THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

VOLUME 34, Issue 7
July, 2024

Io During the Juno Epoch

by

Dr. Ashley Gerard Davies
NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Dr. Ashley Gerard Davies of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory will be featured at the July meeting of the Saint Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, July 19 in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, on the Danforth campus of Washington University,

Io is one of the large satellites of Jupiter. A little larger than Earth's Moon, it is intensely volcanic as a result of extreme tidal heating. Typically, a half-dozen or more volcanoes are erupting every day on Io. NASA's Juno spacecraft, in polar orbit around Jupiter since 2016, has provided unprecedented views of Io's poles, allowing a full, global accounting of Io's extraordinary volcanoes for the first time. Dr. Davies will talk about the latest observations of Io by Juno and the James Webb Space Telescope, and what these data have revealed about Io's volcanoes and interior.

Dr. Ashley Gerard Davies is a Principal Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, which he joined in 1994. He specializes in the remote sensing and modelling of volcanic activity. He was a member of the Galileo spacecraft's Near-Infrared Mapping Spectrometer team and is a Co-Investigator on MISE, the imaging spectrometer on the Europa Clipper spacecraft, which is scheduled to be launched in October 2024.

Upcoming meetings:
August: Bradley Tsalyuk, Exhibit Developer, Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center, Ca Science Center
September: Joseph Marcus, MD, ""Who Discovered the Expanding Universe? Spoiler: Not Hubble!"
October Pamela Gay, PhD, "Secret Squirrel Stuff", Planetary Science Institute
November: Robert Zubrin, PhD. "The Case for Mars"; The Mars Society
December 2024: Robert Reeves; "Postcards from the Moon"; LPOD Harvard University

Inside This Issue

President's Corner Memberships One Good Thing	2
SLAS Star B Q	3
Danville Report	4
Francis Park Gallery	5
Scope for Sale Board Minutes	7
Financials	9
Events	10
Contacts	11

Meeting Room Back to Normal: McDonnell Hall 162!
July 19 Meeting will be In Person and Online!

The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, July 19 in **McDonnell Hall 162, marking the return to our usual meeting place** on the Danforth campus of Washington University. McDonnell Hall is accessible from Forsyth Boulevard via Tolman Way. Free yellow zone and garage parking spaces are available. The event will also be available via Zoom online conference per the link here: **To join with computer or smartphone: use the below link.** **https://zoom.us/j/8604505790?omn=91696112100** **meeting ID: 860 450 5790**

21st Annual SLAS Star B Q
Saturday, 8/3/2024 3:00pm-10:00pm
Stacy Park
9750 Old Bonhomme Rd, Olivette, MO 63132

Don't go to Babler!!
SLAS will host the StarBQ at Stacy Park, one of our more popular star party areas.
SLAS will once again provide the Bar-B-Q.
Bring your favorite drinks and side dish or dessert.
This area has a large shelter and restrooms.
We will observe from the soccer fields.
See more details on page 3 inside!

President's Corner
by Jim Small

It's been a good summer so far, and I've managed to stay out of the heat. That ends next week as I have a conference in Albuquerque, NM then a visit to Phoenix after that! Should be right in the middle of those upper triple digit temperatures, especially in Phoenix. I'll try to stay cool. Contrast that to today as I'm writing this column where it's a fabulous 80 degrees outside! Get some observing in if you can!

We are back to McDonnell Hall for the July meeting, so things are back to normal. I look forward to being in a room that I'm used to… hopefully there aren't a lot of changes that occurred (except to improve the sound of course). We'll find out soon enough at the meeting.

Meeting Friday night, then star party Saturday night at Jefferson College Observatory. Come on down and set up and join us!

We are about to cease filling subscriptions for magazines for members. It is just getting way to difficult to accomplish renewing subscriptions and is so much easier for the subscriber to do it themselves because they have all the needed information. More on this later..

