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## CLUB NOTES

Dear members,

Summer has arrived in MI and as you know on June 21st at 4.24 am, the summer solstice will occur which will result in the longest daylight hours. Great opportunity to observe the sun (please do this safely with filters!) and enjoy its warmth.

Despite the fact that we have no membership meetings SAAA still has a busy summer ahead.

On June 16 at 6 pm Mike Long is presenting at the Muskegon Area District Library – North Muskegon Branch the latest updates from the James Webb Space Telescope.

Barry Schoenfelner will present at the same location on June 22 at 6 pm on Telescope basics.

On Saturday, June 13, there will be an extra Public observing event if we have clear skies. Please join us at Hemlock Park Observatory.

Throughout the summer as usual we have public observing every Friday. Please be aware that due to later sunset its gets dark around 10 pm.

SAAA is working on a couple of different projects;

You have seen my email on the Astro Photography class in June.

Our All Sky camera is installed, but we are waiting stay tuned as we get our camera live on a You-Tube channel!

We will re-design the SAAA web site. This will be a summer project.

SAAA will organize an all family barbecue at the Observatory location probably in July or August. Details to follow. Stay tuned.

If you have any questions on the projects or are willing to help out please don't hesitate to reach out.

Karl Rijkse

President SAAA

www.holland-saaa.org

### Astronomy Day Winning Numbers

Telescope Raffle. . . . .  
068101 , 068105

Moon Mission Game . . . . .  
068099 , 068112, 068116 , 06  
8125

To claim your prize, click  
“Contact Us” on our website  
(holland-saaa.org) and pro-  
vide your winning number to  
Observatory Director Frank  
Roldan.



# Calendar and Upcoming Events

## Public Observing

**When** Every FRI evening starting 9PM (weather permitting).

**Where** Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory, 8115 W Olive Rd, West Olive, MI 49460, USA

**Description** The observatory is open from our start time until 11 PM (weather and clear sky permitting, see note after October 14<sup>th</sup>). There are no entry fees. Please be aware that the park gate closes automatically at 10 PM sharp, therefore visitors must arrive before 10 PM to enter the park. You will be able to leave as you wish.

**Visible night sky objects:** planets, the Moon, deep sky objects like galaxies, star clusters and planetary nebulae.



The observatory opens at 9pm (weather and clear sky permitting). The entrance to the park has a gate that is on an automatic timer. There are no entry fees.

**You must arrive before the gate closes to enter the park. Gate closes at 8 pm from October 16 to February 28. Gate closes at 10 pm from March 1 to October 15.**

Good observing conditions generally start 30 minutes after sunset.

Visible night sky objects: planets, the Moon, comets, deep sky objects including galaxies, star clusters and planetary nebulae.

### James Web Space Telescope

Tuesday, June 16 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Muskegon Area District Library North Muskegon Branch, 1522 Ruddiman Dr, North Muskegon, MI 49445, USA

Mike Long presents the James Webb Space Telescope mission with updates on its latest findings.

## Telescope Basics

Monday, June 22 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Muskegon Area District Library North Muskegon Branch, 1522 Ruddiman Dr, North Muskegon, MI 49445, USA

