Exploring the Pluto System — and Beyond

Dr. Kari Wojtkowski will be featured at the October meeting of the St. Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, October 16, in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, on the Washington University campus.

When NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft flew by Pluto and its five moons on July 14, it provided the first detailed views of these ice worlds over four billion miles away. Dr. Wojtkowski will show some of the spectacular and mystifying images sent back by the robotic spacecraft, and she will describe the puzzling geology being revealed. Pluto is one of the largest of the thousands of ice worlds detected so far in the Kuiper Belt, a region far beyond the orbit of Neptune. New Horizons is now traveling an additional one billion miles on its way to a much smaller Kuiper Belt object.

Dr. Kari Wojtkowski is a graduate of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Her research there centered on the early stages of star formation. In particular, she studied the chemical composition of the clouds of gas, dust, and ices that condense to form new stars. Dr. Wojtkowski currently teaches courses in physics, earth sciences, and astronomy for Lindenwood University—Belleville and Southwestern Illinois College.

New Members Meeting

6:30 p.m. Friday, October 16
McDonnell Hall, Room 162

There will be a meeting for new members prior to the regular meeting beginning at 6:30 pm. The purpose is to help new members get started using SLAS resources and getting to know each other and SLAS members. The meeting is open to anyone wanting to attend. A welcome packet will be passed out during the meeting and instruction for using Night Sky Network will be presented. People are urged to ask questions. We look forward to meeting you at the meeting! Contact Brad Waller to RSVP at 314-481-7250.

Election to be Held at October Meeting

The Board Member at Large position through 2018 is currently vacant. Nominations were held at the last meeting and Brent Buch was the sole nominee. Nominations will remain open at the meeting for October, then the election will take place.

In addition to the Board position, there are two more positions that need to be filled for SLAS volunteers.

- Star Party Coordinator - this position handles communications with people who request star parties and helps them set dates and outline requirements. Good communication skills and ready access to both phone and email communication vital. See a board member if interested.
- Merchandise Chair - this position handles ordering, selling and setting up opportunities for members to purchase custom SLAS merchandise. Creativity a must!
President’s Corner by Jim Small

At the meeting last month, we took nominations for the vacant Board Member at Large (2018) position and Brent Buch was nominated. Thanks for accepting the nomination Brent! For personal reasons, Brian Mills had to resign the position. Thank you to Brian for his service! May you recover fully and swiftly. Perhaps we’ll see you on the board in the near future again.

We have two other vacant positions: Mike Malolepszy resigned as star party coordinator and merchandise is still vacant. Please volunteer if you are interested!

October has been a terrific month for SLAS!

On October 9, SLAS helped host an eclipse workshop at the St Louis Science Center aimed at city and parks administrators and other such personnel. We had a terrific conference, with over 65 people attending the workshop. It was designed to prepare communities for the onslaught of people that will descend on our area on August 21, 2017 for the Total Solar Eclipse. Presenters included Christian Greer, Anna Green, Michael Bakich, Angela Speck, Cinnamon Wheeles-Smith, Steve Poaaric and a panel moderated by Matt Chambers. The speakers were all dynamic and the workshop enabled a lot of networking among the myriad of city and park personnel that attended. It was very well received and is only the first of several workshops that will be presented before 2017. There will be a more extensive article in the next newsletter.

Cook Feldman and I attended a meeting with Science Center personnel to discuss the volunteer relationship between our groups. It was quickly established that SLAS volunteers were part of a partner group, not actual SLSC volunteers. As a result, we will not be required to have background checks or drug testing etc. as previously thought. After this meeting, I have never felt better about the relationship between the two groups and I am proud to associate with the SLSC in an official partnership.

We got shut out of the Lunar Eclipse, but many folks still showed up at the SLSC, but not nearly the numbers that Bob Baer drew to SIU-Carbondale! They had clear skies for the most part and Bob estimated between 2 and 5 thousand over the course of the evening! What a turnout!

Keep a good eye on the upcoming star parties, there are some evenings when we have as many as three events scheduled. Be sure to RSVP on NSN!

