THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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Super-Secret Squirrel Stuff

by

Dr. Pamela Gay
Astronomer and Writer

Dr. Pamela Gay, astronomer and writer, will be featured at the October meeting of the Saint Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, October 18 in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, on the Danforth campus of Washington University,

What is going on in Astronomy and Space Science today? Well, it is a secret. Well not really. Dr. Pamela Gay will talk about topics that are so exciting they could be secret.

Dr. Pamela Gay is an astronomer, writer, and podcaster focused on using new media to engage people in science and technology. She is the Director of Technology and Citizen Science for the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, co-host of the Astronomy Cast podcast, and a member of the team that is building the CosmoQuest virtual research facility. CosmoQuest is a citizen science web site designed to provide the public with opportunities to participate in NASA related science programs, online seminars, and other astronomy events and activities.

Upcoming meetings:

November: Robert Zubrin, PhD. "The Case for Mars"; The Mars Society
December 2024: Robert Reeves; "Postcards from the Moon"; LPOD Harvard University
January 2025 Bhupal Dev, PhD Finding New Physics in Debris from Colliding Neutron Stars Wash U
February 2025 K Michael Malolepszy Probing the Sub-Microwave Universe Part III SLAS
March 2025 Tom Rathjen What's Happening in Human Space Flight NASA
April 2025 Avi Loeb, PhD. The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Life and Our Future in the Stars Harvard U
May 2025 SLAS Panel New Digital Era in Astronomy SLAS Members
September 2025 Tansu Daylan The Roman Space Telescope:"The Roman View of Strong Lenses" WashU

October 2025 Paul Byrne, PhD Venus Wash U

Meeting Room Back to Normal: McDonnell Hall 162!
October 18 Meeting will be In Person and Online!

The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, October 18 in **McDonnell Hall 162** 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://us02web.zoom.us/j/8604505790?omn=82029380234

Meeting ID: 860 450 5790

Library telescope program is 10 years old!

Come join us at the meeting to celebrate the anniversary of the Library Telescope program!

We will have cake and a brief history of the program to help us enjoy the celebration.

Hope to see you there!

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President's Corner
by Jim Small

Have you seen the comet? Comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan -ATLAS) is putting on quite a show. It is visible naked eye and is a good target for photographing with your favorite foreground object. I've seen some nice shots with the Arch for example. Be creative! On the next page, Thane Bopp got a really good shot with just his phone and some light photoshopping to improve contrast. One of the best pics I've seen so far.

Pamela Gay is our speaker this month and she is here in person! Come on down to the meeting and enjoy hanging out with Dr. Gay and your friends. It would be great to have more people there in person. I miss the pre-pandemic days with 70 or so people in attendance!

Another reason to attend is our celebration of the tenth anniversary of our involvement of the Library Telescope. I'll present a brief history after the meeting then we will celebrate with some cake! You certainly don't need a better reason than that to attend.

Speaking of attendance, we are wondering what the impact of the attendance prizes we offer during solstice and equinox is. Does that provide incentive for you to attend a meeting? Feel free to discuss it with me at the meeting. A poll will come later.

Remember we are no longer processing subscriptions to magazines. We have placed links on the back page for the various magazines, including Star Date which has become popular from our attendance prize giveaways.

There are still plenty of star parties to help with before the end of the year, especially around first quarter Moon. Log into Night Sky Network and RSVP for events you can attend and help with. We are always needing more people to help with outreach events. There is plenty of opportunity for you to earn your pin from NSN. All you need is 5 events. We had 35 or so last year, it would sure be great to have more this year!

Get some dark sky time in when you can. Tomorrow is our next event at the JC Observatory. Hope you can attend that one. Come down and get some pics of the comet! By the way, there is apparently another comet coming down the pike toward the end of the month. I can't wait for that!

SLAS has received a couple more donated telescopes, including a nice Meade SCT. As a result, we are likely to have one of our SCT telescopes up for sale. We also have a couple of beginning scopes that will be up for sale soon

See you in outreach!

