

KAA Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2020

Location: Fourth Zoom meeting, hosted by Bob

Time: 7pm – 8pm

Present: Jeanne Applegate, Ed Lotowski and Bruce Norlund, Jim and Phinie Faux, Carol Littleton, David Hayward.

Secretary's Report: August minutes accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: October \$1,795.75 - August \$1,795.75

Upcoming events:

- * Sovera will host a zoom presentation on November 10th at 7pm. Topic to be determined by November 1st.
- * Jeanne Applegate will do a presentation on the book “The Glass Universe” at our December business meeting. A story of the ladies of the Harvard observatory took measure of the stars.
- * Our next zoom business meeting is November 13th at 7pm.

Old Business:

- * Observatory work: At this time completing the observatory Vinyl siding of the north and south peaks work is on hold.
- * Sometime this fall we'll need to have a work day to tackle the brush on the west and south walls. This work has been postponed till next spring.
- * 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 a topic for the July meeting, but we are open to suggestions for the August meeting.

New Business:

- * Due to the virus that has shut us down from doing any club and outreach observing or any other type of events this past year and going forward until we are able resume normal activity the officers have decide to for go dues for 2021 for all present members. However, club members that want to be members of the Astronomical League and receive the Reflector Magazine will need to pay KAA \$7.50. Any member who wants to donate money to KAA are more than welcome to do so. KAA's

annual basic costs for 2021 are \$125.00 for the website; \$51.00 for observatory taxes and \$10.00 for the Astronomical League for a total of \$186.00.

For AL membership and donations, please make checks out to “Keene Amateur Astronomers, Inc” and mail to Bob Taylor, P.O. Box 467, West Dummerston, VT 05357. Thank you.

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* The officers have also decide to postpone the election of officers until we can meet in person again, as two of our members do not have computers to be able to vote and at this time given the present situation it would be difficult to change the present staff.

* Gabe has volunteered to be our new Web Master as Jim after fourteen years of providing KAA such a wonderful website has retired from that position. KAA is truly greatfull for all jim’s hard work over those years of innovative design, layout and maintenance of the site. It has provided KAA with such a great presence on the internet. At present the website has been transferred over to Gabe and he is looking forward to being the Web Master and looks forward hearing from members on items, pictures and etc. you would like to have posted.

* Bob provided a short presentation on the Fermi Bubble, which are xray and gamma ray emissions produced by a giant explosion a few million years ago of Sagittarius 1a black hole at the center of our galaxy reaching energy levels of 10 to the 57 power ergs that could have been viewed by humans a million years ago. The bubbles stretched like dumbbells 25,000 light years above and below our galactic center. Bob also mentioned a couple of significant overlooked contributions Galileo made on resistance and motion. Galileo was also a talented artist providing detail drawings of the moon and of Jupiter and its moons. But, he was wrong about comets and tides, which were later figured out by Newton.

* Bob found the SoVerA presentation on Spectroscopy last Tuesday very interesting and informative.

* Observing – If you get an opportunity to do some observing Jupiter and Saturn are visible by 7pm low in the southern sky. Mars is high in the sky and the brightest object in the eastern sky by 9pm and Venus in the eastern sky by 5am. Happy planet viewing.