



[www.holland-saaa.org](http://www.holland-saaa.org)

The Shoreline  
Observer  
August 2025

### In this issue:

- Club Notes
- Calendar and Events
- Night Sky: NASA
- What in the August Sky
- Kid's Corner
- Kid's Corner Extra
- Public Event: Humanity Series in Kirk Park (SVSU)
- Which Star am I?
- Club History Moment
- Equipment for Sale
- NASA Photo of the Day
- Club Photos
- Club Merchandise—8/15!!
- Publication information

## CLUB NOTES

Hello members,

I hope you are enjoying your hot and humid summer time.

August is Perseid Meteor shower month and the SAAA will co-host with Holland State Park an evening of viewing called, "Metemors and S'mores."

We will set up around 9 pm on August 12 at Holland State Park and we definitely need help.

So, if you can come out with a 'scope or binoculars, that would be great.

The guide scope on top of the 16" Meade works great and we already shot some nice pictures with the monochrome camera we put on it.

We also used this set up at a public event to display Deep Sky objects on a TV screen. People were liking that experience.

August 1st is public observing and August 2nd another Hemlock observing event. Please join us.

An all sky camera is slowly coming together and some other upgrades on the Observatory are in progress.

In September we will have our first membership meeting after our summer break and we will be heading toward Fall already.

Time flies.

Enjoy the sunny days and see you soon.

Karl Rijkse

President SAAA

### SAAA Summer Schedule

Please remember, there are no Club Meetings June-July-August. But, we continue, weather dependent, on sky watching at the Observatory those nights.

We hope you'll join us on a clear night sky to see what is there.



Club Merch  
available to order  
until 8/15!  
See page 8

# Calendar and Upcoming Events

## Public Observing

**When** Every FRI evening starting at sunset (weather permitting) and on first SAT during the summer. See immediately below for start times.

**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.



## Friday Night (and First Saturday) Viewing Times

7pm January ~ March  
8pm April ~ May

9pm June ~ September  
7pm October ~ December

## August 2025 Dates and Times Clear Sky Dependent

FRI Aug 1 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing -various members

SAT Aug 2 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing -various members

FRI Aug 8 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing -various members

**TUE Aug 12 9 PM Holland State Park Meteors and S'mores-various members**

FRI Aug 15 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing-various members

FRI Aug 22 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing-various members

FRI Aug 29 9 PM Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory Telescope Observing-various members