Sincerely,
Jim Small

SLAS Memberships Expiring in October

David	Adkins
Nina	Bhayani
Wayne &Nancy	Clark
Daniel L.	Corso
John	Duchek
Murray	Fishman
Pete	Gaska
Em	Hargrave
Zachary	Jakuboski-
Joe & Margie	Marcus
William	McCarthy
Rick	Nichols
Faith	Simons
Randall	Sommers

SLAS Memberships Expiring in November

Joseph	Barteau
Bill	Cahill
Gaurang	Gupte
Randy	Harrison
Francis "Frank"	Mack
Bill	Poletti
Rodney	Simmons
John	Taylor
Craig	Walters
Brian	Williams

Celebrating Library Telescope Program 10 year Anniversary
by Jim Small

It's been ten years since the inception of the Library Telescope program through SLAS. It had an interesting beginning. I first met Marc Stowbridge at a NEAF conference. NEAF is the NorthEast Astronomy Forum and it the largest gathering of astronomers and vendors I've ever seen. If you've never been, you should make the trip at least once! It is usually associated with the NEAIC, which is the astro-imaging conference. Last time I was there, Christopher Go was one of the presenters. But I digress. Meeting Marc at NEAF was significant. He was walking around with his modified Starblast telescope and I got to speak to him about it. Great idea! A year later, after SLAS hosted the 2014 MSRAL conference, we ended up with nearly $1400 profit from that event. We were deciding what to do with the money and came up with donating three library telescopes. We decided to donate one to St Louis County Library, one to St Louis Public Library and a third to an independent library, we chose Kirkwood. My approach would have been to talk to one of the program personnel at the library. Don Ficken said, no, go straight to the top! So we did. After all the meetings, SLCL said we don't want 1 telescope, give us 10! St. Louis Public Library said they wanted 5! And University City wanted one in addition to Kirkwood. We ended up placing 18 total telescopes that first year in 2014. Now the numbers are HUGE! We have placed over 200 telescopes since that first group was put together in Don Fickens garage. It has also gone national. It is amazingly popular whereever it is implemented. In addition to telescopes, we also have binoculars placed in libraries now. The photo above is from a channel 2 interview back in 2014 about the program. Now we are in process of having High Point Scientific build scopes since Orion went out of business.

Danville Observing Report *by* Bill Breeden October 5, 2024

DANVILLE, MO – Four members of the St. Louis Astronomical Society attended our dark-sky observing event on Saturday night, October 5, 2024. The weather and the sky conditions were perfect. It was 80°F (27°C) at sunset and stayed shirt-sleeve comfortable all evening. There was no dew; my observing lists stayed dry! There was also a very pleasant light breeze every now and then. We discussed the seeing and transparency and rated them 4 of 5 and 5 of 5, respectively.

On a night like this, especially in October, I was surprised that there were only four of us there. In past years, a night like this would have drawn 15 to 20 astronomers. Still, the four of us had a great night, sharing views and discussing the wonders of the deep sky. Present were Cook Feldman, Tom Keutzer, and me. I did not get the name of the fourth attendee.

The waxing crescent Moon was very thin and setting low in the west, with Venus showing a gibbous phase just above it. Saturn was rising in the southeast, with its rings growing ever thinner. In a few short months, Saturn's rings will appear to disappear completely as Earth passes through the ring plane.

The sun set at 6:37pm tonight, giving us the opportunity to observe deep sky objects much earlier then we can during the summer. By 7:15pm, the four of us were happily pointing our telescopes toward Cassiopeia, Cepheus, Perseus, Pegasus, and Andromeda. We had not seen the autumn sky in quite a while, so these constellations offered us many sights not seen recently.

I began my deep-sky hunt with M52, a bright open cluster in Cassiopeia. At magnitude 7.3, this cluster appeared really bright and striking with such great transparency. Cassiopeia is well-placed in October, rising high in the northeast. Some of the other objects I visited there include NGC7789, NGC7790 and M103 (open clusters). The four of us also spent quite a bit of time observing NGC457 (the ET Cluster or the Owl Cluster), a beautiful magnitude 6.4 open cluster. This one is a fall favorite for many observers, and tonight, it appeared spectacular.