The annual SLAS Star B Q will be held Saturday, August 3 at Stacy Park! It should be a terrific event and will be the first time it's held at Stacy Park. It is a more central location and should make it a lot easier to get to for everyone. Make plans to attend! More info on the next page…

SLAS and I both still have plenty of stuff for sale including all of the telescopes that went down to MSRAL. The stuff being offered by SLAS includes: Orion 180mm Mak-Cas with case and mount, a really nice Celestron C8 OTA and case and a Meade 4.5" reflector See Mark Jones if you are interested in any of these scopes. I have a 4.5" Meade reflector, a Meade ETX 70mm refractor, a Meade ETX LS 6 (working on that one to get it functional), a Stellarvue travel tripod and M2 alt-az mount, and Nikon D700 full frame DSLR with 2 batteries and charger and 32gb card along with some Nikon lenses and a case. See me for any of that equipment

Meade and Orion have both gone out of business, so there will be some big holes in the telescope equipment business, including the Astroblast telescopes we us for library telescopes. Even Meade customer support shut it's doors and staff were released last week. There will be some big changes coming. Hang in there.

Sincerely, |
Jim Small

SLAS Memberships Expiring in July

Matthew	Brummund
Benjamin	Daugherty
Cook	Feldman
Grant	Martin
Phillip	McDaniel
Anabell	Quast
Thomas	Ryan, MD
Thomas	Schloemann
Barbara	Shrauner
Ronald	Sides
John	Simmons
John	Strebeck
Jim & Ann	Trull
James	Twellman

SLAS Memberships Expiring in August

Thane & Marlene Bopp

Bo	Cooper
Scott	Devine
Frederick	Fischer
David	Harris
Robert	Kessler
Kenneth	Levy
Larry	Meyer
Richard	Mooney
Caren	Nader
Phyllis	Nolan
C M	Sabinash
Emily	Schiltz
James	Tyrrell
Beverly & David	Wrobel & Family

One Good Thing
by
Bill Bierman

Welcome to One Good Thing. This column will appear periodically in the newsletter, and is intended to recognize the "onesies and twosies" actions of members that always seem to go unnoticed and unrecognized. Through the "One Good Thing" program, membership is encouraged to recognize those "under the radar" contributions of their fellow members by submitting their name, and how they contributed to recognition@slasonline.org

These "contributions" can be from any venue and/or action that helps fellow SLAS members individually, or SLAS as an organization, and even the public via outreach or other contribution that is in-line with the SLAS mission statement:

"The St. Louis Astronomical Society (SLAS) is devoted to the interest and advancement of the science of astronomy. Our mission is to promote that interest and encourage people of any age to look up at night, and learn about amateur astronomy."

To this end, and as an example of what we are looking for, I would like to acknowledge the following members who successfully collimated the SLAS 16" telescope inside the Jefferson College Observatory. This is the first time the scope has been collimated since it was installed back in 2021. John Duchek and Ty Frauenfelder

I would also like to acknowledge the following members who contributed to the SLAS Facebook page, since Jan 2024. Here members post their photos, and post astro news items

Thanks to: Kevin Adkins Jesus A Ponce de Leon Bill Neubert Dennis Latinette Richard Fefferman Jeff Carpentier David Adkins Mary Barteau Shanna Ramirez James Brochtrup Alfred Scovanez

And last, but not least, I saw Bill Winningham volunteer to help set up coffee and bagels with Dennis Latinette at the June SLAS meeting. Also, Brad brought cookies for the meeting which had picked up from Dierbergs.

It's the summation of all the small things like this, that makes SLAS the wonderful organization that it has become.

21st Annual SLAS Star-B-Q
Saturday, August 3, 2024
Stacy Park Pavilion

Come join fellow members of the SLAS at **Stacy Park in Olivette, MO** for a day of food, trivia, and observing. SLAS will once again provide the Bar-B-Q. We ask is for you to bring your favorite drinks and side dish or dessert. ***This area has a large shelter, restrooms. We will observe from the soccer fields.*** Don't have a telescope? Don't worry this is a great chance to see other member's telescopes.

Remember: Members should bring their own drinks and a favorite side dish or dessert to share. **Don't forget to bring your telescope or binoculars, chairs and bug spray!** Don't have a telescope? Don't worry this is a great chance to see other member's telescopes.

Activities will include: ***Astronomy Trivia Quiz and prizes, solar viewing and plenty of socializing***! Then we will observe from 8:30-Midnight from the nearby soccer field.

4pm – Picnic begins
5pm-7pm Food line open
6pm-7pm Trivia Contest (with prizes)
7pm-8pm- cleanup shelter8:10 Sunset, move to soccer fields
8:30pm-midnight- Observing at soccer fields
Special Note: There will be solar viewing during the day.