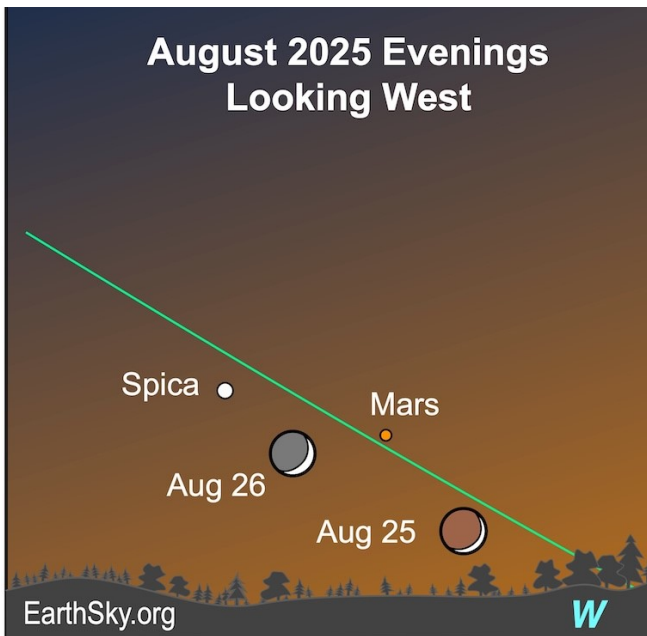
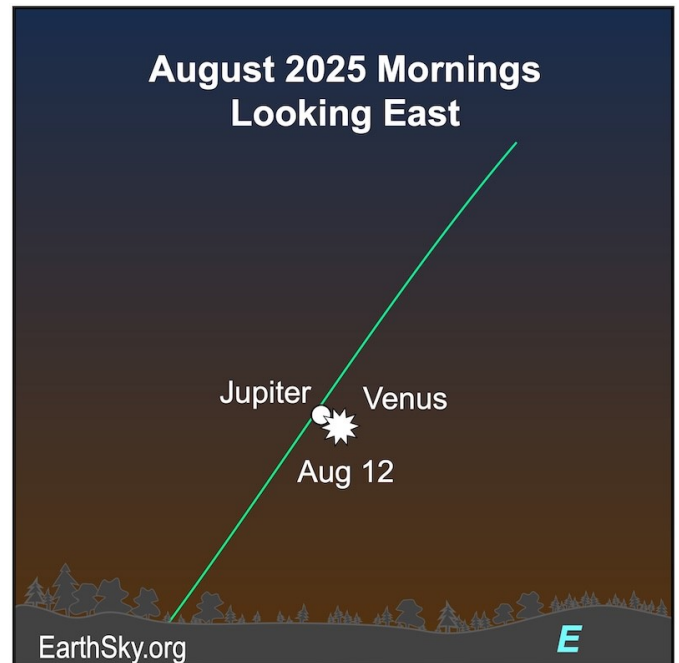
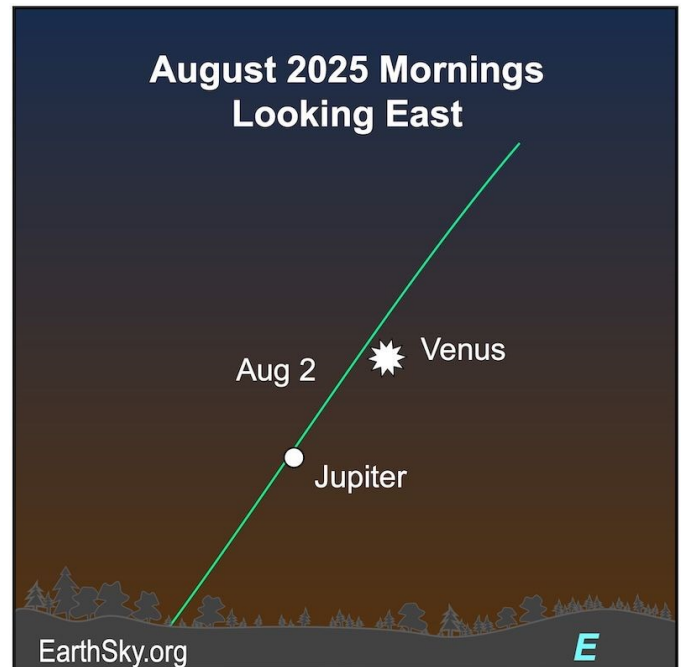
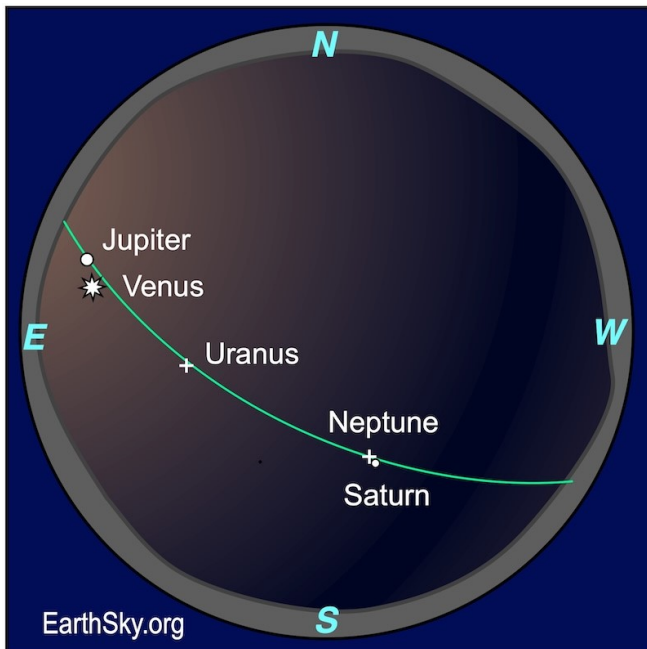
## August and Early September 2025 Muskegon Club

