

Analemma Society Annual Report (March 2019 to March 2020)

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 2019 AS Volunteer Activities

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
Volunteer hours	65	79	96	69	58.5	72.5	130	88.5	97.2	113.5	135	23.5	1027.7
Attendees	81	114	192	65	84	240	425	265	229	184	280	15	2174
Hours Park open	18.5	22.5	28	24.5	19	21.5	45.5	41.5	32.5	27	34.5	10	325
Estimate of revenue	\$152.00	\$1,492.00	\$936.00	\$868.00	\$224.00	\$664.00	\$3,845.00	\$3,419.00	\$624.00	\$456.00	\$1,030.00		\$13,710.00

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 or other designated sites 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 Parktakes events at the Roll Top such as Astronomy Festivals and Junior Astronaut Camps with support from Peter Gural, Gerald Kassalow, Alan Figgatt, Jeff Kretsch, Bill Burton, Bob Kellogg, Calvin Powell, Dan Ward and Robert Anderson.

May 1, 2019 Annual Analemma Society Meeting, elected the following officers and directors:

Officers

President: Charles H Olin
 Vice President Paul Reistrup

Corresponding Secretary Donald Fowler
Recording Secretary Jacqueline Olin
Treasurer Dr. Jeffrey L. Kretsch

Directors

David North Robert Anderson
Allan Figgatt Melvin Hayes
Dr. Robert Kellogg Dr. Douglas 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, Gerald Kassalow, Calvin Powell, Bob Kellogg, Mary Blessing, Dan Ward 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 51 Parktakes sessions over the period of this report.

June 19-22, 2019 AS supported the North American Sundial Society (NASS) meeting in Denver, CO.

July 4, 2019 AS (Alan Figgatt, Pete Gural, and Jeff Kretsch) held an observatory open house during the July 4th Fireworks display at Turner Farm.

July 11, 2019 Bob Kellogg made a sundial presentation to the Ashburn Summer Library Program with support from Jeff Kretsch and Ashburn Library volunteers to children ages 4-6.

April-August 2019 AS monitored blue bird boxes at the Park and provided results to the Virginia Bluebird Society.

August 3, 2019 AS (Jeff Kretsch and Robert Anderson) supported a table at the 4H Fair and Carnival held at Frying Pan Park under Fairfax County Park Authority.

September 21, 2019 AS (Jeff Kretsch, Mary Blessing and Robert Anderson) held an Equinox Demonstration Event at the Park.

October 2, 2019 AS (Jeff Kretsch) participated in Lighting Safety & Visual Comfort survey event in Fredericksburg, Virginia conducted by the Virginia Department of Transportation. This provided an opportunity to give input to lighting design for state streets and parking lots.

October 5, 2019 AS (Jeff Kretsch) supported the Astronomy Merit Badge program for the Powhatten District Scouts Camporee held at Lake Fairfax Park in VA.

October 24, 2019 AS (Jeff Kretsch and Alan Figgatt) supported a visit to the park by potential donor Wayne and Angela Valis escorted by FCPA Director Kirk Kincannon and Barbara Nugent and others from FCPA.

November 11, 2019 AS (Alan Figgatt, Jeff Kretsch, Mary Blessing, Cal Powell, Pete Gural and others) supported the Mercury Transit Event at Turner Farm jointly with Riverbend Park Personnel.

Analemma Society had several events supporting seniors, one for NGA Alumni Association on 8 April 2019 and one supporting the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on 4 October 2019.

Over January and February Analemma Society members (Peter Gural, Bob Kellogg, Jeff Kretsch and others) supported various Science Fair judging activities at Langley and Herndon High Schools.

Membership Drive: Analemma Society collected \$2,060 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, Doug Wood and Melvin Hayes have led the effort to make the RATO operational, Robert Anderson has led outreach efforts, and Jeff Kretsch has handled VDOT Road pickup as well as general duties maintaining the non-profit status of AS. Brian Symmes and Bob Kellogg have provided webmaster services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles H Olin
President
Analemma Society