THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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What Makes A Planet A Planet?

by

Dr. Pamela L. Gay
SIU-Edwardsville

Dr. Pamela Gay will be featured at the July meeting of the St. Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, July 17, in McDonnell Hall, Room 362, on the Washington University campus, Saint Louis, MO 63130. McDonnell Hall is accessible from Forsyth Boulevard via Tolman Way.

In 2006, a group of astronomers attending a meeting of the International Astronomical Union voted to change the definitions of "planet" and "dwarf planet". As a result, Pluto was demoted to dwarf planet status. Ever since, people have been debating the new definitions and the new criteria for the designation "planet". To complicate matters, since the turn of the century about a half dozen extremely remote ice worlds, some about the size of Pluto, have been discovered and designated to be dwarf planets. Dr. Gay will talk about what makes a planet a planet and how some astronomers wish to change the 2006 definition. She will also discuss some of the small worlds scattered around our solar system and the smaller planets now being detected around other stars.

Dr. Pamela Gay is an Assistant Research Professor in the Center for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Research, Education, and Outreach of Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville. She is an astronomer, writer, and podcaster focused on the use of media to engage people in science and technology. Together with Fraser Cain, editor of the Universe Today astronomy news website, Dr. Gay produces Astronomy Cast, a weekly podcast that provides a discussion of astronomical topics, from planets to cosmolo-

"We Did It!"

Launched on January, 19, 2006, New Horizons swung past Jupiter in January, 2007 and received a boost toward Pluto for a closest encounter on July 14, 2015. After a 3 billion mile journey, this historical moment had finally arrived! Many people watched on NASA TV as the moment of closest approach came and went. It wasn't until 8:52:37 pm EDT that the first signal from New Horizons after the passby was received by an anxiously waiting mission team First, verification of a signal, then eventually, as announced by Alice Bowman in the control room at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel Maryland, "PI, Mom on Pluto1: we have a healthy spacecraft, we've recorded data of the Pluto system and we are outbound from Pluto." at which point Alan Stern came into the room with arms raised to a standing ovation. Hugs all around as the team celebrated. See the next page for photos from the Pluto encounter.

Below: Alice Bowman exclaiming "We Did It" after the reports of a successful flyby!

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President's Corner

by

Jim Small

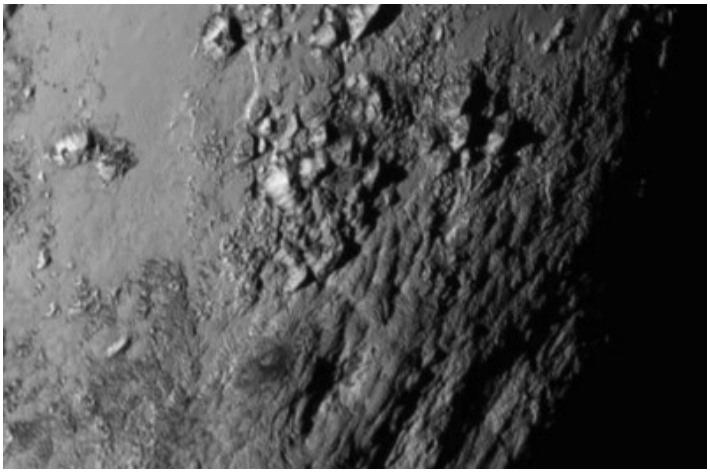
ALCON went very well with lots of tours, sessions and events. I didn't get much stargazing in during the trip as it was monsoon season in the area and we were clouded out virtually every night. See the article for details about the conference.

As usual, next week (first quarter Moon week) and the week after, there are many Star Parties, mostly for the new libraries that came on board for the latest telescope build as well as several new events we haven't done very often. We would like to make sure we have plenty of volunteers for these events so these programs get off to a flying start. If you see more than 4 volunteers for a library star party and there is another underserved event the same night, consider volunteering for the second event. We don't want to short anyone.

