

# MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2015

[Attention: Hyperlinks Below]

**Location:** Rhonda and Karen's home

**Present:** Jim & Phinie Faux, Carol Littleton, Rhonda McLeod, Angel Rosario, Karen Walter.

**Secretary's Report:**

- Jim Faux reviewed the minutes from the July meeting and they were approved without changes. Membership remains at 22.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- President Bob reported the balance as of July 30, 2015 is: \$1217.12 compared to the June 30, 2015 balance of approximately: \$1,216.00.

**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.
- Our next club meeting will be on September 11th at 7pm at KSC.
- The September 12<sup>th</sup> scheduled observing session will be at the club observatory, weather permitting, and beginning at 7:00pm.
- The Springfield, VT, Steampunk Festival - <http://springfieldvtsteampunkfest.com/>. Check out the site. Claudio and friends plan on doing some astronomy that Saturday night for the event. A talk or two inside and then some observing. Our club members are invited. Bring your telescope and/or binocular. When you go, remember to wear your KAA t-shirt and cap! Contact [Claudio](#) for further information.

**Old Business:**

- New club t-shirts. We still have a number of new t-shirts in various sizes. Contact Bob if you are interested. The cost is only \$20. We have sizes: 5-XL, 2-M. We also have two club hats left.
- The astrophotography subgroup. Due to members' personal schedules this time of the year, the subgroup will resume formal meetings in the fall after setting the meeting schedule at the September meeting.

**New Business:**

- Club observing reports:
- Perseid Reports: Members present did view the meteors. While not in abundance, there was a good show over several nights last week.
- Observing Reports: Only views of the setting moon.
- For the September meeting: Bob's overview of the Stellafane Convention.
- For the October meeting: Bob will give a hands-on demonstration of how to set-up and use an equatorial mounted telescope using the donated 4" telescope at the October meeting, and practice collimating it.
- The observatory will be mowed and weed-wacked in the coming week[s]. The sudden infestation of ants around the northeast corner was haled with ant and termite spray. It will bear watching.

- Club Officers. With a healthy 22 members and the coming fall club elections, the members discussed the opportunities for all of us to consider stepping up into one of the leadership positions. See the attached officers' responsibilities descriptions.

### **Meeting Activities:**

#### **Astronomical League's Constellation Hunter Program by Angel**

Angel continued our on-going program series for the club: The Astronomical League's Constellation Hunter Program. For July, the focus has been: Draco, Hercules, Serpens Cauda, and Serpens Caput. Members' tasks were to learn about these three, observe and sketch the constellations, be able to identify major features and names in the constellations, and identify the adjacent constellations.

Angel gave each of us a written quiz [personal learning exercise] on each of the constellations where we identified the major stars and neighboring interesting objects and constellations.

For August, the constellations are: Lyra, Aquila, Cygnus.

<https://www.astroleague.org/al/obsclubs/consthunt/const.html>

The purpose is to help all of us learn the sky as a group. The monthly schedule will include constellations visible that time of the year between 10-11 pm nightly. Upon completion of the 12-months study and completion of your monthly logs and sketches, you will receive an AL pin and certificate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Faux, Secretary  
August 22, 2015