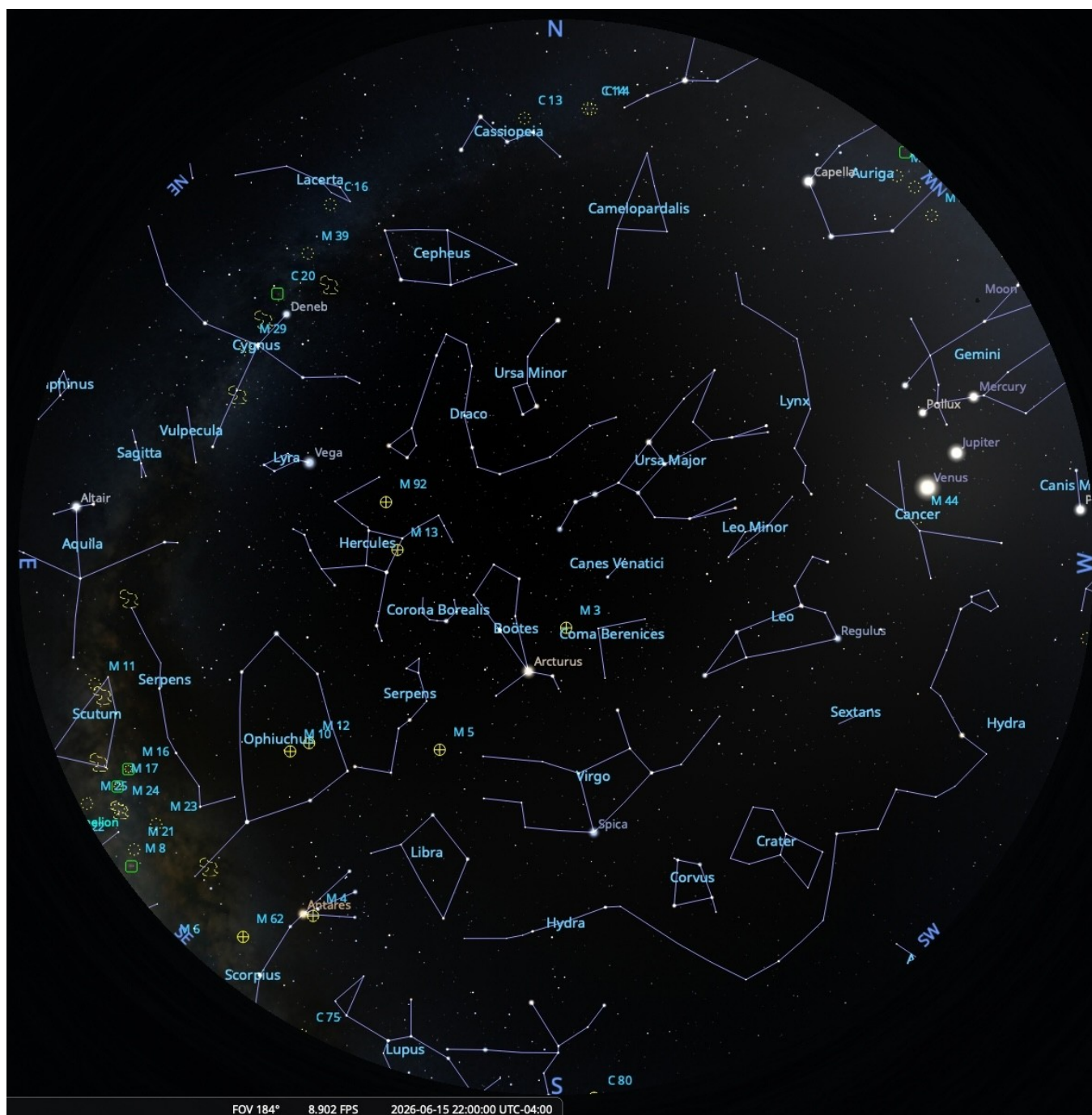
Barry Schoenfelner presents telescope basics for beginners.

## June 2026

		WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
7	8			● 9pm Public C	
9	10		11	12	13
				● 9pm Public C	● 9pm Public C
14	15	16	17	18	19
		● 6pm James'			● 9pm Public C
21	22	23	24	25	26
	● 6pm Telesc				● 9pm Public C
28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3
					● 9pm Public C
					4

For More Information on Any Event  
Please go to [www.holland-saaa.org](http://www.holland-saaa.org)

# What's in the Sky this Month: June



Where might you find this information? Point your browser to ...

