THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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Embracing Awe and Wonder: Using Astronomy to Develop Science Literacy

by

Dr. Linda Shore
Astronomical Society of the Pacific

Dr. Linda Shore of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP), will be featured at the July meeting of the Saint Louis Astronomical Society. She will be appearing via Zoom. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, July 21 in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, of Washington University. McDonnell Hall is accessible from Forsyth Boulevard via Tolman Way.

Public trust in science has eroded significantly over the last decade, leading to clarion calls for scientists to take a more active role in engaging public audiences. Dr. Shore will examine and discuss what defines "science literacy". She will comment on the ways that public interest in astronomy can lead to increased understanding of science for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. She will include examples from her experiences as Director of the Exploratorium Teacher Institute and Chief Executive Officer of the ASP.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Dr. Linda Shore coordinates programs that support the Society's mission to increase science literacy through astronomy. Prior to her arrival at ASP, she was a Staff Scientist and Director of the Exploratorium Teacher Institute in San Francisco. She is the author of numerous popular science articles on astronomy and co -author of astronomy activity books, including the Exploratorium Science Explorer series and the ASP's Total Skywatcher's Manual.

Upcoming meetings:
July: Linda Shore, ASP
August: JWST panel panelists TBA
September: Eclipses TBA
October: Brian Kloppenborg, AAVSO
November: James Lowenthal Smith College
December: TBA

July 21st Meeting will be In Person and on Zoom

The SLAS meeting for July will be in-person and via Zoom. The Zoom room will be open from 7-10 pm. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm. **To join Zoom Meeting for SLAS Regular Meeting with computer or smartphone: Just click the link: https://zoom.us/j/8604505790**
Meeting ID: 860 450 5790

Missouri Solar Eclipse Expo: Friday, July 21, Saturday, July 22

On **Friday night, July 21st**, the Missouri Solar Eclipse Expo will "kickoff" with a panel discussion entitled "Get Ready for the 2023 and 2024 Solar Eclipses". Panelists include a representative from NASA, eclipse expert Fred Espenak ("Mr. Eclipse"), a representative of the Missouri Department of Tourism, and a weather expert. The Panel Discussion will be held from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University with doors opening at 6:00 pm. Tickets are FREE, but seating is limited. A virtual participation option will be available for those unable to attend in person.

On **Saturday, July 22nd**, an all-day Missouri Solar Eclipse Expo will be held at the 30,000+ square foot Show Me Center located on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO. Exhibits, educational stations, two theaters of expert speakers, solar viewing (weather permitting), and door prizes are planned. Doors open at 10:00 am and close at 5:00 pm. Tickets are FREE if you pre-register, and $3.00 at the door.
For Tickets and information, visit **https://semoeclipseexpo.org/**

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President's Corner
by Jim Small

First off, I have to apologize for the technical difficulties we experienced at the June meeting. It turns out we made a couple of mistakes. We had the guest laptop actually connected to the systems for the room so we were encountering some feedback issues. Then, to really throw a brick in it, I spilled an entire cup of coffee on the podium! Yikes. So, here's hoping this month goes a lot smoother. It should be less trouble simply because Dr. Shore will be coming to us via Zoom.

It's already been a busy summer for conferences, and it's not going to let up any time soon! Acually coinciding with our meeting, the **Missouri Eclipse Expo** will be going on and continuing through Saturday. We will likely have a live report from the expo during our meeting. Fred Espenek (Mr. Eclipse) will be speaking at the conference. If you would like to attend, it will be terrific and the tickets are free! Easy to drive down for the day and back.

Then, continuing on the theme, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific will host a virtual eclipse conference on August 18. It will also have some great speakers and the cost is a modest $25 for the day. See the link and story below on this page for more information about the conference. Our schedule for the next few months has been influenced by the conferences I've attended as we have lined up three speakers from the conferences (AAS and RASC) and there will be more to come! More on that in the near future.

First up is this month's speaker, Dr. Linda Shore. She is the CEO for the ASP and will be resigning that position at the end of the year. I'm looking forward to an inspirational talk from her this month!

Our two year anniversary for the opening of the Jefferson College Observatory is coming up and there is a lot of activity going on there. Bill Nuebert donated an astrophotography camera for use with the 16 and it is set up and ready to go. About 6 of us brought computers and got drivers for the camera and Sharpcap software loaded to enable us to capture images. Can't wait to put that to use!

SLAS has sold several telescopes in the last couple of months including 3 70mm refractors (2 Vixen units still in the original box!), a sextant and a couple of more possibles. The money raised will go toward the observatory and got some scopes into the hands of beginners.

I'm looking forward to a smooth meeting and a good expo coming up this weekend. Hope to see you at both!

