

KAA Monthly Business Meeting Summary
December 5, 2025

Location: Bruce Norlund's home

Time: 7pm to 8:50pm

Present: Susan Rolke, Kevin McCormick, Bruce Norlund, Jeff Luebke, Ed Lotkowski and Bob Taylor.

Secretary's Report: The November business meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Upcoming events:

- * Our next business meeting will not be until April 17th at 7pm at Phinie Faux's, 66 Skyline Drive, Keene, NH. Observing is scheduled for the 18th at 7pm at the Sullivan Observatory.
- * Friday December 12th from 7pm to 8:30pm at the Brentwood golf course the Cheshire County 4H club members observing event will take place, weather permitting. There is no back up date. **This event has been canceled due to inclement weather conditions.**
- * Susan Rolke will be presenting her talk on Chile for the Civil Air Patrol at the Keene Airport January 7th at 6pm. **This event is closed to the public.**
- * Susan Rolke will be doing her talk on Chile at the Jaffrey Library soon, but no date has been set yet.
- * Susan Rolke will be conducting her Chile talk at the Moore Free Library in Newfane, VT on Sunday May 31st at 3pm.

Old Business:

- * Saturday November 29th at 7am on WKBK 1290 AM radio Susan Rolke's interview about her trip to Chile will be aired. **Susan indicated the 22 minute interview went well with many basic questions and short answers. Susan indicated the interview was recorded and when she receives the recording she will send it to us. There may be a follow up interview, which will be more in depth questions.**
- * Observatory work items needing to be completed is the replacement of the rotted sill plate at the observatory entrance, removal of the remaining trees on the south barrier, painting a second coat of paint on the observatory trim, fixing the roof nail leak on the west side, removing a couple of rocks and a tree root from the driveway and filling in some low spots in the driveway with dirt from the south side dirt mound.

New Business:

- * Bob submitted the 2026 business and observing schedule, which will be attached to this report.

New business, continued

- * Susan Rolke recently started an astronomy face book page titled “Keene Astronomy” and to date has 100 followers. She is going to have it linked to our website so we can also receive the latest astronomy news.
- * Junie Esslinger feels the 15” Obsession Telescope is only performing at a 13” level. Therefore we will be gathering information Junie has requested so he can determine how to advise us as to what corrections or modification are needed to achieve the 15” design, if he feels it’s possible.
- * Susan has submitted the December newsletter, which has several great Aurora photos taken by club members, the retrograde of Jupiter, the search for planet 9, Messier objects to look for this month and detailed December sky maps to find these objects. **Susan is requesting everyone to send in any observing photo’s you have taken recently and/or an astronomy topic you found interesting or a topic you would like to know more about, please send them to her at “susanrbr@hotmail.com”**
- * In an effort to consolidate all our archival material in one place so it’s accessible to all members the Observatory is the logical location, but how to store them safely from critters and the elements is the next question. We first need to determine how much needs to be stored and then determine a containment system for it. **Bob has contacted Junie to see how much material he has and Junie will contact Bob when he has it ready to submit. Once all the archival material has been gathered it needs to be sorted and a master list of the items in the container generated so members will know what material is available and be able to quickly locate the item(s).**
- * Jeff Luebke has now gotten the 12 ½” telescope running very smoothly so anyone can maneuver it very easily.
- * November first starts our new fiscal year, which means 2026 dues are now due at this time, which are the same as last year as indicated below.

Single/family membership - \$20.00

Single/family membership including the Astronomical League membership is \$29.00.

The AL membership allows you to receive awards (certificate and a pin) for completing their astronomy programs and the quarterly “Reflector Magazine”.

Please make checks out to the “Keene Amateur Astronomers, Inc.

Please mail payment to:

Ed Lotkowski

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Peterborough, NH 03458