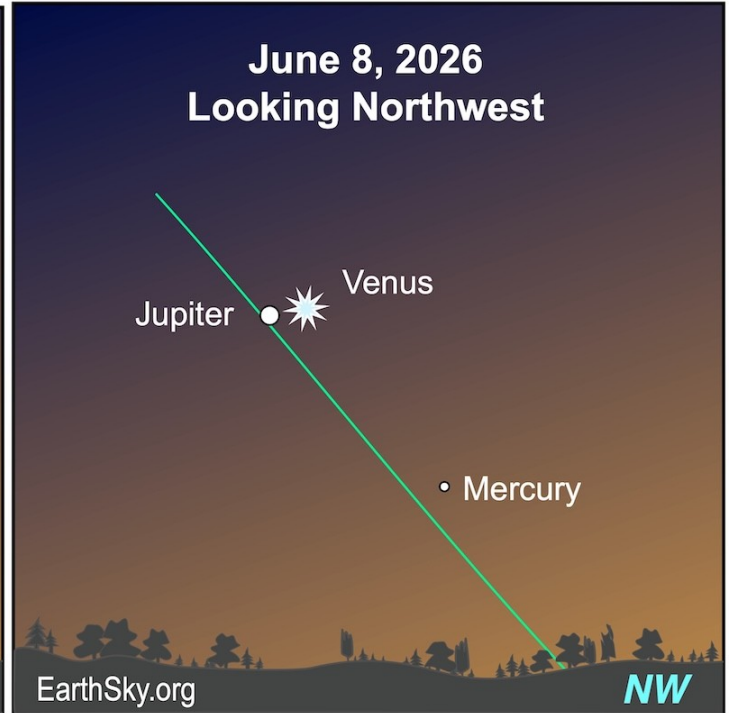
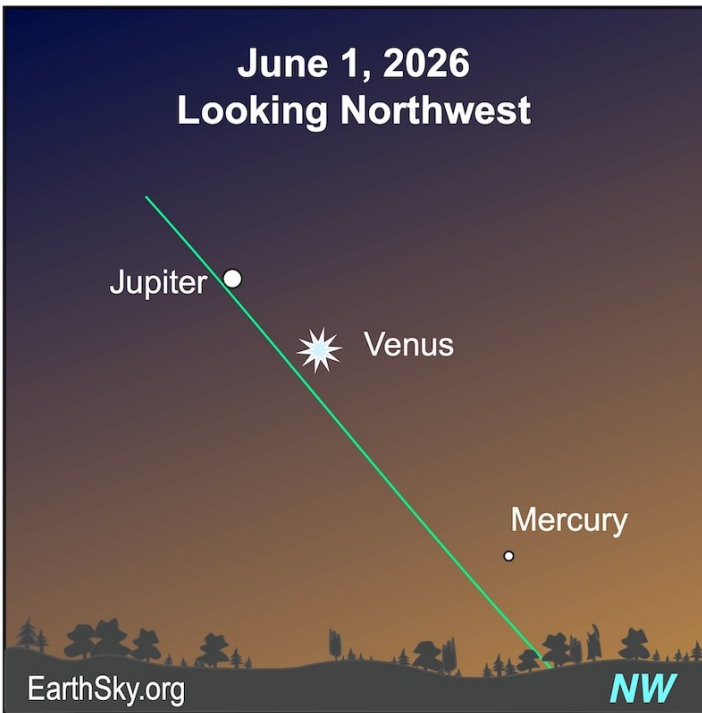
<https://skymaps.com/skymaps/tesmn2606.pdf> (copy and paste into your browser)