A Challenge for New Amateur Astronomers

by Bill Neubert

September 29, 2015

Recently, Sky & Telescope Magazine posted an article about exploring the Andromeda Galaxy. The article reminded me of two of the best experiences in amateur astronomy, both of which are often overlooked: binocular observing and sketching. Even today, with large affordable telescopes and the proliferation of electronic imaging, the best views of the night sky are often by making sketches of what you see in binoculars.

Whenever someone asks me “what’s the best beginner’s telescope?”, I answer “binoculars.” They are easily found in every home, or easy to borrow from a friend. They are inexpensive if you choose to buy your own. They are portable, light weight and easy to operate. Most importantly, they offer wide fields of view which is so important when first learning the night sky. And, for some large objects, they offer a better view than can be found in large telescopes. Even seasoned observers, with large collections of telescopes, fall back on their binoculars periodically. The Andromeda Galaxy is certainly one of those targets best viewed with binoculars, if you are under a dark sky.

And, the Andromeda Galaxy is a great objet to sketch. Sketching forces the observer to really explore an object: its shape, orientation, sharp versus soft edges, neighboring objects, nearby bright stars and other features. Like binoculars, sketching is very inexpensive and the only way to record what an object really looks like to the human eye. I am described as “disastrous” when trying to draw a daytime scene, but even I can make some nice sketches of what I see in the night sky with binoculars. Last spring, I was reviewing my observing notes from 34 years ago. In many of them, I made quick sketches of what I saw. It is fun, now, to compare those drawings to images I see online. In my binocular sketch of comet Hale-Bopp, from 1996, I am able to clearly see the stars of Ursa Minor and, so, am now able to estimate the length of the comet’s tail.

I challenge all of us, and especially those new to amateur astronomy, to grab your binoculars and find the Andromeda Galaxy sometime in the next month. Then, sketch it. Scan your sketch, or photographic the sketch with your phone, then post a link in our forum. Or, email the sketch to me and I’ll post it. Share it with your friends; they will be impressed. I’m anxious to see the variety of results we find!

The Sky & Telescope article is posted here:

Bill Neubert
SLAS Volunteer Hours January-September

To the right is a current listing for SLAS member volunteer hours from January 1, 2015 - September 30, 2015. These are the values we will use for qualification for the annual Night Sky Network outreach award. To qualify for the award, you must volunteer for at least 5 events during the calendar year.

St. Louis Science Center - SLAS Volunteer Agreement Clarified

Last month, we had an article regarding volunteering for the Science Center for First Friday events. In that article, we were asked to fill out the volunteer application for the Science Center in order to be eligible for the benefits regular volunteers gain, namely a free Science Center membership and attendance at the volunteer appreciation dinner.

Those requirements no longer apply. In a very good meeting with staff at the Science Center, we clarified the relationship between the two organizations. Rather than being direct Science Center Volunteers, SLAS is officially recognized as a partner organization for the First Friday and other events. Once this long standing relationship was clarified it released SLAS members from filling out the applications and will not be subjected to any of the requirements for regular volunteers, such as background checks and random drug testing.

In order to qualify for the membership benefit and the dinner, SLAS members must volunteer for at least five SLSC events. First Friday duration events will count as one, while longer events such as Astronomy Day will count as two events. The year for consideration runs from July 1 through June 30. It is not a calendar year.

We look forward to a strong and cooperative relationship with the St. Louis Science Center in the future! Be sure and thank them for this valuable benefit for volunteering for these events!

MSRAL Convention Date and Location
Set for June 3-5, 2016 in Columbia, MO

The Mid-States Region of the Astronomical League will have their convention in Columbia, MO, hosted by the University of Missouri - Columbia Physics Department. Dr Angela Speck will serve as the host for the facilities. The convention is co-hosted by the St. Louis Astronomical Society and the Astronomical Society of Kansas City. Jim Small and Carrol Iorg are serving as co-chairs and Cook Feldman will be handling the books. There will be an Eclipse 2017 theme to the convention although it will not be limited to that topic.

