

KAA September 7, 2012 business meeting summary

On-going Business

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the October meeting are: 2, 4 in this section and all items under *New Business* below.
- 2) The next Observatory work session is scheduled for Saturday September 22 at 9pm. Items in bold are scheduled for the work session.
 - a. Mow field. (completed 9/11/12)
 - b. Weed whip round observatory and use loppers to cut tree saplings along west side stone wall.**
 - c. Finish removing last 25% of bottom 8" of wall particleboard.**
 - d. Apply Chreocoat on base plates and roof support members.
 - e. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - f. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
 - g. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP.
 - h. Procure and install new 1/8" cables for opening and closing the observatory roof. (Spring 2013)
 - i. Replace portions of existing roll off roof deteriorating wood beams. (Spring 2013)
 - j. Scrape and paint outside of observatory.
 - k. Fix the small screw holes in roof.**
- 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 12 1/2" Newtonian and Obsession telescope issues:
 - a. The Telrad doesn't line-up with the finder scope and focuser. Need to determine Telrad alignment issue and correct it. **Telrad To be checked out at next observing session September 15th.**
 - b. The Obsession mirror and focuser need to be aligned. The mirror was jostled and needs to be reset at the base. The way the secondary mirror is attached to the spider vane also needs to be re-thought.
- 5) KAA has joined the Night Sky Network of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and our event listing qualified us for the Venus Transit tool kit. We should be receiving it shortly. Jim Faux to see what logos may be put on our web site from NSN or JPL.
- 6) KAA will send members the link to the NSN web site.

Old Items discussed

- The next observatory work session will be Saturday August 29th starting at 9am till noon. The items to be addressed are b, c, k and possibility j. Jim Fox will do a mowing prior to the work session.
- Junie gave a great presentation for 30 kids and adult at the Chesterfield Library. As usual – a great success.
- FETTSS – A meeting was held with Gail on Tuesday the 17th of April and it was decided to not pursue any additional letters or follow up calls in pursuit of additional funds for the library photo exhibit. Gail has found a possible deal for \$1.05 for a 13" x 19" digital photo. Gail is going to purchase 10 of them and then evaluate their quality. The next step after Gail gets the photo's is to meet with her and review them and decide how they can be displayed. KAA may purchase some photos also if the quality is good to post at the observatory. Phinie

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found at staples for \$9.95 you can get a digital photo mounted on a 20" x 24" hard board, which she is going purchase one for review at our next meeting. **KAA has decided that the photo selection made by Gail is a good choice and that we will not pursue any further possibilities.**

New Business

- 1) Jim Fox and Bob Taylor cleaned the Obsession mirror a couple of weeks ago and placed washers on the main shaft of the secondary mirror to allow for easier adjustment and also placed pads on main mirror adjustment brackets to give more mirror adjustment for focusing at higher magnification. The next step is to check out the optics at our next observing session September 15th or sooner.
- 2) Junie gave us two trays of archive slides that he would like the club to scan and record digitally. Sometime in the next few months the slides will be reviewed on a projector and determined how to proceed. Jim Faux now has the slides.
- 3) The Keene Library has requested that KAA conduct another International Moon Observing night scheduled for Saturday September 22nd. We have indicated we will and it will take place at 6:30pm at the Ashuelot park across from Panera's on West Street. The Keene Library has also been provided the Molten Moon exhibit which will be on display during the week.
- 4) Cheryl told us of a great astronomy convention in Deerfield, MA called the Conjunction. She indicated the speakers were great, the observing was very good and it was very reasonably priced. She would like to have us put the convention on our next year's calendar, which we will do. You can check the convention out at conjunction@springfieldmuseums.org.
- 5) KAA will do an observing session for the Kiwanis Club either in October between the 22nd and 25th at 7pm or between November 20th and 23rd at 6pm. Jim Faux will submit these dates to the Kiwanis Club.
- 6) A reminder - KAA officer elections are scheduled for the November meeting.