Dark version of the sky on June 15 at 10pm

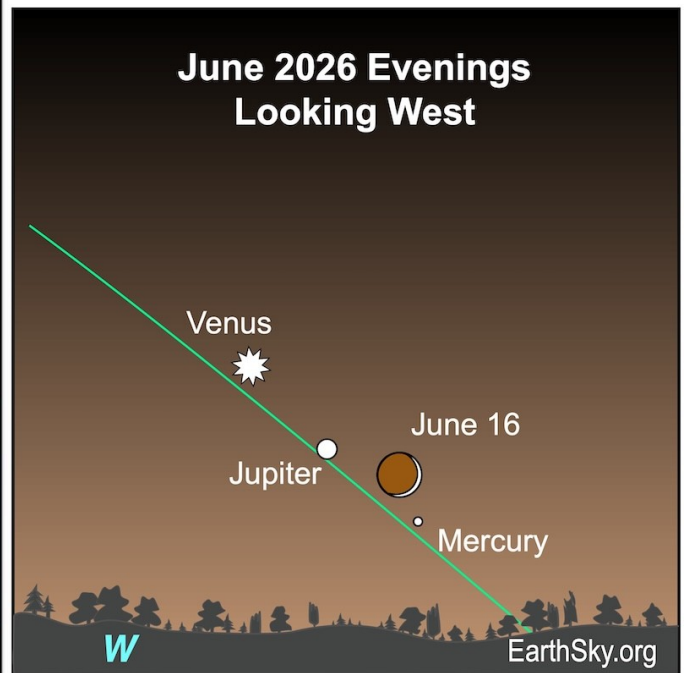
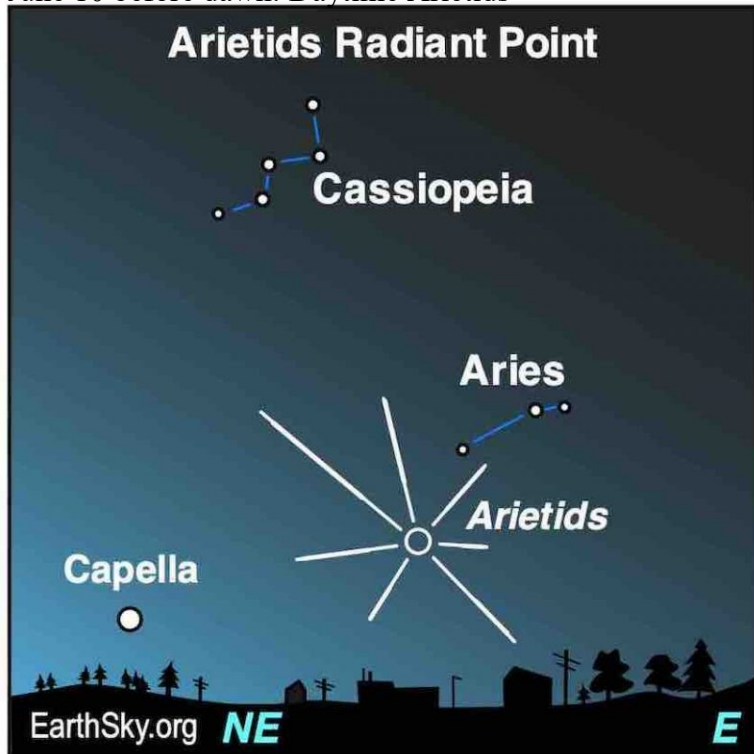
This version of the Sky Map is provided by our own Barry Schoenfelner.