Sincerely,

Jim Small

SLAS Memberships Expiring in July

Michael	Cobb
Cynthia	Cripe
Alan	Jeude
Grant	Martin
Theresa	Padua
Joseph	Pini
James & Yvonne	Roe
Thomas R.	Schloemann
Barbara	Shrauner
Ronald	Sides
John	Strebeck
Jim & Ann	Trull
Stephanie	Tucker
James	Twellman

SLAS Memberships Expiring in August

Scott	Devine
Larry	Evans
Frederick	Fischer
David	Harris
Matt	Kastigar
Robert	Kessler
Younas	Khan
Kenneth	Levy
Larry	Meyer
Phyllis	Nolan
Jacob	Raby
C M	Sabinas
Christian	Schulte
James	Tyrrell
Maria	Vertkin

ASP2023: August 18, 2023 A Virtual Conference Exploring the Art, Culture, and Science of Solar Eclipses

Virtual Talks and Panels Celebrating Two Upcoming Awe-Inspiring Solar Eclipses

ASP2023 promises to be exciting as we approach our two upcoming solar eclipses crossing the Northern Hemisphere; the Annular Solar Eclipse on October 14, 2023, and the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. Our day will feature talks and panels as well as smaller group discussions exploring perspectives about solar eclipses through art, culture, history, and science.

Who is invited? Astro 101 instructors, K-12 educators, scientists, science communicators, public engagement professionals in Astronomy, and the general public. Cost of the program is $25

PROGRAM: **Guest Speakers/Panelists**
Panel: Nancy Maryboy, **David Begay**, and **Guests**, Indigenous Cultural Astronomers
Panel: Julia Bradshaw, Art Professor **I Kevin Jerome Everson**, Artist **I Tyler Nordgren**, Astronomer & Artist
Speaker: Kate Russo, Author, Psychologist, Eclipse Consultant
Speaker: E.C. Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory
Guest Speaker Details

SLAS Special Awards Nominations for 2023 are Open

The annual SLAS Special Awards nominations are open for 2023. There are five awards to be presented as follows:
The Albert M. Obrecht, Founders Award
The Lois D. Fitter Outreach Award
The Richard D. Schwartz Supportive Faculty Award
The Robert E. Cox Popular Astronomy Award
The Alfred L. Woods Mentoring Award

The Obrecht, Fitter and Woods awards must be SLAS members, the Schwartz and Cox awards are not restricted to SLAS. For the full form to nominate, including definitions of awards, see this link: **https://www.slasonline.org/files/award/SLASAwardNominationForm.doc**
The deadline for nominations is Sep 1st
The completed form should be attached to an email and sent to awards@slasonline.org with the subject line Award Nomination Form Submission. Committee members are Chairman – Larry Campbell, Sharon Bertram, Bill Biermann, Richard Heuermann, Mark Jones, Joe Marcus, Grant Martin, Fred Schovanez, Jim Small, and Bill Neubert

Become a NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassador *by* Vivian White

There are 4 college students between St Louis and Columbia looking for Eclipse Ambassador partners. Could you help me get the word out to amateur astronomers near you? It's a cool partnership and we'll send lots of eclipse glasses and materials. Thanks so much!

In October 2023 and April 2024, two solar eclipses will be cris-crossing the US. In an exciting new NASA partnership, undergraduate students and eclipse enthusiasts will engage their local communities in advance of the eclipses to enjoy the awe and wonder of this unique alignment. Eclipse Ambassadors will bring outreach programs to underserved audiences in local libraries, colleges, schools, and other community organizations. Training, partnerships, and resources are provided and all outreach can be done *before the eclipses* - **there's no commitment for the eclipses themselves**. Undergraduates will also receive a stipend, plus opportunities to further their involvement in NASA programs.

Apply today! www.eclipseambassadors.org
We make it easy to share about the program:
|Share a Facebook Post or share NASA STEM's FB Post
Tweet about it!
Share it with colleagues on LinkedIn
Find an Ambassador near you on our Eclipse Ambassador Map

~Viv

Jefferson College Observatory *by* Mark Jones

We are fast approaching our 2nd anniversary (9-12-2023) of the opening of the Jefferson College Observatory (JCO).
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We are so proud to have JCO as a resource in Jefferson County. Skies are darker than in St Louis proper. We have a great 16" telescope and two 10" telescopes for members to use. These can be used for visual astronomy and astrophotography. There is also a 80mm ED refractor mounted to the 16" ideally suited for photography. We have also added a full-aperture solar filter to the 16" for daytime viewing.

We continue to have public open house dates at JCO each 1st Sunday of the month. The next one will be July 2nd. We also have private dark-sky nights for members on Saturday closest to New Moon. In October (Oct 14, 2023) we host a special solar eclipse day at JCO.

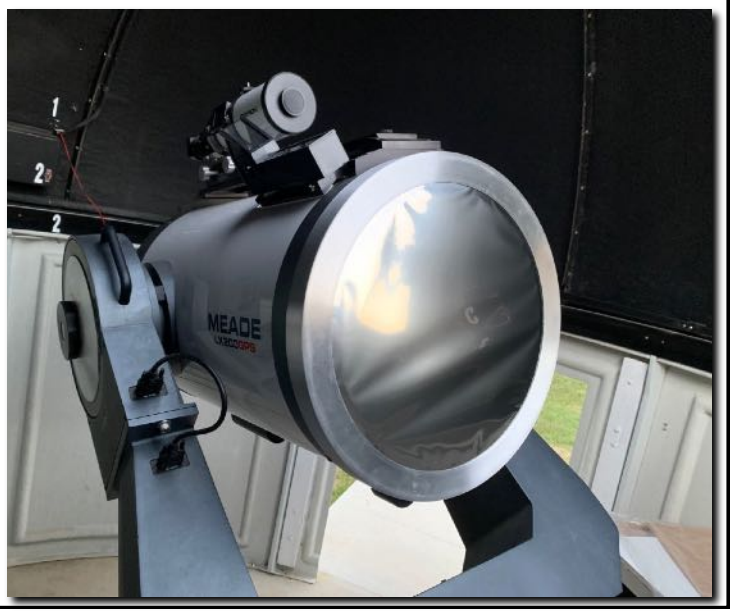
Jefferson College and SLAS continue to invest in this facilty. We are adding a new astro color camera to the observatory this month and SLAS members will be able to try their hand at imaging if they wish. We will be adding some new science monitoring equipment this fall, like a new weather station, a all-sky camera and sky brightness meter and hopefully a meteor monitoring system. Finally the faculty has received a grant and plan to purchase a solar telescope capable of hydrogen-alpha and calcium-K imaging.