Danville Observing Report
by Bill Breeden
July 6, 2024

DANVILLE, MO – After nearly two years of deep-sky photon deprivation, all of the variables finally came together to provide a glorious, clear night under the stars. Last summer our skies were plagued by wildfire smoke. Cloudy skies, schedule conflicts, or just plain cold weather has prevented me from making the trek out to Danville for quite some time. I had forgotten how amazing a dark sky can be!

Cook Feldman and I were joined by four more astronomers on Saturday night. The Moon was just one day old, but Sky & Telescope magazine showed that it should be (barely) visible along with Mercury just to its left. After much searching just after sunset, I finally spotted the ultra-thin crescent Moon just above the western horizon. This is most likely the youngest Moon I have seen. Mercury was visible by telescope just to the Moon's left.

A beautiful clear night out at Danville, SLAS's dark-sky site. Photo by Bill Breeden.

Once it got dark, the sky filled with more stars than I have seen in nearly two years. In the north, the Big Dipper stood on its bowl. All seven of the Little Dipper's stars were visible. In the west, Melotte 111, a large cluster in Coma Berenices, was clearly visible by unaided eye. The southern sky displayed Scorpius, Ophiuchus, and Serpens in all their summertime glory. High up in the east , Cygnus the Swan gracefully flew overhead. The keystone of Hercules was directly at zenith.

It was time to get down to observing business. First on my list, and singularly worth the drive out here, was M5. This big, bright globular cluster in Serpens looks absolutely amazing at a dark site. I observed it using my Panoptic 19mm eyepiece. I spent 15 minutes on it, but I could have observed it for hours.
Cook shared a view of IC4665 (Collinder 349), a stunningly bright and wide open cluster in Ophiuchus. He was using his 20mm Explore Scientific 100° eyepiece. The stars of this open cluster were really bright and spread across the field of view nicely. Spectacular!

Left: Globular cluster M5, image courtesy of NASA.
Right: IC4665, as seen in Stellarium software

I made my way through the Messier globular clusters in Ophiuchus. M9, M10, M12, M14, M19, M62, and M107 were all wonderful tonight. The seeing and transparency were both 5/5 – this was truly a remarkable night. The temperature was a perfect 72°F, and the wind was just light enough to keep the mosquitoes away.

I left Ophiuchus and Serpens for a while and ventured down to southern Scorpius. With such great skies, even M6 and M7 looked bright and clear. Those open clusters do not rise very high here in Missouri, but the excellent transparency allowed for amazing views of both clusters.
With all of Scorpius now above the horizon, I decided to move down my July observing list a bit. Time to go for Caldwell 75 (NGC6124) and Caldwell 76 (NGC6231), open clusters in far southern Scorpius. With declinations of -40° and -41°, these would really test the transparency of our skies. These clusters were just 10° above the southern horizon, and they were wonderfully clear! These clusters were probably the highest-numbered Caldwell objects I have ever observed. Caldwell objects are numbered by descending declination north to south.

Sagittarius was up as well, so I treated myself to a dazzling view of M24, the Sagittarius Star Cloud. This region of the Milky Way is the densest, since it lies at the center of our galaxy. My 24mm Panoptic eyepiece was simply filled with stars – the darkness and transparency tonight made this view unforgettable. Next up were M8 (the Lagoon Nebula) and M11 (the Wild Duck Cluster). These two objects never fail to impress me, but tonight they were literally out of this world.

Cook and I packed out a bit after midnight, to close out one of the most memorable evenings of stargazing. The combination of perfect weather, perfect skies, good company, and a sky full of beautiful summertime Messier objects made this night spectacular. Don't miss the opportunity to observe out here next time you have the chance.

Did I mention how awesome M29, M39 (open clusters in Cygnus), and M57 (the Ring Nebula in Lyra) were tonight? They were as good as I have ever seen them in my 8" SCT. Visual observing gives you something you just cannot get from a computer, tablet, or phone screen. As great as technology is getting, nothing will ever compare to observing through an eyepiece. The experience brings the observer to the universe.

