THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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Citizen Science, Variable Stars, and the AAVSO

by Dr. Brian Kloppenborg American Association of Variable Star Observers

Dr. Brian Kloppenborg of the American Association of Variable Star Observers, will be featured at the October meeting of the Saint Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, October 20 in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, of Washington University.

Citizen Science is the direct participation by the general public in scientific research. That is typically done by private citizens, using data and images supplied by professional scientists, to join in the research using home computers. Variable stars are stars whose brightness fluctuates, whether in regular or irregular patterns. The AAVSO is an international organization, founded in 1911, of both professional and amateur astronomers interested in variable stars. In this talk, Dr. Kloppenborg will provide a brief overview of citizen science and a review of the different astronomy-related citizen science programs now seeking volunteers. He will also discuss how the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) can show new volunteers how to get involved.

Dr. Brian Kloppenborg is an astrophysicist and entrepreneur. He is presently the Executive Director of the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO). Prior to joining the AAVSO, Brian worked as a Research Scientist at Georgia Tech Research Institute. He also ran a small business that provided data science, machine learning, and GPU accelerated computing services. Brian's research interests include photometry, spectroscopy, astrometry, and long-baseline optical interferometry of eclipsing binaries, novae, and young stellar objects. His work has been published in professional journals such as Nature, the Astrophysical Journal and JAAVSO.

Upcoming meetings:
October: Brian Kloppenborg, AAVSO
November: James Lowenthal Smith College
December: Tim Russ, Star Trek ActorJanuary: Robert Zubrin, PhD., The Mars Society
February: Angela Speck, PhDUniversity Texas at San Antonio
March: Tom Rathjen, NASA
April: David A Williams, PhD., Arizona St
May: TBA
June: Steven R Gullberg, PhD., U Oklahoma

October 20th Meeting will be In Person and on Zoom

The SLAS meeting for October 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. McDonnell Hall is accessible from Forsyth Boulevard via Tolman Way. Free yellow zone and garage parking spaces are available.

Are You Ready for the Eclipse?

Where to go to see it inside! (Page 3)

Get your glasses on!

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President's Corner
by Jim Small

Brian Kloppenborg, the director of AAVSO is the speaker for this month! This should be a terrific talk!

The eclipse is HERE! I finally have made my decision about traveling to see the Annular Eclipse on October 14….. Whoops! Change of plans! I was going to head to Los Alamos with my sister, but we decided because of the weather that we will go to San Antonio, TX instead! We are stayijg in a hotel right on the River Walk and if things work out ok, I'll be broadcasting the eclipse via Twitch, a platform just for live streaming from the roof of the hotel. Currently working on this at our hotel in Springfield, MO. Will travel the rest of the way tomorrow…

I hope your eclipse plans all work out, no matter where you observe it from! Maybe I'll see you online… Don't forget to enjoy it… don't stress over equipment too much..

Time to get some shut-eye here… just hoping I have what I need for equipment for Saturday. Just hoping I can get it all working, too….

So get your equipment in order for the eclipse and don't forget to practice your setup so you will be ready when it takes place. Next month look for a nice report from the Okie-Tex Star Party that Mark Jones and Randy Harrison attended.

Sincerely, Jim Small

It's a tradition that they set up pink flamingos at Okie_Tex.

Note the tennis shoe….

Enjoy!

SLAS Memberships Expiring in October

David	Adkins
Bob	Beebe
Laureen	Caliman
Larry W.	Campbell
Wayne & Nancy	Clark
Daniel L.	Corso
Jennifer	Dove
Murray	Fishman
Pete	Gask
David	Goldstein
Joe & Margie	Marcus
Tanner	Martin
Rick	Nichols
Anthony	Russo

SLAS Memberships Expiring in November

Joseph	Barteau
Scott	Byassee
Grant	Dachroeden
Tom	Hale
Randy	Harrison
Gail	Keefe
Krista	Knuffman
Frank	Mack
Scott	Noyes
Marco	Spann
John	Taylor
Guy	Vogt
Craig	Walters

Winter Solstice 2023 Attendance Prizes

Greetings SLAS Collective,

To give an Advance announcement of the Winter Solstice 2023 Attendance Prizes, we have provided a Pictures of the PRIZES!!! Also, a minor sidenote: SLAS Members who attend via "ZOOM" are eligible for the Prizes Enjoy!!

