

KAA November 5, 2010 business meeting summary

- 1) The remaining Observatory work items to be tackled next spring are:
 - a. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - b. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
 - c. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP.
- 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) Jim Fox has a punch list on how to track loaned telescopes, amount of telescope deposit, length of loan, how many eyepieces to be included per telescope, how to assess any telescope damage and cost to borrowers, who can borrow them and etc. Jim will scan his punch list and email it to me for distribution to members for their comments. The telescope loan document will be finalized at the December meeting.
- 5) A meeting took place at the Dublin School October 19th with John Weis and four KAA members. We reviewed their system capability, did some observing and discussed conducting a live observing program via video transmission to the Keene Library. We are presently in the process of setting up another visit to Dublin the week of Nov. 8th to address some telescope mechanical issues and the live observing program.
- 6) Jim Fox and I met with Gail and she has set aside December 7th and 14th along with every Tuesday in February for astronomy presentations at the Keene Public library. To date no speakers have been chosen that we're aware of. Therefore, I'm to contact Gail on the 8th to see how things are shaping up.
- 7) Dale Moore gave a great presentation on "GALAXY ZOO". He had terrific handouts and explained how to be a part of this tremendous project and about all the new ZOO items you can get involved with. It's a lot of fun, interesting and very helpful scientifically. Just google "galaxy zoo" sign up and you're on your way helping to categorizing objects in space.
- 8) KAA is going to generate a member list with phone numbers and email addresses, which will be available to all members. This list will be available by December. Anyone not wanting his or her name on the list, please let me know ASAP.
- 9) Obsession issues
 - a. Determine if a ramp for the Obsession telescope is necessary to get it in and out of the observatory when taking it on the road or just breaking it down and reassembling it at the location is on hold until the optics issues are resolved and the cart handle configuration is modified.
 - b. One other issue with the 15" Obsession is its carrying cart. The handles are only 6" off the floor and need to be modified so the telescope can be lifted and moved while in a standing position rather than in a bent over position. Junie is looking into a new handle arrangement.
- 10) Investigate buying and installing a 2" focuser and new mounting plate for 12 1/2" telescope. Should order focuser first and then match mounting plate to it. Junie has ordered two focusers thru Tony that have not arrived yet. Once they are in we will evaluate them.
- 11) After Dale's presentation we adjourned to Sullivan and worked on the 15" telescope. The primary mirror was collimated. During the collimating process

KAA November 5, 2010 business meeting summary

we found the secondary mirror assembly very loose. We changed out the main washer that improved its stability, but the fine adjustment nuts were too difficult to adjust so new ones will need to be purchased and installed. Until this assembly is fixed and working properly the star test is on hold. Once the star test is done Junie will determine if a finder scope purchase for this telescope would be beneficial.

- 12) A work session will take place November 13th at 9am at Sullivan to
 - a. relocate wall cabinet
 - b. Remove the bottom portion of wall particle board and any other damaged sections. Jim to look into taking removed particleboard to the dump some Saturday morning. Also determine if we could use existing foam paneling as a bulletin board.
 - c. Contact new tenants across entrance to observatory and explain who and what we are, and to let them know their welcome to join us at our observing sessions. We need their email and phone number to keep them in the loop. This is to also help with the lights should we do outside the observatory observing.
 - d. Phil's plaque is in the observatory and will be installed.
- 13) We are going to explore with John the possibility of have an observing session at Dublin. It is a very impressive facility.
- 14) We are very sorry to report that a past member of our club passed away unexpectedly, Lisa Henkel. She was a very dedicated member who served as Vice President and was our original web page designer, installer and maintainer of the site for many years.
- 15) I will generate the 2011 business and observing sessions schedule, which will be presented at the December business meeting for review and approval.
- 16) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the December meeting are: 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 13 & 15..
- 17) Just a reminder that the 2011 club dues are now due.