We are waiting on ASKC to approve the financial arrangements approved by the membership at last months meeting. They will likely vote on the issue at their October 20 board meeting.
Heart of America Star Party
Bill Biermann and Bill Neubert
September 2015

We attended the Heart of America Star Party near Butler Missouri, from September 11 – 14. This annual event is hosted by the Astronomical League of Kansas City at the enviable dark sky site. The event included talks by comet hunter David Levy, Ph.D., Professor Philip Baringer and amateur astrophotographer David Lane.

We arrived Friday night and set up in their large camping field. The field is on a slight hill with good horizons in all directions and, other than near the norther horizon, has exceptional darkness. Unfortunately, it also had exceptional humidity on Friday and Saturday night. Still, we had good observing. Bill B. showed me excellent views of the Veil Nebula with his 18 inch Dobsonian, in between working on his edge-on galaxy list. I concentrated on imaging the Veil Nebula.

There were an estimated 150 attendees. The facility is fantastic, and includes a large shelter with a cooking area, coffee and tea, tables and restrooms all illuminated in red lighting. It was the perfect place to warm up at night and socialize during the day.

Bill N. left Saturday afternoon to chase clearer skies at Danville, while Bill B. continued to represent SLAS through Sunday.

Bill B roughed out the Saturday night skies, which were disappointing to all who attended. Still, this is a resilient group, and they have a camaraderie that is quite obvious. Almost everyone stayed up until midnight, and quite a few stayed up till 3am, despite the fact that there were no stars visible. Bill B stayed an extra night, and was well rewarded. Sunday night/Monday morning by witnessing unbelievably dry skies, and by 3am, no noticeable dew existed. About 30 members

(Continued on page 5)
stayed around for viewing that night. I would say transparency was close to a 10, however seeing was a bit rough, I’d estimate a 7 or so. I decided to give up on the “edge on” galaxy program, as my eyes were having trouble estimating the position angle of a 3 minute by ½ minute edge on, and many galaxies were that size. Instead, I went after “the road less traveled”, and viewed many of the secondary objects in the sky. My view of M33 was the best I have ever seen, the Windmill shape was quite evident. I also was able to see the Helix nebula without any filter, but an O3 definitely made it pop out.

If you never have been to a star party, I would highly recommend it. I spend the last 1.5 hours walking around, looking thru other scopes and just socializing. I revisited Carroll Iorg, past president of AL, and Scott Kranz also showed me a Quasar that was 8 Billion years old. Think about that…..Amateurs are able to go back 8 billion years in time!!

Dark sites do have significant challenges, namely security, grass cutting, upkeep etc. However, they also have the advantage of drawing members closer together. This is quite obvious when you hang around, and there is definitely an Astronomy “family”. Also, the outreach efforts of a club are not necessarily limited to beginners. Intermediate and serious observers also have a chance to do some serious science and Astronomical league programs when a club has a dark site. The Astronomical Society of KC is a great example of a club. Missouri is really fortunate to have SLAS and ASKC!

THE EVENT HORIZON

Lois Fitter Telescope Sees New Life

by Grant Martin

A while back, SLAS member Lois Fitter gave the club some of her astronomy related materials. Lois is a long time member of SLAS (and past president). For years she was deeply involved in outreach efforts. Whenever I saw her at star parties, she was using a nifty little 6”/8 Dobsonian telescope that she built. That telescope was up for auction at the August general meeting. The bidding started low and I was in it. At about $30, it was me and a non-SLAS member left bidding on it. There was just no way I was gonna let that out of the club. Besides, I had plans for that thing. I won the scope.

Over the last several weeks, I added a few features to it and have tested it at a couple of impromptu star parties. My plans were (and are) to allow the public to use it at star parties and outreach events so they can have some fun and learn how to use scopes of this type. Additionally, it’s perfectly proportioned for folks that are wheelchair bound.

The first modification allows the tube to be easily rotated within the saddle. This modification allows folks in a fixed position to rotate the tube to bring the eyepiece to them instead of stretching or bending to the eyepiece.