This will expand our daytime operations.

SLAS members are well positioned to take advantage of these opportunities. With all this new equipment in place, SLAS really needs to expand our leadership at JCO. We are looking for SLAS members to join us in operating the equipment and to participate in our monthly events.

No previous experience is required. We have some training programs already setup to help you. Your help would be very much appreciated.

If you would like to find out more on how you can help, please contact me at mjones4106@yahoo.com.



Stacy Park *by* Ken Levy

We had a nice turnout at Stacy Park Thursday night. Conditions were surprisingly mild for what was expected. Even had a few gentle breezes to cool things down a bit. People were excited to be there and very appreciative to have good views of the Moon, Venus and double star Mizar in Ursa Major. Even some safe solar observing. Special thanks to our volunteers ; Kevin Adkins, Mark Biernacki, Rich Jennings and Mark Jones.
Stacy Park gives us a really enjoyable mid-county location for outreach- wide open field with an expansive view of the sky and very little local light trespass. I'd like to make this a semi regular event moving forward and I think Olivette Parks and Rd. Would be open to that.

Gateway to the Stars report, June 23 event

The night went very well. 28 attended Don Ficken's talk about the October and April events. He did a great job as he always does, and brought eclipse glasses, all of which were given out by the end of the night. I set up the Park telescope and immediately had a large line even though it was rather cloudy and still very light outside. Don set up his "red cannon" telescope. Skies eventually cleared considerably, and we even caught the Tiangong space station and a train of Starlink satellites. Estimated viewing attendance was 158. All in all, a good night's work.

Below: Talk about upcoming eclipses this October and next April

Right: Stargazing on the grounds of the Arch. Don Ficken and his 13" Coulter

Dobsonfest

The St Louis area astronomy clubs will be celebrating John Dobson's birthday on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at Broemmelsiek Park in St Charles County. John Dobson taught how to make inexpensive large telescopes, accessible to everyone. Would you like help using or setting up your telescope? This will be a free event. Activities will include:
Astronomy-related doorprizes will be drawn-
Solar viewing during the day
Activities for the kids like, making your our Planispheres; personalizing your eclipse glasses

- How to select a first telescope
- Library telescopes and binoculars
- Demonstrations on setting up your telescope
- Display of telescope accessories
- Telescope making and mirror grinding
- Solar viewer for solar eclipse - demo how eclipse work
- Night time demo on using your dobsonian

Perseids Over Babler

Saturday, August 12

8:30pm - Midnight

Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park
Wildwood, MO

Come out to the monument field at Babler, where members of the St. Louis Astronomical Society will have telescopes set up to offer visitors a view of the night sky. Telescopes will be pointed at a variety of objects, and we hope to see some shooting stars from the Perseid meteor shower after it gets dark.

Everyone is encouraged to bring warm clothes, closed-toe shoes, insect repellent, chairs, blankets, binoculars and red flashlights. Parking will be available at the visitor center parking lot and across the road next to the mailboxes, behind the statue, and along the road.

Sunset will be around 8 p.m., and it should be dark by 8:45 p.m.

Event Time: 8:30 p.m. - midnight

Danville Observing Report
July 15, 2023 *by* Bill Breeden

DANVILLE, MO – The wildfire smoke effectively shut down any attempts at observing out at Danville tonight. Still, it was fun to make the trip out there, as I had not been there for 20 months. I never realized what truly poor transparency could be like; the sky was basically opaque. It was other-worldly to have no clouds in the sky, and yet see only two bright stars in the whole sky: Arcturus and Vega. I could not spot a third star in the entire sky by naked eye. It was like trying to observe from the surface of Saturn's moon Titan.

The journey out there and back was fun and nostalgic, since it had been so long since I made the trip. It is difficult for my wife to travel, so most of my astronomy is limited to events much closer to home. She was having quite a good day so I took the risk and headed to Danville with her. Cook Feldman met me out there, and we had a chance to talk and catch up a bit.

