

KAA MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

July 8, 2016

Location: Jim & Phinie Fauxes

Present: Cheryl Burrows, Jim Faux, Phinie Faux, Gabe Klueh, Carol Littleton, Susan Rolke

Secretary's Report: The report was approved as written

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: Approximate as of April 2016: \$1,440.17.

Upcoming Events:

- *Stay tuned for* possible on-the-fly future club observing sessions. Notifications with details will be by email from Bob.
- Our scheduled July 9th observing at the Observatory has been postponed due to the weather.
- Our next club meeting is scheduled for August 12th at 7pm at the club observatory, with observing on August 13th at 9pm at the observatory.
- The July work session scheduled will be postponed for a cooler and dryer summer weekend.
- The Astronomical Conjunction in Northfield, MA is being held July 8-10th. Cheryl is planning on attending the Saturday session. She has been there previously and shared her very positive reflections on the expert and excellent speakers.
- The Stellafane Convention, Springfield, VT, will take place during August 4-7th.
- The [Fresh Air](#) kids event will be at Dublin on July 19th if the weather is good, with the rain date: 20th. Bob will send out a notice on the 19th by 4pm if it's a go or not. It looks like people will be arriving around 8:30pm. Peggy will have a total on the number of people coming from the fresh air group by the 15th. By the 15th Peggy is to let us know if KAA can bring more than 6 members. Ian says he can handle about 30 people and Peggy thinks she will have between 20 and 25 attendees.

Old Business:

We continued our discussion of how to celebrate our 60th club anniversary. Some thoughts were:

- Focus the anniversary year on planned public outreach viewing events using multiple portable club and member telescopes. Monthly?
- Events at times when specific celestial objects are viewable. Examples: Meteor showers and solar viewing around the 2017 eclipse [Note: Susan & Kevin plan to fly to Tennessee/Kentucky to view the eclipse!].
- Different city locations.
- Coordinate with local organizations for PR exposure, e.g. Keene Parks & Rec.
- Planned multiple viewing telescopes after the Gail's excellent Library lecture series.

- Tabled until the August meeting:
 1. Need to review Junie's preliminary review of 15" Obsession optics.
 2. Need to review and discuss status of replacing 12.5" telescope with Go-To telescope.
 3. Need to determine when we receive Angel's 8" scope with bad primary mirror whether we want to have mirror re-coated or not? Bob is getting re-surfacing quotes.
 4. Discuss installing new T1-11 siding from Home Depot on south side. Painting would be required.
- Surry Dam Viewing. Cheryl will contact the new "Director" of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to investigate getting permission to do viewing on the dam including turning off the large security light for us.

New Business:

- Outreach: None scheduled at this time.
- Carol discussed her recent 6" Celestron telescope purchase and is looking forward to using it.
- Our thanks to Angel for recently mowing the observatory field and to Mike Brooks for loaning us his mower.
- Jim mentioned the Keene Library's recent access to thousands of periodicals. While the initial upload was incorrectly linked – and they are fixing it – there will be many newly accessible astronomy periodicals for us to view.
- Also, Jim mentioned there are two new library books worth your viewing:
 1. Breakthrough: 100 Astronomical Images that Changed the World by Robert Gendler & R. Jay GaBany.
 2. Coloring the Universe: An Insider's Look at Making Spectacular Images of Space by Travis A. Rector, Kimberly Arcand, & Megan Watzke.
- The Astronomical League's Programs. The members discussed continuing the Astronomical League's Constellation Hunter and Lunar Observing programs and felt that it was very worthwhile keeping both in our focus each month.
 1. Constellations:
 - July: Draco, Hercules, Serpens Caput, and Serpens Cauda
 - August: Aquila, Cygnus, and Lyra
 Check the club website for AL charts for each of the constellations above.
 2. Lunar:
 - The moon's observable features for naked eye, binocular, or telescope viewing depend on the age of the moon. Check your favorite Lunar phase chart or [here](#).

Meeting Activities:

- Much discussion on numerous topics, mostly astronomical, occurred on a cloudy non-observing evening.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jim Faux
 07.8.2016