It would not be fall without stopping over at the Andromeda Galaxy (M31). WOW – this galaxy appeared the best I have ever seen it visually through my 24mm Televue Panoptic eyepiece. It was so big and bright, and it filled the eyepiece field of view. Nearby galaxies M32 and M110 were easy to observe as well. M31 appeared bright and clear tonight, rather then usual puff-ball that usually shows up during times of lesser transparency or from a light-polluted location.

NGC7331 (Caldwell 30), a 9.5 magnitude spiral galaxy in Pegasus, put on quite a show tonight. The view of it was surreal – a small, thin, nearly edge-on line with a bright core, surrounded by numerous stars and faint deep-sky objects. The view was like its own space odyssey, and nicely framed in my 24mm Panoptic eyepiece. The other guys heard my excitement and pointed their telescopes to Caldwell 30 as well and enjoyed the view for a while.

We observed far too many objects to list here, but here is a partial list. Caldwell 9 (the Cave Nebula), NGC7243 (Caldwell 16, open cluster), NGC7662 (Caldwell 22, planetary nebula), NGC7293 (Caldwell 63, the Helix Nebula), NGC869/884 (the Double Cluster), M33 (the Triangulum Galaxy), M76 (the Little Dumbell Nebula), NGC188 (Caldwell 1, open cluster), NGC7662 (the Blue Snowball Nebula), NGC7209 (open cluster), NGC7354 (planetary nebula).

Sagittarius was setting in the southwest, so there was still time to visit a few summertime favorites. I stopped by to visit M8 (the Lagoon Nebula), M6 and M7 (open clusters). These objects were stunning in my 19mm Panoptic eyepiece.

By 11:15pm, we had been observing for four hours, and decided it was time to pack out. We had a long drive home, and four hours is a longer observing run than I would normally get in the summer months. I must say that this was one of the best observing nights that I have ever had. Although there were only four of us there, all of us were visual observers, and shared our stunning deep-sky views with each other. This is what being an amateur astronomer means to me – comradery under the night sky.

To me, visual observing is still king. While astrophotography, EAA (electronically assisted astronomy), laptops, tablets, and cell phones provide amazing photos and images on screens, there is still no experience quite like looking directly at these amazing objects with your own eyes.

Hope to see you out at Danville next time!

Clear Skies,

Bill Breeden

Photo of Comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS)

as taken by Thane Bopp with his phone and a bit of photoshop to improve contrast. Excellent shot Thane!

Lots of events going on this month! Hopefully you got to see the partial Lunar eclipse as shown below. Above, photo of the Northern lights. To the right, a picture of comet **C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS)**

For Sale: Meade ETX 125

I have the original box and the original carrying case. The tripod is the field model built specifically for the scope. Not much else to say except it got no field use, had it out at home maybe twice, never used the electronic controls, never used the battery compartment, etc. It's literally like new. Here's some pics attached. Price: $700 **Mark Naylor Saint Jacob, IL 618-979-6149**

Also for Sale: Televue Nagler Type 2 Eyepieces

35mm $300
20mm $250
16mm $280
12mm $280
7mm $250
4.8mm $180

St. Louis Astronomical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes 9/5/2024

1. Opening Activities: a. Attendance: Jim Small, Dennis Latinette, Larry Campbell, Mark Jones, Brad Waller, Brent Buch, Randy Harrison, Bill Winnngham, Dennis Meter b. Open Meeting: Meeting opened at 7:04pm. c. Approval of last month's minutes. Motion to approve last month's minutes. Minutes were approved d. Next Board meeting date: 10/3, 11/7, 12/5 Meetings will be via Zoom until further notice: Action: Plan 10th anniversary for LTP at October SLAS meeting. Maybe A101 (J. Small) and cake (L. Campbell). Dennis will leave key and cooler with Larry at September meeting. Standing Action: SLSC Report by Will Snyder. Yes, there will be evening PTV on all First Fridays through the end of the year. We are also planning to do solar PTV on the 3rd Sunday of each month going forward (including September). Note: NSN calendar matches this statement, no updates needed Action; Brad to update NSN for First Friday events. Remove "Visitors should enter from the Science Center building on Oakland and take walkway across I64 to Planetarium signs and staff should be there to direct you." Public can now park and enter from Planetarium

