

# KANSAS ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVERS

Dear fellow sky observer,



Thank you for your interest in joining the Kansas Astronomical Observers (KAO). KAO exists to educate the public about objects and events in the night sky, as well as, to explore and enjoy the wonderment that lies therein. Our members have a wide variety of interests. Some are beginning to serious stargazers, while some are into imaging the celestial objects. Others can be regarded as advanced telescope builders. We have a few members who enjoy outreaching to the public. The experience is quite diverse and all types are welcome.

## Meetings:

KAO meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. All meetings are open to the public.

During the summer (May thru September), KAO meets at the Lake Afton Public Observatory (247<sup>th</sup> and MacArthur Road). Members are encouraged to bring their own telescopes and set-up on the “observing pad” behind the observatory. The Lake Afton staff routinely advertises these Saturdays as “Bring Your Own Telescope” night.

In the winter (October thru April), we meet at Great Plains Nature Center (29<sup>th</sup> and Woodlawn), where we typically schedule a speaker or presentation every month.

Membership dues are \$20 per year. Members of KAO are automatically members of the Astronomical League (AL) unless you opt out. AL is a non-profit organization promoting the Science of Astronomy. By opting in you become part of the largest astronomy organization in the world consisting of over 240 astronomy societies. Some of the many perks from AL, is a 10% discount from items sold through AL, another is the Observing Clubs, where you can earn certificates of accomplishments.

## Benefits of membership:

### News items:

- Receipt of our club newsletter: [Antares](#)
- Receipt for the Astronomical League’s quarterly magazine: [The Reflector](#) You must opt in for membership to AL.

### Discounts:

- Club rates for [Sky & Telescope](#) and [Astronomy](#) magazines
- Club discount price for [Astronomy](#) magazine’s annual Astronomy calendar
- Club rates for the bi-monthly magazine [Star Date](#) from McDonald Observatory

### Access:

- Access to club telescopes including a Coronado PST (solar filtered), 10” Dobbs, 14” Truss Dob, and a SunSpotter (solar projector)
- Access to the Night Sky Network (a Jet Propulsion Laboratory project funded by NASA promoting Educational Outreach to the public on NASA Science)

### Two KAO Recognition award programs:

1. Educational Outreach to the public using ToolKits provided by Night Sky Network on NASA Science
2. Volunteering time outreaching to the public by sharing the night sky or helping in any capacity on behalf of KAO

Sincerely,



Jerelyn Ramirez  
President – Kansas Astronomical Observers  
Astronomy Outreach Educator  
NSN Club Coordinator Chairperson  
[jerelyn.ramirez@gmail.com](mailto:jerelyn.ramirez@gmail.com)



# KANSAS ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVERS



Annual dues are \$20 per person for a Single Member Household.

Also Membership to the Astronomical League (AL) is automatic unless you opt out.

For Multi-Member Family Households:

\$20 for the Primary Adult Member with or without AL Membership

\$20 for the Second Adult Member with AL Membership or

\$15 without AL Membership.

All children must be sponsored by a Primary Adult Member;

Children are 17 and under dues are;

\$10 with AL Membership or,

\$5 without AL Membership.

Dues are prorated for Adults only on or after June 1st for \$10.

Membership to the Astronomical League entitlements are;

Quarterly subscription to The Reflector magazine

Participation in the Observing Programs

10% discount for Astronomy Related Books through the Astronomical League

# KANSAS ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVERS



Please complete the form below with your current mailing and email addresses for sending the KAO newsletter "Antares" and your copy of the Astronomical League Magazine "Reflector" if you desire to receive that publication. To save on mailing costs KAO sends the newsletter "Antares" via email and the "Reflector" can be received digitally as well. If you do not have an email address, either item can be mailed to your house. Please indicate your preference below.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP TYPE, how many are: Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children, 17 and under \_\_\_\_\_  
Children must be sponsored by an adult

ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please note children's names

Do you want access to the Night Sky Network portal? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Night Sky Network (NSN) is an educational outreach program sponsored by NASA to educate the public using NASA science. NSN has provided us with fun and easy to use hands on toolkits. Selecting yes will give you access to the scheduled events on the calendar where you can RSVP or find more information if you want to participate or volunteer for these events. Volunteering is not a requirement once you gain access to this website. Signing up is also a convenient way to receive messages for upcoming events in real time as they are scheduled.



Do you want membership in the Astronomical League (AL)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



How do you want to receive the AL magazine "Reflector"? Printed \_\_\_\_\_ Digital \_\_\_\_\_  
You must select yes above for membership to the AL, if no leave blank.

How do you want to receive the KAO "Antares" newsletter? Printed \_\_\_\_\_ Digital \_\_\_\_\_

Send Payment to Kansas Astronomical Observers (address below) or pay at club meeting:  
If by mail please do not send cash, make check out to Kansas Astronomical Observers (KAO).



**Paul Ramirez**  
**KAO Club Treasurer**  
**106 E Mount Calvary Rd**  
**Saint Marys, KS 66536**

For Administration use only: Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Payment \_\_\_\_\_