Clear (and transparent) Skies, Bill Breeden

Photos from the June 12 Francis Park Star Party. Images by Mark Jones.
Above: Bill Breeden showing Moon to visitor
Below: Chris Hansen
Above Right: girl looking thru LTP
Below Right: Fred Fisher Looking thru 80mm binos

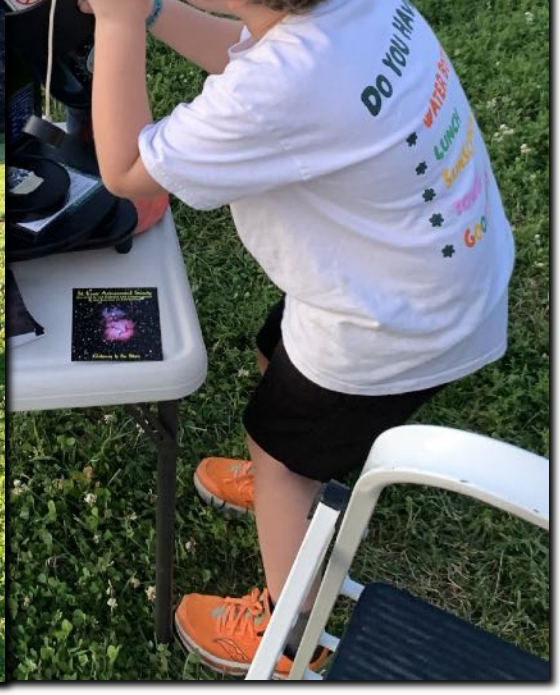
More photos from the June 12 Francis Park event. Images by Mark Jones.

Above: CookFeldman and his scope

Above Right: FrankPopper

Right: boy looking thru LTP

Below: crowd enjoying a terrific evening for viewing!



For Sale: Price cut in half! Now $400

17.5 inch Dobsonian Telescope

-Coulter mirror (around 1996?) F4.5 ?
-no viewfinder
-K 25mm eyepiece
-"tube" 22.25inch x 22.25inch x 76.5inch wood frame plus 1/8 inch panel
-base 27.25inch x 27.25inch x 32inch 3/4 inch plywood
-height when assembled 84.5 inches

Contact Steve in Clayton, Missouri

At (314) 591-7349

St. Louis Astronomical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes 6/6/2024

1. Opening Activities: a. Attendance: Jim Small, Mark Jones, Bill Winingham, Randy Harrison, Dennis Latinette, Brent Buch, Larry Campbell b. Open Meeting: 7:03pm c. Approval of last month's minutes. Motion by Jim second by Randy. Meeting minutes approved. d. Next Board meeting date (on approval of board): 7/11, 8/1, 9/5, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5 Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice: **Standing Action: SLSC Report by Will Snyder**
2. Upcoming General Membership meeting topics: a. Speaker: Steven R Gullberg, PhD; "Astronomy of the Inka* Empire"; Univ of Oklahoma b. Schedule room at Wash U. Wilson Hall, rm214**Action: Jim, bring portable speaker for meeting needed for McDonnell Hall starting July meeting Action: Jim to print signs for meeting room post at McDonnell Hall** c. Who is recording meeting? Brentd. Special Awards needed Handout leftover Anniv and Outreach certificates e. Speaker Press Release and social media: Bio information sent to Rich H on 6-5-2024 f. Special Business – Solstice attendance prizes g. Announcements: MSRAL Report A101 – Bill Biermann Special Award announcement **Action: Refreshments: Dennis to pick up Paneras one regular gallon coffee and one bagel pack, bread sliced, comes with cream cheese, 20 cups. No soda or ice** g. Hospitality: a. Budget – 2024 Budget $360, balance $270 Action: Brad will submit invoice for April meeting expenses. This has been done, action closed. Action: Larry will bring diet soda, Brad will bring cookies for May. Action closed. **Action: Dennis to buy diet soda for July meeting**
3. SLAS Financial Report a. Balance Sheet: 4-30-24 $76,826, total asset $87,067 b. Profit/Loss report: 4-30-24 net income $1102. Underbudget $2785, $520 scope sales, $690 donations, interest $409 c. Annual Budget meetings: start in September d. State Corporate filings: 2024 Budget: $20, paid in even years only, not due until August 2024. Federal Form 990 due May 15th, this form was submitted on 5-15-24. e. Insurance: 2024 Budget Bill paid insurance premium online. $1100 payment 5-2-24 f. Astro League Dues: 2024 Budget: $1070, AL sends invoice around July **Action: Bill to check to see if NSN link is working.** Astronomy Magazine sent to link for renewals. Club price is now $38 instead of $34. Regular subscription price $49.95 for print and digital. **Treasurer recommends that SLAS cover difference between published price ($34) and new renewal price ($38). For members who tried to renew earlier, approximately 6-12 renewals, estimated impact $4 x 12 =$48 Action: change current price of Astronomy Magazine $34 to $40 in newsletter (Jim S), brochures (Jim S.) and website PayPal (Bill).**
4. Speaker Committee If you are working on a Presenter, please keep Brad informed. Budget – 2024 Budget $600, Balance (-$195) b. Upcoming speakers: d. Topics of interest - Mark sent Brad email to possible speakers from UMSL, U of Illinois and U of MO Columbia e. Stipends f. Travel