2. Upcoming General Membership meeting topics: a. Speaker: Joseph Marcus, MD - "Who Discovered the Expanding Universe?" b. Schedule room at Wash U. Back in McDonnell Hall. Action: Jim to check on McDonnell Hall for September meeting. Jim will find out Monday because it is start of Semester and Balloon Glow is same night. c. Who is recording meeting? Brent d. Special Awards needed Handout leftover Anniv and Outreach certificates e. Speaker Press Release and social media: Release not out yet f. Special Business –Equinox Prizes Action: Brad to send list to Board of prizes for September. Mark to create list to display at Meeting. g. Announcements: Missouri Dark Sky (Oct 25-26) A101 for September – Joe Marcus to speak on Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS A101 for October – Jim Small to speak on 10 years of the Library Telescope Program A101 for November – Mark Jones, How to select a good first telescope A101 for December – Brad Waller 2024 Star Trek Convention f. Hospitality: a. Budget – 2024 Budget $360, balance $125 Larry trying to send expense reports to Bill W. Last expense report is 4-24-24. Bill will send email for Larry to replay to. Larry wil respond and send expense reports.

3. SLAS Financial Report a. Balance Sheet: Total Assets: as of 7/31/2024. Assets of $76485 cash, total $84,491 b. Profit/Loss report: net income -$1473 vs budget income -$3,523. Bill plans to file sales tax for eclipse glasses sales c. Annual Budget meetings: start in September. Proposed Budget needs to be published in November Meeting Newsletter. Meetings will be Sep 22nd and Oct 13th at 4pm, Young's Restaurant. d. State Corporate filings (due in August 2024). The 2024 Corporate Filing has been completed. This a 2-year filing, the next filing will be due in August of 2026. Federal Form 990 in May each year. e. Insurance: typically, due in May each year f. ALCOR Report. This item has been added to monthly agenda because we missed sending in our ballot for AL elections.Annual Astro League Dues: 2024 Budget: $1070, AL sends invoice around July Was paid in August over budget by $138. Per member fee went up from $5 to $6/member. Annual Ballot for election of national officers. Ballot normally emailed around May 21st and need to be returned by July 1st. Action: Bill to send request to AL to change his email for sending future ALCOR emails Action: Post link on Paypal page, renewal letters, brochures, newsletter, etc. Bill to draft wording and send to Board Bill has provided this statement: Action can now be closed. *Effective September 1, 2024 SLAS will no longer be processing magazine subscriptions for members. We can no longer perform this function for members due to the detailed information, such as subscription number, email address and login information required by the magazine providers to process subscriptions. Members will still have access to the club member rates by utilizing the following links. Sky and Telescope New Subscriptions - https://skyandtelescope.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=SKY_ren_print_club*
Renewals - https://skyandtelescope.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=SKY_new_club
Astronomy Magazine https://kalmbach.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=ASY_Club&pk=2PA4C1 Action: we need to update website to remove magazine subscriptions -https://www.slasonline.org/membership/join-slas and on printable form - https://www.slasonline.org/form.htm

4. Speaker Committee If you are working on a Presenter, please keep Brad informed. Budget – 2024 Budget $600, Balance (-$234 increase from mug give-a-ways) b. Upcoming speakers:

SLAS Monthly Meeting Presentations 2024

Month	Name	Topic	Sponsor
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 Era in Astronomy	SLAS Members
19-Sep-25	Tansu Daylan	The Roman Space Telescope: "The Roman View of Strong Lenses"	Wash U
17-Oct-25	Paul Byrne, PhD	Venus	Wash U