# What's in the Sky this Month: June

Information from EarthSky.org

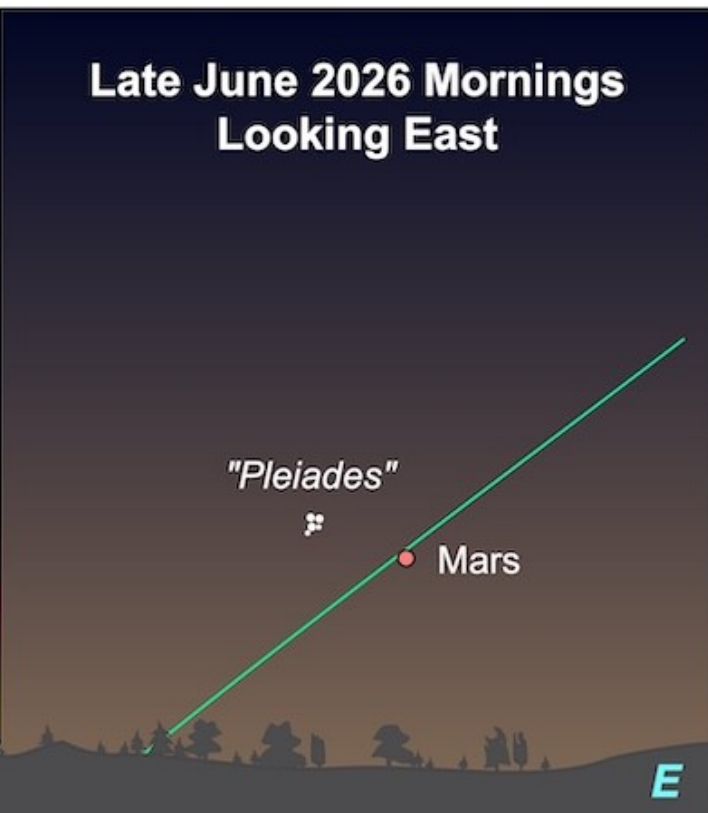