SLAS Monthly Meeting Presentations 2024

Date	Name	Topic	Sponsor
21-Jun-24	Steven R Gullberg, PhD	Astronomy of the Inka* Empire	Univ of OK
19-Jul-24	Ashley G Davies PhD	Juno, Close Flybys of Io	JPL
16-Aug-24	Bradley Tsalyuk	Space Shuttle Endeavour Exhibit	CA Science Center
21-Sep-24	Joseph Marcus, MD	Who Discovered the Expanding Universe? Spoiler: Not Hubble!	SLAS
18-Oct-24	Pamela Gay, PhD	Super-Secret Squirrel Stuff	Area 42
15-Nov-24	Robert Zubrin	The Case for Mars	The Mars Society
20-Dec-24	Robert Reeves	Postcards from the Moon	Perspective Observatory
17-Jan-25	Bhupal Dev, PhD	Finding New Physics in Debris from Colliding Neutron Stars	Wash U
21-Feb-25	K Michael Malolepszy	Probing the Sub-Microwave Universe Part III	SLAS
21-Mar-25	Tom Rathjen	What's Happening in Human Space Flight	NASA
14-Apr-25	Avi Loeb, PhD	The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Life and Our Future in the Stars	Harvard University
16-May-25	SLAS Panel	New Digital Telescopes	SLAS Members

*Possible Live Speaker (Speaker budget may be used to pay for hotel room for speaker)

5. Membership Initiatives a. Budget – 2024 Budget $600, Balance $300 Welcome Aboard Meetings – These have been replaced the following standing action. Standing Action: Mark Jones will send out member orientation materials when member joins. Also, schedule monthly member chat meetings are held via Zoom on the Thursday after the general meeting. Action: Mark to convert new member questionnaire from Word doc to Google survey. c. Raffles – not planned
d. Attendance prizes – In-person and virtual members will be eligible for attendance prizes in 2024, next prizes in June. Brad has all prizes ready for meeting
6. Membership Recognition a. Total Budget 2024 Budget $500, Balance $456 b. NSN Outreach Awards: Awards made in Feb each year c. Membership Report: May 2024 membership report showing 236 members. In May of last year, we also had 236 members. As result, our growth is flat over last year. We had 33 new members this year vs 21 new members last year for the same reporting period. Most of our new members are joining as "family members" which boosts our member count as we count family members as two members. Member retention is similar to last year. When combined with the strong membership gain, we grew our member based by 11 members this year. d. Member anniversary – Next event is November meeting e. Special Award program - 1. Special Award Committee report: Chairman: Bill Biermann. Members: Larry Campbell, Jim Small, Mark Jones, Sharon Bertram, Fred Schovanez, Bill Neubert, Grant Martin, Bill Bierman, Rich Heuermann, Joe Marcus Next committee meeting is June 26 at 6:30pm 2. Special Award deadlines: Current Nomination deadline is Sept 1st 3. Nomination reviews: by October 1st 4. Award selection: selections made in November 5. Awards presented at December meeting –
7. Outreach - a. Budget – 2024 Budget $500, Balance $250 b. Member Training Program Status: c. Purchase of T-shirts for volunteers completed training per budget: Action; Mark need T-shirt design. Mary and Joe Barteau volunteered to come up with T-shirt designs. Slideshow of examples sent to Board on 10-31-23. Action remains open until final design selected. Board preferred Safety Green in style #3 is preferred by Board Do they have t-shirt in a Tall/long? d. Pur-

