

Analemma Society Annual Report (March 2018 to March 2019)

Analemma Society
PO Box 196
Great Falls, VA 22066

Analemma Society (AS) is a 501 (c) 3 Educational Non-Profit dedicated to teaching the public science through Astronomy. AS is registered with the Commonwealth of Virginia. We maintained our status by doing our annual registration with the state as well as filing income tax forms with the US Internal Revenue Service. We are authorized by the state of Virginia to fund raise. We operated Observatory Park at Turner Farm to further our educational aims.

AS opened Observatory Park (OP) to the public for Friday night viewing and OP Saturdays and Sundays in general as in years past and closed when the sky was cloudy, temperature below 20° F, (or wind/chill factor below 20° F), or snow/ice on ground, OP was not opened to the public.

The AS opens OP to the public on clear weekends for sundial viewing and general unsupervised public access to the park. During the year work was done on the Remote Access Telescope Observatory (RATO) by Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) on the structure to repair water damage and improvements to prevent future damage. This was completed in mid-November.

Summary of 2018 AS Volunteer Activities

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
Volunteer hours	95	44.5	141	113.	81	93	86.	103.	86	144.5	51.5	76.5	1116.
Attendees	189	17	302	239	223	148	157	315	132	152	57	134	2065
Hours Park open	18.5	4.5	34.5	31.5	28	19	21.5	26	11	23.5	12	16.5	246.5

Over the course of the year we have held observing sessions for Ambleside Elementary, Herndon High School and local elementary schools, Sunrise Elementary and Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups. The general public is always invited and we get regular attendance from them.

AS monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at Dantes Restaurant at 12:30.

In addition AS supported outreach events to inform the public about activities at the park, and did coordination meetings with Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) officials.

AS and FCPA Staff presented a Parktakes courses at the Roll Top such as “Introduction to Telescopes”, “Exploring the Moon”, Meteors, and Meteorites with support from Peter Gural, Gerald Kassalow, Jeff Kretsch, Bill Burton and Robert Anderson.

5 April 2018 Jeff Kretsch did a presentation to the Great Falls New Citizens Society on the Observatory Park History and Program.

May 2, 2018 Annual Analemma Society Meeting, elected the following officers and directors:

Officers

President:	Charles H Olin
Vice President	Paul Reistrup
Corresponding Secretary	Don Fowler
Recording Secretary	Jacque Olin
Treasurer	Jeffrey L. Kretsch

Directors

Bill Kemmerer	Robert Anderson
Allan Figgatt	Melvin Hayes
Bob Kellogg	Doug Wood

During summer months AS (Robert Anderson, Rich Mascis, and Jeff Kretsch) has set up an outreach table at the Reston Farmer’s Market Saturday mornings to advertise the park.

Analemma Society Members (Alan Figgatt, Peter Gural, Bill Burton, Eve Kassalow, Calvin Powell, Robert Kellogg and Jeff Kretsch) were active in supporting the Fairfax County Parktakes program with courses on meteors, telescopes, the moon, and family centered courses among other topics. We also hosted visits to the park by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Alumni Association (NGAA) and other groups. There were 31 Parktakes sessions over the period of this report.

August 19-20, 2018 AS supported the North American Sundial Society (NASS) meeting in Pittsburg, PA.

April-August 2018 AS monitored new blue bird boxes at the Park and provided results to the Virginia Bluebird Society.

September 29, 2018 AS (Jeff Kretsch) with NOVAC (Ralph Marple) supported the Astronomy Merit Badge program for the Powhatten District Scouts Camporee held at Bealeton, VA.

Analemma Society had several events supporting seniors, one for Falcons Landing 29 August 2018 and one supporting the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on 28 September 2018.

Over January and February Analemma Society members supported various Science Fair judging activities at Langley and Herndon High Schools.

Membership Drive: Analemma Society collected \$1092 in dues and donations over this period.

Springvale Road Pickup: Springvale Road runs along the western boundary of the park, and to maintain a pleasant appearance and environment AS has been doing road pickup under the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Adopt a Highway program. We have been doing the pickups on a quarterly basis and reporting results to VDOT.

Acknowledgements:

AS consists of volunteers, among them Alan Figgatt has led the Friday night observing sessions, Mary Blessing has coordinated the Family Night program with schools, Dr. Doug Wood and Melvin Hayes have led the effort to make the RATO operational, Robert Anderson has led outreach efforts, and Dr. Jeff Kretsch has handled VDOT Road pickup as well as general duties maintaining the non-profit status of AS. Brian Symmes and Dr. Bob Kellogg have provided webmaster services.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Olin
President
Analemma Society