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

(Continued from page 5)

Action: Mark to get mailing address and phone number for Robert Reeves. d. Topics of interest - Brad working with Tansu Daylan One of our colloquium speakers for March 2025 will be Duncan Lorimer from the West Virginia University (Duncan.Lorimer@mail.wvu.edu), who will give a departmental physics colloquium on March 19, 2025. As usual, we (the Department of Physics) are covering all travel and accommodation costs of the speaker. e. Stipends f. Travel

5. Membership Initiatives a. Budget – 2024 Budget $600, Balance $300 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. c. Raffles – not planned d. Attendance prizes – In-person and virtual members will be eligible for attendance prizes in 2024.

6. Membership Recognition

a. Total Budget 2024 Budget $500, Balance $456 b. NSN Outreach Awards: Awards made in Feb each year c. Membership Report: August 2024 Membership report showing 237 members. Our member base has grown by 12 members this year and is 18 members over the same time last year. d. Member anniversary – Next event is November meeting e. Special Award program - 1. Special Award Committee report: Chairman: Bill Biermann. 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. Purchase signs for outreach per budget: e. Upcoming outreach events: As of May 28th, we have 61 events scheduled for rest of 2024 Gateway Arch - September 13 (Friday), Oct 18 (Friday) Francis Park – September 11, October 9 Tower Grove Park –Sep 14, Oct 12 DobsonFest – Sep 14 hosted by Riverbend Astronomy Club First Friday – 9/6, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6 Solar Sunday –9/15, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15 f. Awards/recognitions – g. NSN Outreach hours: Total Hours Reported in NSN: 848 hours as of Sep 3, 2024

8. Old Business: Action: Make part of monthly agenda to solicit volunteers at each SLAS meeting showing upcoming events needing volunteers. Put at top of the agenda, BEFORE main speaker. Response: this has ben added to front page of website as part of the Meeting Agenda. Action can be closed.

9. New Business 2025 Budget Planning Creating SLAS GoogleDrive Account for storing important files. Creating SLAS GoogleDrive Account for storing All-sky Camera files. Or alternative methods 100GB account was $2/month, 2TB is $10/month. Concern about limit of 5 share accounts, should we try to use slasdialogs.groups.io or use slasonline.org 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 – see calendar, we have 7 events planned for remainder of 2024

Lewis & Clark Library (LTP)	2024-09-10
Jamestown Bluffs Library (LTP)	2024-09-11
Samuel Sachs Library (LTP)	2024-10-09
Eureka Hills Library (LTP)	2024-10-10
Prairie Commons Library (LTP)	2024-11-07
Oak Bend Library (LTP)	2024-11-07

C. Jefferson College Business: a. Committee Meeting report: next meeting scheduled for Sep 13 at 9 am. b. Upcoming Outreach Event: JCO –Sept 14, Sep 17, Oct 10, Nov 16 Mark has installed 70mm Guidescope on 16". Ty Frauenfelder integrating camera to scope and software Buz McCollough working on Truman State instruments.

D. Library Telescope Committee a. Budget – 2024 Budget none requested, expenses will be covered by escrow balance of $844 b. Upcoming builds or maintenance events – None scheduled, thanks to Don Ficken, Rich Jennings, Bill Neubert, Phylis Nolan and Mark Jones for volunteering. c. Maintenance budget – none requested d. Mileage re-imbursement – see above e. Promotional materials - none requested

E. SLAS Social Events a. Budget – 2024 Budget $390, Balance - $20.23 b. Homemade Fest - 2024 Budget $150. Balance -$22.38 c. Star-B-Q – 2024 Budget, $240, Balance $ 2.15

Other

F. SLAS Brochures a. Budget 2024 $600, Balance $140 500 new SLAS Brochures printed, Brad has picked up from printer. b. Quarter cards – YTD 1500 cards printed. Quartercard artwork updated to add "In memory of Capt. James M. Moody" Report:

G. Loaner scope Program a. Budget – 2024 Budget $100, Balance $42 b. New donations: 10" Meade LX200 Classic was donated on 8-30-2024. Telescope is probably 20+ years old. Telescope is currently at Mark Jones' house being repaired and checked out. Need to decide if we keep or sell this telescope. We could put it at JCO and swap it for the older 10" Meade LX-50 telescope which is much bulkier and is not goto. c. Replacement Parts for the LTPs - d. Items for sale several: Listed on FaceBook Marketplace - For Sale $800 - Celestron 8" SCT Black Tube, Vixen rail, Starbright Coatings, Faststar Compatible, Model #11023-1. Celestron Visual Back 1 1/4". JMI MotoFocus for C-8. Orion FlexiShield, dew shield. News sells for $44. Rubbermaid Tool Box, Grey/Black 34" x 12" x 15".

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 $17.5 (postage+toner)

L. Website - a. Budget 2024 $750, Balance $161.75 stlastro.com, .net, .org all domains forwarded to slasonline.org. Each cost about $38/year. Do we want to continue to pay for these? Currently renewed thru Oct 2025. Board agrees we should continue.

M. Social Media Platforms: Facebook Private (https://www.facebook.com/groups/slasonline): 80 members
Facebook Public (https://www.facebook.com/stlastro): 3246 followers
Twitter (https://twitter.com/stlastro) : 217 followers
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):
Helpdesk – Using the contact-us form on our website (https://www.slasonline.org/contact-us), visitors can ask questions of SLAS. These requests are automatically forwarded to the contactus@slasonline.org and given a sequential "submission #". Submission #1 was received around 12-1-2022. By 12-27-2023 we had received submission #175. As of 9-4-2024 we had received submission #436.

N. Night Sky Network

O. SLASdialogs (part of Website Budget) SLAS Groups.io – 146 members, Annual $110 account fee is due in January each year

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: Mark Jones awarded LTP certificate and pin

R. Star Parties Donation:

11. Closing Activities:

Motion to close Brad second by Brent. Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm

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

	Jan - Sep 24	Budget	$ Over Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Events Income	1,303.59	250.00	1,053.59
Magazine Subscription	1,998.20	1,842.15	156.05
Membership Dues	3,605.00	3,375.00	230.00
Total Income	6,906.79	5,467.15	1,439.64
Cost of Goods Sold			
Magazine Subscriptions	1,296.94	1,842.15	(545.21)
Total COGS	1,296.94	1,842.15	(545.21)
Gross Profit	5,609.85	3,625.00	1,984.85
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	2,006.44	2,760.00	(753.56)
2-Newsletter	648.01	450.00	198.01
3-Library expense		150.00	(150.00)
4-Astronomical League Dues	1,228.00	1,070.00	158.00
5-Loaner Scopes	141.97	75.00	66.97
6-Brochures	460.40	450.00	10.40
7-Insurance	1,163.09	1,165.00	(1.91)
8-Website	677.20	750.00	(72.80)
9-Administrative Expenses	2,605.55	2,922.10	(316.55)
Jefferson College Observat...	179.87		179.87
Total Expense	9,110.53	9,792.10	(681.57)
Net Ordinary Income	(3,500.68)	(6,167.10)	2,666.42
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	840.00		840.00
Interest Income	1,080.90	40.00	1,040.90
LTP Receipts	786.25		786.25
Total Other Income	2,707.15	40.00	2,667.15
	Jan - Sep 24	**Budget**	**$ Over Bud...**
Other Expense			
LTP Disbursements	1,187.14		1,187.14
Total Other Expense	1,187.14		1,187.14
Net Other Income	1,520.01	40.00	1,480.01
Net Income	**(1,980.67)**	**(6,127.10)**	**4,146.43**