(Continued from page 7)

chase signs for outreach per budget: e. Upcoming outreach events: As of May 28th, we have 61 events scheduled for rest of 2024 Gateway Arch - June 14 (Friday), July 12 (Friday), August 10 (Friday), September 13 (Friday), Oct 18 (Friday) Francis Park – June 12, July 10, August 7, September 11, October 9 Tower Grove Park –June 15, July 13, Aug 10, Sep 14, Oct 12 DobsonFest – Sep 14 hosted by Riverbend Astronomy Club First Friday –None in May, June 7. Events for July-Dec still being finalized Solar Sunday –6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7,21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1 Note – Planetarium parking lot should be open for all events after Mar 10th. Action: Randy to add Dobsonfest including details for location and times to NSN calendar and solicit volunteers. Committee meeting planned for next week, then will add to NSN. f. Awards/recognitions – g. NSN Outreach hours: Total Hours Reported in NSN: 399.9 hours as of May 28, 2024

8. Old Business: A. 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. Coordinator Meeting Report: We increased the number of NSN coordinators from 12 to 20, and we held a meeting (1/31/24) to discuss how to get more volunteers. Decision was made to create a call list and call each member an ask them if they wish volunteer. Timeline: final Script by 2-11-24; final Email by 2-14-24; final Call list by 2-23-24; calls made: starting 2-23-24 end call by 3-10-24. **Action: Mark to send call list to the NSN coordinators**

B. Scholarships from SLAS- Questions: How to fund via interest earned, How do we select candidates, do we need a committee, are there tax impacts for this, How do we define qualifications? Will we need to send 1099 form? Discussion: Idea to start setting aside a $20K fund, possibly in US Treasury Bills or CDs. Briefing by Ken Hirsch, Hirsch Accounting and Tax Services. A safe way is to invest in short term US Treasury Bills. With current rates above 5% return, $20K would produce about $1000 per year to use as scholarship. Short term Bills typically less than one year in duration. Short term Bills are paying better than long-term Treasury Bonds. SLAS would need to set up an account to purchase Bills, US Treasury direct. There are zero fees. Action: Bill W to review US Treasury Direct and see what impact this would have on workload for SLAS Treasurer. Is this effort worth using US Treasury Bills vs staying with CDs through bank. Also, where this money come, from out of current SLAS assets. How would SLAS set up US Treasury Direct account in SLAS name with SLAS Treasurer as contact? Bill W. has checked into rates on website. CDs are getting a little higher right now. Therefore, no strong reason to go to US Treasury Direct website. Action can be closed drop from Old Business.

9. New Business Proposed wording changes to Special Recognition Awards. The Committee recommends the following word changes to be approved by SLAS Board: see website: https://www.slasonline.org/membership/special-awards ITEM 1 (Amend under Robert Cox Award criteria) CURRENT WORDING: In the spirit of Robert E Cox, the Popular Astronomy Award should be given to a local amateur who publishes or produces work recognized at a regional or national level or having major contribution to popularizing astronomy at the regional or national level. PROPOSED NEW WORDING: In the spirit of Robert E Cox, the Popular Astronomy Award should be given to a local amateur who produces work recognized at a regional or national level significantly popularized astronomy. (Board has modified proposed change and will send back to committee for acceptance. If accepted the changes can be made to the process and website) ITEM 2 (Add under Award Nomination Process and Guidelines criteria) It is desirable that all award categories contain a different nominee and winner each year. While an individual may be an awardee in different categories, they may not be an awardee in the same category unless extenuating circumstances merit such recognition. (Board has modified proposed change and will send back to committee for acceptance. If accepted the changes can be made to the process and website)

10. Other Committee Reports: If needed

A. SLSC Business: Planetarium parking lot and entrance is now open a. First Friday actions – see above b. Other immediate business

B. SLCL Business a. Annual contract – No contract yet for 2024. b. Upcoming events – tentative dates

C. Jefferson College Business: a. Committee Meeting report: Next meeting planned for June 17th. Ty Frauenhelder is now a trained observatory operator and has a set of keys. Bob's Knobs purchased and installed in 16" and scope has been collimated by John Duchek and Ty Fraunhelder. b. Upcoming Outreach Event: JCO –Jun 15, Jul 20, Aug 17, Sept 14, Oct 10, Nov 16

D. Library Telescope Committee a. Budget – 2024 Budget none requested, expenses will be covered by escrow balance of $1836 b. Upcoming builds or maintenance events – Don performing most maintenance c. Maintenance budget – none requested d. Mileage reimbursement – see above e. Promotional materials - none requested

E. SLAS Social Events a. Budget – 2024 Budget $390, Balance $ 254 b. Homemade Fest - 2024 Budget $150. Balance $13.81 c. Star-B-Q – 2024 Budget, $240, Balance $ 240 Report: Star-B-Q 2024 has been scheduled for August 3, 2024 at Stacy Park in Olivette. Event has been added to NSN calendar