The second modification benefits everyone INCLUDING the fat old fart that now owns it. That modification is the addition of a laser finder. Laser finders are terrific. They allow you to comfortably & quickly point a low riding scope like this without contorting your body all over the place just to get down low enough to look up through a small optical finder. And it’s required if you are observing from a wheelchair.

The best test so far came the night of the lunar eclipse last month. The photo shows the scope in use during the visible part of the eclipse AND we had a wheelchair bound guest show up. I didn't get his name but he was thoroughly enthusiastic as he said he has been looking at scope designs compatible with his situation. I answered all his questions and gave him some guidance. Look for him - he might show up at some meetings in the future.

Everyone that wanted to, were able to push this scope around that night and ALL had a great time doing it.

Thanks Lois! This is a great little scope and people will continue to get enjoyment from it. G.
FOR SALE: 
8” Hardin Optical Deep Space Hunter, plus extras 
$400 OBO for Everything! (selling as entire package only)

TELESCOPE:
Hardin Optical Deep Space Hunter 8-inch Dobsonian 
Manuals/documentation included 
Purchased new in 2003 – One Owner

Eyepieces (all 1.25-inch, but telescope can also accept 2-inch) 
Astrola Plossl 9mm and 25mm (came with telescope) 
Scopetronix Plossl 15mm 
Celestron 2x Barlow

Filters 
Scopetronix Basic Color Filter Set – Yellow/Green/Blue/Red 
Lunar Filter

ViewFinders 
Rigel QuikFinder (includes extra mount and tape w/ instructions) 
8x50 Finder Scope

Collimators 
Tectron Sight Tube AND Tectron Cheshire 
Eyepiece. Includes detailed collimation instructions printed from web

Extras! 
Additional 9mm Plossl (has minor flaw – replaced by company with eyepiece noted above) 
Eyepiece cases (plastic foam-ended cases) 
Rigel Infralite LED w/ lanyard 
Aluminum Case w/ foam inserts

Additional Information 
SORRY, I WILL NOT SHIP! Will travel within St. Louis/St. Charles/Jeffco/Metro-East area to transfer to purchaser. Transaction will occur in a mutually agreed upon public location (for example, police department parking lot). Cash or money order accepted. No personal checks.

Email queries to Ted at gk4239@hotmail.com, with “Deep Space Hunter” in the subject line. I hope this scope finds a new owner that has more time to use it than I have. I had fun with it when I had the time, and I’m sure you will too!

Three Plossl eyepieces 
(9mm, 15mm, 25mm seen top left); 
Barlow 2x eyepiece (middle); 
extra 9mm (above Barlow); 
Tectron collimation set (top right); 
Lunar filter (below collimation tools); 
4 color filter set; 
Rigel Infralite (in bag, lower center)

Part of the huge crowd (estimated between 2,000 and 5,000 over the course of the evening) that enjoyed the Total Lunar Eclipse last month at the stadium at Southern Illinois University - Carbondale. Follow this link for many more photos posted on their Facebook site.
Left: Part of the crowd at a new venue for SLAS, the underground celebration at the St. Louis Art Museum. It was a good crowd of mostly adults for this event. Rich Heuermann allows folks to glance through his 8” Dobsonian.

Right: Cook Feldman setting up a Library Telescope for an event at the University City Public Library, one of the many star parties held at libraries.

Left: Chap and Mary Percival selling books and tee-shirts after the September meeting.

Right: The live feed view of the eclipse at the SLSC. The area was clouded out for many disappointed viewers.