- Celestron Sky Maps Book
- Celestron Basic Smart Phone Adapter
- Celestron Lens Cleaning Kit
- LED Rechargeable TEK-Light (Cylon eye)
- Night Reader Pro

Star Date Magazine Subscription (2)

Bradley Waller

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

Four St. Louis-metro Astronomy Societies are Hosting Free Viewing of the Upcoming Annular Eclipse on Saturday, October 14, 2023

They will be held at the following 6 locations. See the following for the times and places.

10:30am to 1:30pm Jefferson College Observatory, Hillsboro, MO.

Jefferson College and the St. Louis Astronomical Society (SLAS) will host eclipse viewing. During the event, the dome and 16-inch telescope will be used for public viewing of the eclipse. We will have safe solar telescopes on the 1,800 sq-ft observing. People should only bring their telescopes IF they are equipped for safe solar viewing. SLAS will be providing Free eclipse glasses to the first 500 attendees.

https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/event-view.cfm?Event_ID=129015

9:30am to 4pm McDonnell Planetarium, Forest Park.

The planetarium and the St. Louis Astronomical Society (SLAS) will host eclipse viewing. SLAS will have solar telescopes for people to look through. The planetarium will also be providing FREE eclipse glasses to the first 5,000 guests.

https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/event-view.cfm?Event_ID=133767

10:30am to 1:30pm. Gateway Arch.

The National Park Service (NPS) and the St. Louis Astronomical Society (SLAS) will host viewing of the partial solar eclipse from the Gateway Arch Entrance Plaza. The Park will have solar eclipse glasses and an Eclipse Junior Ranger booklet available for distribution, along with at least one filtered telescope. People should only bring their telescopes IF they are equipped for safe solar viewing. SLAS will be providing Free eclipse glasses to the first 300 attendees.

https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/event-view.cfm?Event_ID=134622

10am to 2pm. Annular Eclipse at Carlyle Lake,

The Riverbend Astronomy Club (RBAC) will host eclipse viewing on October 14th.

https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/event-view.cfm?Event_ID=132588

10am to 2pm. Camp Trinity Lutheran Church Camp, New Haven, MO.

The Eastern Missouri Dark Sky Observers (EMDSO) will host eclipse viewing at Camp Trinity Lutheran Church Camp on October 14th. Eclipse glasses will be given away free.

https://camptrinity.org/?page_id=37

http://emdso.org/

10am to 2pm. 10am to 2pm. Brommelsiek Astronomy Site, St Charles County.

The Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri (ASEM) will host eclipse viewing.

https://www.asemonline.org/beginners-pages/places-to-observe

Frequently asked questions – Oct. 14, 2023 Solar Eclipse

When is this eclipse visible from St. Louis?

The eclipse will begin at 10:30am with the Sun 33 degrees above the southeastern horizon. Maximum eclipse will occur at 11:56am with approximately 65% of the Sun covered by the Moon. The eclipse will end at 1:30pm with the Sun 43 degrees above the horizon. You must find an unobstructed location to view the eclipse

Where is the best place to observe the eclipse?

The eclipse will be visible over most of the United States. From Missouri this will be a partial solar eclipse. The Moon will cover 67% of the Sun if you are in southwest Missouri and 53% if you are in northeast Missouri. In the St Louis area, about 54% will be covered. The "annular" phase of the eclipse, will only be viewable in a narrow path cutting through the following states: you must be in the following states: Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. See the following websites for more information about locations and exact timing for the Oct. 14th eclipse.

https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2023/oct-14-annular/overview/

http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/ASE_2023_GoogleMapFull.html

https://eclipsewise.com/solar/SEgmapx/2001-2100/SE2023Oct14Agmapx.html

https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2023-october-14

https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/october-14-2023

Can I safely view the eclipse?

