



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

October 2023

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## Club Notes

This month offers several good opportunities for observing the sky. Unfortunately, some of the best ones will require pre-dawn viewing.

The show begins on Sunday, October 1, when the waning gibbous Moon rises at 8:40 pm, followed a few minutes later by the planet Jupiter. Jupiter may well be washed out by the Moon's brightness, but the following nights it will become easier to spot.

For early risers the show is much easier to see. Wait a few days to let the Moon move out of the way and by October 5 or 6, with a clear view of the southwest sky, both the Moon and Jupiter should easily be visible.

Venus puts on a pretty good show in the morning as well. Rising at 4 am, it will require pre-dawn viewing but will be well worth the effort. Located near the star Regulus, Venus will appear to drift past the star day by day. October 9th will see the planet at its closest approach to Regulus and on the 10th they are joined by the crescent Moon in a beautiful gathering.

Of course, the big event of the month is the partial solar eclipse set to take place on October 14. Join SAAA at noon at the Hemlock Crossing Observatory for eclipse viewing. SAAA members will be on hand to offer explanations and descriptions of the event. Club members will have solar telescopes set up for viewing and protective glasses will be available at a minimal cost. Members will want to note that the Coronado H-Alpha telescope will be at the eclipse event for interesting views of the Sun. This will be a good warm-up for next April's total solar eclipse through Indiana and Ohio.

We had a great turnout at the September meeting and October's should be even better considering all the fun things we can see up in the sky.

Peter Burkey  
President, SAAA



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## October Lecture at Hemlock Crossing

### The Fall Sky presented by Mike Long

When: Saturday, October 14th at 7:00 – 8:00pm

Where: Nature Education Center Hemlock Crossing County Park, 8115 West Olive Dr, West Olive

What is up in the sky tonight? Which constellations, planets and deep sky objects are visible? We'll answer these questions and more by sharing fascinating facts and stories.

SAAA presents informational and educational lectures at Hemlock Crossing inside the Nature Education Center on the second Saturday of the month. Weather permitting, programs are followed by public observatory sessions accompanied by member's telescopes. The goal is to have fun while learning.

# Calendar

## Public Observing

**When** Weather Permitting Every FRI evening 8PM through Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. **Time changes to 7PM Oct 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**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 above 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.

## Next Club Meeting

**When** Thu, October 12, 7pm – 9pm

**Where** Planetarium at Mac Bay School ([map](#))

**Description** Our monthly meetings occur on the 2nd Thursday of the month and are open to the public.

SAAA events									
Today	◀	▶	October 2023	▼	Print	Week	Month	Agenda	▼
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
					8pm Public Obs				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
				7pm Club Meeti	8pm Public Obs	7pm Fall Sky			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
					7pm Public Obs				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
					7pm Public Obs				
29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4			
				7pm Public Obs					

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



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

NASA Climate Kids: Its all about climate.  
<https://climatekids.nasa.gov/>



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

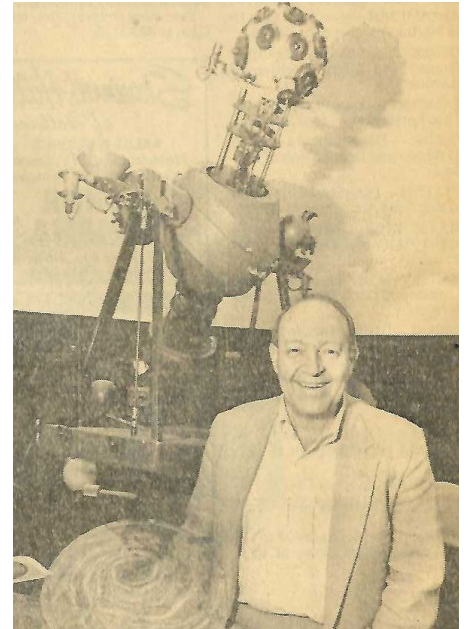
## Club History Moment

*Our Founder*  
from the *Grand Rapids Press Lakeshore*, May 23, 1989

Phillip Hill (pictured right), an astronomy teacher at West Ottawa Hight School, and became the president of the (then) 25-member newly formed group, said his love “for the skies started south of Lansign, where he spent long summer evenings as a youngster gazing upward.” About 30 people showed up for the first informational meeting in January, 1989.

The group, after writing their constitution and bylaws, sought non-profit status.

Hill had been the director of the planetarium housed at the middle school (at that time) for 10 years.



*Photograph left: Mike Cortright ©*  
*Please see our website for more of Mike's work.*  
<https://www.holland-saaa.org/>