Tuesday August 12, 2025	MAS Membership Meeting	Zoom Meeting	Due to road construction, Open house previously scheduled for this date is cancelled.
Saturday August 23, 2025	Public Open House - Night Sky Viewing	North Muskegon State Park Parking Lot South of Pavilion	Public Open House - 8:45 PM <b>NOTE: If Cloudy Event Is Cancelled.</b>
Tuesday September 9, 2025	MAS Membership Meeting	MAS Observatory	7:30 PM

# What's in the Sky this Month: August

Information from EarthSky.org

(below) For those with binoculars or a telescope, there will be 5 planets in the early morning sky the first weeks of August. Here's the view from the Northern Hemisphere. You can catch Venus and Jupiter before dawn. Saturn is visible most the night. To see Uranus and Neptune, you'll need to use binoculars or a small telescope. Uranus lies between Venus and Saturn. And Neptune lies close to Saturn. You can find them along the path the sun travels in the daytime (the green line on below chart).





## This Month in Club History March '97

On March 23, 1997, SAAA members gathered their equipment and set up telescopes at Kollen park in Holland for a view of Comet Hale-Bopp. About a hundred people turned out in the crisp, spring air to look through telescopes trained on the heavenly bodies, including Hale-Bopp, which was the star of the show. The photo shows the comet over Lake Macatawa.

If interested, please see past newsletters online at our website (that is a hot link, simply CTL-Click on this link

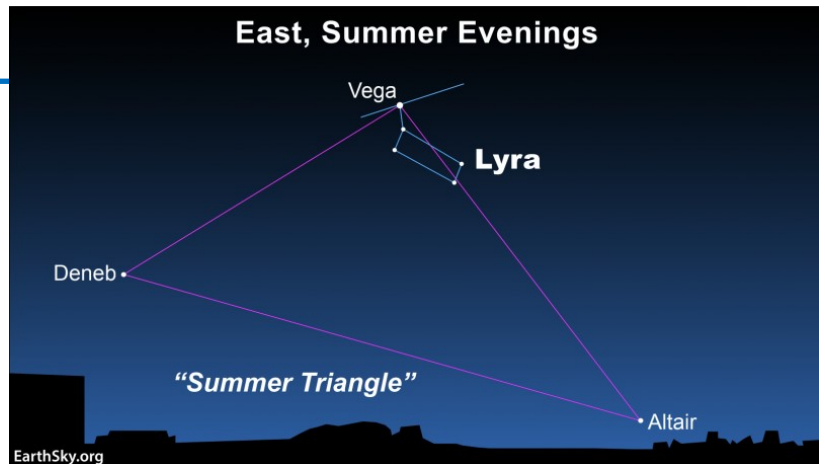
[newsletters](#)

Submitted by Peter Burkey.

### What Star am I?

*Don't tread on me.  
You might get a "sting"  
In Scorpius, there's plenty of company  
It's the star that's "striking"  
Ancient astrologers considered me unlucky  
Ophiuchus, are you listening?  
What star am I?*

*Surely the answer to this riddle someone will bring  
If you think you know the answer, send it to Peter  
Burkey at [pburkey@comcast.net](mailto:pburkey@comcast.net). The answer will appear here next month.*



*July's star: Vega*

## This Month in Astronomy History

This Month in Astronomy History:

- August 2: First televised liftoff of lunar module - Apollo 15's "Falcon" - 1971
- August 6: Curiosity rover lands on Mars - 2012
- August 12: Echo 1 satellite launched - 1960
- August 12: Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter launched - 2005
- August 18: Helium discovered in the Sun - 1868
- August 25: Voyager 2 flies past Neptune - 1989
- August 28: Galileo spacecraft flies past asteroid Ida - 1993



## Kids Corner

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

Do you have a budding scientist in your home who needs activities? See activities at

<https://climatekids.nasa.gov/menu/make/> (please copy and paste into your browser)



# Member Astrophotography

This is the shadow of Titan crossing over Saturn in the early morning of July 18th around 4AM.

Picture taken at Hemlock Observatory with the 16" by Barry Schoenfelner, James Dawsey, Frank Roldan, and Karl Rijkse.



