

## KAA MONTHLY MEETING

### Minutes

August 23, 2019

**Location:** Sullivan Observatory

**Time:** 7:00pm - 8:00pm

**Present:** Bob Taylor, Carol Littleton, David Hayward, Edward Lotkowski and Jeanne Applegate, Gabe Klueh

**Secretary's Report:** Accepted as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Club balance: August: \$1,699.22 - July \$1,696.17.

#### **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.
- Observing scheduled at Sullivan Observatory for August 24<sup>th</sup> at 9pm, cancelled.
- Our next club meeting is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Keene State College Young Student Center.
- Our September Observing is scheduled for Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at the Sullivan Observatory

#### **Old Business:**

- Marlborough and Fitzwilliam concert observing series are complete - weather hampered both but one session at the Frost Free Library was successful.
- A successful solar observing with Eric Schmitt at Dublin occurred on August 10<sup>th</sup>. 4 club members got to look at a very quiet sun through the 4inch Lunt solar telescope with Hydrogen Alpha filter.
- Observatory Work:
  - Observatory work session scheduled for Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am - postponed.
  - Finish removing brush at west wall.
  - Looking to finish vinyl siding on the 2 triangular gables at the Sullivan Observatory. TBD
- Continued discussion on portable KAA signboard to display while hosting events. **It was unanimously voted on to move forward with the constellation version of the 2 design options Carol put together. Carol will now place the order for the sign from Staples with hopes to have for the September meeting.**
- Submitted to the Astronomical League Jim Faux's name for consideration for the "2019 webmaster award". Jim has done such a spectacular job of designing and maintaining our terrific website we are all hoping he is selected for this honor. Jim and Phinie also donate yearly the cost of maintaining the website. **There has been no response from AL as yet.**

- 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:**

- Inquiry from Susan Crotto who lives in Sullivan and is interested in joining a club meeting.
- A fall CALL semester, starting in September will include an astronomy class by Claudio Veliz, President of SoVerA.
- The June issue of the Reflector featured Bob's Moon program award with club credit to KAA.
- Bob replaced the finder scope on the 12.5 dobsonian which wasn't working even with new batteries with an EZ Finder scope he had. He will be sending the faulty one back to Orion to see if it can be repaired at no cost.
- September - Talk will be on the "future world wide moon missions and the present legal space treaty" The next 5 yrs we'll see a lot of missions from a number of countries to the moon.
- October - Talk will discuss the "Van Allen Radiation Belt" and watch a video on this matter.
- Carol presented on the August constellation's - Lyra (the Harp) with highlight the Ring Nebula, Aquila (the Eagle), and Cygnus (the Swan). The brightest stars of each make up the summer triangle.
- We watched a short video on "Whats up for August 2019" - highlighting observing targets of the month. We also watched a short video on "Tonight's Sky: August 2019" from the Hubble Space Telescope YouTube Channel. And also a short video in the James Webb Telescope's final mirror test.
- Conventions/Retreat Reminders:
  - 8/24-8/25 9am Astronomers conjunction, Northfield, MA
  - 9/20-9/24 9am Acadia Night Sky Festival, Bar Harbor, ME