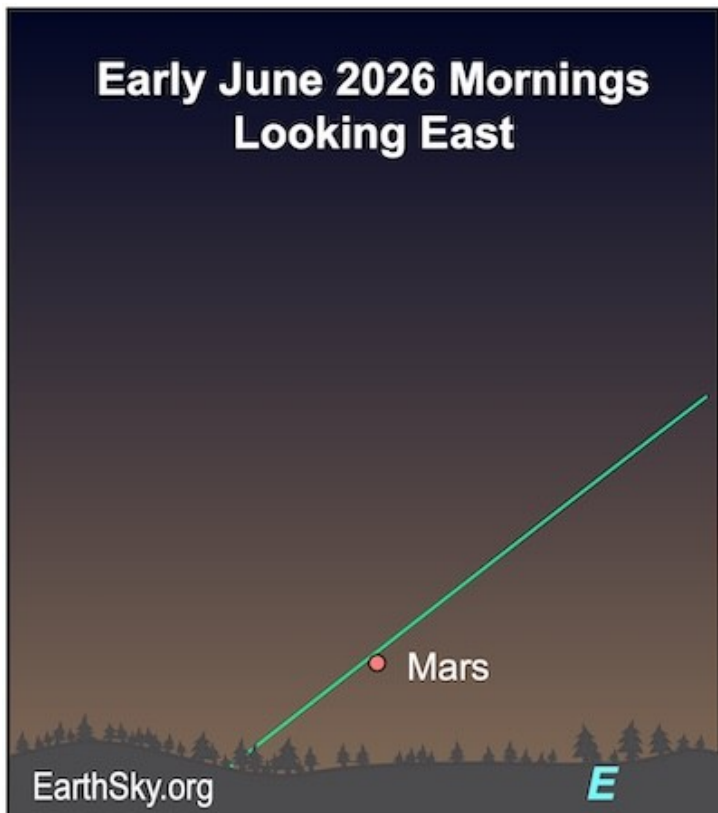
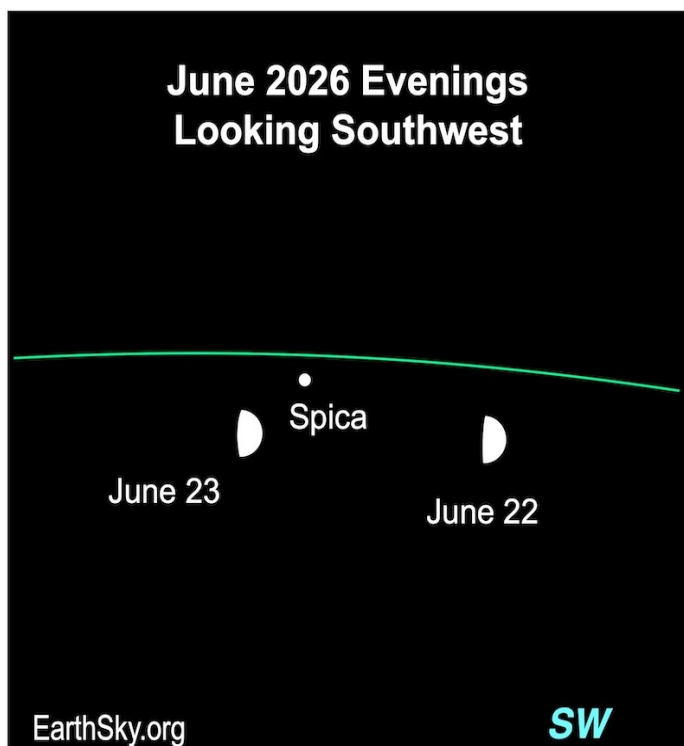
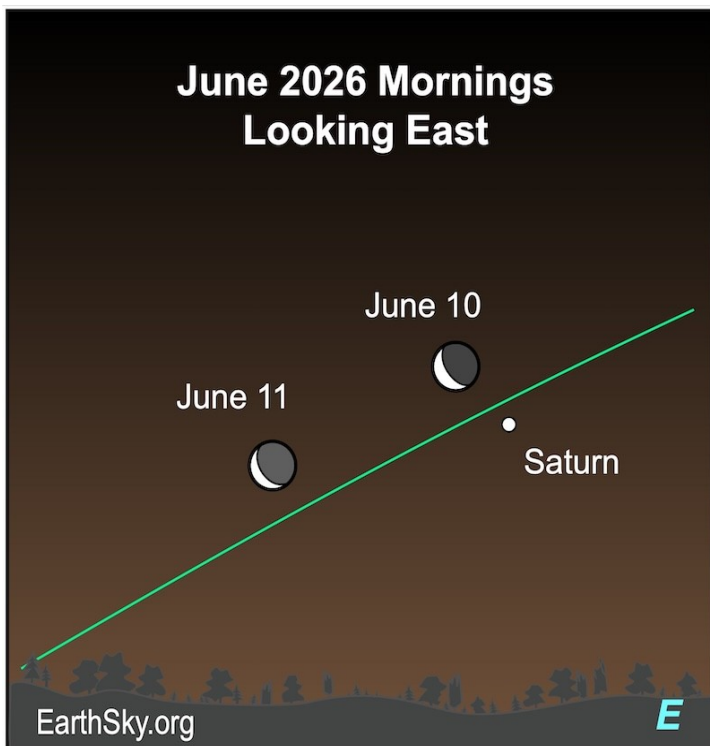