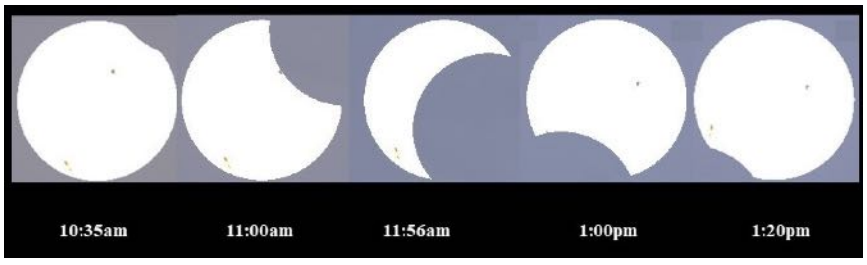
There are several safe methods for viewing the Sun. These methods are described on the internet and found in books at your local library. Safe methods include: special "eclipse glasses"; and pin-hole projection. UNSAFE methods include: Sunglasses; Mylar Balloons or Food Wrappers; Smoked Glass; X-Ray Film; Film Negatives; and CDs. See the following NASA Websites for more safety information.

https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2023/oct-14-annular/safety/

http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEhelp/safety2.html

Can I safely photograph the eclipse?

Still or video photography can be an enjoyable way to document the eclipse. Protect your camera the same as your eyes, use only special "solar filters" when photographing the Sun. Photography guidebooks can be found at your local library, camera shop, or on-line.



How to See the 2023 Annular Solar Eclipse: Top 10 Tips to Observe & Photograph Solar Eclipses
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcTXSoqO1ms

Learn how to Photograph the Annular Eclipse | DSLR, Telephoto Lens, Star Tracker Tutorial
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=275onafcdCY

How to Plan and Photograph the Partial Solar Eclipse - October 25, 2022 | Step by Step Tutorial
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Uxqlp99XnU&list=PLI-0nYk64zjrH_kfPBZD_xtxmRJIxF1Ap&index=6

How to photograph a solar eclipse, with Alan Dyer
https://earthsky.org/human-world/how-to-photograph-a-solar-eclipse-alan-dyer/

2023 Walker Distinguished Lecturer on October 26, 2023

Dr. Meenakshi Wadhwa, Director and Foundation Professor, School of Earth and Space Exploration, Arizona State University will serve as the 2023 Walker Distinguished Lecturer on October 26, 2023. Professor Wadhwa studies time scales and processes involved in the formation and evolution of the Solar System and planets. She earned her doctorate from Washington University in St. Louis in Earth and Planetary Sciences in 1994, working with Professor Ghislaine Crozaz. At ASU, she served as director of the Center for Meteorite Studies from 2006 to 2019, and in 2019, she was appointed director of the School of Earth and Space Exploration. She serves as the Mars Sample Return Principal Scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory where she holds an appointment as Distinguished Visiting Scientist.

Among her many accolades, Professor Wadhwa received the J. Lawrence Smith Medal from the National Academy of Sciences in 2021 and she was elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 2023. Asteroid 8356 has been named 8356 Wadhwa in recognition of her contributions to meteoritics and planetary science.

Professor Wadhwa's lecture will focus on the knowledge gained from samples of objects in the Solar System and NASA's bold plans to return samples from the red planet. It will be a pleasure to welcome her back to Washington University to deliver these lectures.

Public Lecture - Thursday, October 26: ***Bringing Mars Samples Back to Earth*** 7:00 pm, Whitaker 100

Dobsonfest! A Success!

What a great time! The skies cooperated enough for some solar and night time viewing. We had an estimated 425 people at Broemmelsiek park. A great turn out of local amateur telescopes on display.Thanks to Chuck Simms and ASEM for leading this year's event. A job well done. I hope everyone can support Riverbend when they host DobsonFest 2024.

It is really fun when our 4 clubs work together and put on this event. DobsonFest 2024 could fall on September 14, 2024 which will be John Dobson's 109th birthday! Final date and site will be determined by RBAC

Jefferson College Observatory Sunday October 1st
by Mark Jones
Date: Tue, 03 Oct 2023 09:00:14 PDT

We had a good night for observing on Sunday. Thanks to everyone who came down to help Stephen Kelly, Don Ficken, Buzz McCullough, Ron Sides, John Duchek.