From NASA.gov...

“Saturn's largest moon, Titan, is an icy world whose surface is completely obscured by a golden hazy atmosphere. Titan is the second largest moon in our solar system. Only Jupiter's moon Ganymede is larger, by just 2 percent. Titan is bigger than Earth's moon, and larger than even the planet Mercury.

This mammoth moon is the only moon in the solar system with a dense atmosphere, and it's the only world besides Earth that has standing bodies of liquid, including rivers, lakes and seas, on its surface. Like Earth, Titan's atmosphere is primarily nitrogen, plus a small amount of methane. It is the sole other place in the solar system known to have an earthlike cycle of liquids raining from clouds, flowing across its surface, filling lakes and seas, and evaporating back into the sky (akin to Earth's water cycle). Titan is also thought to have a subsurface ocean of water.”

# Club Merchandise — Now Available until 8/15

Frank Roldan sent an email to everyone, May 21, about club merchandise. We have contacted our SAAA clothing supplier to check current costs. In two years, there has been a little increase but not as bad as we expected.

Below is the order form for hats, t-shirts and sweatshirts. There is no sales tax or postage.

Please send your orders along with a check for the full amount to me at:

Frank Roldan  
15420 Groesbeck Street  
Grand Haven, MI 49417

We will send our group order to the supplier on August 15. We expect to have your orders ready for pick-up at our Thursday, September 11th, membership meeting at the Macatawa Bay Middle School planetarium.

Questions? Drop him an email at [roldanfrank@gmail.com](mailto:roldanfrank@gmail.com)

SHORELINE AMATEUR ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION									
SAAA CLOTHING									
Rev 4, May 21, 2025									
NAME: _____									
QUANTITY	ITEM	CIRCLE DESIRED SIZE					TOTAL		
		S	M	L	XL	2X		3X 2X 5X	
	Baseball cap	Adjustable - \$37.00							
	T-shirt, short sleeve	\$12.00				\$14.00	\$16.00		
	T-shirt, short sleeve, tall	\$13.00				\$15.00	\$17.00		
	T-shirt, long sleeve	\$16.00				\$18.00	\$20.00		
	T-shirt, long sleeve, tall	\$18.00				\$20.00	\$22.00		
	Sweatshirt, crew neck	\$20.00				\$23.00	\$25.00		
	Sweatshirt, crew neck, tall	\$23.00				\$26.00	\$28.00		
	Sweatshirt, pullover hood	\$28.00				\$30.00	\$32.00		
	Sweatshirt, pullover hood, tall	\$30.00				\$32.00	\$34.00		
	Sweatshirt, full zip, hood	\$36.00				\$39.00	\$42.00		
	Sweatshirt, full zip, hood, tall	\$39.00				\$42.00	\$45.00		
NOTES:									
1. All t-shirts and sweatshirts are black, white silkscreened SAAA logo on the left breast and the Orion constellation on the back.									
2. Deduct \$2.00 from price if you do not want the Orion constellation on the back.									
3. All hats are black, embroidered white SAAA logo (minus name) on front and SAAA name on the back									
4. There is no sales tax because SAAA is tax exempt.									
5. SAAA will take care of getting the order from the manufacturer. Arrangements will be made with members once order is delivered.									



## 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 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, provide a picture and a phone number for direct contact. Please send to Barb/Editor (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 contact information in order to schedule for the Keyholder in order to schedule an Observatory private tour.

AUG 3-9	Karl Rijkse
AUG 10-16	Frank Roldan
AUG 17-23	Barry Schoenfelner
AUG 24-30	Michael Long
AUG 31-SEP 6	James Reier
SEP 7-13	David Lesh



## NASA's Photo of the Day!

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

Have you missed a copy, or lost one, or just want to browse old issues of Astronomical League's *Reflector*?  
**Astronomical League's quarterly *Reflector* magazine:**

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

### *Publication Information*

*Self-published for SAAA members by a SAAA member. August 2025*

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

*Not sure received your copy of Reflector, or, looking for a past issue?  
Digital copies of the Astronomical League's quarterly Reflector magazine can be found at:*

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