

KAA March 15, 2013 business meeting summary

On-going Business

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the March 15th meeting are: 6, 7, 8 & in this section and all items under *New Business* below.
- 2) The next Observatory work session will be scheduled for next spring. The date to be determined.
 - a. Spring 2013 - loppers to continue to cut tree saplings along west side stonewall.
 - b. Apply Chrecoat on base plates and roof support members.
 - c. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - d. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
 - e. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP.
 - f. Procure and install new 1/8" cables for opening and closing the observatory roof. (Spring 2013)
 - g. Replace portions of existing roll off roof deteriorating wood beams. (Spring 2013)
 - h. Scrape and paint outside of observatory. On hold pending obtaining new siding.
- 3) The Six Dobsonian telescope bases and side supports are in Junie's possession. Some assembly issues, per Junie, have arisen on the prototype. Until they are corrected the date for assembling all of the bases is on hold.
- 4) The Obsession telescope issue:
 - a. The Obsession was checked out and determined that the primary mirror needs to be moved closer to the secondary mirror. There is also a possibility that the secondary mirror maybe undersized. This mirror primary correction and secondary mirror checkout will be done in the spring.
- 5) It was determined that the Observatory siding should be up graded to vinyl but the process of doing it needs to be ironed out. We have a order request into ReNew in Bratt for used vinyl siding. If we have to purchase new siding it will need to be done in stages do to the \$750 cost.
Considerations:
 - One side per year – minimize cost
 - Vinyl side of the square walls of the observatory; scrape/prime/paint the A-of-the-roof sides
 - What is outside help?
Local optic? – Bruce
 - Putnam Foundation
- 6) Jim Fox to contact Jonathan Weis at Dublin to see how things are going with their telescope and the astronomy program.
- 7) The tool kits vary in their usage some are more designed for a science school curriculum and some are designed for handouts at astronomy events. We will be pursuing both these possibilities.
- 8) We are presently looking at Friday April 19th for our annual spring dinner at Papagallos.

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Completed Items

- 1) All of the tool kits have been reviewed and they will all reside a Jim and Phinie's.
 - 1) The calendars from "The Planetary Society" have both been raffled off at the KPL astronomy presentations.
 - 2) The KAA slides now on CD were transferred Jim Faux and he has put some of them up on our web site under the features heading.
 - 3) A viewing of the comet Pan-Stars for Saturday March 16th at the Otter Brook Dam at 7:30pm unfortunately was weathered out

New Business

- 1) Jim and Phinie have just received another tool kit from NSN, which will be reviewed at the April business meeting.
- 2) Junie was able to have five copies of the NSN Magnetic Sun made, which I have three and Jim and Phinie have two. Bob has three science teachers to contact for the video review.
- 3) Junie to review all tool kits to let the two science teachers he works with, Kim Lewis and Lisa Rust know what's available in them. Both these teachers will be reviewing the video also.
- 4) Jim Faux has added a new item in the features heading titled videos and lectures. Please check it out and if there is any thing you would like to add to this item, please let Jim know.
- 5) The April 12th meeting originally scheduled at the Taylor's has been moved to our usual site at KSC in the YSC at 7pm.
- 6) Bruce Norlund at the April meeting will do a talk on the Apollo Mission. He has a relative that was involved in the mission.
- 7) Gail is interested in KAA doing more outreach observing and teaching. She will be submitting an outline to Bob within the next few weeks.
- 8) On Saturday March 9th KAA conducted an observing session at Ashuelot Park for some home schooled children and their parents.