Skies were clear and we were able to show Saturn, Lagoon, Trifid, Swan and Eagle nebulas through the 16" and take photos thru the 80mm

The 16in is working well and tracks good enough for photos. Thanks so much to Bill Neubert for donating the camera and getting us started by downloading software to make it all work well, including SharpCap.

Several of us set up our computers to work with the camera and Mark has been taking advantage of it for some pretty good pictures.

Just be aware the photo below was taken with the 80 refractor that rides on top of the 16, not the 16 itself.

Keep up the good work, Mark!

For more information, please check each club's websites and Facebook pages before eclipse day.

Jefferson College - jeffco.edu/Observatory

https://www.facebook.com/JCObservatory

St Louis Astronomical Society - slasonline.org

https://www.facebook.com/stlastro/?ref=page_internal

Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri – asemonline.org/

https://www.facebook.com/Astronomical-Society-of-Eastern-Missouri-226572914663884

Eastern Missouri Dark Sky Observers - emdso.org

https://www.facebook.com/EasternMissouriDarkSkyObserver

River Bend Astronomy Club - riverbendastro.org/

https://www.facebook.com/RiverBend-Astronomy-Club-RBAC-137093222969249

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy
Executive Board Meeting Minutes 7/6/2023

1. Opening Activities: a. Attendance: Bradley Waller, Bill Winningham, Brent Buch, Mark Jones, Randy Harrison, Jim Small, Larry Campbel b. Open Meeting: 7:05pm c. approval of last month's minutes. Larry Campbell moved, Brent Buch. Minutes approved.
d. Next Board meeting date: Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7 Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice: First Friday at SLSC (telescope viewing and indoor programming) - October 6, November 3, December 1. 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.
2. Upcoming General Membership meeting topics: a. **Speaker**: Vivian White b. Special Awards needed: no c. Speaker Press Release: not sent yet d. Special Business – none e. A101 – Dobsonfest Eclipse Plans Megan Dickson presentation about research at UMSL postponed till October Other speaker options - NASA Museum & Informal Education Alliance. f. **Hospitality:** a. Budget – 2023 Budget $330, balance $262
3. SLAS Financial Report as of 7/31 a. Balance Sheet: total assets $87,315; Savings $43,136 b. Profit/Loss report: Income: $4729; Net Loss $3179, primarily due to depreciation. c. Annual Budget meetings: September 17 4 pm at Youngs and on zoom d. Corporate filings: not due until May Action: Bill will adjust depreciation of scope and dome based on proportion of replacement cost. Action: Need to get Bill and Jim together to reinvest CDs. Bill suggests changing to Commerce Bank for CDs. Will move at least $20000 to CD's.
4. Speaker Committee a. Budget – 2023 Budget $400, Balance $57.36 b. Upcoming speakers:

SLAS Monthly Meeting Presentations
2023

Month	Name	Topic	Sponsor
15-Sep-2023	Vivian White	Oct 14th Solar Eclipse	ASP
20-Oct-2023	Brian Kloppenborg	Citizen Science, Variable Stars, and the AAVSO	AAVSO Director
17-Nov-2023	James Lowenthal	SHINE	Smith College
15-Dec-2023	Tim Russ	Space, The Final Frontier	Star Trek
19-Jan-2024	Robert Zubrin	The Case for Mars	Mars Society
16-Feb-2024	Angela Speck	Eclipse	UT San Antonio
15-March-2024	Tom Rathjen	The Moon and Beyond	NASA
19-April-2024	David A Williams	ASU Explores the Solar System	Arizona State University
17-May-2024	TBA		
21-June-2024	Steven R Gullberg	Archeo Astronomy	U Oklahoma

