniversary

NASA is celebrating 60 years as being a U.S. government agency. October 1, 1958 is when NASA was open for business to begin the space program. See addendum for a description of the logo commemorating this anniversary.



Logo Created by NASA graphic artist Matthew Skeins

Solar and Planetary Items:

Moon Phases:

Last Quarter: October 2
New Moon: October 8
First Quarter: October 16
Full Moon: October 24

Last Quarter: October 31
New Moon: November 7
First Quarter: November 15
Full Moon: November 22

Planets:

Mercury – Hidden by Solar Glare
Venus – Hidden by Solar Glare
Mars – Visible throughout the night. In the south after sunset in Capricornus sets approximately 2:00 am
Jupiter – Visible in the West in Libra. Setting approximately 8:45pm
Saturn – Visible in the South after sunset in Sagittarius, setting approximately 11:15pm
Uranus – Visible in Aries; rising at 17:45 pm
Neptune – Visible in Aquarius; transiting approximately 11:30 pm

Orionid meteor Shower Peaks The morning of October 21st

Comets:

Listed below are comets possibly visible in telescopes from the Wichita area (approximately cutoff at magnitude 15). Magnitudes shown are approximate predictions for mid-month. Links are provided for additional information:

<http://cometchasing.skyhound.com/>

21P/Giacobini-Zinner: An early morning comet in Canis Major
Magnitude 9.4
<https://theskylive.com/21p-info>

48P/Johnson: A morning comet in Pisces Austrinus
Magnitude 12.2
<https://theskylive.com/48p-info>

38P/Stephan-Oterma: An early morning comet in Orion
Magnitude 10.4
<https://theskylive.com/38p-info>

64P/Swift-Gehrels: An all night comet in Andromeda
Magnitude 10.4
<https://theskylive.com/64p-info>

46P/Wirtanen: An early morning comet in Fornax
Magnitude: 9.8
<https://theskylive.com/46p-info>

Event Reports:

If you've participated in a club event, please submit an event report to be included here by the 10th of each month. It doesn't have to be anything formal, just a brief description about the event and how it went. Credit will be given unless you request to be kept anonymous.

Andover Days Event

See addendum for a report on the Andover event

Woodfest 2018

See addendum for a report on the Woodfest 2018 event by Jerelyn Ramirez

Sky Puppies 2018

See addendum for a report on the Sky Puppies Program by Jerelyn Ramirez

Upcoming Regional Events:

Upcoming KAO/Public Events:

International Observe the Moon Night (InOMN) – October 20

Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 E. 29th Street North, Wichita, KS 67220

(5:00 PM-7:00 PM)

Setup Time: 4:30 PM

We are celebrating the International Observe the Moon Night. We will have a program to share with you on observing the Moon at the Great Plains Nature Center. The Great Plains Nature Center is hosting a Halloween themed event. Costumes are encouraged but not required.

See NSN Calender for details.

The Volland Store – November 3

The Volland Store, 24098 Volland Rd, Alma, KS 66401

(6:00 PM)

Setup Time: 5:00 PM

This is an observing event for the guests of the Volland Store. Dark sky and good horizon all around.

See NSN Calender for details.

Maize School Astronomy Event – November 5

Maize School, 3701 North Tyler Road, Wichita, KS 67205

(7:00 PM-8:30 PM)

Setup Time: 6:30 PM

This event is free and open to the public. We will be setting up some telescopes to view the night sky. Come join us to view a few planets and deep sky objects.

See NSN Calender for details.

Heights Astronomy Night – November 15

Heights High School, 5301 N Hillside, Wichita, KS

(7:30 PM - 9:00 PM)

Setup Time: 7:00 PM

Heights Astronomy Night at the Heights High School in Wichita Kansas. Come on out to the 6th Annual Astronomy Night. The Kansas Astronomical Observers will be providing telescopes for viewing the night sky. What will we see; well the first quarter Moon will be on display high in the sky right near the planet Mars, both in the constellation Aquarius. If we are lucky we can catch Saturn to the west before it sets in the constellation Sagittarius.

This event is open to all visitors. Come one come all, all are welcome.

If we have clouded out skies we will set up inside and have the visitors look at the telescopes up close and discuss other astronomy related topics.

See NSN Calender for details.

Featured Article:



This article is distributed by NASA Space Place.

With articles, activities and games NASA Space Place encourages everyone to get excited about science and technology. Visit spaceplace.nasa.gov to explore space and Earth science!

Observe the Moon

By Jane Houston Jones and Jessica Stoller-Conrad

This year's International Observe the Moon Night is on Oct. 20. Look for astronomy clubs and science centers in your area inviting you to view the Moon at their star parties that evening!

