

# Antares

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## The Newsletter of the Kansas Astronomical Observers

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Meeting time: **May 18, 2019**      **7:30 pm**

Location: **Lake Afton Public Observatory (LAPO)**

Speaker: **N/A**  
Topic: **N/A**

**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](mailto:kevin.l.kight@gmail.com) \*Please begin the subject line with "Antares"

### *Current Club Officials*

<b>President:</b>	<b>Jerelyn Ramirez</b>	<a href="mailto:jerelyn.ramirez@gmail.com">jerelyn.ramirez@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Tony Haidai</b>	<a href="mailto:thaidai@cox.net">thaidai@cox.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Paul Ramirez</b>	<a href="mailto:ramirezpm2@gmail.com">ramirezpm2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Newsletter/Media:</b>	<b>Kevin Kight</b>	<a href="mailto:kevin.l.kight@gmail.com">kevin.l.kight@gmail.com</a>

**Next Month's Meeting: June 15 @ 7:30pm, Lake Afton Public Observatory (LAPO)**

# **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 and winter meetings, contact the Club Vice-President: Tony Haidai ([thaidai@cox.net](mailto:thaidai@cox.net))

## **Newsletter Items for Publication:**

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

## **Club T-shirts available:**

Club T-Shirts are always available to all club members year around. (or anyone who wants to support the club) \$10 each, indicate size and quantity to Jerelyn Ramirez or Paul Ramirez by email or at club meetings / outings.

## **June Meeting Special Announcement:**

The June Club Meeting has been moved to June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting will still be held at LAPO at the same time of 7:30 p.m.. The reason for the change; this year the Symphony in the Flint Hills (SFH) is holding their event on June 15, our scheduled club night. Several club members (including the President and Treasurer) participate in this all day event which is scheduled to take place in Chase County.

This was brought up at our January meeting and was put to a vote to move our scheduled time a week later rather than cancel, or have someone else facilitate the meeting.

Normally the SFH hold their annual signature event on the second weekend of June without conflicting with our scheduled meeting. This is their 14th annual signature event and this will be our 13th invitation to this event. It is unknown why the SFH has made this change.

Another reminder will be sent out as the June meeting draws closer. The calendar has been updated to reflect the change. You can log onto [NSN](#) or navigate to our [KAO website](#) for this information. This will also be posted on our facebook page.

## Club Membership Update:

New club members are:

Ben Heater from Augusta  
Mindy Heater from Augusta  
Mark Neas from Wichita  
Robin Neas from Wichita  
Cynthia Tesser from Derby  
Frank Tesser from Derby  
Scott Tesser from Derby  
Dick Zerger from Moundridge

Total of 57 club members for the year.

## April Club Meeting:

See addendum for a short summary about the April club meeting.

## Solar and Planetary Items:

### Moon Phases:

**Last Quarter:** April 26  
**New Moon:** May 4  
**First Quarter:** May 11  
**Full Moon:** May 18

**Last Quarter:** May 26  
**New Moon:** June 3  
**First Quarter:** June 10  
**Full Moon:** June 17

### Planets:

**Mercury** – Hidden by Solar Glare  
**Venus** – Visible in the morning in Pisces; rises approximately 5:30am  
**Mars** – Visible after sunset West in Taurus; setting approximately 11:30 pm  
**Jupiter** – Visible in the morning in Ophiuchus; rises approximately 11:30 pm  
**Saturn** – Visible in the morning in Sagittarius; rises approximately 1:30 am  
**Uranus** – Hidden in Solar Glare  
**Neptune** – Visible in the morning in Aquarius; rises approximately 4:20 am

## Comets:

Listed below are comets possibly visible in telescopes from the Wichita area (approximately cutoff at magnitude 15; if available the observed magnitude is used in favor of the JPL prediction). Magnitudes shown are approximate predictions for mid-month. Links are provided for additional information:

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

**No known comets this month**

## **Event Reports:**

If you've participated in a club event, please submit an event report to be included here by the 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Upcoming Regional Events:**

**See NSN for latest information**

### **Symphony in the Flint Hills – June 15**

**Chase County, Host:Irma's Pasture**

**Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM**

This year is the 14th Annual Signature Event at the Symphony in the Flint Hills and will be held in Chase County. The theme this year is Ad Astra. The host ranch is Irma's Pasture in Bazaar, Kansas. The private ranchland in Chase County is owned by Mike Stout, board chair for Symphony in the Flint Hills, and his brother, Joe Stout.