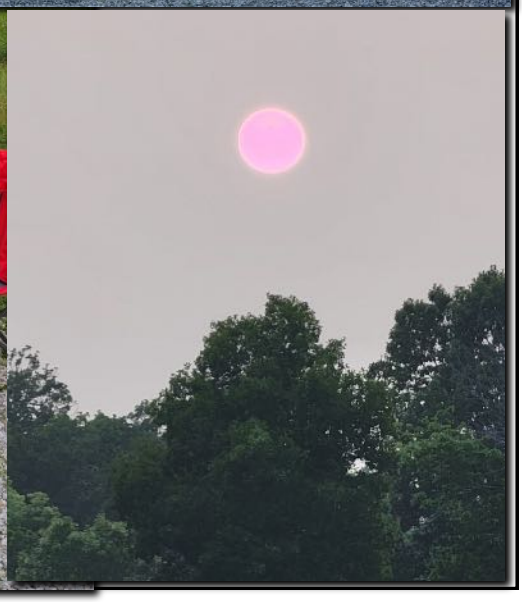
Venus, Regulus, and Mars were supposed to appear in the western sky, in a nice line-up. They were totally obscured by smoke and haze. The sunset was beautiful – a very deep orange, almost red in color. Arcturus and Vega appeared in the sky after 9:30PM, fully one hour after sunset. I used them to align my Meade LX90 8-inch SCT, and observed each for a few minutes. Those stars appeared deceptively clear in the eyepiece, in what seemed to be an attempt to fool me into believing that observing would be good after all.

Nope. I slewed my LX90 to M13, the Great Hercules Cluster (mag. 5.8). Using my 24mm Panoptic eyepiece, the view should have been nothing short of spectacular. I was greeted with a very, very dim fuzzball, showing no detail at all. And this is the brightest globular cluster in our sky! Argh!

Undaunted, I slewed to M92 (mag. 6.4), a smaller, but nearly as bright globular cluster in Hercules. M92's smaller apparent size poked through the smoke and haze slightly better than M13, but this view was still sorely lacking. It was then that Cook and I decided to call it a night and start packing out.

I will file this night as a "successful fail," in that I was able to get my wife and I out on the road again for the evening. We enjoyed a nice stop in Warrenton for dinner, and listened to some oldies on the road. It was nice to chat with Cook and set up my telescope again, even if only for the anticipation of stargazing. It is sad that the sky did not cooperate, but I will try it again whenever my wife is up to it. It is indeed the small pleasures that really matter and I really love this hobby!

Clear Skies (someday),
Bill Breeden



St. Louis Astronomical Society
Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy
Executive Board Meeting Minutes 6/1/2023

1. Opening Activities: a. Attendance: Jim Small, Dennis Latinette, Mark Jones, Larry Campbell, Brent Buch, Bill Winningham b. Open Meeting; meeting open at 7:07pm c. Approval of last month's meeting minutes. Motion to accept the May minutes by Brent, second by Jim. Minutes approved. d. Next Board meeting date: July 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7 Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice: **Action: Jim to add Dennis Latinette to Board mailing board26@slasonline.org. Update newsletter for June.** SLSC Will Snyder SLSC Update First Friday at SLSC (telescope viewing and indoor programming) - June 2, August 4, September 1, October 7, November 3, December 1. Registration for August - December 2023 First Friday events is now live. You can register for any upcoming events for which you are interested here: https://www.slsc.org/first-friday-partner-application/first-friday-approved-partner-registration/. Nonprofit partner tables do not have a cost. **Action: Brad and Randy do we need to sign-up as a partner starting in August?** For table: Library Telescope, Banner, brochures, etc. Setup at 6pm, get sign from back room. Solar Viewing SLSC - June 4, 11, 18, 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3 Working on SLSC sponsor the June meeting with JPL team presenting. Venue will be WU and meeting dated moved in NSN from June 16 to June 23rd. JPL not committed speaker yet. Back-up speaker in place. Action: Jim to contact Wash U and schedule June meeting for June 23rdFrom Will Snyder - JPL still hasn't named officially who the two engineers are that are coming, but there WILL be people here on the 23rd, 24th and 25th. SLSC is planning an evening lecture with them and two science team members from WashU at the Planetarium on the 24th. I think it should work out well for us to commit them to your meeting on the 23rd as well, but I will run that by them as soon as we know who exactly is coming. We would also like to start promoting the first week of June, so hopefully NASA/JPL will have all the information to us by then. We plan to issue a Media Release and update the website when those details are final. SLAS members will certainly be welcome at the lecture on Saturday, as well. It will be free, but it is possible there may be a ticket of some kind for capacity. Would you want me to reserve a certain number of tickets for SLAS? I'll pass along the final details as soon as they are sent to me. In the meantime, let me know if you have any questions. We're really looking forward to it! Working on SLSC hosting a one-year Anniversary review of JWST coinciding with NASA new results release for the Aug 18th meeting. (1) order new JWST materials by May 8th deadline. New posters are supposed to be included. (2) commit to Aug 18th date by June1st, SLAS Board meeting. (3) Decide if jointly hosted by SLAS and SLSC. (4) commit to venue as planetarium by June 5th or we will default to Wash U. (5) Submit event to NASA calendar by June 5 deadline. (6) make final venue decision by Aug 1st. **Action: Larry Campbell. If we have special June and August meetings at SLSC then we will need special cakes for JPL and JWST themes Action: Mark to add Aug 18 JWST to JWST website by deadline of June 5.** National Astronomy days – April 29 and October 9.