The St. Louis Eclipse committee met Wednesday and are well along for the workshop to be held on October 9 for community members to get started organizing for the Eclipse in 2017. SLAS merchandise is NOW available from Infini-Tees. Be aware that Dirk has several new designs for shirts, so it might be worth a call to find out if you are interested in one of his designs. Johnny Mac's sporting goods will also be on board by the next meeting. There will be catalogs available for us to choose several shirts to make available for logo merchandise and then an online store will be set up. You may also apply the SLAS logo to most merchandise in the store.

Next month we will have the SLAS Auction and Mike Clemons will be the speaker and talk about his 70 inch homemade telescope.

Below: 11,000 foot mountains of water-ice that may still be growing on the surface of Pluto They are about 100,000,000 years old, very young mountains compared to the age of the Solar System. 'At Pluto's temperatures, water-ice behaves more like rock,' said deputy GGI lead Professor Bill McKinnon of Washington University, St. Louis.

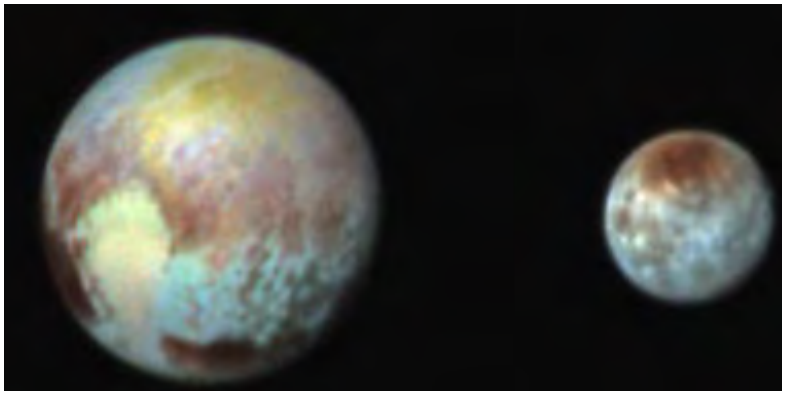


The photographs are 10 times the resolution of any camera in the past. On the flyby, New Horizons came within 7800 miles of the surface, flying by at a whopping 30,800 miles per hour. It will take 16 months to download all the data collected during the flyby because of the slow data connection. Mom, as the mission has been called by Alice Bowman may have the opportunity to visit another Kuiper Belt object if funding is allowed. The current mission cost the taxpayer an average of $0.15 per year to operate. Hopefully the funding may be continued!

Visit http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/newhorizons/main/index.html for more information or follow the mission on twitter @NASANewHorizons

Left: Pluto on approach

Right: Pluto and Charon in false color size com-



ALCON 2015

Las Cruces, New Mexico

5 days of meetings, talks, get-togethers, star parties, food, vendors, tours, and socializing made ALCON 2015 a rousing success. After leaving on Sunday and arriving in Las Cruces on Tuesday (via Austin, TX) I spent all day Wednesday at the annual council meeting. Probably the most important outcomes were the idea of allowing members of the league the option to go electronic only with the Reflector, the addition of several new observing programs, the beginning of the installation of an international region, and optimism about the budget which has a small deficit, but will likely be easily overcome with both eclipse glasses sales and going electronic with the Reflector (40% of the budget)

After the Council Meeting, a star party was held (as it was on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights), at the parking lot of a building North of Las Cruces owned by a member of the LCAS. It made for a good site so close to the hotel to hold a star party (3 miles). I had views of clusters in Sagittarius, double stars in Scorpius, M22 and several other objects before the clouds got us. It was the last chance we had to do any observing.

Star Party at the EMI building on Wednesday night.

Tours were excellent according to the people I spoke to who had participated. The cost for most was basically the bus ride there, nice coach busses for convenient transport. Behind the scenes tours of White Sands Missile Range, the VLA, Space History Museum and others were the highlights for the week. Most tours did not interfere with the three days of talks during the conference.

Thursday after the meetings, the star party was clouded out, but Ron Kramer had the first of his surprise entertainment to provide us with a great 45 minute show from a Fire Show and Circus Arts group called Odd-Lab.

Above: Odd-Lab performing at the EMI building at a star party Thursday night **Below:** It's just a guess, but perhaps the likely place local astronomers do their banking.