Below: From Jim Timper: Ok i managed to get lucky. The first half of the eclipse was clouded out. I observed from Freeburg, Illinois. About 15 minutes before the total phase ended it cleared up. I fought fog, haze, clouds, and dew but managed to get lucky. Something is better than nothing. I almost did not get to see anything at all. I kept getting kicked from online streams, probably due to the high demand. It would play for two minutes then lock up... I got tired of that as well. Photos are of the blood moon full eclipse and some of it moving back out. Aside from clouds...it was nice to get to see at least some of it. Photos were taken with a C8 using an f5 rich field adapter and a Canon 10d
SLAS Board Meeting Minutes - September 10, 2015

1. Opening Activities: Meeting to order 7:00pm Attendees: Jim Small, Larry Campbell, Brad Waller, Paul Baldwin, Mark Jones Brad motioned to approve the July meeting minutes. Minutes were approved. Brad motioned to approve the August meeting minutes. Minutes were approved

2. External Business SLSC: Lunar Eclipse event, Sunday, September 27, event runs from 7-11:30pm, please RSVP HR policy for SLSC – Cook will write article for newsletter.

Next board meeting: Dates for 2015: Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10. Dates for 2016: Jan 7, Feb 11, Mar 10, Apr 7, May 12, June 9, July 7, Aug 10 (Wed), Sep 8, Oct 6, Nov. 10, Dec 7. Jim Small will send dates to Don Ficken and ask they reserve the meeting room at the YMCA.

3. Director Reports:

President: Jim Small

MSRAL 2016 planning: Meeting with Dr. Angela Speck, Carol Iorg, Jim Small and Cook Feldman. Date now set for Jun 3-4, 2016 at MIZZOU. Meeting will be jointly run by SLAS and ASKC. Jim will not be at Sep meeting, Paul Baldwin will run meeting

Goals for 2015 and beyond. Continued discussion of a strategic plan

1. Attract new members – We need to plans to increase our base membership significantly during the course of the year. Number? 50? 100?

2. Retain members – We need plans to retain members that join beyond one year. The retention rate for 2013 was only 20%

3. Get members involved – We need significant plans to involve our members in both programs and as volunteers.

Vice President – Paul Baldwin: September - Chap Percival. We are giving Chap $100 honorarium. Paul will get check from Bill Treasurer. October – Kari Wojtkowski, Lindenwood University Belleville, Will speak about Pluto Nov- Member Telescopes on Display

Astro 101: Sep – Disabled Scope - Tom Nickelson Oct – Space Aps for your iwatch or iphone-Jim Small

Secretary – Mark Jones StarBQ planned for Saturday 12th at Babler Park starts at 2pm.

Treasurer/ALCor – Bill Winningham Monthly reports sent out before meeting. Set up budget, preliminary beginning meetings should start later this month. Meeting Speakers fees budget balance $215.51

Hospitality – Larry Campbell Larry could use another volunteer for set up for Hospitality at the September meeting.

Board member at large reports

Bradley R. Waller: (2016) Brad has draft for plaques for the naming of Library Telescope. First New Members Meeting went well at August meeting. Brad wants to send out the survey Need Pres. or VP to show up 5 minutes before end of new member meeting. Brad has article for newsletter about Mike Clements. Brad wants to build up a supply of Mike Brown books for attendance prizes etc. This would come out of Brad’s membership initiatives budget. Brad is ready to start an attendance prize contest as a membership initiative. Brad will write article for newsletter. Brad bought two music CDs from Chris Hatfield, Canadian Astronaut, for attendance prizes. Planetary Society membership – No club membership yet but SLAS President could join for $37.00 individual membership. National Space Society – membership still in investigation

Tom Nickelson: (2017) Not in attendance
Brian Mills (2018) Not in attendance

4. Committee Reports: If needed

Library Telescope Program: Next build planned in Edwardsville on Sep 19th.

Membership – See report up to 162 members. Still need to focus on retention of members.

Recognition – Larry Campbell Larry looked into the pins available from PinMart. Possible idea of having custom SLAS pins made. See this link: Custom Pins http://www.pinmart.com/custom-lapel-pins/custom-soft-enamel-lapel-pins.aspx Larry has not had opportunity to discuss ideas with any of the committee members yet. Also, Grant Martin gave Larry a bag of generic “STAR Performer” pins. [10 pins]

Merchandise – No report

Telescope Making – No report

Librarian - No report

Newsletter – We need articles about stuff that SLAS is involved with. Cutoff date is Sep 13th

Website – www.slasonline.org/joomla

Night Sky Network – No report

SLAS dialogs – No report

Dark Site – Next event on Sept 12.

