



# September, 2018

## Notes from the President

The TAAA Board met on September 12, 2018 and some of the topics it addressed include:

- **Tom Rolfsmeyer** gave a presentation about restructuring the **Astro-Imaging Special Interest Group (AISIG)** and getting it going again. The proposal included a specific purpose, objectives, a specific leader and additional shared leadership structure, regular meetings, a plan in which leaders and participants work together, and a list of possible activities. The Board is supportive of the proposal. Tom will hold an organizational meeting for anyone interested in participating in AISIG and/or providing input on **October 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00pm** at the meeting room at the **Total Wine and More Store, 4730 North Oracle Road**. If you are interested in astro-imaging, in being involved in planning, or in learning about it, please participate in this organizational meeting.
- The Board approved two requests from **Connor Justice** on behalf of the **Astronomy Fundamentals Special Interest Group (AFSIG)**. One was a request for a public address system to increase the volume of presentations at the monthly meetings and Astronomy Fundamentals Training. The second was for a new program that with certain paperwork/permissions, AFSIG would be able to record presentations of members at the AFSIG meetings to be shared with members and others. (Note: persons attending the presentation would not be recorded in any identifiable way.)
- In addition, **Gus Gomez** conducted a 5-minute Member Presentation to the Board suggesting the purchase of a specific kind of stickers for telescopes. Gus's interesting suggestion has created a lot of discussion and is under review. We all should pat Gus on the back for being the first TAAA Member to take advantage of the new 5 minute Member Presentation option.
- The Board approved use throughout the club of a **postcard** with basic information about TAAA that was designed by **Jim Knoll** for distribution to members of the public.

TIMPA dates for October are the **6th (Sa)** and **12th (Fri)**.  
CAC dates for October are the **5th (Fri)** and the **6th (Sa)**.

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### \*Star-B-Que\* October 6 (Sa) Chiricahua Astronomy Complex (CAC)

- Gate open at 4:00pm; grill available 4:00-6:30pm
- Member Provides: a dish to share, food to grill for self, grilling own food, chairs as needed
- TAAA Provides: gas grill, paperware/plasticware, condiments, bottled water, hot drink mixings, viewing pads w/electricity, operators for 40" and 14", ramada, picnic tables
- **Come, participate in observing whether or not you wish to grill or eat.**
- **Reservations required for everyone.** Contact Mike McDowell, cac-director @tucson astronomy.org or 206 356-6624

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#### TAAA Trivia!

**Trivia Question 1:** What is the primary TAAA logo? What should members know about the logo?

**Trivia Question 2: a.** Who recently wrote a grant that received a \$3,000 award for the TAAA Gateway to the Galaxy fund-raising campaign? Where did the grant money originate?

**Trivia Question 2: b.** Who recently was accepted to participate in the Astronomical Society of the Pacific "From Pinholes to Space Telescopes: Online Workshop for Informal Educators" and what is the benefit to the person and to TAAA of participation?

**(Trivia answers are at the end of this document.)**

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**Equipment Loaner program:** Contact **Ralph Means** [elc@tucsonastronomy.org](mailto:elc@tucsonastronomy.org), or 520 460-8770 or [bookbuyer1769@gmail.com](mailto:bookbuyer1769@gmail.com) to check out a telescope, lenses or other equipment. You may try one type or size of telescope, return it, and try another one until you have tested all the scopes in our loaner program. Very helpful for choosing a first telescope or for moving to a new option.

The **October TAAA Board meeting** will be on Wednesday the **10th** at **Banner University Medical Center** in meeting Room C (bordering the Banner UMC Cafeteria). Members are welcome to attend. At Board meetings, a member may give a five-minute presentation to the Board on any area of concern or a suggestion that they have for the Board. In planning the schedule for the next Board meetings, the Board will consider that topic and decide about placing it on the Board Agenda for further consideration.

Members wishing to make a 5-minute presentation to the Board should contact Mae Smith at [ssmith@email.arizona.edu](mailto:ssmith@email.arizona.edu) a week (Wed, Oct 5th) prior to the meeting to get on the schedule.

#### Trivia Answers

**Answer to Trivia Q 1:** There have been three TAAA logos. Two were designed for apparel use only. The third and primary TAAA logo design (showing a telescope inside 2 spheres – see top of this communication) exists in two approved versions: one in which the sky is black and the other in which the sky has a particular multicolor design. There are also two acceptable versions of the lettering at the bottom: “T.A.A.A.” or “Est. 1954”. (Having alternate approved versions of organizational logos is common and sometimes necessary to span the range of reproductive needs associated with multiple uses of the logo requiring size variations, different mediums, varied surfaces, etc.) The current Board preference of the spherical design logo options is the specific multicolored sky with the lettering of “Est. 1954”. What should a member know about the TAAA Logo? The TAAA logo is legally trademarked. Thus, how, when and by whom the logo may be used is determined by the TAAA Board acting on behalf of the TAAA membership. Sometimes people feel that because computers allow them to alter things as they wish, they can alter the logo as they wish. That is not true. Actually, any alteration of the TAAA logo is determined by the TAAA Board. Unofficial alterations of the TAAA logo not only should be avoided (or destroyed, if they exist), but may be considered both offensive and illegal.

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**Answer to Trivia Q 2a:** A \$3,000 grant award for the TAAA Gateway to the Galaxy fund-raising campaign from our local Cox Charities was recently acquired by Jim Knoll. Dollars for Cox Charities grants are donated by local Cox employees.

**Answer to Trivia Q 2b: Karen Liptak and Jim Knoll** recently were accepted through a very competitive process to participate in the Astronomical Society of the Pacific’s “From Pinholes to Space Telescopes: Online Workshop for Informal Educators.” This workshop involves training over a four week time period. The training focuses on “optics and the evolution of the telescope, and how telescopes use lenses and mirrors together to organize light to form images of distant objects”. It teaches how these principles relate to the Galileoscope and how to assemble a Galileoscope. There are two subsequent benefits to TAAA: (1) we develop two well-trained leaders in these areas and (2) the Astronomical Society of the Pacific will award TAAA with 24 Galileoscopes for us to help members of the public assemble and, then, donate the scopes to them for their personal use.

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