June 10 before dawn: Daytime Arietids



# What's in the Sky this Month: June, continued

Also check out... [Skymaps.com](https://www.skymaps.com): Astronomy and Space Articles





**REGISTER NOW!**

The Nation's Premiere  
Amateur Astronomy Conference

**ALCON**  
**2026**  
CINCINNATI  
AUGUST 12-15 2026

- Nationally Recognized and Regional Astronomy Speakers
- Happy Hours • Special Events • Tours
  - The Annual StarBQ at The Cincinnati Museum Center
- The Annual Astrophotography Contest
- The Sunday Afterparty in dark skies at The Moeller Observatory

**LEARN MORE AND REGISTER NOW!**  
**ALCON2026.ORG**

CINCINNATI  
ALCON2026.ORG

CINCINNATI ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



For More Information, link is here: <https://ALCON2026.org> (ctrl/click)

It's time to get registered for ALCON 2026 being hosted by the Cincinnati Astronomical Society in partnership with The Astronomical League.

This website will guide you to all the details about the conference and link you to the registration site where you can claim your spot for this conference which is certain to be a great time.

Space is limited for this conference so act fast and we will see you in August in Cincinnati!

# This Month in Club History

## May 2026 New All Sky Camera Installed



## This Month in Astronomy History

June 2: Surveyor 1 lands on the Moon - 1965

June 5: Regular observations of Neptune begun by Voyager 2 - 1989

June 10: Mars rover "Spirit" launched - 2003

June 16: Valentina Tereshkova first (and only solo) woman in space - 1963

June 18: Sally Ride becomes first American woman in space - 1983

June 22: Evidence of liquid water on Mars announced by NASA - 2000

June 30: Tunguska impact flattens hundreds of miles of Siberian forest - 1908

# Kid's Corner



Space Place: <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/> A place where kids and grown-ups have fun with space and technology.

NASA Climate Kids: It's all about climate.

<https://climatekids.nasa.gov/>



SciJinks: It's all about weather! <https://scijinks.gov/>

## Kid's Corner Extra: What are Satellites?

From <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov>

A satellite is anything that orbits a planet or a star. Earth is a satellite orbiting the Sun. The Moon is a satellite orbiting Earth. When you launch a spacecraft into orbit around Earth, that's a satellite, too. This kind of satellite can help us learn about Earth and the universe. Because Mercury is so close to the Sun and its gravity, it wouldn't be able to hold on to its own moon. Any moon would most likely crash into Mercury or maybe go into orbit around the Sun and eventually get pulled into it. Why Venus doesn't have a moon is a mystery for scientists to solve.

But, did you know that our Earth and Moon are satellites, too? A satellite can be any object that orbits a planet, star, or moon. An orbit is a regular, repeating path that one object in space takes around another one. So, Earth is a satellite, because it orbits the Sun! The Moon is also a satellite because it orbits Earth. But, usually, the word "satellite" refers to a machine that is launched into space and moves around Earth or another body in space.

Earth and the Moon are examples of natural satellites. Thousands of artificial, or man-made, satellites orbit Earth. Some take pictures of the planet that help meteorologists predict weather and track hurricanes. Some take pictures of other planets, the Sun, black holes, dark matter or faraway galaxies. These pictures help scientists better understand the solar system and universe.

Believe it or not, there are satellite galaxies, too! Learn all about them [here!](#)

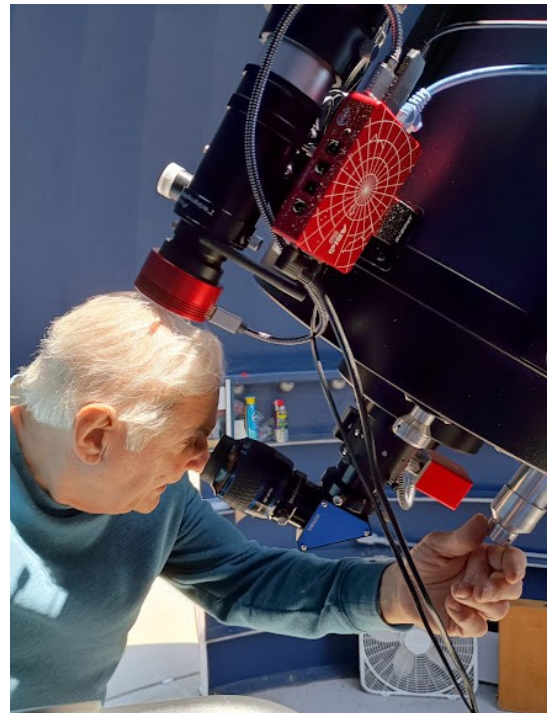
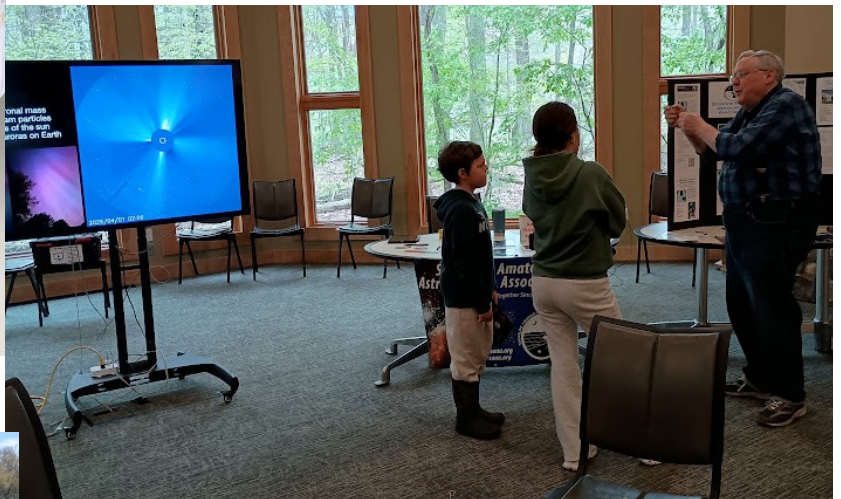