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 mail $100 honorarium to Harry Krantz Action: Send mugs to other speakers. Haojing Yan, Alan Dyer, Nathalie Nguyen-Quoc Ouellette PhD, Laurie and Kimberly Sibbald, Brett McGuire
Action: Randy to contact Gautham Narayan from Univ of Illinois 4-meter telescope in Chile.
5. Membership Initiatives a. Budget – 2023 Budget $600, Balance $102 b. Welcome Aboard Meetings – c. Raffles – d. Attendance prizes – Send suggestions for Brad Action: Jim and Brent to explore platform (Twitch, Discord, etc.) possibilities and report to Board at future Board meeting. Engaging younger people with SLAS.
6. Membership Recognition a. Total Budget 2023 Budget $500, Balance $365 b. NSN Outreach Awards: c. Membership Report: the August 2023 membership report for SLAS shows 219 members. This is a reduction of 6 members from last month and 7 members from the same month last year. Family memberships are losing favor to individual memberships. d. Member anniversary – e. Special Award program - 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

7. Outreach - a. Budget – 2023 Budget $500, Balance $500 b. Member Training Program Status: c. Purchase of T-shirts for volunteers completed training d. e. Upcoming outreach events: Indoor programming for First Friday at the SLSC and planning for STEM programs Francis Park - Sep 20, and Oct 18 Tower Grove Park - Sep 30, Oct 21. Special Event - Astronomy Festival Sep 30, 2-5pm JCO – Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, Dec 2. Special eclipse event Oct 14 Dobsonfest 2023 hosted by ASEM, Saturday, Sep. 16, 2023, 4PM-9PM f. Awards/recognitions –g. NSN Outreach hours YTD:

8. Old Business:

Discuss issues with volunteers for star parties. Perhaps appoint a coordinator whose main job is to insure we have adequate number of members in the volunteer pool for events. Discuss methods to encourage members to volunteer for star parties. Try to find out why people aren't volunteering. Come up with an action for this issue. Possible actions: 1. convene a virtual meeting for all NSN coordinators to discuss volunteer ideas 2. Send email asking for a volunteer coordinator 3. Conduct monthly A101 about Outreach Training 4. have a new member events (1) welcome aboard and orientation; have new member events at JCO; new member telescope help events, mentor outreach. 5. Find Volunteer Coordinator for LTP program only

9. New Business Here is our current sales policy approved at the July meeting. If we wish to sell directly to non-SLAS groups then policy should be updated. If a member wants to buy the glasses then re-sell to non-SLAS group it is up to the individual. SLAS Policy - This policy is subject to change as the eclipse dates get closer, but is intended as the initial guidelines for early events. SLAS has purchased 10,676 solar glasses for sales and promotion give-a-ways, with the primary goal of giving away free glasses to the public during SLAS events. This policy is to provide SLAS members with a clear understanding on how this will be done. First, SLAS agrees that solar glasses may be sold only to members and other non-profit organizations at a cost of $1 each or 50 glasses for $35. Second, SLAS agrees to provide free solar eclipse glasses to event leaders of SLAS public outreach events where the 2023 and 2024 solar eclipses are being promoted through presentations and training. All these glasses will be distributed free, one per person at event. Other public bulk sales or bulk give-a-ways must be requested separately. Event leaders must submit their email requests to: board@slasonline.org, stating the events they will support and the number of glasses they need. Leaders may request more glasses if they run out. A Missouri master naturalist person wants to purchase 100 solar glasses. Taxes are not an issue as they are a non-profit group. Gateway Chess League and Crossroads school would like to purchase glasses. 200 for the League, 150 for the school. Get a W-9 from both. Board decided that SLAS could sell to these non-profit companies and that no change to the sales policy was needed. From Don Ficken: Collectively, this makes eight Sunspotters and approximately 18 library telescope projection devices. I propose that the board allow the Missouri Solar Eclipse Task Force to coordinate the "loan" of these items to schools, libraries, and other organizations that can make use of them for the October 14, 2023 and the April 8, 2024 solar eclipses. They would be required to return these items to SLAS within 60 days after the April 8, 2024 eclipse. Once returned, I propose to breakdown the library telescope projection devices so that we only keep the Galileo scope that is part of it. We might sell the Galileo scopes to members, etc. For the Sunspotters, my thought is for SLAS to investigate ways to put the SunSpotters to better use than sitting in storage. Possibly donating them to schools, developing some type of loaner program for schools/libraries, or selling them. Currently, new SunSpotters are selling for over $500. Board decided that SLAS allow the Missouri Solar Eclipse Task Force to coordinate the "loan" of these items to schools, libraries, and other organizations that can make use of them for the October 14, 2023 and the April 8, 2024 solar eclipses. Due to lack of table space at SLAS general meetings at Wash U, Larry Campbell proposes to purchase 2 folding tables for hospitality to use. These will be stored in the Wash U storeroom and cost of these tables will come from the 2023 Hospitality Budget. Mark Jones proposes to give away 3 SLAS membership as part of Dobson Fest prizes. For this year's DobsonFest will be held at Brommelsieck park and hosted by ASEM. All the local clubs will be there. I am requesting to give-away 3 SLAS memberships as doorprizes at DobsonFest. These will have an equivalent cost of $5 each (AL membership dues). I propose this money come from Membership Initiatives budget, which currently has a balance of $402. Board voted on the motion and it was approved.