2. Upcoming General Membership meeting topics: a. **Speaker**: b. Special Awards needed: noc. Speaker Press Release: TBD until JPL commitment d. Special Business – Solstice Prizes e. A101 – MSRAL report **Standing Action: Jim to display list of expiring memberships at start of Monthly General Meeting**
f. **Hospitality:** a. Budget – 2023 Budget $360; balance $292

3. SLAS Financial Report a. Balance Sheet: thru May 2023; Total $88.1K, mug inventory added to inventory assets b. Profit/Loss report: thru May, $250 in loaner scope sales; Income $2800; Star Party Donations $446; Net ordinary income -$2,349 **Action: Need to get Bill and Jim together to reinvest CDs Action: Need homemade-fest receipts, send to Bill. Did we have doorprizes expense?** c. Annual Budget meetings: start September d. Corporate filings: planned for August**Action: Bill will adjust depreciation of scope and dome based on proportion of replacement cost.** Bill proposes we leave depreciation schedule as is and not adjust at this time. Board agrees to close action. **Action: Bill W. will send copy of insurance policy to Jim and Mark**

4. Speaker Committee a. Budget – 2023 Budget $400; Balance $212.64 (36 mugs + Harry Kranz stipend) b. Upcoming speakers: Other speaker options - NASA Museum & Informal Education Alliance.

SLAS Monthly Meeting Presentations 2022-2023

Month	Name	Topic	Sponsor
Jun-23-2023	JPL	Engineers Perservence and Inginuity	JPL/SLSC
21-Jul-2023	TBA		
18-Aug-2023	Panel	JWST 1st Anniversary Results	SLAS, SLSC
15-Sep-2023	TBA	Planning for Oct 14th Solar Eclipse	
20-Oct-2023	TBA		
17-Nov-2023	TBA		
15-Dec-2023	TBA		

d. Topics of interest e. Stipends f. Travel **Action: Brad to ship mug to Stephen Hummel, still in work. UPS was expensive. Brad will send USPS Action: Brad to submit invoices for Stephen Hummel postage. Action: Brad to submit expense form for $100 honorarium to Harry Krantz and include mailing address Action: Send mugs to other speakers. Haojing Yan, Alan Dyer, Nathalie Nguyen-Quoc Ouellette PhD, Laurie and Kimberly Sibbald, Brett McGuire Action: Mark to ask Peggy Hill about 2023 & 2024 eclipses for talk at SLAS meeting in September Action: Jim to contact Anita Dey about speaker for JWST 1-year Anniversary meeting. Maybe see if meeting could be held at Planetarium. Action: Randy to contact Gautham Narayan from Univ of Illinois 4-meter telescope in Chile. Action: Jim Small to contact this group after the RAS and AAS meeting.**

5. Membership Initiatives a. Budget – 2023 Budget $600, Balance $402 b. Welcome Aboard Meetings – nothing planned c. Raffles – none planned d. Attendance prizes – Send suggestions for Brad Other platforms called Twitch, SLACK and Discord might help with getting younger members **Action: Jim and Brent to explore platform (Twitch, Discord, etc.) possibilities and report to Board at July Board meeting. Engaging younger people with SLAS.**

6. Membership Recognition a. Total Budget 2023 Budget $500, Balance $365 b. NSN Outreach Awards: done in Jan-Feb c. Membership Report: We have 236 members which is a loss of 14 members since the start of the year. Overall trends show that family membership is declining with many renewing as individual members. **Action: Mark to send pre-meeting slide show to Brent Buch so Brent sharing during meeting. Brent will need share privileges before next meeting. Standing Action: Bill to provide list of expiring memberships to SLAS Board and Jim for newsletter** d. Member anniversary – done at November meeting e. Special Award program - **Action: Jim to add permanent box to newsletter with dates for awards as a reminder to members.** Completed – box was added starting with June Event Horizon.

1. Special Award Committee report: Chairman – Larry Campbell, Jim Small, Mark Jones, Sharon Bertram, Fred Schovanez, Bill Neubert, Grant Martin, Bill Bierman, Rich Heuermann, Joe Marcus
2. Special Award deadlines: Current Nomination deadline is Sept 1st 3. Nomination reviews: by October 1st 4. Award selection:
5. Awards presented at December meeting **Action: Jim to add Rich Heuermann and Joe Marcus to awards@slasonline.org distribution list.** Completed – Jim has added members to list

7. Outreach - a. Budget – 2023 Budget $500, Balance $500 b. Member Training Program Status: c. Purchase of T-shirts for volunteers completed training d. Purchase of lawn signs: e. Upcoming outreach events: needs to be performed relating to indoor programming for First Friday at the SLSC and planning for Stem programs and at least 1 astronomy day event. Gateway Arch next event June 23. New flyer published by NPS Francis Park - June 21, July 26, Aug 23, Sep 20, and Oct 18 Tower Grove Park - June 24, July 19, Sep 30, Oct 21. Special Event - Astronomy Festival Sep 30, 2-5pm JCO –June 4, July 2, Aug 6, Sep 3, Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 2. Special eclipse event Oct 14 Dobsonfest 2023 hosted by ASEM, Saturday, Sep. 16, 2023, 4PM-9PM f. Awards/recognitions – NSN held in Jan -Feb g. NSN Outreach hours YTD: Total hours reported: 346.1 hours, Total miles driven: 759.6 miles, Total volunteer hours reported: 2023: 355.1 hours; 2022: 1285.4 hours

