

KAA Monthly Business Meeting
October 4, 2024

Location: KSC in the YSC
Time: 7pm to 8:30pm

Present: Aram Alcalayand, Bruce Norlund, Ed Lotkowski Susan Rolke and Bob Taylor.

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

Upcoming events:

- * Our next business meeting will be December 6th at 7pm at Bruce Norlund's home at 267 Gilsum Street Keene. Phone # 603 357-1427. The meeting at Bruce's is a nice year end holiday festive meeting. The November meeting is canceled.
- * The Frost Free library in Marlborough, NH has requested KAA do an observing session there this fall. **The observing session will be November 4th. At 7pm. The Exact location of observation has yet to be determined at this time.**
- * Susan Grover the principal of the Symonds elementary school in Keene is interested in having an observing session this fall.
- . * Julie Farhm is looking to have KAA do an observing session this fall with her astronomy class. **No date has been set as yet**

Old Business:

- * Observatory work: At this time completing the observatory Vinyl siding of the north and south peaks is on hold, but looking to tackle it sometime this year.
- * A 2" X 2" X 20' transition strip on the south side of the observatory is rotted and needs to be replaced or protected in some way to prevent further damage. The rubber flap tare on the north east side has been temporally repaired but needs a permanent fix. A rotted 4"x4"x12" piece under the roof track at the north west corner needs to be shored up or replaced. There are two roof leaks on the east side that need to be repaired. There is also a new roof leak at the north west corner of the building, which has renewed carpenter ant activity producing considerable wood shavings causing wood damage. The observatory corners of the building need to be painted. **Junie this past Friday has repaired the east side roof leaks and removed a couple of rusted cabinets and an old burning barrel. Further investigation after a rain storm verified that Junie has indeed repaired all the roof leaks. The leak in the NW corner of the observatory thought to be from the roof is actually from the metal track that the roof rolls off on. Junie will investigate that track problem and drill appropriate weep holes to eliminate the water leak that's causing rotting wood and carpenter ant problems.**
- . * The Town has widen Tyler lane road especially at our driveway entrance, which has created a considerable high entrance into our driveway, which needs to be lowered to make the entrance easier especially for low frame cars.

New Business:

- * Susan has submitted the October newsletter, which details her astronomy ambassador trip to Chili to see several of the large telescopes and teach an astronomy class to students in Chili. There is also information about the comet Tsuchingham Atlas coming on October 14th in the western sky and sky maps of specific viewing objects in October. There are interesting articles about each of these events along with links which provide more detail information about the events. The newsletter can be found on our website at “keeneastronomy.org”. **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”**
- * A work session is set for Saturday October 19th from 9am to noon at the Observatory. **The main work to be tackled is the brush and tree removal on the south property boundary and trimming around the observatory and work on lowering the driveway entrance. We also need to take a close look at the south transition piece rot and determine a possible fix.**
- * Election of officers for 2025. **There were no contested officer positions for 2025 and it was voted unanimously for the current officers, which are: Bob Taylor president, Junie Esslinger VP, Bruce Norlund secretary, Ed lotkowski Treasurer, and Gabe Klueh webmaster.**
- * Bob scraped and painted two metal cabinets white. The metal roof support posts and two corner trim sections of the observatory need to be painted still, which Bob is working on.
- * As mentioned earlier comet Tsuchingham Atlas will be visible October 14th to the 24th. There is also the possibility of a brighter second comet coming soon.
- * Bob presented an introduction on the Milankovitch Cycle in September to be discussed further in October. There was much more very detail information presented about the Milankovitch cycle Friday showing what the future global weather is projected to be based on 3 cyclical earth cycles.
- * Bob presented information about our new mini moon asteroid 2024 PT5, which arrived September 29th and will exit November 25th, which produced a very good discussion about it. We also talked about what the ionosphere is and the different layers of our atmosphere.
- * Our fiscal new year starts November 1, so the 2025 dues are due in October and they are the same as last year at \$20.00, but the Astronomical League dues are up from \$7.50 to \$9.00.

Single/family membership - \$20.00.

Singlefamily membership including the Astronomical League membership is \$29.00.

The AL membership allows you to get awards for completing their astronomy programs and the quartely “Reflector magazine”.

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

Please mail payment to:

Ed Lotkowski

105 Kaufmann Drive

Peterborough, NH 03458