Loaer Telescopes – August auction took in $231.

Publicity – release sent

Observing Programs – Jerry Loethen is the new coordinator

SLASdialogs – No report

5. Old Business

Motion by Mark Jones: “Proceeds from the auction, not to exceed $250, to be used to purchase camcorder for recording meetings” Motion seconded by Larry Campbell. Motion passed and will be presented to membership for approval.

6. New Business

Motion by Jim Small: “SLAS will provide $1000 seed money for the 2016 MSRAL Convention to be held in Columbia, MO June 3-5, 2016. ASKC will also provide $1000. Any profits from the convention will be distributed as follows: 50% to the region, 25% to ASKC, 25% to SLAS. The MSRAL account will be opened at Commerce Bank to enable easy coordination with ASKC. Cook Feldman will be treasurer for the account.” Motion seconded by Brad Waller. Motion passed by Board to presented to membership for approval.

Motion by Brad Waller: SLAS Library Telescope Loaner Program (LTLP). There are four telescopes currently in this program. Current loaner deposit is $75 same as the normal SLAS Loaner telescope Program. I propose eliminating this deposit to encourage members to borrow these telescopes. The LTLP manager (Brad Waller) will continue to collect copy of driver’s license, signed copy of loaner agreement form and personal information needed to contact the individual borrowing the telescope. Seconded by Paul Baldwin. Board approves motion. This is a policy change and does not require membership approval. Policy change can be implemented immediately.

7. Closing Activities Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm
Wanted: Newsletter Articles!
The Event Horizon needs articles from people like YOU!
Interviews, current astronomy topics, historical articles, you name it, we can use it!
Send what you have to

Wanted: Volunteers!
Be sure to sign up on Night Sky Network for upcoming star parties. Lead volunteers need to know who will be there so they can tell where we are falling short. If you aren't sure how to RSVP, please ask anyone at the meeting and we can show you how on the computer after the meeting. Or contact any board or committee member to find out. See you at the next star party!
Upcoming Star Parties and Other Events

For details on these and other upcoming events, check out the Night Sky Network Calendar linked on the Home Page for SLAS at http://www.slasonline.org

SLAS Executive Board Meetings Location will be at the Edward Jones YMCA
11/12/2015  12/10/2015

Dark Sky Observing Dates

See you in April!

Francis Park Events: These events are on Wednesdays the week nearest the first quarter Moon
10/21/2015

SLSC Public Telescope Viewing Events: These events are held the first Friday of the month
Planetarium shows start at 7pm
10/2/2015
11/6/2015  12/4/2015

YMCA Edward Jones Star Parties
10/19/2015

SLAS EVENTS

October
13 Tue  Star Party at Julia Davis Library
13 Tue  Bristol Elem Science is Fun Night
16 Fri  SLAS regular meeting
17 Sat  Edwardsville Library
19 Mon  Edward Jones YMCA
20 Tue  SLCL Headquarters
20 Tue  St. Chas Library McClay
21 Wed  Francis Park
22 Thur  Florissant Valley Library
22 Thur  St Chas Deer Run Library
22 Thur  6th Grade Camp Babler Outdoor Ed
23 Fri  Faith Academy
23 Fri  Stargazing at the Gateway Arch
23 Fri  Webster Groves Library
26 Mon  Richmond Heights Library
26 Mon  St Chas Library Kathryn Linn

November
4 Wed  St. Louis Public Central Library
6 Fri  SLSC Public Telescope Viewing
7 Sat  SLAS Dark Sky Observing
12 Thur  SLAS Board Meeting
16 Mon  Parkway North High School
16 Mon  Lewis and Clark Library
17 Tue  Belleville Library
18 Wed  St Louis Public Library Barr Branch
19 Thu  St. Louis Public Library MacHECK Br.
19 Thu  St Charles Library Kisker Road
20 Fri  SLAS Regular meeting
23 Mon  St Charles Library Corporate Parkway
24 Tue  St. Louis Public Library Central

December
4 Fri  SLSC Public Telescope Viewing

SLAS Merchandise: Soon to be available at Johnny Mac’s Sporting Goods!