8. Old Business: Action: Mark purchase Eclipse Expo table and sponsorship for expo. Table has been purchased still working on sponsorship. Completed – Table purchased but not sponsor-

ship recommend closing action **Action: Mark to procure HDMI RFI transmitter/receiver to use at planetarium and other Outreach events.** Completed - Mark purchased transmitter May 6 and has installed at JCO. The original transmitter has been given to Randy Harrison for use at SLSC **Action: Jim Small send in AL By-Laws ballot but disapproving Section 5. Contracts Requiring prior approval by President of AL. Second by Larry. Board approved motion.**
9. New Business Action: Add eclipse glasses to New Business next month for discussion of pricing schedule Unit cost= $0.286), sales and distribution. Board will defer this to June meeting. ASEM selling to members $1 each or 50 for $35. Completed - Board agrees to sell to members and other non-profits only. Price is $1 each or 50 glasses for $35. **Action: Bill to check into forms needed to report sales tax for eclipse glasses**
10. Other Committee Reports: If needed
A. SLSC Business: a. First Friday actions – b. Other immediate business
B. SLCL Business a. Annual contract – b. Upcoming events -
C. Jefferson College Business: a. Committee Meeting report: Bill Neubert has donated an ASI1600MC color camera to SLAS. We plan to install at JCO early June. b. Upcoming Outreach Event: June 4th Jim ordered two more Handboxes from Meade for $135 for 2 AutoStar II, these will be for spares. **Action: Mark to take new handbox install on 10" at JCO.** Completed - Handbox was installed and programed on 10" LX200ACF on May 8th. This scope is now operational and mounted to wheeled dolly to roll to patio. **Action: Mark to buy replacement part for the RA motor encoder part # 820019. According to Meade. They don't have the item in stock at the moment, it might take a month or 2 until we get them. We can create the order so that when it becomes available, we'll let you know automatically. The cost would be $70.00 plus $15 for shipping.**
D. Library Telescope Committee a. Budget – 2023 Budget none requested, expenses will be covered by escrow balance of $2460 b. Upcoming builds or maintenance events. Next LTP build June 20, 16 scopes c. Maintenance budget – none requested d. Mileage reimbursement – see above e. Promotional materials - none requested.
E. SLAS Social Events a. Budget – 2023 Budget $365, Balance $365 b. Homemade Fest - 2023 budget $125 c. Star-B-Q Planned for Oct 7 at Babler State Park– 2023 budget, $240
Other
F. SLAS Brochures a. 2023 Budget $600, Balance $600 b. Quarter cards –Last time we printed gateway arch cards cost $56 for 400 cards. **Action: Brad to get quote for new quarter card**
G. Loaner scope Program a. Budget – 2023 Budget $ 100 not counting telescope sales, Balance -$580 b. New donations: c. Replacement Parts for the LPTs Repairs made to 10: LX50 SCT receipts to be submitted by Mark J. New eyepieces bought for 80mm binoculars, Fred Fischer to send receipts d. Items for sale **several: Status for sale items** Celestron PowerSeeker 127 reflecting telescope, $50 Orbitor 4.5" Reflecting Telescope, $40 4.25-inch f/10, Reflecting Telescope, Wooden Tripod, 6x30mm finder, 1 ¼ focuser, $10 Majestic Tripod Head-only, Heavy Duty head, w/1/4x20 screw mount, Mounts to 1.5" post, crank pivots head in altitude direction, $10 Small Equatorial Mount. Manual with slow motion knobs and counterweight. Similar to Sky-Watcher EQ-2 mount, $30
H. SLAS Library a. Budget – 2023 Budget $500, Balance $500 b. Other –
I. Merchandise 36 of the new coffee mug design are ready for sale to members. $10 each or two for $15
J. Telescope Making
K. Newsletter a. Budget 2023 $600, Balance $219
L. Website - a. Budget 2023 $750, Balance $425 **Action: Jim Small to update PayPal and website increase by $2 for all S&T options. 5-4-2023 –** Completed - Sky and Tel prices are updated on the PayPal buttons and on the website print off form **Action: Brent to add 2023 meeting videos to website**
M. Social Networking Private FB page – 104 members; New LinkedIn group for SLAS, created April 24 by CV NaNavin. Here is the link: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14251117/ Public FB – 2,672 followers, 107 followers added in May. 71% women; 29% men. The number of people who saw any of your posts at least once during May is 5,061.
N. Night Sky Network
O. SLASdialogs SLAS Groups.io – 187 members. 77 posts so far in 2023. **Action: Mark to send notice to groups.io and private FB members to make sure their memberships are current otherwise they will be purged as of Aug 1st**. Mark sent out SLASDialogs message on May 21 "After September 1st I will remove expired memberships. This is never easy task because in many cases your email on SLASDialogs does not match your SLAS membership email on record. I try my best to identify you as a member. If you think your emails may not match and you risk being dropped from Dialogs, send me an email with your name, dialog email name and SLAS email name so I can verify. If you do get dropped you can request to join again." I filtered a membership list on May 22nd, and looks like 86 names will be dropped from SLASDialogs
P. Dark Site
Q. Observing Programs
R. Star Parties Donation:
11. Closing Activities: Motion to adjourn meeting by Larry second