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

	Dec 31, 23	Sep 30, 24
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Checking - First Bank	12,072.69	12,130.56
Deposit, Certificate of	16,000.89	47,080.79
Library Telescope Escrow	1,964.87	1,563.98
PayPal	152.96	37.17
Savings - First Bank	43,138.18	13,139.18
SLAS Eclipse Conference Escr...	2,580.32	2,580.32
Total Checking/Savings	75,909.91	76,532.00
Other Current Assets	916.87	806.21
Total Current Assets	76,826.78	77,338.21
Fixed Assets		
Accum Depr - Office Equp	(216.65)	(216.65)
JC Scope and Observatory	9,137.44	6,645.34
Office Equipment	216.65	216.65
Total Fixed Assets	9,137.44	6,645.34
TOTAL ASSETS	**85,964.22**	**83,983.55**
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)	(1,980.67)
Total Equity	85,964.22	83,983.55
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**85,964.22**	**83,983.55**

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 11/7, 12/5

SLAS Dark Sky Observing Dates All dates on Saturdays 10/26, 11/2, 11/30, 12/28

Francis Park Events: These events are on Wednesdays of the week nearest the first quarter Moon See you next year!

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

Stargazing at the Arch Events for the public held at the Gateway Arch 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 - See you next year!

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:

	October
18 Fri	Stargazing at the Arch
18 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
19 Sat	Aim For the Stars at JCO
20 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
24 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
25 Fri	DarkSky Missouri Festival
26 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky Observing
27 Sun	John Burroughs
	November
1 Fri	First Friday SLSC
2 Sat	Little Creek Nature Night
2 Sat	Dark Sky at Danville
6 Wed	STEAM Academy Mid School
7 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
7 Thur	Oak Bend Library
7 Thur	Prairie Commons Library
7 Thur	Summerville Star Party
7 Thur	Cub Scout Pack 922
12 Tue	Windsor Library
14 Thur	Star Party at Scott AFB
15 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
16 Sat	Aim for the Stars at JCO
17 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
28 Thur	SLAS New Member Zoom
30 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky at Danville
	December
5 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
6 Fri	SLSC First Friday
15 Sun	SLSC Solar Sunday
20 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
28 Sat	SLAS Dark Sky at Danville
	January
2 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
3 Fri	First Friday SLSC
17 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting

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 Events

LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING!

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

SLAS Merchandise Available

SLAS merchandise is now set up for embroidery at **Headz n Threadz at 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 _____

Youth @ $10.00 / 1 year (18 yrs or younger) $_____

Individual @ $25.00 / 1 year $_____

Family @ $40.00/1 year $_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED **$_____**

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

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

For magazines, use the following links. SLAS no longer processes magazines.

Sky and Telescope New Subscriptions - **https://skyandtelescope.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=SKY_ren_print_club**

Renewals - **https://skyandtelescope.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=SKY_new_club**

Astronomy Magazine - https://kalmbach.dragonforms.com/loading.do?omedasite=ASY_Club&pk=2PA4C1

Star Date magazine, a product of McDonnell Observatory. **https://stardate.org/**

SLAS OFFICERS

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Vice President ***Bradley R Waller*** 314-481-7250
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secretary at slasonline.org

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Board26 at slasonline.org

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Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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

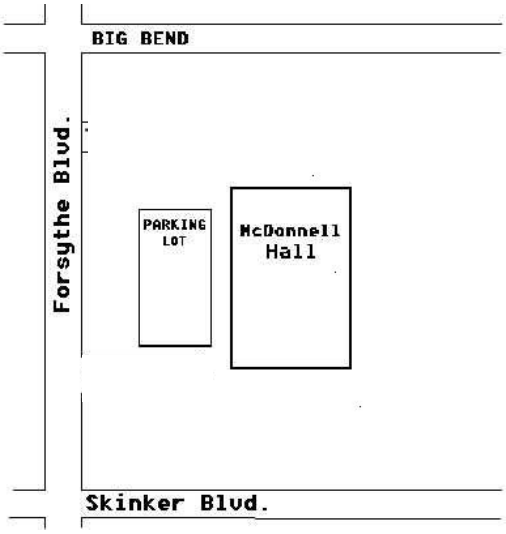
Follow us on
Twitter: @stlastro
Facebook: @stlastro

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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