This year's theme will shine the spotlight on the state's motto "Ad Astra," with region-wide activities that tie to Jump!Star, a multi-faceted arts program developed by artist George Ferrandi with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

This is an all day event. Telescopes are set up for solar viewing while educational outreach presentations are held inside the educational tent before the concert begins. This is a collaboration with the Salina Astronomy Club. At the conclusion of the concert patrons come by for some evening viewing. Jupiter will be in the southeast sky at sunset in Ophiuchus about 8° from the two days from Full Moon to the west. Saturn will be rising on the eastern horizon around 10:30 p.m. about an hour before the end of evening twilight.

Please contact the SFH Team Leader Jerelyn Ramirez for questions, your volunteer assignment, parking passes, and other information regarding this event.

**See NSN for details and updates**

## **MSRAL 2019 – June 14-16**

**Rockhurst University, 1100 Rockhurst Road Kansas City, MO 64110**

MSRAL event is being held this year in Kansas City, MO, hosted by The Astronomical Society of Kansas City.

There will be speakers, Vendors, and an Astrophotography Contest.

For more information go to [www.msral.org](http://www.msral.org)

## **Fall River Star Party – August 2-3**

**Fall River State Park, Casner Creek Campgrounds**

Come join us at the annual Fall River event. Join us for an evening of dark skies and deep space viewing. Jupiter and Saturn will be featured this night too.

Camping is available for all who want to come out for some dark sky viewing. Come for the dark skies and the fellowship. A dinner is planned before the Saturday event for all who attend.

**See NSN for details**

## **Upcoming KAO/Public Events:**

**See NSN for latest information and new events as they are added**

### **Saint Mary's Academy – May 16**

**Saint Mary's Academy, 200 E Mission Street, Saint Marys, KS 66536**

10:55 am – 11:40 am

We will be discussing the OSIRIS-REx mission to the asteroid Bennu. This mission will be bringing a sample of the asteroid back to Earth for analysis.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

### **Kick-Off Party – May 20**

**Mulvane Public Library, 408 N. 2nd Ave., Mulvane, KS 67110**

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm (setup time 4:00 pm)

The Mulvane Public Library is hosting a Kick-Off Party with informational booths to promote business or events. The Kansas Astronomical Observers has been invited to set up an astronomy educational booth for the event. There will be some hands on activities and visual aids to enhance your astronomy experience.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Night Sky Watch at Winfield – May 24**

**Mulvane Public Library**, 408 N. 2nd Ave., Mulvane, KS 67110

8:30 pm (setup time 7:30 pm)

Looking to explore the solar system. Understanding the distance and size of our solar system. Jupiter will be available for us to see with our telescopes.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Conway Springs City Library – June 5**

**United Methodist Church**, 411 S 8th, Conway Springs, KS 67031

10:00 am – 11:00am (setup time 9:00 am)

Conway Springs City Library: We are in the process of setting our schedule for our Summer Reading Program for ages 4 - 14. Our open dates are June 5 and 19, 2019. Our program is at 10 a.m. on those days at the Methodist Church in Conway Springs. Our theme is A Universe of Stories. That could encompass anything from constellations, planets, etc.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Mulvane Family Mulvane Public Library – June 7**

**Mulvane Public Library**, 408 N. 2nd Ave., Mulvane, KS 67110

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm (setup time 5:30 pm)

The Mulvane Public Library is hosting an event for family with the theme on Space...a Universe of Stories. Come and learn about our Solar System.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **In the Moonlight – June 10**

**Pottawatomie Wabunsee Regional Library**, 306 N 5th Street, Saint Marys, KS 66536

8:30 pm (setup time 7:30 pm)

Have you seen the Moon up close? Craters, lunar features, and lunar landing sites are awesome up close. Come by the library in Saint Marys. We will set up on the south parking lot. Experience some lunar fun.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Silver Lake Public Library – June 18**

**Silver Lake Public Library**, 203 Railroad Street, Silver Lake, KS 66539

5:00pm – 6:00pm (setup time 4:00 pm)

Bite size astronomy, a fun way to learn about astronomy. Hands on activities to explore the solar system.