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 – October 14 eclipse. At least 3 volunteers to attend.

C. Jefferson College Business: a. Committee Meeting report: Lighted sign next to observatory with message board. Signage at entrance roads. Security cameras are in place. Buying 100mm Ha telescope, CaK line as well. Makes daytime classes viable. Solar telescope viewing days (Oct 6). Weather station is also in the works. b. Upcoming Outreach Event: Had a good turnout for the Sept event. Event every Sunday in October. 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 Build was done in August. 6 telescopes Don and Mark. c. Maintenance budget – none requested d. Mileage re-imbursement – 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. Budget 2023 $600, Balance $486 b. Quarter cards – New order coming. Pricing for 1000 etc.

G. Loaner scope Program a. Budget – 2023 Budget $ 100, Balance $0 b. New donations: 3" Celestron reflector with broken dovetail c. Replacement Parts for the LPTs 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 $420 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 $110

L. Website - a. Budget 2023 $750, Balance $425

M. Social SLAS Dialogs, Facebook page purged for nonmembers

N. Night Sky Network

O. SLASdialogs SLAS Groups.io –

P. Dark Site

Q. Observing Programs

R. Star Parties Donation:

11. Closing Activities: 9:22 Motion to adjourn by Brad Waller and seconded by Mark Jones.

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

	Jan - Sep 23	Budget	$ Over Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Events Income	390.00		390.00
Magazine Subscription	1,838.15	2,375.45	(537.30)
Membership Dues	3,375.00	4,275.00	(900.00)
Total Income	5,603.15	6,650.45	(1,047.30)
Cost of Goods Sold			
Magazine Subscriptions	1,885.99	2,392.40	(506.41)
Merchandise	242.92	650.00	(407.08)
Total COGS	2,128.91	3,042.40	(913.49)
Gross Profit	3,474.24	3,608.05	(133.81)
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	1,556.52	2,405.30	(848.78)
2-Newsletter	511.64	375.00	136.64
3-Library expense	111.96	200.00	(88.04)
4-Astronomical League Dues	1,070.00	1,200.00	(130.00)
5-Loaner Scopes	1,024.29	100.00	924.29
6-Brochures	113.50	450.00	(336.50)
7-Insurance	1,163.09	1,050.00	113.09
8-Website	512.10	500.00	12.10
9-Administrative Expenses	2,929.32	2,882.10	47.22
Jefferson College Observat...		5,000.00	(5,000.00)
Total Expense	8,992.42	14,162.40	(5,169.98)
Net Ordinary Income	(5,518.18)	(10,554.35)	5,036.17
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	871.52		871.52
Eclipse Escrow Receipts	70.00		
Interest Income	15.95	40.00	(24.05)
LTP Receipts	6,180.34		6,180.34
Total Other Income	7,137.81	40.00	7,097.81
Other Expense			
Eclipse Escrow Dispursements	50.00		
LTP Disbursements	5,235.16		5,235.16
Total Other Expense	5,285.16		5,285.16
Net Other Income	1,852.65	40.00	1,812.65
Net Income	**(3,665.53)**	**(10,514.35)**	**6,848.82**

