

KAA Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2021

Location: Zoom hosted by Bob

Time: 7pm – 8:30pm

Present: Ed Lotowski, Jeanne Applegate, Gabe Klueh, Carol Littleton, Bruce Norlund, Paul O'neil and David Hayward.

Secretary's Report: September business minutes accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: October \$1,757.75 - September \$1837.50

Upcoming events:

- * Our next business meeting is Friday November 5th, which will be by zoom at 7pm
- * Our next observing session is scheduled for November 6th at Sullivan at 7pm.

Old Business:

- * Observatory work: At this time completing the observatory Vinyl siding of the north and south peaks is on hold, but looking to tackle it in November.
- * A brush removal work day to tackle the brush on the west and south walls has been scheduled for Saturday November 6th from 9:00am to noon. Please bring tools to remove saplings and other brush. At this time also a review of the damaged flooring, look into putting a ramp at steps, possible modification to 15" cart handles, what to do with items on inventory list and when to tackle installing more vinyl siding
- * Mike Brooks has offered to loan us his brush cutter and the use of his dumpster when needed. Mike is also putting in a garage and where it is to be located needs fill, so Mike has been able to remove about 80% of the dirt mound behind the observatory, which came from the observatory basement where the 10 Ton concrete ballast for the 12.5" telescope is attached. It will be great to have it and the trees growing on it gone. Thanks Mike for mowing our field it is greatly appreciated.
- * 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.
- * Susan Rolke will conduct a presentation on her amazing trip and experience investigating Infrared radiation on NASA's 747 on Tuesday February 22st at 7:00pm via zoom. Those also joining the talk will be the astronomy class from Dublin School and SoVerA.

Monthly Meeting Minutes, continued,

New Business:

- * The \$80.00 reduction in our club balance is for payment for our website Domain name and Hosting costs.
- * A decision was reached to conduct observing at Sullivan where each person will locate and observe the object or objects on their own so the person setting up the telescope does not interfere again once the eyepiece has been cleaned by the observer. A brief training on how to use a specific telescope will be conducted.
- * As luck would have it there was a roof leak right at the location of the mouse toilet, which produced a lot of the soaking of the 4'x8' piece of plywood. Bob was able to patch the roof leak with some roofing cement. We'll need to keep an eye on it to make sure patch is doing the trick.
- * Our new member Alison Bentley was able to use the 3" Bushnell telescope, which Bob delivered to her in Jaffrey a couple of weeks ago.
- * Bruce is able to use the T1-11, which he will be picking up some after November 15th.
- * Bob purchased the remainder of the vinyl siding framing material, which will complete the remaining two peaks for \$78.00. Additional siding was not purchased until we know how much is needed for the second side as we have enough in inventory to at least cover one end and possibly some to start the second end. Bob has donated \$78.00 to cover the cost of the vinyl framing.
- * Bob conducted a short presentation on Brown Dwarfs, which went well.
- * Membership dues are returning this year to pay our bills and keep a healthy bank balance for unexpected expenses. The dues are due November 1st

The dues are the same as before and they are as follows:

Single/Family KAA members - \$20.00

Single/Family KAA membership including Astronomical League Membership - \$27.50.

The AL membership includes the quarterly "Reflector Magazine"

Please make checks out to the "Keene Amateur Astronomers"

Please mail payments to:

Bob Taylor
P.O. Box 467
West Dummerston, VT 05357

Thank you