On Oct. 20, the 11-day-old waxing gibbous Moon will rise in the late afternoon and set before dawn. Sunlight will reveal most of the lunar surface and the Moon will be visible all night long. You can observe the Moon's features whether you're observing with the unaided eye, through binoculars or through a telescope.

Here are a few of the Moon's features you might spot on the evening of October 20:

Sinus Iridum—Latin for “Bay of Rainbows”—is the little half circle visible on the western side of the Moon near the lunar terminator—the line between light and dark. Another feature, the Jura Mountains, ring the Moon's western edge. You can see them catch the morning Sun.

Just south of the Sinus Iridum you can see a large, flat plain called the Mare Imbrium. This feature is called a mare—Latin for “sea”—because early astronomers mistook it for a sea on Moon's surface. Because the Moon will be approaching full, the large craters Copernicus and Tycho will also take center stage.

Copernicus is 58 miles (93 kilometers) across. Although its impact crater rays—seen as lines leading out from the crater—will be much more visible at Full Moon, you will still be able to see them on October 20. Tycho, on the other hand, lies in a field of craters near the southern edge of the visible surface of the Moon. At 53 miles (85 kilometers) across, it's a little smaller than Copernicus. However, its massive ray system spans more than 932 miles (1500 kilometers)!

And if you're very observant on the 20th, you'll be able to check off all six of the Apollo lunar landing site locations, too!

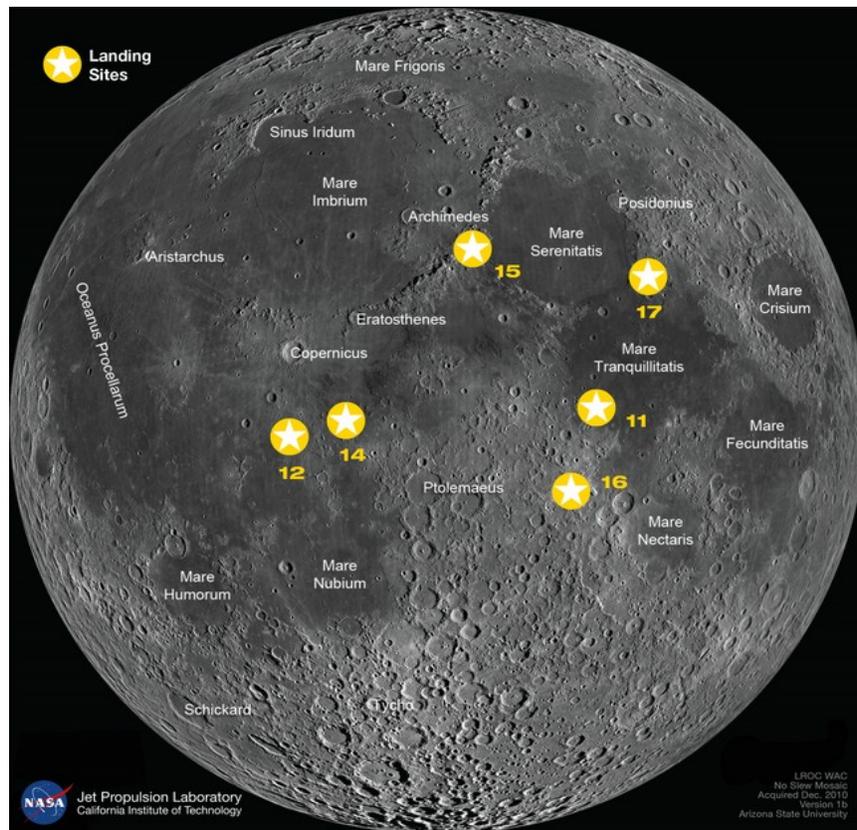
In addition to the Moon, we'll be able to observe two meteor showers this month: the Orionids and the Southern Taurids. Although both will have low rates of meteors, they'll be visible in the same part of the sky.

The Orionids peak on Oct. 21, but they are active from Oct. 16 to Oct. 30. Start looking at about 10 p.m. and you can continue to look until 5 a.m. With the bright moonlight you may see only five to 10 swift and faint Orionids per hour.

If you see a slow, bright meteor, that's from the Taurid meteor shower. The Taurids radiate from the nearby constellation Taurus, the Bull. Taurids are active from Sept. 10 through Nov. 20, so you may see both a slow Taurid and a fast Orionid piercing your sky this month. You'll be lucky to see five Taurids per hour on the peak night of Oct. 10.

You can also still catch the great lineup of bright planets in October, with Jupiter, Saturn and Mars lining up with the Moon again this month. And early birds can even catch Venus just before dawn!

You can find out more about International Observe the Moon Night at <https://moon.nasa.gov/observe>.



Caption: This image shows some of the features you might see if you closely observe the Moon. The stars represent the six Apollo landing sites on the Moon. Credit: NASA/GSFC/Arizona State University (modified by NASA/JPL-Caltech)