

KAA MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

March 23, 2018

Location: KSC

Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Present: Bob Taylor, Jim Faux, Phinie Faux, Carol Littleton, Gabe Klueh, Bruce Norlund, Ken & Debbie Oakes

Secretary's Report: Accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: March: \$1,919.00- February: \$1,919.00.

Upcoming Events:

- *Stay tuned for* possible on-the-fly future club observing sessions. Notifications with details will be by email from Bob, Carol or Gabe.
- March observing Saturday the 24th at 7:00pm at the Sullivan Observatory. - *Cancelled*
- Our next club meeting is scheduled for April 13th at 7pm the Keene State College in the Young Student Center, with observing afterwards.
- Clubs next monthly observing is scheduled for April 14th at 7pm at the Dublin Perkin Observatory, weather permitting.
- The Keene Public Library Astronomy Lecture series' remaining schedule:
 - Tuesday, April 3rd at 7pm - *Astronomers Search for Neighboring Earths* with Claudio Veliz
 - Tuesday, April 17th at 6:30pm - *POV Film Screening and Discussion: Bill Nye, the Science Guy Combating Anti-Scientific Thinking (2 hours)*
 - Tuesday, May 8th at 7pm - *Mapping the Heavens* with Priyamvada Natarajan
- NEAF Convention, Rockland, New York - April 21st & 22nd

Old Business:

- Town of Sullivan light pollution update:
 - Junie and Bob will attend Sullivan town meeting April 4th at 7pm.
 - March 7th, Bob submitted 3 articles pertaining to; KAA's strong support in the effort, LED lighting Information, and an existing Lighting Regulation (Taken from the Chester, VT Town Plan)
 - KAA was contacted by the Sullivan board regarding light pollution and night skies. They are looking to implement a lighting ordinance in Sullivan and are looking for local astronomers to help make the case at their April board meeting.

- Reminder: The KPL has sponsored an online learning program at universalclass.com, which includes an Astronomy 101 free course.
- Awaiting results from Jim's write up to the Night Sky Network on KAA and its Library outreach and involvement. Winners will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card.
- Bob is continuing work on the AL Moon program. Has 35 more items to get out of 100.
- Observatory Work:
- Vinyl Siding Update: It was decided to try and meet at HomeDepot to finalize materials list and perform the install in April or early May.
 - Bruce acquired an \$800 quote from Home Depot for the parts needed for installing the white vinyl siding to the four main walls of the observatory. We plan to put it up ourselves in the summer.
- Please email Bob, Carol or Gabe if you have a presentation you would like to do or have a topic you would like us to present on the night sky, telescopes and etc. At this time we have no topic for the next meeting so we're open to suggestions.

New Business:

- Received email from Ken & Debbie Oakes from Spofford - they would be interested in attending an observing session, meeting the club members and taking in some of the night sky views. They moved to Spofford in July of 2016. Ken is retired now, and lived in Poughkeepsie NY for many years before moving here. They haven't done much viewing since moving here, but do have several telescopes (12.5" portable and 18" Go-To Obsession), and would like to get back into the hobby.
- Bob submitted the yearly observatory inventory list to the town of Sullivan.
- Spring Dinner at Papagallos - planning for early May.
- Bob gave a brief update on the 30 meter telescope installation at Mauna Kea, HI. And how LED lights are affecting big time observing at Mauna Kea.
- It was discussed that the article in the Reflector on Bob's award listed the wrong astronomy club. They listed the VT club not KAA.
- Bob checked with Sullivan to see if putting up siding will change our taxes. It will not.
- Carol gave a great talk on the March constellation's mythology - Cancer (the Crab) with M44 the Beehive Cluster, Canis Minor (the Lesser Dog) with bright star Procyon, Lynx (named for its faint stars "needing the eyes of a cat to see").
- We watched a short video on "Whats up for March " - highlighting observing targets of the month. We also watched a short video on "Tonight's Sky: March 2018" from the Hubble Space Telescope YouTube Channel.
- Club Viewing Reports: seeing first day sliver of the crescent moon along with Venus and Mercury.