More talks on Friday filled the day with good discussions, more door prizes and many good speakers. That evening, the StarBQ was held at Leasburg Dam State Park about 20 miles north of Las Cruces. Busses and vans were provided or you could drive to the site. It would have been very nice for star gazing had the rain stayed away! We did manage to get the food served and enjoyed entertainment from a singer who sang all of the requests we could throw at him!

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Then there was Ron Kramer's second surprise, a visit from three friendly aliens! All in all, no telescope viewing, but good socializing and entertainment. When it started to rain, we packed up everything and relocated back to the hotel to continue the party, including the singer.

Above: Aliens invade the starbq and hang out with the crowd. **Below**: Our girl who read ALL the numbers for the door prizes, finds out aliens are ticklish!

Sessions continued all day Saturday, making for three days of great information on a wide variety of topics for amateur astronomers. It started with Bob Guzauskas and the program he created with Colin Henshaw called Lights Out America, had many talks on topics like the 2017 Eclipse from Mike Reynolds, photometry by amateurs at the pro level by Fred Pitcher of ALPO, talks on nearly every planet by others from ALPO, reports from Messenger, discussion of an upcoming mission called OSIRIS-REx, a sample return mission to an asteroid, Ifan Payne on the Magdalena Ridge Optical Interferometer, and many more.

There were several vendors there, including AL sales, Celestron, Infini-tees, Night Sky Network (manned by David Parker himself! It was great to meet him), IDA, and Mike Reynolds selling his books and meteorites.

There was a social time before the banquet that was well attended, we took a group picture which was hard because of the sheer numbers of people attending and the banquet was good with many awards and a nice tribute to Walter Haas.

Top: Socializing before the banquet. **Above:** Trying to squeeze in the group shot! **Below:** Good crowd at the banquet. There were 170+ at the convention

ALCON 2015 (con't)

Above: enjoying the food at the banquet. **Below:** Mike Reynolds showing his plaque for the Don Walker award for service for ALPO.

All in all, it was a great convention with plenty to do and a plethora of great sessions and tours. On the drive back, I visited the Space History Museum and White Sands National Monument. There were plenty of other sites to see if you have time to visit.

Left: A flight worn space suit at the Space History Museum

Below: some of the vehicles in the space park in front of the museum.

They held the drawings for the winners for the Library Telescopes in each region at the end of the meeting on Wednesday. The winners were the following clubs:

Northwest Region: Olympic Astronomical Society
Western Region: Temecula Valley Astronomers
MARS: Longmont Astronomical Society
Southwest Region: Houston Astronomical Society
North Central Region: Northern Cross Science Foundation
Mid States Region: Broken Arrow Sidewalk Astronomers
Great Lakes Region: Oakland Astronomy Club
Northeast Region: Amateur Observers' Society of New York
Mid East Region: Back Bay Amateur Astronomers
Southeast Region: Flint River Astronomical Society

Observing programs that were added last year are up and running and doing well. They include:

Advanced Binocular
Double Star
Radio Astronomy
Sketching
Two in the View

New programs voted on and added in 2015:

Planetary Transit – Mercury 2016
Binocular Variable Stars
Active Galactic Nuclei
Advanced Observing Award

For the full list of speakers for the conference, click here: https://alcon2015.astroleague.org/activities/speakers/

Next year's ALCON will be held in the Washington DC area and will be hosted by NOVAC on August 10-13.

ALCON 2017 will be held in Casper, Wyoming just before the eclipse and hotel rooms will be available soon. There will be 200 rooms held, 40 already gone with 50 at another hotel If you are interested in the ALCON with a lot of famous eclipse folks, this will be the place to be!

In 2018 ALCON will be held in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area on July 11-14, 2018.

It was a good experience, one of the best ALCON's I have attended in a long time. Next year's ALCON will likely have a plethora of tours in the DC area and might be a good opportunity to visit the area and have a reasonable hotel rate (for downtown that is) and be able to take in the sites around DC.

Jim Small

FOR SALE: 12.5' STARMASTER

12.5" StarMaster ELT truss-tube Dobsonian w/ Zambuto f/4.5 mirror, secondary heater, Starlight 2-speed focuser.

