

KAA September 6, 2013 business meeting summary

file on far modified not main
 March close 15th open 24th
 June? - Brown? Tim in Brown
 April - OK. Not modified
 May 2nd not done

On-going Business

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the October 4th meeting at Keene State College are: 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 11, 12, 13, & 14 and all of the new business items.
- 2) **The next Observatory work session is scheduled for September 14th from 9am to noon. The work to be tackled is items C, E and H if needed. Jim Fox has mowed the field within the last few weeks.**
 - a. Apply Chreocoat on base plates and roof support members.
 - b. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - c. **Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory. 75% Completed.**
 - d. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets when he can.
 - e. **Replace coated 1/8" wire cable for opening and closing the observatory roof.**
 - f. Replace portions of existing roll off roof deteriorating wood beams. (Fall 2013)
 - g. Scrape and paint outside of observatory. On hold pending obtaining new siding.
 - h. **Mow field if needed.**
- 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. **Brackets need to be fabricated (by Junie when time permits) to hold 6" telescope tubes on 1/2" bases plates.**
- 4) The Obsession telescope issue: **The primary mirror was moved 3/16" closer to the secondary mirror to improve clarity under high magnification. The optics were tested and found the image came in focus under high magnification where it had not before, but under high magnification the image was vibrating considerably. The vibration may be caused by the floor, which will be tested in September by setting the telescope up outside on the ground. If that doesn't stop the vibrating then the problem is internal to the telescope.**
- 5) It was determined that the Observatory siding should be up graded to vinyl. Our only option seems to be to purchase new siding because our other possible options have evaporated. This is not an eminent problem. It will need to be done in stages do to the \$750 cost.
 - o One side per year - minimize cost
 - o Vinyl side the square walls of the observatory only; scrape/prime/paint the A-of-the-roof.
- 6) Jim Faux has tried to contact Jonathan Weis at Dublin School to see how things are going with their telescope and the astronomy program and see if it is possible for us to come for an observing session and get an update on their high tech facility. **To date Jim has not heard from Jonathan.**
- 7) Gail is interested in KAA doing more outreach observing and teaching for the Library. Bob will be doing a "hands-on" loaner telescope training and providing the basics of finding objects in the sky using sky charts Thursday September 12th at 6:30pm at KPL.
- 8) Junie suggested that we look into purchasing a hydrogen-alpha solar telescope with the anticipation of doing public solar observing. This would allow us to view solar eruptions as well as sun spot activity. Used HA telescopes at this time anyway seem to not be available and a new one would be cost prohibited at \$700, so other avenues will be investigated. This item is still being pursued and should have some concrete information at the **October** business meeting.
- 9) KAA and the library will set up an event for viewing the comet "Ison" in November or December at Ashuelot Park or the Otter Brook Dam depending on its arrival date and location in the sky. Gail indicated the International moon viewing will take place October 12th at the Ashuelot Park starting at 6pm

OCT 14th

Rusty
 2014
 COMESA
 1/2/2014

Rusty
 COMESA
 1/2/2014

COMESA
 1/2/2014

Dues & Elections -
 (now)

LOOK AT 2014 schedule

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- 10) The October presentation will be on collimating your telescope by Junie at KSC in the YSC at 7pm. Jim Fox will also do a short presentation on the Higgs Boson at either at the Oct or Nov. meeting
- 11) The November presentation will be on double stars by Jim and Phinie either at their home or at KSC.
- 12) Bob is to contact Gail to set up a meeting with her about the February astronomy presentation at the library.
- 13) Bob has scheduled an observing sessions at the Stoddard elementary school for 3rd through 5th grades on Friday ~~September 13th~~ at 7pm. There will be a short introduction of what to observe in the fall sky. *OCT 11 12pm 7:00/4:45*
- 14) Gail is interested in KAA doing more out reach observing and teaching for the Library. Bob will be doing a "hands-on" loaner telescope training and providing the basics of finding objects in the sky using sky charts Thursday September 12th at 6:30pm at KPL

*South
Wind*

Completed Items

- 1) Jim and Phinie conducted an excellent presentation on the web site "Heavens Above" we were impressed with all the astronomy information that is available on this site as well as tracking the ISS and Iridium flares.

New Business

- 1) KAA members want to welcome our newest members Paul and Susan Cezanne.
- 2) Jim and Phinei have received a tool kit recently titled "Life in the Universe" and will be receiving two more within the week.
- 3) A topic Jim Faux would like us to explore and have a presentation on early next year is variable stars.

*John P. ~~Stoddard~~ To do me on
variable stars*