Watch for notification through NSN and the website!!

LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING!
To RSVP for any of these events log in to the Night Sky Network and submit your RSVP. If the event is canceled, you will be notified immediately according to the preferences you have selected.

SLAS Merchandise Available

SLAS merchandise is now set up for embroidery at Headz n Threadz at https://hnt.threadthis.com/

There are two locations:
Galleria:  2495 St. Louis Galleria, St. Louis, MO 63117
Telephone: 314.862.2695
galleria@headznthreadz.com

Delmar:  6662C Delmar Blvd  St. Louis, MO 63130  Telephone: 314.863.2695 delmar@headznthreadz.com

Delmar Map

Simply take the garment, hat, etc you wish to have embroidered and they will take care of it. They have the SLAS logo on file. You may make modifications to the colors if you wish.

SLAS Logo is also available at Infini-tees and Johnny Mac’s
SLAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: Last __________________________________________________________
First, Middle Initial _______________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip Code ________________________________________________________
email address _____________________________________________________________

Youth @ $10.00 / 1 year (18 yrs or younger) $________________
Individual @ $25.00 / 1 year $________________
Family @ $40.00/1 year $________________

Publications with discount available with your SLAS membership:
Sky and Telescope @ $32.95 / 1 year $________________
(S&T may also be renewed at their website: http://www.skyandtelescope.com)
Astronomy @ $34.00 / 1 year $________________

TOTAL ENCLOSED $________________

Check all that apply:
___ Renewal
___ Address Change Only
___ Please send my newsletter by regular mail
___ New Member!

Please send completed form with check (no cash please) made payable to
St Louis Astronomical Society
Don Ficken, Membership
13024 Barrett Crossing CT
St. Louis, MO 63122

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SLAS OFFICERS

President  Jim Small  314-307-0692
president at slasonline.org

Vice President  Paul Baldwin  314-781-4080
vicepresident at slasonline.org

Secretary  Mark Jones  636-394-2342
secretary at slasonline.org

Treasurer  Bill Winningham, (Don Ficken - membership)  636-225-0269
treasurer at slasonline.org

Hospitality  Larry Campbell  636-244-2867
hospitality at slasonline.org

Board Members at Large:
vacant
Board18 at slasonline.org

Tom Nickelson  314-346-9565
board17 at slasonline.org

Bradley Waller  314-481-7250
board16 at slasonline.org

ALCOR  Bill Winningham  636-225-0269
(Astronomical League Correspondent )
treasurer at slasonline.org

msral_rep at astroleague.org

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Dark Site Coordinator  Mark Jones  636-394-2342
darksite at slasonline.org

Librarian  Jim Small  314-909-7211
librarian at slasonline.org

Library Telescope Program  Don Ficken  636-851-9630
librarytelescope at slasonline.org

Loaner Equipment  Greg Gaines  314-277-3082
loaner at slasonline.org

Merchandise  Vacant
merchandise at slasonline.org

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Recognition  Larry Campbell  636-244-2867
recognition at slasonline.org

‘SLASdialogs’ Moderator  Mark Jones, Rhonda Whelan
dialogsmoderator at yahoo.com

Star Party Coordinator  Vacant
starparty at slasonline.org

Telescope Making  Bill Davis, Jim Melka  314-469-3061
telescope at slasonline.org

Webmaster  Jim Small  314-909-7211
webmaster at slasonline.org
We're on the Web!
http://www.slasonline.org

Who We Are and What We Do
St. Louis Astronomical Society is a not-for-profit organization established in 1936. SLAS is devoted to the interest and advancement of the science of astronomy. Our mission is to promote an understanding of the science of astronomy to our members and to the public. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in astronomy.

For more information contact any SLAS officer or visit our website listed above. SLAS is affiliated with the Astronomical League, Night Sky Network and the Mid-States Region of the Astronomical League.

Meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each month at McDonnell Hall at Washington University. See the map to the right for directions.