Other

F. SLAS Brochures a. Budget 2024 $600, Balance $300 b. Quarter cards – YTD 1000 cards printed.

G. Loaner scope Program a. Budget – 2024 Budget $100, Balance $88 Report: Jeff Carpentier has volunteered to help restore the 1975 model C8 telescope. Bob Klein has also volunteered to help. b. New donations: The following items were donated to the St Louis Astronomical Society on 5-22-2024. (1) Orion 180mm Maksutov-Cassegrain Optical Tube Assembly; (2) 1.25" right angle diagonal; (3) Sirius Plossl 10mm; (4) Sirius Plossl 7.5mm; (5) Celestron 25mm; (6) Orion equatorial mount, no motors, metal legged tripod; (7) Orion soft sided carrying case for OTA. The replacement value for the telescope, mount, eyepieces, diagonal and case would be $2137 and the resale value of the equipment would be between $705-$1068.Meade Model 114EQ-D reflecting telescope. Diameter: 114mm, FL=900mm; 0.965" H25mm eyepiece; 3X barlow, resale value of the equipment would be $80. c. Replacement Parts for the LTPs - d. Items for sale several:

H. SLAS Library a. Budget – 2024 Budget $200, balance $200

I. Merchandise Budget – 2024 Budget $100, balance $100 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 2024 $600, Balance $180 (postage+toner)

L. Website - a. Budget 2024 $750, Balance $406

M. Social Media Platforms: Facebook Private (https://www.facebook.com/groups/slasonline): 76 members Facebook Public (https://www.facebook.com/stlastro): 3217 followers Twitter (https://twitter.com/stlastro) :Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/stlouisastro/) :TikTok (https://www.tiktok.com/@stlouisastro?): LinkedIn (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14251117/): YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6xO5niZnSeeOUSmp5PRz4A): Action: Engaging younger people with SLAS. Try live-stream from JCO via Twitch. Jim to perform dry-run of live stream and Brent. Link to how-to Twitch https://riverside.fm/blog/how-to-stream-on-twitch; https://twitchtracker.com/channels/live. Board recommends this action to be closed

N. Night Sky Network

O. SLASdialogs (part of Website Budget) SLAS Groups.io – 140 members Annual $110 account fee is due in January each year 3.2GB of 30GB is being used

P. Dark Site – Special Use Permits have been received for Danville and Whiteside for 2024 are stored in the groups.io folder linked https://groups.io/g/SLASDialogs/files/Permits.

Q. Observing Programs

R. Star Parties Donation: see Treasurer report

11. Closing Activities: Motion to adjourn meeting by Larry seconded by Randy meeting closed at 9:33pm

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through June 2024

	Jan - Jun 24	Budget	$ Over Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Events Income	520.00	250.00	270.00
Magazine Subscription	1,788.00	1,272.15	515.85
Membership Dues	2,890.00	2,295.00	595.00
Total Income	5,198.00	3,817.15	1,380.85
Cost of Goods Sold	1,296.94	1,272.15	24.79
Gross Profit	3,901.06	2,545.00	1,356.06
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	1,408.85	1,780.00	(371.15)
2-Newsletter	419.46	300.00	119.46
3-Library expense		100.00	(100.00)
5-Loaner Scopes	56.79	50.00	6.79
6-Brochures	298.60	300.00	(1.40)
7-Insurance	1,163.09	1,165.00	(1.91)
8-Website	498.37	400.00	98.37
9-Administrative Expenses	1,735.75	1,961.40	(225.65)
Jefferson College Observat...	132.42		132.42
Total Expense	5,713.33	6,056.40	(343.07)
Net Ordinary Income	(1,812.27)	(3,511.40)	1,699.13
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	690.00		690.00
Interest Income	698.43	25.00	673.43
LTP Receipts	66.45		66.45
Total Other Income	1,454.88	25.00	1,429.88
Other Expense			
LTP Disbursements	1,187.14		1,187.14
Total Other Expense	1,187.14		1,187.14
Net Other Income	267.74	25.00	242.74
Net Income	(1,544.53)	(3,486.40)	1,941.87

