2024 LIghting Update

As we discussed at our meeting two years ago, there are many reasons for us to minimize the light we put out into the night sky or into our neighbors' houses. These include enabling enjoyment of the night sky, which is becoming an ever rarer pleasure, avoiding illuminating the interior of your neighbor's house, and minimizing interference with migratory birds, many of whom fly at night and are confused by ground lights. Here's a link to what we discussed then: Let's Keep Our Skies Dark! (the link is spelled out below if you are not reading this online).

In the last two years we have made some progress. In particular, the newest builds generally have well shielded outside lights. We have considerable work to do, though, as these pictures from my house show:







Fixing these lighting issues is generally simple and inexpensive, just involving the installation of a properly shielded light fixture. I urge everyone to turn on your outside lights at night and take a walk around your house. You may be motivated to make some changes! For those of you operating a vacation rental, know that many renters turn on all outside lights on arrival and leave them on for the duration of their stay.

Thanks,
Tim Axelrod

Here are a couple of links to read more:

Let's Keep Our Skies Dark: https://shorturl.at/N5IFR

The loss of dark skies is so painful, astronomers coined a new term for it:
https://www.space.com/light-pollution-loss-dark-skies-noctalgia