Purchased new in 2002 or 2003. It has seen light maybe 12-15 times. Needs collimation, mirrors may be a slight bit dusty - otherwise excellent condition. Last used at a River Bend Astronomy Club star party in March 2015.

Includes TeleVue visual ParaCorr, 2" 35mm Panoptic eyepiece, Desert Storm cover, Rigel QuickFinder. Asking $2,000.

Contact Lynn Fee at lynnfee09@gmail.com or 618-337-8135

SLAS Telescope Auction

Don't forget, SLAS will be hosting a telescope auction at the August meeting. Refer to the June issue of The Event Horizon for a list of items to be sold. We will publish a current list of items in the August newsletter to assure we have the most current list available. Also, see the article below to purchase any of the starter eyepiece kits we have available from the Library Telescope build.

The proceeds from the Auction will be used to purchase a camcorder to record meetings and make them available to people who cannot attend the meeting. Other uses might be to create instructional videos, etc.

FOR SALE

Starter Eyepiece Kit

by

Mark Jones

We have a surplus of eyepieces left over from the Library Telescope Program. These eyepieces were the original ones that came with the Orion Starblast Telecopes. We removed these eyepieces from the telescope and replaced them with a single zoom eyepiece. We have bundled the 2 eyepieces along with a collimating tool into a plastic case as an eyepiece starter kit. If you are a beginner this might be a good starting point for you. If you are an experienced observer, these eyepieces are an inexpensive alternative for public viewing, solar projection and other activities.

The cost for one starter kit is $15. You can buy 2 or more kits for only $10 each. Each kit comes with an Orion 6mm and 17mm eyepiece, a collimating tool and a plastic storage case. We will be selling the kits, while supplies last, at our monthly meetings. All proceeds of the sale will go to the Library telescope Program Fund for future purchases. See photo below (left to right plastic case, 17mm eyepiece, collimating tool, 6mm eyepiece, screw on lid for plastic case.

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2015

	Dec 31, 14	Jun 30, 15
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Astronomy Magazine Award**	0.00	1,234.89
Checking - First Bank	5,161.12	3,047.33
Deposit, Certificate of	20,068.06	20,088.04
Library Telescope Escrow*	1,660.10	641.44
Merchandise Change Fund	20.00	20.00
PayPal	82.81	445.76
Savings - First Bank	3,359.27	5,360.32
YMCA Trout Lodge Escrow	542.87	542.87
Total Checking/Savings	30,894.23	31,380.65
Other Current Assets		
Inventory Asset	1,614.22	1,410.53
Undeposited Funds	261.95	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,876.17	1,410.53
Total Current Assets	32,770.40	32,791.18
Fixed Assets		
Accum Depr - Office Equp	(216.65)	(216.65)
Office Equipment	216.65	216.65
Total Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	32,770.40	32,791.18
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Total Accounts Payable	167.90	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	167.90	0.00
Total Liabilities	167.90	0.00
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	8,137.66	8,137.66
Retained Earnings	22,221.50	24,464.84
Net Income	2,243.34	188.68
Total Equity	32,602.50	32,791.18
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	32,770.40	32,791.18

* Funds restricted for the Library Telescope Program. $1,660 was carried over from the end of 2014.

