

Antares



The Newsletter of the Kansas Astronomical Observers

Meeting time: **February 20, 2021 3:00PM CST**

All club members must pre register for the meeting. This is to enable non club members to attend the meeting as guests. This is to help keep trolls out of our meeting.

Location: *Click here to preregister for the meeting => [Zoom Meeting](#)*

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. **Note that the club has a Zoom account and those attending don't need to make one.***

Speaker: **Howard Edin**
Topic: **Meteor Showers**

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: February 20

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)

Note about the Virtual Meetings:

You are not required to have an account with Zoom to join as an attendee to the meeting. The club already has an account and all club members and guests are welcome to attend the Zoom meetings. Just fill out the Name, email, and confirmation email field boxes, and answer the two questions then select Register at the bottom of the screen. It has been removed as a requirement to be a Zoom account holder to attend club meetings. Sorry for the confusion.

For those who don't have a webcam or microphone, don't despair, you still can join us on Zoom meetings. You don't have to let this be the reason you are not able to come to the meetings. Several do turn off their cameras and microphones and just watch and listen. You can open a chat pane to the right of the screen if you want by selecting the "Chat" icon at the bottom of the screen, this way you can chat with all of us or individuals.

Membership Renewal:

The Kansas Astronomical Observers is holding its membership renewal campaign for 2021. If you wish to renew your dues please submit them to our Club Treasurer Paul Ramirez
106 E. Mount Calvary Rd.
Saint Marys, KS 66536

The campaign will expire on February 28, 2021 to which non-paid members will be removed from the club roster.

Dues are \$20 per year per individual. If your mailing address, email address, or phone number has changed please let Paul know so we can keep the KAO and Astronomical League roster updated. Please refer to the [Membership Application](#) Form for the family rates on club dues.

Newsletter Items for Publication:

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

Membership Update:

No New members to report.

Club T-shirts and Mugs available:

Members can order a club t-shirt for \$10, we just need your size and quantity. KAO logo coffee mugs are now available for \$10 each. The club logo is printed on both sides. They are 11 oz. and proceeds will contribute to the library telescope fund.



Virtual Meeting Notes:

Attached is a synopsis of the virtual meeting held for January 16 on Zoom.

Lunar and Planetary Information:

Moon Phases:

Last Quarter: Feb 4
New Moon: Feb 11
First Quarter: Feb 19
Full Moon: Feb 27

Last Quarter: Mar 5
New Moon: Mar 13
First Quarter: Mar 21
Full Moon: Mar 28

Planets:

Mercury – In Aquarius, rises approximately 6:30pm
Venus – In Sagittarius, rises approximately 7:00am
Mars – In Aries; sets approximately 1:00am
Jupiter – In Capricornus; rises approximately 6:46am
Saturn – In Capricornus; rises approximately 6:25pm
Uranus – In Aries; sets approximately 11:50pm
Neptune – In Aquarius; sets approximately 7:50pm

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:

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

No known comets visible

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.

Westlink Branch Library Virtual Event

Jerelyn Ramirez has provided an event report for a virtual event for the Westlink Branch Library. See addendum for details.

Upcoming Regional Events:

Currently there are these events are tentatively scheduled in the event restrictions due to the pandemic are relaxed. Check NSN for the latest information.

Fall River Star Party

The Fall River Annual Event has been scheduled for August 6 - 7 this year.

Symphony in the Flint Hills

The 16th Annual Symphony in the Flint Hills is scheduled for June 12, 2021. The theme is the Santa Fe Trail held in Morris County.

ALCON

The ALCON 2021 is scheduled for August 5 - 7. The location is Albuquerque, NM.
alcon2021.astroleague.org/

Hosted by: The Albuquerque Astronomical Society www.TAAS.org

Upcoming KAO/Public Events:

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

If you are looking for something to do astronomy related and the sky conditions are not good or you're looking for something astronomy related in the news or even a virtual activity, there are postings on our calendar that may be of interest to you. There are virtual events, live chats, Webinars, von Karman lectures, Cosmic Coffee Episodes, even observing events. The observing events could include planet oppositions, meteor showers, or greatest elongations. Go to the club's calendar to find out more information about each of the event postings. You can then select any of the listed calendar events and it will display more information about the event. You can scroll forward through the months to see new listings as they are posted. It is unfortunate nearly all live in person events have been canceled due to the pandemic, so this may fill that gap.

Due to the pandemic, Public Events for the next several weeks are canceled.