

KAA October 16, 2009 business meeting summary

- 1) The remaining Observatory work items to be tackled next spring are:
 - a. The installation of the new roof track support brackets
 - b. Fix driveway potholes and remove remaining stones
 - c. Remove wood debris to the dump
 - d. Finish clean-up of tree removal
 - e. Install stone at base of roof support posts
 - f. Paint top of steel posts
 - g. Install concrete base and roof track support member in northwest corner.
 - h. Install handrail for steps.
 - i. Install red light at entrance.
 - j. Check on putting in an entrance ramp.
 - k. Junie has the fabrication set-up and material to make two new roof brackets for installation during next spring's work session, with the remaining four brackets to be made and installed next summer.
 - l. Procure new step stool for viewing access.
- 2) Additional information on the club's purpose has been generated and incorporated into the purpose statement on the club website.
- 3) Club to look into procuring plaques for Phil, Jack and others and to determine a wall space to be set aside for these plaques. This process is in the planning stage.
- 4) Twenty 35mm slides of the observatory construction have been found and will be put on our web site for review. People in slides need to be identified. If anyone has any additional construction slides please let us know and they will also be posted. The twenty pictures have been posted on the web site.
- 5) The Chesterfield Library observing session is scheduled for September 25th at 7pm. We had a very good night of viewing with Keith and Junie bringing two telescopes each. There were approx 50 people in attendance, with 35 of them being children. Cider and donuts were provided by the library in the warmth of the hallway of the town hall.
- 6) The October presentation by Keith on "how to observe using the new finder scope installed on the 12 1/2" Newtonian telescope and a video on how to open the observatory was postponed until the November 20th business meeting.
- 7) KAA to purchase the two digital pictures taken of the club telescope that are available from the "Keene Sentinel" at \$10 each. They have been purchased and are now posted on our front web page.
- 8) The work party dinner is scheduled for Friday October 23rd at Papagallos restaurant at 6:30pm.
- 9) A decision on when to do the sidewalk observing in Keene has been postponed until the November meeting.
- 10) KAA would like to generate a list of the past club officers and post them in the history section of our web site. This will require input from both Junie and Keith. Junie and I will generate a list of names by the November business meeting.
- 11) The Keene Public Library has set aside four Thursday's in February to host astronomy presentations in their auditorium. Before our November business meeting we need to meet with Gail to work out the details of what topics and presenters we need to contact. Jim Fox will contact Gail on the date and time to meet. Jim Faux to check on possible past SOVERA speakers. One NASA topic still outstanding is on Supernova's.
- 12) Keith indicated he talked with a Jon Udell whom is working on a local project called the "elmcity" project. He would like local organizations with web page calendars set up so that when they post on their calendars it shows up on the local event calendar. Perhaps the Keene Sentinel would host this community calendar on its web page. Keith is still pursuing this with Jon.
- 13) Al Kulas of radio station WKBK, 1290 AM called and offered KAA an opportunity to come on his talk show and take live astronomy calls from 5am to 6am any Saturday or Sunday mornings. He will also announce any of our promotions. Junie will be our representative and I will post when this event will take place.

- 14) Keith has **proposed** to run a beginners training classes on operating a 4 ½" Dobsonian telescope. There would be four and possibly five levels of achievement in this class. He would like three of these telescopes and that the classes be held at the observatory. With 2 to 3 people/telescope. Each session would run 45 min to 60 min. The next step would advance to the 12 ½" Newtonian telescope. The Faux's and Keith both indicated they would purchase a Dob. Keith to look into any possible grants for telescopes thru KSC. And Jim to check with Gail about any library grants. Gail indicated the library would be pleased to host the training sessions along with a possible grant to cover some of the expenses. This discussion was tabled to the November business meeting, as Keith was unable to attend the October meeting.
- 15) KAA to continue checking into personal and car liability insurance for club. I am pursuing this request.
- 16) The club members thank Jim and Phinie Faux for their generous donation to fund and maintain our web site for 2010.
- 17) The KAA members want to welcome Chelsea Agee as our newest club member. Chelsea became interested in pursuing astronomy after taking one of Keith's astronomy classes.
- 18) Club members accepted Junie's offer to donate to the club three six-inch, f/8, Criterion telescopes for our use and as loaners to club members. The only thing that is needed for all three of the telescopes is mounting bases. Junie along with any other club members that would like to assist him in building the three Dobsonian bases are welcome to do so. Just contact Junie at 603-835-6182.
- 19) The election of officers was voted on and the present officers were retained at their present positions.
- 20) The 2010 dues are now due and the costs are the same as last year.