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2024

	Dec 31, 23	Jun 30, 24
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Checking - First Bank	12,072.69	11,800.43
Deposit, Certificate of	16,000.89	46,698.44
Library Telescope Escrow	1,964.87	844.18
PayPal	152.96	1,075.01
Savings - First Bank	43,138.18	13,139.06
SLAS Eclipse Conference Escr...	2,580.32	2,580.32
Total Checking/Savings	75,909.91	76,137.44
Other Current Assets		
Inventory Asset	841.87	781.21
Undeposited Funds	75.00	25.00
Total Other Current Assets	916.87	806.21
Total Current Assets	76,826.78	76,943.65
Fixed Assets		
Accum Depr - Office Equp	(216.65)	(216.65)
JC Scope and Observatory	9,137.44	7,476.04
Office Equipment	216.65	216.65
Total Fixed Assets	9,137.44	7,476.04
TOTAL ASSETS	85,964.22	84,419.69
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	8,497.66	8,497.66
Retained Earnings	81,754.13	77,466.56
Net Income	(4,287.57)	(1,544.53)
Total Equity	85,964.22	84,419.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	85,964.22	84,419.69

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 8/1, 9/5, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5

SLAS Dark Sky Observing Dates All dates on Saturdays 8/3, 8/31, 9/28, 10/5, 10/26, 11/2, 11/30, 12/28

Francis Park Events: These events are on Wednesdays of the week nearest the first quarter Moon 8/7, 9/11, 10/9

Aim for the Stars Public events held on 3rd Saturdays at the Jefferson College Observatory and Patio. 7/20, 8/17, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/21

Stargazing at the Arch Events for the public held at the Gateway Arch 8/10, 9/13, 10/18

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

Dobsonfest - Sept 14 hosted by Riverbend

Pattonville Observatory Public Viewing Dates See you in August, 2024

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
19 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
20 Sat	Aim for the Stars at JCO
21 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
25 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
28 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
30 Tue	Camp Emeth Late Night
	August
1 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
2 Fri	First Friday PTV SLSC
3 Sat	SLAS Star-B-Q Stacy Park
3 Sat	SLAS Dark Skies Stacy Park
4 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
7 Wed	Francis Park
10 Sat	Library Telescope Mainenance Day
10 Sat	Stargazing at the Gateway Arch
10 Sat	Tower Grove Park
11 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
12 Mon	Library Telescope Maintenance Day
13 Tue	Kids Time Jefferson County Library-Arnold
16 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
17 Sat	Aim For the Stars JCO
18 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
22 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
23 Fri	SLCL After Hours Family Campout
25 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
31 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky Observing at Danville
	September
1 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
5 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
6 Fri	SLSC First Friday
10 Tue	Lewis and Clark Library
11 Wed	Jamestown Bluffs Library
11 Wed	Francis Park
12 Thur	Stacy Park
13 Fri	Stargazing at the Gateway Arch
13 Fri	Crestwood Park
14 Sat	Dobsonfest
14 Sat	Tower Grove
20 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
21 Sat	Aim for the Stars JCO
25 Wed	Manchester Parks—Fussner field
26 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
28 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky at Danville
28 Sat	Camp Tuckaho
	October
3 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
4 Fri	SLSC First Friday
5 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky at Danville

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 $_____

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 ***Dennis Latinette*** 636-244-2867
hospitality at slasonline.org

Board Members at Large

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

Larry Campbell 314-713-9258
Board26 at slasonline.org

Brent Buch 314-239-0329
board27 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

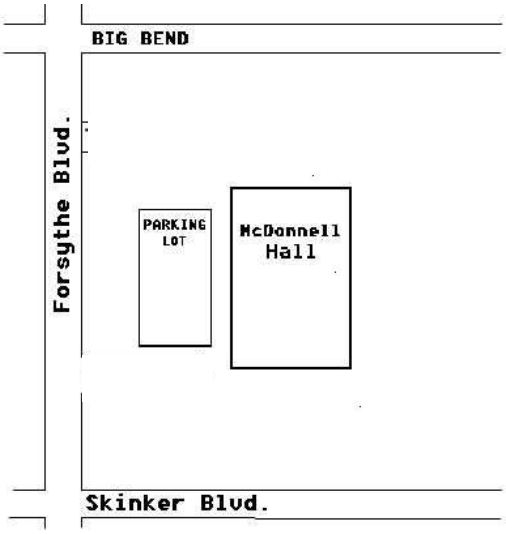
Follow us on
Twitter: @stlastro
Facebook: @stlastro

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