**There is a training session on June 13 for this event**

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **A Universe of Stories – June 19**

**Pottawatomie Wabunsee Regional Library**, 306 N 5th Street, Saint Marys, KS 66536

1:00 pm (setup time 12:00 pm)

Stop by the Saint Marys Library to hear about the Apollo 11 mission. It's been 50 years since man first stepped foot on the Moon. How cool is that! Do you think we will return to the Moon? There is much talk about returning to the Moon.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Douglass Library– June 25**

**Douglass Public Library**, 319 South Forrest, Douglass, KS 37039

9:30am -12:30pm (Setup time 8:30am)

Where does our energy come from? Come by the Douglass Library and find out what this is all about during the three sessions of the summer reading classes scheduled today.

**We have three classes scheduled consecutively. The classes are about 45 minutes to allow for set up for the class that follows.**

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Belle Plaine Public Library– June 25**

**Belle Plaine Public Library**, 222 West 5th, Belle Plaine, KS 67013

7:00 pm (setup time 6:00 pm)

An adult educational astronomy event. We will be learning about the asteroids in the asteroid belt and what actions we can take if one is heading for Earth.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Augusta Library– June 28**

**Robert Shryock Park**, 2923 Ohio Street, Augusta, KS 67010

7:00 pm (setup time 6:00 pm)

Please come on out to the Robert Shryock Park in Augusta for some awesome observing. The park is located north on Ohio Street. We will have some before the sun set activities. After the sun sets we will be able to see through the telescope at Jupiter high in the sky, and Saturn rising in the east.

We will attempt to locate an asteroid in the asteroid belt; (1) Ceres.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Augusta Library– July 9**

**Wellington Public Library**, 121 W 7th Street, Wellington, KS 67152

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

An adult class talking about the recent findings of a Black Hole. All ages are welcome to participate though. This will be a hands-on interactive activity along with visual aids.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Coldwater Library Summer Reading (Universe of Stories theme) – July 10**

**Coldwater Library**, 221 E. Main, Coldwater, KS 67029

10:30 am – 12:00 pm (setup time 9:30 am)

This would be an indoor event at the Coldwater Public Library and preferably in the morning. Any educational emphasis on the universe, the night sky, etc. that could help children learn about the world above us. Pictures or any other type of material would be appreciated for them to learn as well. Of course, if you have any recommended books on the subject, those suggestions would be appreciated as well. This year's theme is "Universe of Stories" which is very fitting with it being the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. So, anything would be very helpful.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Manhattan Library– July 24**

**Manhattan Public Library**, 629 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (setup time 1:30 pm)

Lets find out how a telescope works and why we put them in space.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**



## **Astro Fest 2019 – August 10**

**Lake Afton Public Observatory (LAPO)**, 5000 West 39th South, Goddard, KS 67052  
**Time: 3:00 PM – 1:00AM (Setup 10:00 AM)**

This is a collaboration with LAPO. Solar activities during the day with other activities through out the day. Having telescopes for the visitors to share with them the wonders of the night sky. This night is three days after a first quarter Moon. Yes it is a lot of Moon, but most visitors have never looked through a telescope and the Moon is always a huge hit. There will be a nice terminator to visually see some depth to some craters. This is also the 50 year Anniversary of the Apollo lunar landing missions. All six landing sites should be visible, you can point them out with your telescope.

This is the second annual event to promote the observatory. To make this astronomy party a success we need volunteers. They plan to stay open till 1:00 a.m.

So lets help out LAPO by kicking off this astronomy party.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

## **Volland Store – August 24**

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

We have been invited to help host an event at the Volland Store in Alma Kansas. Dark skies are on the agenda where we can observe Jupiter and Saturn. Even Urnaus and Neptune will be up for a showing if conditions are right. What about a few comets, there is the possibility a couple will be close enough to catch a glimpse of these fast moving solar system objects.