** Funds from Astronomy Magazine Award, available until 4/10/2016.

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through June 2015

	Jan - Jun 15	Budget	$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Magazine Subscription	864.25	868.25	(4.00)
Membership Dues	2,285.00	1,735.00	550.00
Merchandise Sales			
General Merchandise***	239.48	0.00	239.48
Merchandise Sales - Other	150.00	0.00	150.00
Total Merchandise Sales	389.48	0.00	389.48
Total Income	3,538.73	2,603.25	935.48
Cost of Goods Sold			
Magazine Subscriptions	831.30	868.25	(36.95)
Merchandise			
General Merchandise***	135.35	0.00	135.35
Merchandise - Other	16.52	60.00	(43.48)
Total Merchandise	151.87	60.00	91.87
Total COGS	983.17	928.25	54.92
Gross Profit	2,555.56	1,675.00	880.56
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	909.50	1,350.00	(440.50)
2-Newsletter	66.72	90.00	(23.28)
3-Library expense	184.95	150.00	34.95
4-Astronomical League Dues	690.00	650.00	40.00
5-Loaner Scopes*	1,027.24	1,100.00	(72.76)
7-Insurance	380.00	380.00	
8-Website	131.88	135.00	(3.12)
9-Administrative Expenses	503.61	584.00	(80.39)
Total Expense	3,893.90	4,439.00	(545.10)
Net Ordinary Income	(1,338.34)	(2,764.00)	1,425.66
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	1,500.05	0.00	1,500.05
Interest Income	21.03	50.00	(28.97)
LTP Receipts	10,975.00	0.00	10,975.00
Non-Operating Income**	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Total Other Income	14,996.08	50.00	14,946.08
Other Expense			
Astro Mag Award Dispursements	1,265.11	0.00	1,265.11
LTP Disbursements	12,000.26	0.00	12,000.26
Non-operating Expense	203.69	0.00	203.69
Total Other Expense	13,469.06	0.00	13,469.06
Net Other Income	1,527.02	50.00	1,477.02
Net Income	188.68	(2,714.00)	2,902.68

* Budget reflects membership vote to purchase 4 Orion Starblasts for the Loaner Program

** Non-operating income includes a $2,500 award from Astronomy Magazine. $1,265.11 of the award proceeds have been spent to date, the remaining proceeds must be spent by April of 2016.

*** Tyson Raffle

St. Louis Astronomical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2015

1. Opening Activities: Attendees: Bill Winningham, Jim Small, Paul Baldwin, Brian Mills, Brad Waller., Tom Nickelson, Mark Jones. Meeting started at 7:08pm May meeting minutes sent out before meeting. Brad motioned to approve minutes, second by Tom. Minutes were approved.

2. External Business Jim Small - MSRAL2015 went well, we had 12 members from SLAS attending. **Next board meeting:** July 9, August 6, Sept 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10 Jim will be out of town July 9. We will hold the meeting as scheduled.

3. Director Reports:
President: Goals for 2015 and beyond. The beginnings 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.

Welcome Brian Mills as new Board Member at Large

Vice President –Paul Baldwin: Upcoming speakers are: June Bill Iseminger from Cahokia Mounds: Indian Astronomy; July Pamela Gay "IAU demoted Pluto and discuss what makes a planet a planet."; August: Mike Clements will speak via Skype on the building of his 70" telescope; Joan Carmen President of Salt Lake City, UT club will Host from that end. September Chap Percival author of book about the August 2017 eclipse; Oct Kari Wojakowski "Pluto". **Astro 101: Topic: June – Brad Waller Star Fleet Command. Brad will send slides to Jim. MSRAL2015 July – Bill and Ben Winningham Trip to Corning Glassworks. ALCON2015 report Jim Small Aug - Auction Sep – Disabled Scope Tom Nickleson Oct - TBD Nov- Bring your telescope**

Secretary – Mark Jones We are planning for an August SLAS Auction We have several items that don't fit our needs. a. Bausch and Lomb 15-60X zoom lens worth $25-100. No tripod, does have worn case. b. Meade DS-60mm refractor poor condition. c. 6" Dob Reflector. Donated by Lois Fitter. Could easily be fixed up. Mark will write article for June Newsletter providing details. Proceeds could be used to purchase camcorder for recording meetings…

Treasurer/ALCor – report submitted May treasurer reports sent prior to meeting. The following are Bill's comments on the reports: Bill included the full annual budget and remaining annual budget in the "expanded" profit and loss statement. This information is located in the two rightmost columns for the key budget categories. The May financials include the funds from the Astronomy Magazine award ($2,500). Approximately $1,242 has been spent so far. The remainder must be spent by April of 2016. Bill included a simple tracking spreadsheet for the award funds. Library Telescope Program (LTP) disbursements exceed receipts year to date by approximately $1,140. This is due to $1,660 in LTP funds originating in the prior calendar year.

