

KAA MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

December 9, 2016

Location: Bruce Norlund's House

Present: Robert Taylor, Carol Littleton, Gabe Klueh, Bruce Norlund, Mike Brooks, Curtis Butler, Ben Jacobs

Secretary's Report: Accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: December: \$1674.17 - November: \$1,577.67.

Upcoming Events:

- *Stay tuned for possible on-the-fly future club observing sessions. Notifications with details will be by email from Bob.*
- Club December Monthly Observing. December 17th at the Sullivan observatory.
- Our next club meeting is scheduled for January 20th at 7pm at Jim and Phinie Faux's house, with observing at the Sullivan observatory afterwards.
- Club January Monthly Observing. January 21st at the Sullivan observatory.
- Fitzwilliam Library observing scheduled for May 6th 2017 at 7:30pm at Stacie's and Mikes.
- Pursuing club picnic location next summer. and then determine a date and time.
- Reminder: The 2017 total eclipse will occur on August 21st in the mid-afternoon. We will be planning activities in conjunction with the Keene library. *The partial solar eclipse seen from Keene will start at 1:27pm and peak at 2:44pm (at approx. 70%) and end at 3:57pm.*

Old Business:

- Club Observing at the Perkins Observatory in Dublin with Eric occurred on November 19th. The Dublin observing session was a good one that lasted about an hour and a half. After hearing a bit about the scope and setup they have at Dublin we saw Venus and Mars, Uranus, Alberio, some star clusters and nebula. Attendees were Eric, Bob, Carol, Cheryl, Rick and Gabe.
- Julie and class had another observing session in Sullivan on December 8th at 5pm. Five students attended with a few parents and club members for a total of 13. Viewing was of the moon, Venus, Mars, Pleiades, northern cross, summer triangle, pointing out some constellations, M52 open star cluster, and the Owl open cluster NGC 457.
- Observing/Meeting 2017 Calendar was finalized.
- NH state paperwork was submitted to State of NH to update secretary contact info to Gabe.

- Last Call for those interested in purchasing the 2017 RASC's Observer Handbook. The price of handbook is \$28.00.
- Bob will touch base with Gail at the Keene Public Library about the upcoming Astronomy Lecture series occurring in the beginning of 2017.

New Business:

- Outreach/Viewing: Received email from Meghan McCarthy McPhaul who writes the Winter Notes for the Union Leader. She is writing about winter star gazing and reached out in hopes to include our public observing dates/times/info in her column.
- Outreach/Viewing: Received email from Chad Sprague who is interested in attending the December 17th observation session. He got his 7 year old a Orion Starblast 6i for Christmas and would like him to see what astronomy is all about.
- We have invited Curtis Butler, from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, to the December meeting to demonstrate a 3D printer and scanner. He brought a 3D printer, scanner and computer that was programmed to produce what ever object he wanted to make with plastic. There are several programs that can be used to generate the item you want made like CAD and solid works. You can also scan in an object to the computer and have it made. You can make replacement parts for telescopes. This printer can print out a 10" cube item. During the talk Curtis had the printer make a 2" toy figure. Pretty impressive. He indicated some 3D printers are now making body parts from your DNA.
- We have invited Ben Jacobs, a mechanical engineer at Ametec/Precitec in Keene, who will bring his less-than-optimal performing telescope to the meeting - for our collective opinion. He has a Meade Polaris 4inch telescope with a good primary/secondary mirror set, however no finder scope or base, and would need some general cleaning and alignment. He would also need eyepieces that were less than 1inch.