**See NSN for details and volunteer info**

# Featured Article:



**This article is distributed by NASA Night Sky Network**

The Night Sky Network program supports astronomy clubs across the USA dedicated to astronomy outreach. Visit [nightsky.jpl.nasa.org](https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.org) to find local clubs, events, and more!

## **Watching the Late Spring Skies**

By David Prosper

Late spring brings warmer nights, making it more comfortable to observe a good showing of the **Eta Aquarids** meteor shower. Skywatchers can also look for the delicate **Coma Star Cluster**, and spot the **Moon** on the anniversary of **Apollo 10**'s "test run" prior to the Moon landing in 1969.

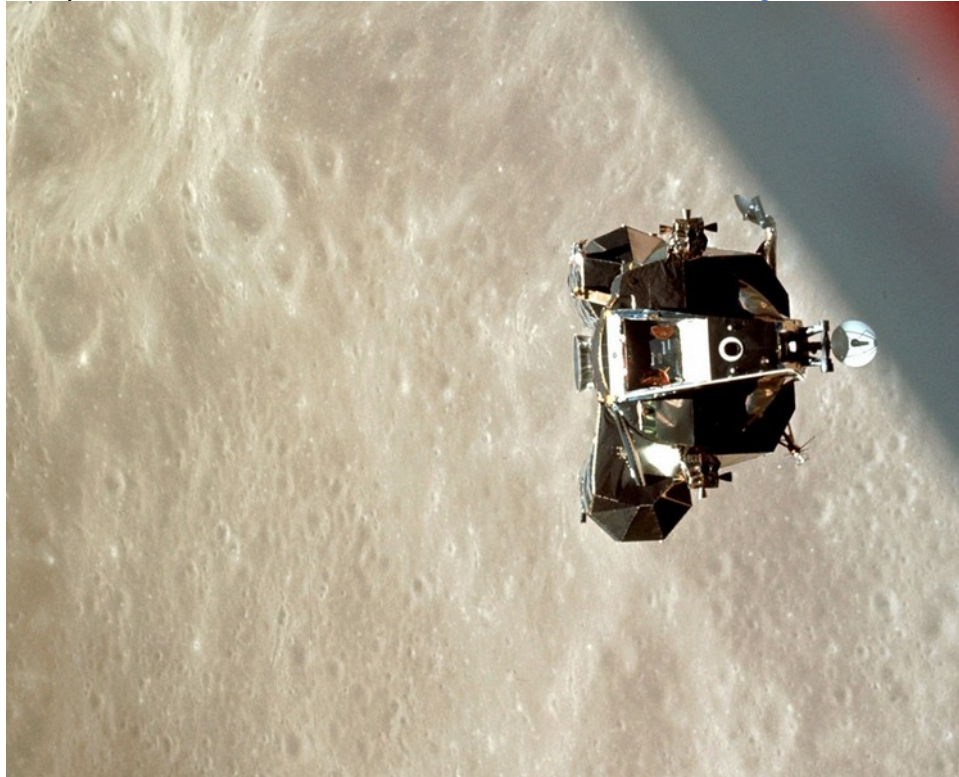
The **Eta Aquarids** meteor shower should make a good showing this year, peaking the morning of May 6. This meteor shower has an unusual "soft peak," meaning that many meteors can be spotted several days before and after the 6th; many may find it convenient to schedule meteor watching for the weekend, a night or two before the peak. You may be able to spot a couple dozen meteors an hour from areas with clear dark skies. Meteors can appear in any part of the sky and you don't need any special equipment to view them; just find an area away from lights, lie down on a comfy lawn chair or blanket, relax, and patiently look up. These brief bright streaks are caused by Earth moving through the stream of fine dust particles left by the passage of Comet Halley. While we have to wait another 43 years for the famous comet grace our skies once more, we are treated to this beautiful cosmic postcard every year.

