

KAA September 18, 2009 business meeting summary

- 1) The September work session has been set for Saturday the 12th starting at 9am and should be completed by noon. The remaining Observatory work items to be tackled 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 posts
 - g. install concrete base and roof track support member in north west corner
- 2) Work completed by September 12th:
 - a. painting of south side
 - b. one large stone removed from drive way
 - c. field mowed
 - d. bottom portion of steel posts painted
 - e. two support braces installed on north east corner roof track support member.
- 3) Junie has the fabrication set-up and material to make two new roof brackets for installation during next springs work session, with the remaining four brackets to be made and installed next summer.
- 4) Additional information on the clubs purpose is being generated.
- 5) 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.
- 6) 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.
- 7) The Chesterfield Library observing session is scheduled for September 25th at 7pm.
- 8) Starting September 18th the business meetings will take place at Keene State College in the Young Student Center starting at 7pm. The September presentation by Keith on “how to observe using the new finder scope installed on the 12 ½” Newtonian telescope and a video on how to open the observatory was postponed until the October 16th business meeting .
- 9) KAA to purchase the two digital pictures taken of the club telescope that are available from the “Keene Sentinel” at \$10 each. Jim to procure.
- 10) Discussed the July work party dinner to be held after October 16th. The restaurant, date and time still need to be determined at the October meeting.
- 11) A decision on when to do the sidewalk observing in Keene has been postponed until the October meeting.
- 12) 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.
- 13) Jim Fox to talk with Gail about the possibility of getting another high profile NASA speaker for the Keene Library in the early spring and for her to do an astronomy book review presentation in late spring. One NASA topic still outstanding is on Supernova’s. Gail is planning on having four presentations and a book review starting some time in January.
- 14) Keith would like links to speakers that did presentations for the “Visions of the Universe”, which hopefully are available through Gail? This information is presently available on the library web site.
- 15) 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

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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.

- 16) Starting in September KAA is going to initiate one floating observing night per month, which would theoretically give three observing sessions per month. With all the bad weather this summer on our regularly scheduled observing nights we felt an impromptu observing session initiated by any one in the club would give us at least one good observing session per month. How it would work is by
 - a. A phone tree by calling me first at 802-257-9358.
 - b. If I don't answer the second person to call is Jim Fox at 603-357-8400.
 - c. Jim or I will contact all the other members.

The deal is whom ever initiates the call must man the telescopes or find someone to help them with observing. Also non-key holding members need to have a member with a key join them. I assume between Keith, Jim Fox and I one of us should be available.

- 17) 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. Al indicated he would like to come to one of our meetings, but our meeting and observing schedules conflict with his work. I will contact Al and see if we could schedule a special meeting/observing time so that he could join us. I have sent an E-mail to Al and I'm waiting a response.
- 18) 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.
- 19) KAA to continue checking into personal and car liability insurance for club. I will pursue this request.
- 20) After the meeting we adjourned to the observatory and had a very good viewing session. Saturday's observing session was also fantastic and we saw a huge fireball, what a site. Finally two good clear sky nights in a row.