

ALPO Central Office Development Update - Number 4 – Endowment Update

February 23, 2018

The ALPO Endowment had reached a significant milestone at the conclusion of Year 2017. Thanks to a very significant contribution from longtime member John Centala, the ALPO Endowment crossed the \$100,000 mark. With the beginning of this year, the ALPO Endowment has grown yet again with a generous grant from the charitable remainder trust of the late Robert L. Robertson, a former longtime member of the ALPO. The total value of the ALPO Endowment now stands at \$111,626.15! The ALPO wishes to express its gratitude to both John Centala and the late Robert L. Robertson for making these gifts to the ALPO Endowment and sharing our vision for a future central headquarters for the ALPO.

Separate from his recent contribution, John Centala upgraded his ALPO membership to the Universal level in 2016. This special level of membership affords John the benefits mentioned in our brochure *Think of the Possibilities*. Both the ALPO expanded memberships and the separate donations are two very helpful ways of supporting the ALPO Endowment. Expanded memberships help grow the ALPO Endowment as well as bolster some of the basic business functions of the organization. These memberships also have unique benefits associated with them as a way of saying “thank you” from the ALPO, for voluntarily paying an additional contribution beyond the regular dues to the ALPO.

Standalone donations to the ALPO Endowment are always welcome and can be made at any time. Donations can also be deferred until a later date or upon ones passing, through a charitable bequest. References to the charitable bequest option have been made in past Endowment Updates. Charitable bequests come in many forms depending on the type of donation and how the donation is administered. For more information, check out our expanded memberships page on the ALPO website. Go to www.alpo-astronomy.org, click on the “expanded memberships” near the bottom of the main page, to the left, and then click on this link, [“Making a Charitable Bequest to the ALPO”](#) on the expanded memberships page.

Donations, never too small, can be made at any time either sending a check to the ALPO, by way of our Springfield, Illinois postal address given below or online on the [Astronomical League website](#). Whatever option you choose, contributions through expanded memberships, charitable bequests, or donations, all are greatly appreciated!

The ALPO Secretary thanks all members and non-members that have donated toward the ALPO and its Endowment. Members that make contributions are regularly recognized in the *Journal of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers (The Strolling Astronomer)*, annually.

The ALPO thanks you for your support in whatever capacity you participate in, as observers, readers of our literature, or contributing in various ways to strengthen our mission.

Best regards,

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