

## **DAS E-Board Minutes for SEPTEMBER 16, 2011**

**Officers and Board members present:** Ron Pearson, Pres; Lisa Judd, VP; Dennis Cochran, Sec'y; Brad Gilman, Treas;  
Board members Jack Eastman, Joe Gafford, Chuck Habenicht, Keith Pool, Tim Pimentel, Dave Shouldice, Ron Mickle (PP).

**Observatory Reps present:** Aaron Reid.

**Others members & guests present:** Bill Ormsby, Ivan Geisler.

**Not present:** Dan Wray, Ron Hranac, Darrell Dodge (M & N), Hugh Davidson (Scope Operators), Chadd (IT).

**Previous Minutes** were read, amended and approved.

### **REPORTS:**

**Observatory Report:** Aaron (AR): Telephone work TBD at Chamberlin (CO), will not interfere with other activities.

Question: Condition of 20"? AR has worked on RA clamp, which is still a bit stiff.  
Ron M: Operators could email AR with problems, besides putting them in the log. (Ron uses the 20" for his classes.) Dave S: The RA is harder to move now. Also, please fix the deck lights. Jack E: The RA was once quite easy to move. Suggests conference call with Fred Orthlieb (the old-scope expert from the East who worked on the 20"), Dr. Stencil and AR.

Discussion initiated by Lisa J re private groups using Chamberlin. Groups should check with Aaron R.

**President:** - Darrell D & Ron P to send new members a greeting letter. An old standard letter exists, which they will rewrite; it will include EGKDSS info. Brad G to email old standard letter to Ron P. Also to be rewritten, the donation thank-you letter.

- What address (for DAS) goes on our membership application? It now is Brad G. There is also an address on our web site, which is now CO. AR advised us not to use the CO address. Do we need a PO Box? No conclusion on that. Ron P to print new applications before 10/1/11 Colorado Astronomy Day. (done)

- Status of the Meade 127 given to DAS: It is now at Craig Betsina's. Joe G or Tim P to pick up at Craig's, move it to CO. Lisa J: We also have the C-11 downstairs CO that could go to the EGKDSS. Or these scopes could be auctioned off 10/8/11 or used as loaners. Chuck H: He could keep & maintain the mount, with which he is familiar.

**Veep:** - Xmas Party location: Has checked out some locations. How does the food work @ Xmas Party? It is catered, not potlucked. Need to check out prices at candidate locations. (We should move away from Darrell's church, as it is getting to be a burden on him & Lorraine.) Darrell has suggested a place in Littleton. Criteria: A nice place that will do food we can afford. Games at the Xmas Party? "You might be an amateur astronomer if...." ala Jeff Foxworthy.

**Secretary:** No report. He needs a pencil sharpener.

**Treasurer:** Brad's laptop in CO DAS office will not print. Brooks Observatory worth \$6114 (bldg) plus \$5322 for the donated items (C-14, new corrector plate), for a total of \$11,436. The observatory still needs a floor. Need allocation of \$275 for floor. A motion was made and passed for that allocation. Brad to ask Dr. Stencil the final cost of the 20" fix-up.

**EGKDSS:** Darrell still doing orientations.

**Public Night Teams:** Hugh D absent. Scope team for 9/17 Open House? Brad will be there, Lisa volunteered but is not certified. Dave S: Need something to show on monitors in the dome, for the people waiting there. Discussion followed. Dave would like a folder of items that could be shown - the NSN DVDs?

**IT:** Chadd not present. Trouble with Internet connection, which didn't work at Vesta Fiesta. DU to fix. Dave S: Sky 6 version is now on the 20" scope laptop, and security s/w in the office has been updated.

**Loaner Program:** One out, two available.

**Newsletter:** Do we want to revise the publication date? Patti needs an early submission date, hard to comply with since some info matures later. (note: Patti gets annual membership for doing the Observer.) We could publish it on another date, or bi-monthly. Discussion followed. A motion was made to go to bimonthly publication in 2012, which was narrowly defeated.

**Outreach:** - 8/25 was a star party at The Grange, 80 people attended, with 4 scopes in support.

- DMNS Colo Astro Day upcoming 10/1, lotsa volunteers, talk-givers scheduled. Park & enter on north side. (Access street from 17th torn up.)
- The Rons (H & P) to do meteorite program, solar observing at King Murphy Elementary School.

**Old Business:**

- Stellacam camera has been worked by Ron P. seems OK.
- Brooks Observatory flooring: see above.

**New Business:** - 2012 Calendar review: No Feb Open House, 2 in March (3rd & 31st.) Mars opposition occurs on the 3rd.

- Ron S: Need special event for the Venus Transit 6/6/12.
- Xmas party scheduled for 12/1, a bit early? Move to 8th?
- Lisa J: International Observe-the-Moon-or-Else Night is same date as our auction. (it was rainy)

**Adjournment:** Was motioned, voted and passed.