While you're up meteor watching, try to find a delightful naked eye star cluster: the **Coma Star Cluster** (aka Melotte 111) in the small constellation of Coma Berenices. It can be spotted after sunset in the east and for almost the entire night during the month of May. Look for it inside the area of the sky roughly framed between the constellations of Leo, Boötes, and Ursa Major. The cluster's sparkly members are also known as "Berenice's Hair" in honor of Egyptian Queen Berenices II's sacrifice of her lovely tresses. Binoculars will bring out even more stars in this large young cluster.

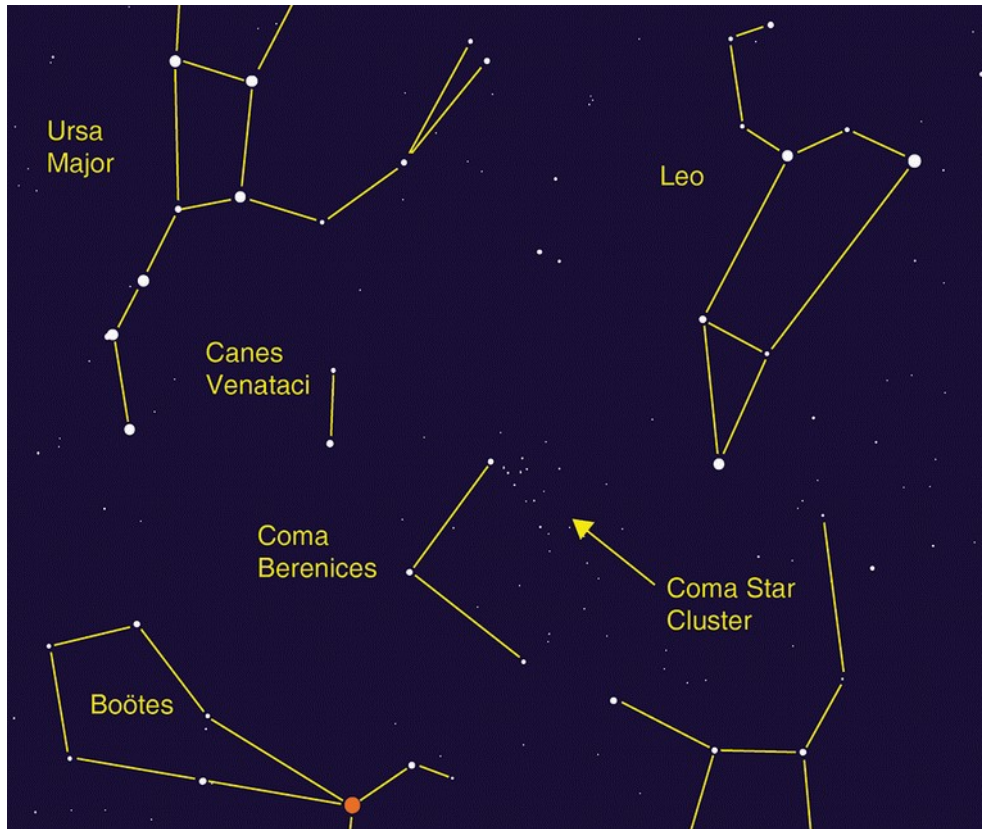
May marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lunar Module's test run by the **Apollo 10** mission! On May 22, 1969, NASA astronauts Thomas Safford and Eugene Cernan piloted the Lunar Module - nicknamed "Snoopy" - on a test descent towards the lunar surface. Undocking from "Charlie Brown" - the Command Module, piloted by John Young - they descended to 47,400 feet above the surface of the Moon before returning safely to the orbiting Command Module. Their success paved the way for the first humans to land on the Moon later that year with Apollo 11. Look for the Moon on the morning of May 22, before or after dawn, and contemplate what it must have felt like to hover mere miles above the lunar surface.

You'll also see the bright giant planets Saturn and Jupiter on either side of the Moon before sunrise. When will humans travel to those distant worlds?

You can catch up on all of NASA's current and future missions at [nasa.gov](http://nasa.gov)



*A view of Apollo 10's Lunar Module from the Command Module as it returned from maneuvers above the lunar surface. Photo Credit: NASA Source: <http://bit.ly/apollo10view>*



*Try to spot the Coma Star Cluster! Image created with assistance from [Stellarium](#)*