

Antares



The Newsletter of the Kansas Astronomical Observers

Meeting time: **February 15 3:00pm**

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

Speaker: **Dr. Hal Levison (Recorded Webinar)**
Topic: **Mission LUCY: Surveying the Diversity of Trojans.**

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: March 21 @ 3:00pm, Great Plains Nature Center

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)

Newsletter Items for Publication:

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

Club T-shirts and Calendars available:

We do have a few Astronomy calendars left, they are \$10 each.

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. There is a 2week turnaround as they are printed on demand.

Club Membership Update:

Membership is at 52 members.

January Club Meeting:

Attached is a summary of the January meeting.

From the Editors Desk:

A gentlemen named Don Peterson has reached out Fred, who forwarded this to me for inclusion in the newsletter this month. Don has a home he is putting up for sale in Council Grove adjacent to the city lake. He is also an amateur astronomer and has built a permanent pier and a mount with a great view to the south. He is reaching out to fellow astronomers first to see if there are any interested. Attached is a PDF of his email with more details, photos and contact information for any that are interested.

Solar and Planetary Items:

Moon Phases:

Last Quarter: February 15

New Moon: February 23

First Quarter: March 2

Full Moon: March 9

Last Quarter: March 16

New Moon: March 24

First Quarter: April 1

Full Moon: April 7

Planets:

Mercury – In Pisces; sets approximately 7:30 pm

Venus – In Aquarius, sets at 9:15 pm

Mars – In Ophiucus; rises Approximately 4:00am

Jupiter – In Sagittarius; rises approximately 5:30am

Saturn – In Sagittarius; rises approximately 6:10am

Uranus – In Aries; sets approximately 11:45pm

Neptune – In Aquarius; sets approximately 8:00pm

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/>

C/2017 T2 (PANSTARRS): An all night comet in Perseus (Mag 9.3)

<https://theskylive.com/c2017t2-info>

C/2018 N2 (ASASSN): An all night comet in Andromeda (Mag 13)

<https://theskylive.com/c2018n2-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.

Upcoming Regional Events:

See NSN for latest information

MSRAL Conference 2020 – June 12-14

Jenks High School, 205 East B Street, Jenks, OK 74037
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

This is the Mid-States Regional Astronomical League Conference of 2020. This year it will be held in Jenks, Oklahoma and has officially gone live to register for this event, and will be held on the third floor of the Jenks High School Planetarium in the Math and Science Building located at 205 East "B" Street, Jenks, OK 74037. This event will be held June 12th - June 14th. The Conference is being hosted by the Astronomy Club of Tulsa and Broken Arrow Sidewalk Astronomer. You can register online by following this [link](#). You can make reservations at the Crowne Plaza for their special rate of \$79 per night. They are offering \$10 breakfast vouchers free upon request at the front desk. They are still confirming speakers for the Conference. Go to their website to find out more details about the Conference at the link above.

Symphony in the Flint Hills – June 13

10:00 AM - 11:00 PM

This year is the 15th Annual Signature Event at the Symphony in the Flint Hills and will be held in Wabaunsee County. Ranch location has not been disclosed and will be updated when this information is released.

The region's native building material, limestone, will be the focus of the 2020 Signature Event.

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.

No planets or Moon will be available during this event. Saturn and Jupiter will rise around 11 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering, this [SFH application](#) must be filled out. The updated 2020 volunteer application has not been posted yet. You will not be allowed to enter the site without a volunteer or patron ticket. Please contact the SFH Team Leader [Jerelyn Ramirez](#) for questions about your; volunteer assignment, parking passes, and other information regarding this event.

Upcoming KAO/Public Events:

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

Galileoscopes & Light Pollution – February 22

Fort Larned National Historic Site, 1767 KS Highway 156, Larned, KS 67550

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

This event is the first scheduled activity.

We will also talk about Galileo Galilei, and how he used his telescope 410 years ago to view the Moon and Jupiter for the first time through a primitive telescope. We will learn about how a telescope works and assemble a telescope similar to the one Galileo used.

The second event will be on light pollution:

We are going to test the night sky darkness at the Fort Larned National Historic Site. We will discuss light pollution and ways to help the environment and reduce light pollution.

Galileoscopes & Light Pollution – February 22

Fort Larned National Historic Site, 1767 KS Highway 156, Larned, KS 67550

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

This event is the second scheduled activity.

We will also talk about Galileo Galilei, and how he used his telescope 410 years ago to view the Moon and Jupiter for the first time through a primitive telescope. We will learn about how a telescope works and assemble a telescope similar to the one Galileo used.

The second event will be on light pollution:

We are going to test the night sky darkness at the Fort Larned National Historic Site. We will discuss light pollution and ways to help the environment and reduce light pollution.

Andover Central Middle School – April 17

Andover Central Middle School, 901 Central Avenue, Andover, KS 67002

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

We hope to do some telescope observing so come on out and join us for some observing fun for everyone. All are welcome and the event is free.

ACMS Science Spectacular – May 19

Andover Central Middle School, 901 Central Avenue, Andover, KS 67002

8:30 PM – 10:30 PM

Setup 6:00 PM

We will be setting up hands on astronomy demonstrations inside then telescope observing if weather permits.

Planned activities:

Quarter Solar System

Pocket Solar System

Gravity and the Fabric of Space demonstration

Where are the Black Holes

Protecting Earth from Cosmic Radiation

OSIRIS-REx Mission if bad weather

See NSN for details and volunteer info