20th Annual SLAS Star-B-Q
Saturday, October 7, 2023
|Alta Picnic Shelter

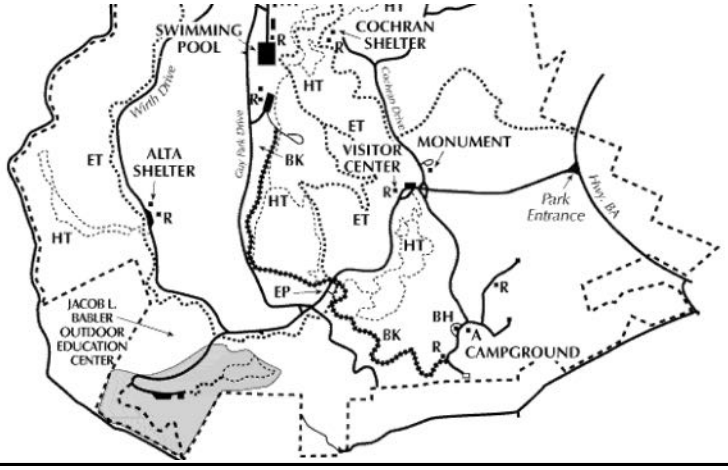
Come join fellow members of the SLAS in **Babler State Park** at the **Alta Picnic Shelter** for a day of food, games, and observing. ***This area has a large shelter, restrooms.*** SLAS will once again provide the hamburgers and hotdogs. We ask for you to bring your favorite drinks and side dish or dessert. Don't forget to bring your telescope or binoculars, chairs and bug spray!

Activities will include: ***Astronomy Trivia Quiz and prizes, solar viewing and plenty of socializing***! Then we pack up and move to the Babler Monument area where we will observe from 6:30-Midnight. Don't have a telescope? Don't worry this is a great chance to see other member's telescopes.

2pm – Picnic begins
3pm-5pm Food line open
4pm-5pm Trivia Contest (with prizes)
5pm-6pm- cleanup shelter

6:30 Sunset Move to Monument Area
6:30pm-midnight- Observing at Monument Area

Special Note: There will be solar viewing during the day



St. Louis Astronomical Society
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through June 2023

	Jan - Jun 23	Budget	$ Over Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Events Income	250.00		250.00
Magazine Subscription			
Astronomy Magazine Sales	506.00	541.15	(35.15)
Sky & Telescope Sales	762.15	1,098.75	(336.60)
Total Magazine Subscription	1,268.15	1,639.90	(371.75)
Membership Dues	2,270.00	2,650.00	(380.00)
Total Income	3,788.15	4,289.90	(501.75)
Cost of Goods Sold			
Magazine Subscriptions			
Astronomy Magazine Cost	587.53	541.15	46.38
Sky & Telescope Cost	823.50	1,115.70	(292.20)
Total Magazine Subscriptio...	1,411.03	1,656.85	(245.82)
Merchandise	242.92	300.00	(57.08)
Total COGS	1,653.95	1,956.85	(302.90)
Gross Profit	2,134.20	2,333.05	(198.85)
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	1,143.41	1,225.30	(81.89)
2-Newsletter	489.92	250.00	239.92
3-Library expense		100.00	(100.00)
5-Loaner Scopes	1,024.29	50.00	974.29
6-Brochures		300.00	(300.00)
7-Insurance	1,163.09	1,050.00	113.09
8-Website	325.28	500.00	(174.72)
9-Administrative Expenses	1,787.79	1,931.40	(143.61)
Jefferson College Observat...		5,000.00	(5,000.00)
Total Expense	5,933.78	10,406.70	(4,472.92)
Net Ordinary Income	(3,799.58)	(8,073.65)	4,274.07
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	521.52		521.52
Interest Income	14.01	25.00	(10.99)
LTP Receipts	2,933.09		2,933.09
Total Other Income	3,468.62	25.00	3,443.62
Other Expense			
Eclipse Escrow Dispursements	50.00		
LTP Disbursements	3,182.97		3,182.97
Total Other Expense	3,232.97		3,232.97
Net Other Income	235.65	25.00	210.65
Net Income	**(3,563.93)**	**(8,048.65)**	**4,484.72**

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2023

	Dec 31, 22	Jun 30, 23
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Checking - First Bank	16,660.91	10,447.17
Deposit, Certificate of	15,976.91	15,988.86
Library Telescope Escrow	2,459.77	1,833.75
PayPal	494.39	337.85
Savings - First Bank	41,148.96	43,136.02
SLAS Eclipse Conference Escr...	0.00	3,394.76
Total Checking/Savings	76,740.94	75,138.41
Other Current Assets		
Inventory Asset	675.61	918.25
Undeposited Funds	375.00	75.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,050.61	993.25
Total Current Assets	77,791.55	76,131.66
Fixed Assets		
Accum Depr - Office Equp	(216.65)	(216.65)
JC Scope and Observatory	12,460.24	10,798.84
Office Equipment	216.65	216.65
Total Fixed Assets	12,460.24	10,798.84
TOTAL ASSETS	**90,251.79**	**86,930.50**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	8,497.66	8,740.30
Retained Earnings	75,243.71	81,754.13
Net Income	6,510.42	(3,563.93)
Total Equity	90,251.79	86,930.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**90,251.79**	**86,930.50**

We could use articles for the newsletter. The following topics are fine for submission.