# Club Photos: Astronomy Day 2026



Our Treasurer, George Miller, took great photos of our Day!

Thank you to all who participated and shared our love of the universe. Perhaps, we helped to spur future astronomers, or a great love of science.



## ~Extra~ CLUB NOTES



As mentioned during the April membership meeting, our Executive Committee did some thinking about setting up an Astro Photography training.

President Karl discussed content and how to approach this with Dave, Travis and Casey.

Our proposal is to have two (2) evenings from 7-9 pm at the Hemlock Nature Center on June 23 and June 30. This is free of charge, but we need to know how many people will attend.

So if you are interested, please respond to Karl before **June 14**.

In the first session focus will be on the Dwarf systems, Seestar and DSLR technology. The 2nd evening will be on post processing with software like Siril although we don't exactly know how to approach this due to differences in processing based on camera's.

We will discuss with the participants how to transfer the most knowledge.

Agenda for the 1st evening on June 23 at 7 pm:

- Dwarf ; how to use it - Dave
- Seestar ; how to use it - Karl
- What is the importance of taking Flats/Darks - Casey
- Taking pictures with DSLR - Casey
- How to use the Meade 16" observatory scope for photography - Dave
- Setup of Travis his astro photography equipment; advantages/dis-advantages - Travis



Any feedback or questions on this are welcome.

As mentioned please let President, Karl, know if you will attend so we know how many people we can expect. Please send replies to our President, Karl Rijkse (see our membership roster),



## Selling Equipment?

If you want to sell your telescope or other astronomy equipment, we will provide space on this page of our newsletter.

Any member interested in selling their astronomy equipment to other members they can do this via the Newsletter. SAAA will not be otherwise involved or responsible for any bidding/selling transactions. The member should list the asking price, a picture and phone number to be reached at in order to be contacted directly. Please send to Barb/Editor ([barbwbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:barbwbrown@hotmail.com)) seven (7) days before the end of any month in order to be included in the next month's issue.

## Keyholder Schedule

Members, please see our membership roster for information on how to contact the Keyholder to schedule a private Observatory tour.

MAY 31-JUN 6	David Lesh
JUN 7-13	Michael Long
JUN 14-20	James Reier
JUN 21-27	Karl Rijkse
JUN 28-JUL 4	Frank Roldan



## NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day!

<https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html> features the NASA Astronomy Picture of the day.

### Publication Information

*Self-published for SAAA members by a SAAA member. June 2026*

*Editor is appointed by the SAAA board. Email: [barbwbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:barbwbrown@hotmail.com)  
Previous Issues of our newsletters are found on our website at: [Holland-saaa.org](http://Holland-saaa.org)*

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*<https://www.astroleague.org/reflector/>*