## KAA MONTHLY MEETING October 16, 2015 Minutes

[Note: Corrected notes are italicized and underlined.]

**Location:** Keene State College

<u>Present</u>: Cheryl Burrows, Junie Esslinger, Jim/Phinie Faux, Carol Littleton, Bruce Norlund, Paul O'Neill, Angel/Suzanne Rosario, Bob Taylor

# **Secretary's Report**:

• The Secretary's report for September was accepted as submitted.

#### **Treasurer's Report**:

• Bob indicated our club balance remained at \$1,217.12.

## **Upcoming Events:**

- *Stay tuned for* possible on-the-fly future club observing sessions. Notifications with details will be by email from Bob if and when clear skies re-appear.
- Monthly observing: Saturday, 10/17. Bob will email the club members by noon Saturday regarding the go/no-go for Saturday evening. Members of the Keene UUC plan to join us.
- Our next club meeting will be on November 13th at 7:00pm at KSC.
- The November 14<sup>th</sup> scheduled observing session will be at the club observatory, weather permitting, and beginning at 7:00pm.
- Julie is organizing an observing session for her MRHS students at 6:30pm next Tuesday, the 20<sup>th</sup>, at her HS on Rt.32 past the airport. Bring your telescope and/or binocular.
- <u>Mike Swartz's wife Stacie with the friends of the library are</u> looking for us to present an introductory session on astronomy at the Fitzwilliam Library. Bob is checking to determine the desired scope of the presentation and plans to check out the condition of their loaner telescope.

## **Old Business:**

None

#### **New Business:**

- Astronomical league digital editions update. Members discussed whether they have received the digital and/or paper editions of the recent issues and it was mixed. Bob, the club AL contact, will canvas members to see who has received the September digital and/or paper issue.
- Club elections for 2016. The results of the elections are: President Bob Taylor, Vice-President Carol Littleton, Secretary Jim Faux, and Treasurer Bob Taylor. Congratulations for stepping up! And thank you Angel for your excellent efforts as Vice-President. We will miss you and Suzanne and wish both of you the best on your new adventures.
- Annual dues. The annual 2016 dues of \$20 are now due to Treasurer Bob. Send your check to Bob, payable to: Keene Amateur Astronomers, at: P.O. Box 467, W. Drummerston, VT, or bring your \$20 to the November meeting. The Reflector is an additional \$7.50.
- Update on the 12.5" equatorial mounted telescope. <u>The 12,5" telescope is fine for observing any objects</u>, <u>but without being able to polar align the telescope you can't just dial in the objects coordinates on the RA and DE setting circles and find the desired objects</u>. We again discussed the issue of staying with it or replacing the scope with a newer up-to-date one. However, most

members have their own telescope for viewing and the 12.5 could just be used for planetary observing. Junie and Bob are planning on examining the alignment of both our large Observatory telescopes.

• NH State nonprofit organization report and fee. The five-year NH state business report and fee of \$25 is due by 12.31. Bob is on it.

# **Meeting Activities:**

- Bob gave a hands-on demonstration of how to set-up and use an equatorial mounted telescope using the donated 4" telescope will continue this with an explanation of the collimating process at the November meeting.
- Astronomical League's Constellation Hunter Program. Angel passed out our quizzes for the month's constellations: Delphinus, Equuleus, Sagitta, Vulpecula. Our new constellations for October are: Aquarius, Cepheus, Lacerta, Pegasus. The club members are very appreciative of Angel's efforts in encouraging us to learn more about the northern constellations. And happily, new Vice-President Carol volunteered to continue Angel's efforts for the coming year. Quizzes and all!

Jim Faux October 16, 2015