1. Star party reports. Let us know how a star party you attended went! Photos would be most welcome in addition to the article.

2. Observing reports. Actually made it out observing? Let us know how it went. Taken some astrophotos? Please submit!

3. Bought something or built something? How about a review or an article!

Send an editable document or images to newsletter@slasonline.org
Please provide captions if sending images.

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 All meetings are on First Thursdays unless noted. ***Note: Board meetings will be via Zoom until further notice.*** Dates for 2023: 8/3, 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7

SLAS Dark Sky Observing Dates

Francis Park Events: These events are on Wednesdays of the week nearest the first quarter Moon
7/26, 8/23, 9/20, 1018

Aim for the Stars Public events held on 1st Sundays at the Jefferson College Observatory and Patio.
8/6, 9/3, 10/1, 11/5, 12/2

Stargazing at the Arch Events for the public held at the Gateway Arch
7/28, 8/25, 9/22, 10/27,

Sky Orienteering Events For members who want to gather and do some relaxed observing at Babler State Park (BSP) or at the Jefferson College Observatory (JCO) Please RSVP if you plan to come!

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

Pattonville Observatory Public Viewing Dates 2022-2023: See you in August!

Broemmelsiek Astronomy Park Public Viewing
Every Friday

UMSL Observatory
For directions and map
http://www.umsl.edu/~physics/About%20the%20Department/astro.html All sessions include viewing of 1st quarter Moon with additional objects
Skywatch Hotline: 314-516-5706
Saturdays:

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 Events

July

21 Fri	Missouri Solar Eclipse Expo
21 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
22 Sat	Missouri Solar Eclipse Expo
23 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope
25 Tue	Meramec Valley Library
26 Wed	Francis Park Stargazing
27 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
28 Fri	Stargazing at the Arch
29 Sat	Tower Grove Stargazing
30 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope

August

1 Tue	Burn Camp Star Party
1 Tue	Lewis and Clark Library
1 Tue	DeSoto Library
3 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
4 Fri	First Friday Telescope View SLSC
5 Sat	SLAS Danville
6 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope
6 Sun	Aim for the Stars - JCO
12 Sat	Library Telescope Maintenance
12 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky at Danville
12 Sat	Night Skies Over Babler
13 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope
18 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
19 Sat	SLAS Danville
20 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope
23 Wed	Francis Park
24 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
25 Fri	Stargazing at the Arch
27 Sun	SLSC Solar Public Telescope
29 Tue	Bridgeton Trails Library

September

1 Fri	First Friday Telescope View SLSC

For other events, watch the calendar on the website. Virtual stargazing events and other online activities will be registered there. We hope you can join us for some of these activities!

SLAS Merchandise Available

SLAS merchandise is now set up for embroidery at **Headz n Threadz at www.headznthreadz.com**

There is now only one location:
1065 Regency Parkway, St. Charles MO 63303
Telephone: 314.528-8100
sales@headznthreadz.com
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 www.Infini-tees.com

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 @ $45.75 / 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 ***Bradley R Waller*** 314-481-7250
vicepresident at slasonline.org

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

Treasurer ***Bill Winningham, (Don Ficken - membership)***
treasurer at slasonline.org 636-357-2763

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

Board Members at Large

Brent Buch 314-239-0329
board24 at slasonline.org

Randy Harrison 618-267-1659
board25 at slasonline.org

Dennis Latinette 314-713-9258
Board26 at slasonline.org

ALCOR ***Bill Winningham*** 636-357-2763
(Astronomical League Correspondent)
treasurer at slasonline.org

MSRAL Rep. ***Peggy Walker*** 918-640-0832
msral_rep at astroleague.org

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librarian at slasonline.org

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Merchandise ***Vacant***
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Social Media *Vacant*

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dialogsmoderator at yahoo.com

Star Party Coordinator ***Bill Breeden*** 314-276-3613
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

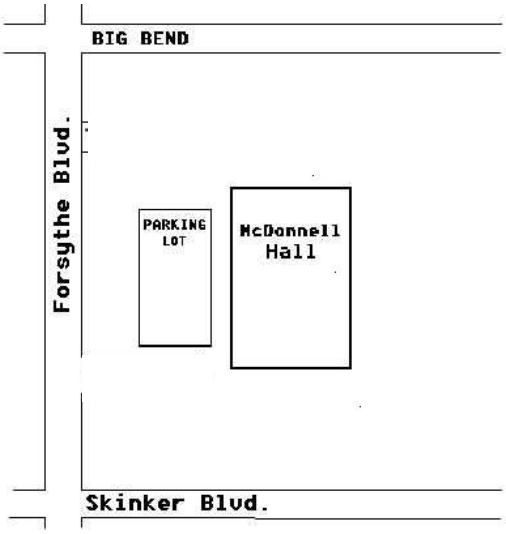
Follow us on
Twitter: @stlastro
Facebook: @stlastro

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
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