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

	Dec 31, 22	Sep 30, 23
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Checking - First Bank	16,660.91	10,106.57
Deposit, Certificate of	15,976.91	15,990.06
Library Telescope Escrow	2,459.77	2,727.92
PayPal	494.39	511.44
Savings - First Bank	41,148.96	43,136.76
SLAS Eclipse Conference Escr...	0.00	3,152.12
Total Checking/Savings	76,740.94	75,624.87
Other Current Assets	1,050.61	993.25
Total Current Assets	77,791.55	76,618.12
Fixed Assets	12,460.24	9,968.14
TOTAL ASSETS	**90,251.79**	**86,586.26**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	8,497.66	8,497.66
Retained Earnings	75,243.71	81,754.13
Net Income	6,510.42	(3,665.53)
Total Equity	90,251.79	86,586.26
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**90,251.79**	**86,586.26**

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: 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 1018

Aim for the Stars Public events held on 1st Sundays at the Jefferson College Observatory and Patio. 10/8, 10/15, 10/22. 10/29, 11/5, 12/2

Stargazing at the Arch Events for the public held at the Gateway Arch
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: 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/30, 12/8, 1/12, 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/12, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10

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

	October
13 Fri	**YMCA Camp Lakewood**
14 Sat	**Eclipse Viewing at McDonnell Planetarium**
14 Sat	**Eclipse Viewing at JCO**
14 Sat	**Arch Eclipse Viewing**
15 Sun	**Aim for the Stars at JCO**
17 Tue	**Mo Baptist University**
18 Wed	**Francis Park**
18 Wed	**Aviation Explorer Scouts**
20 Fri	**Blackburn Park**
20 Fri	**SLAS Regular Meeting**
21 Sat	**American Legion Post 444**
21 Sat	**Tower Grove Stargazing**
21 Sat	**Stacy Park Stargazing**
21 Sat	**Scouts at Babler**
22 Sun	**Aim for the Stars at JCO**
23 Mon	**Central Library**
25 Wed	**Star Party at Buder**
26 Thur	**SLAS New Member Zoom**
27 Fri	**Stargazing at the Arch**
28 Sat	**River Trails NOVA Night at JCO**
29 Sun	**Girl Scouts**
29 Sun	**Aim for the Stars**
	November
2 Thur	**Scott Elementary**
2 Thur	**SLAS Board meeting**
4 Sat	**Girl Scouts**
4 Sat	**Little Creek Nature**
4 Sat	**Camp Crites**
5 Sun	**Aim for the Stars**
10 Fri	**Rohan Woods**
11 Sat	**SLAS Dark Sky at Danville, Jeffco**
17 Fri	**SLAS Regular Meeting**
21 Tue	**Scott AFB Library**
23 Thur	**SLAS New Member Zoom**
	December
1 Fri	**First Friday @ 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

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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 slasonine.org

Merchandise ***Vacant***
merchandise at slasonline.org

Membership ***Don Ficken*** 636-225-0269
membership at slasonline.org

Newsletter Editor ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
newsletter at slasonline.org

Observing Programs ***Mark Jones*** 636-394-2342
observing at slasonline.org

Publicity ***Rich Heuermann*** 314-962-9231
publicity at slasonline.org

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

Social Media *Vacant*

'SLASdialogs' Moderator ***Mark Jones***
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

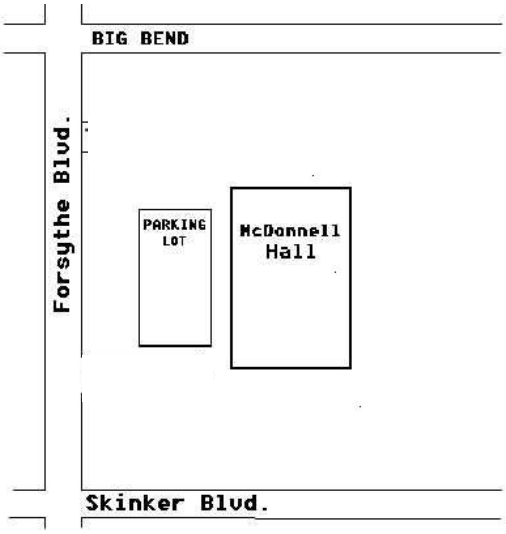
Follow us on
Twitter: @stlastro
Facebook: @stlastro

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
Jim Small
13128 Cozyhill Drive
St. Louis, MO 63122