

## KAA November 15, 2012 business meeting summary

### On-going Business

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting are: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9 in this section and all items under *New Business* below.
- 2) The next Observatory work session will be scheduled for next spring. The date to be determined.
  - a. Spring 2013 - loppers to continue to cut tree saplings along west side stonewall.
  - b. Apply Chreocoat on base plates and roof support members.
  - c. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
  - d. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
  - e. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP.
  - f. Procure and install new 1/8" cables for opening and closing the observatory roof. (Spring 2013)
  - g. Replace portions of existing roll off roof deteriorating wood beams. (Spring 2013)
  - h. Scrape and paint outside of observatory. On hold pending obtaining new siding.
- 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 Obsession telescope issue:
  - a. **To be checked during the observing session November 17<sup>th</sup> 2012-** The Obsession focusing needs to be checked – mirror alignment - sharpness of the optics. Junie indicated primary mirror may be pinched. Junie will do a complete checkout of telescope ASAP.
- 5) KAA has joined the Night Sky Network of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and we look forward to future events with them. Jim Faux to see what logos may be put on our web site from NSN or JPL and determine requirements for future event gifts. Jim Faux to contact NSN prior to our December meeting.
- 6) **KAA archive slides – Bruce to bring his blow-the-dust-off 35mm projector to next meeting, Jim Faux to bring the slides and we will show them at Bruce's home at the December meeting to understand what we have for history.** 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.
- 7) The 2013 observing schedule was submitted for review and will be finalized at the December business meeting.
- 8) The 2013 membership dues are now due. The dues are the same as last year as follows:

Single/family KAA membership – \$20.00.

Single/family KAA membership including Astronomical League membership – \$27.50.

Please make checks payable to "Keene Amateur Astronomers, Inc."

Please mail payments to:

Keene Amateur Astronomers

C/O Bob Taylor

P.O. Box 467

West Dummerston, VT 05357

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9) It was determined that the Observatory siding should be up graded to vinyl but the process of doing it needs to be ironed out. We have a order request into ReNew in Bratt for used vinyl siding. If we have to purchase new siding it will need to be done in stages do to the \$750 cost.

Considerations:

- One side per year – minimize cost
- Vinyl side of the square walls of the observatory; scrape/prime/paint the A-of-the-roof sides
- What is outside help?  
Local optic? – Bruce
- Putnam Foundation

### Completed Items

- 1) **The next step is to check out the optics at our next observing session October 20.** 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.
- 2) **Observing – KAA open to any dates Kiwanis members would be available. With winter daylight we can do early evening observing. It is cold.** - KAA will do an observing session for the Kiwanis Club either in October between the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm or between November 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm. Jim Faux will submit these dates to the Kiwanis Club. Neither of these options will work for the Kiwanis club so we will pursue other possibilities.
- 3) The election of officers was conducted and the officers remain the same as last year: Jim Fox – President. Phinie Faux – Vice President. Bob Taylor Secretary and Treasurer.
- 4) Keene Library reconnect – Jim Fox to call Gail to understand
  - a. Several KAA members met with Gail at Panera's for lunch to discuss the February presentations for the KPL. We came up with a number of hot topics and Gail will pursue finding speakers for these topics. KAA will set up telescopes for viewing after the presentations.
  - b. KAA will also discuss KAA and KPL cooperation with the Night Sky Network . (JPL/NASA) projects.

### New Business

- 1) KAA in conjunction with KPL will conduct a moon viewing scheduled Thursday December 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup> between 5:30pm and 7:30pm in the Ashuelot park in Keene.
- 2) Jim Fox to contact Jonathan Weis at Dublin to see how things are going with their telescope and the astronomy program.