Hospitality – Larry Campbell Larry looked into the pins available from PinMart. Larry likes the 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 discussed this with any of the committee members yet. Also, Grant Martin gave me a bag of generic "STAR Performer" pins. [10 pins] I also have two maps for the "New Member Packet" ready for review. See these links: SLAS Meeting Location Dark Site Map

Board member at large reports
Bradley Waller: (2016) Draft of library loaner telescope program procedure
Tom Nickelson: (2017) Tom will write a policy and training program for the disabled scope.
Brian Mills: (2018) No report

4. Committee Reports:
Library Telescope Program: Scopes built, adjusted and delivered and are now being checked out. Library star parties are set up.

Membership – Report from Don Ficken. On May 31, 2015, we had 154 members. This count is 7 members over the start of the year and 5 members above the same time last year. Included in the report is an updated retention analysis. Of the 39 members that joined SLAS in 2013, only 15 are still active which is 38% retention rate. Of the 44 members that joined SLAS in 2012, only 8 are still active which is a 18% retention rate. Renewal letters for June and July 2015 expirations were mailed on Monday of this week.

Suggestions for new member welcome packet**.**

Welcome packet NSN guide including RSVP's	Small
Loaner telescope and list	Jones
Dialogs	Jones
Newsletter	Small
Maps	Campbell
Library	Small
Calendar for upcoming events	Small
Sky map	Jones
Planisphere	Ficken
Observing for the month	Jones
Decal	Small
Merchandise	Small
Resources	Small
Pamphlet from Astronomy	Small

Idea for membership initiative. So far we had a raffle for Tyson tickets very successful. Now I would suggest we offer things for sale at membership discount if we can buy them in bulk. Here are some ideas: a. Eclipse 2017 bumper magnets. These normally sell for $3 + sipping we can order 100 units at $1.25 each + shipping. Therefore we could sell to members for $2 and to non-members for $4. see the website http://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/store/magnetic-bumper-stickers
b. high powered laser pointers. about 10yrs ago we bought a large qty of green laser pointers that were very popular. There are newer/brighter one on the market now. I recommend putting together a bulk order. target price $90each
c. Planispheres - laminated plastic sizes 5.5" size http://www.amazon.com/MILLER-PLANISPHERE-Miller-Planisphere-40n/dp/B007W8AQEI/ref=sr_1_45?ie=UTF8&qid=1430879989&sr=8-45&keywords=planispheres
d. Make eyepiece combos available for nominal cost: 2 eyepieces, collimating eyepiece, cover
e. Attendance prizes for attendance every quarter?

Merchandise – Jim Small contacted Johnny Mac's and have logos being set up now for embroidery. They will make available shirts online we can order (we can choose from catalogs, etc) Cost will be about $40 for setup. They will provide a sew-out for a sample. We can order sew-on patches, but they are usually done in batches with a minimum of 50. Might be doable if we can take advance orders.

Telescope Making – no report submitted

Librarian – Jim Small picked up some new books from NEAF for the

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

SLAS library. We need article for newsletter.

Newsletter – Jim needs pics/story for MSRAL if anyone wants to submit

Website – www.slasonline.org/joomla Website fees of $131.88 paid in January. Note to increase budget for next year as promotional price is no longer applicable…

Night Sky Network – **Need to organize plan for setting up star parties and logging events.**

SLASdialogs – Several new members added to dialogs

Dark Site – Next events on June 13, and July 11

Loaner Equipment – Discussion of revised Library Telescope Loaner policy and regular SLAS Loaner Telescope Policy

Publicity – release sent

Observing Programs – Jim Small posted Mark Jones Astro Events 2015 on to the SLASonline.orf website

Star Parties: Last month we voted to get a plaque made for MM. Budget is $50. Text was finalized at the board meeting. Upcoming star parties are as follows:

Event Name	Start Date Start Time	RSVPs	Club Members Needed
Downtown Kirkwood Star Party	2015-06-18 8:30 PM	2 Yes, 1 Probably	3
Great American Backyard Campout in Des Peres Park	2015-06-20 9:00 PM	1 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Edward Jones Family YMCA Star Party at Jeffco	2015-06-22 8:00 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Library Windsor	2015-06-22 7:30 PM	3 Yes, 1 Probably	3
Maplewood Library Star Party	2015-06-23 7:30 PM	6 Yes, 1 Probably	3
Belleville Library Star Party	2015-06-23 8:00 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
St. Charles Kathryn Linneman Star Party	2015-06-25 7:30 PM	0 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Camping Vacation bible school	2015-06-26 8:30 PM	0	
Night Sky Over Babler	2015-06-27 8:00 PM	1 Yes, 0 Probably	6
Every Hero Has a Story Summer Reading Club Star Party	2015-07-10 8:00 PM	0 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Downtown Kirkwood Star Party	2015-07-16 8:30 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Edward Jones Family YMCA	2015-07-20 8:00 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Belleville Library Star Party	2015-07-21 8:00 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Francis Park Stargazing	2015-07-22 7:00 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3
Stargazing at the Gateway Arch	2015-07-23 8:30 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	5
St. Charles McClay Star Party	2015-07-23 7:30 PM	0 Yes, 0 Probably	4
Babler Night Sky Program	2015-07-23 7:00 PM	0 Yes, 0 Probably	4
Collinsville Library Star Party	2015-07-24 9:30 PM	2 Yes, 0 Probably	3

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*
8/6/2015 9/10/2015
10/8/2015 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
7/22/2015 8/19/2015
9/16/2015 10/21/2015

SLSC Public Telescope Viewing Events: These events are held the first Friday of the month Planetarium shows start at 7pm

8/7/2015 9/4/2015 10/2/2015
11/6/2015 12/4/2015

YMCA Edward Jones Star Parties
8/10/2015
9/7/2015 10/5/2015

SLAS EVENTS

July

17 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
20 Mon	Edward Jones YMCA
21 Tue	Belleville Library Star Party (Main)
22 Wed	Francis Park
23 Thur	Babler Night Sky Program
23 Thur	St Charles Library McClay
23 Thur	Stargazing at the Arch
24 Fri	Collinsville Library Star Party
29 Wed	St. Charles Library Deer Run Star Party
29 Wed	University City Library Star Party
29 Wed	ST Chas Library Deer Run
31 Fri	Rock Hill Library Star Party

August

6 Thur	SLAS board meeting
7 Fri	SLSC Public Telescope Viewing
15 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky Observing
17 Mon	Edward Jones YMCA
19 Wed	Francis Park
20 Thur	Downtown Kirkwood Star Party
21 Fri	SLAS regular meeting
24 Mon	St Charles Library Corporate
25 Tues	Cliff Cave Library Star Party
26 Wed	Star Party at Schlafly Branch St. Louis Public Library
27 Thur	St. Charles Kisker Road Star Party
27 Thur	Stargazing at the Gateway Arch

September

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 _____

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

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!***

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)***
treasurer at slasonline.org 636-225-0269

Hospitality ***Vacant effective Dec 31***
hospitality at slasonline.org

Board Members at Large:

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board17 at slasonline.org

Larry Campbell 636-244-2867
board15 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. ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
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Loaner Equipment ***Greg Gaines*** 314-277-3082
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dialogsmoderator at yahoo.com

Star Party Coordinator ***Mike Malolepszy*** 314-781-4701
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

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

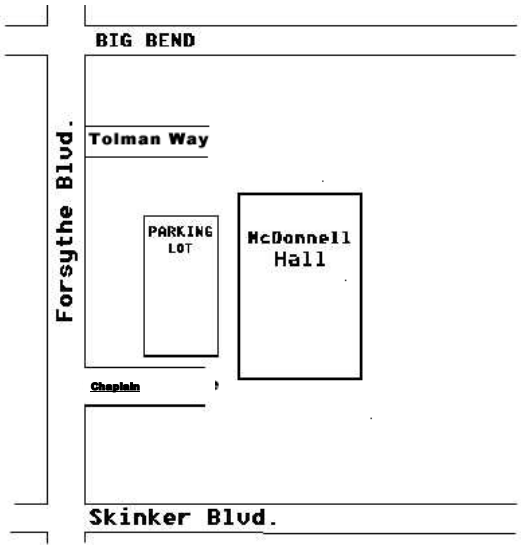
We're on the Web!
http://www.slasonline.org

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 any-one 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.



St. Louis Astronomical Society
Jim Small
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