



November, 2018

Notes from the President

The TAAA Board met on November 14, 2018. Some of the topics it addressed include:

- **Ralph Means** provided an inventory of and policies for the TAAA **Equipment Loan Program** located at TIMPA. The Board made a decision that while smaller scopes, in general, may be checked out and taken home. Certain telescopes may only be loaned on site at TIMPA or CAC. Also, loaners of telescopes need to be trained sufficiently to use the telescope they loan. Basic training can be part of the loan process.
- Doug Smith reported on the current status of and provided policies for the TAAA Library. An inventory is in process. Various books owned by TAAA have not been in the library and are currently being collected from storage locations. Each Book and library item is being reviewed to determine its best use.
- Follow-up discussion was held regarding the suggestion from Gus Gomez to purchase TAAA labels for telescopes, and the labels have now been ordered.
- A decision was made that phone or any recording of presentations (other than the official TAAA recording) at the 7:30 Member Meeting or any other TAAA Non-Member presentations at any time would not be allowed. Unofficial recordings threaten our ability to obtain speakers, especially those presenting the latest research or innovative ideas.

Holiday Party. Save the date: Saturday evening December 1st at the home of Janet and Ed Foley, Foothills – 4790 N Via De la Granja. Starts at 5:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share. No sale or auction this year – just FUN AND MORE FUN!

RSVP JFoley2@aol.com or (520)477-2430

TIMPA dates for December are the 1st (Sa) and 29th (Sa).

CAC dates for December are the 7th (Fri) and the 8th (Sa).

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Member Meetings change of location to Kuiper Building, 1629 East University Blvd. Third Floor Auditorium (Room 308). (Kuiper Building is located between Flandreau Science Center and UA School of Dance.) About two blocks south and east of Steward. **Refreshments: Bring Finger Foods to share and put on table outside auditorium.** NO Food in Auditorium Please. Paperware provided.

6: 30 Member presentations; 7:30 Dr. Joe Giacalone, the Parker Solar Probe

TAAA Trivia!

Trivia Question 1: Who donated six telescopes and lenses to TIMPA?

Trivia Question 2: a. Which TAAA members completed TAAA's new training course in "Fundamentals of Interacting with Minors" on October 5th?

Trivia Question 2: b. Who recently earned Astronomical League Awards?

Trivia Question 2: c. Who recently completed training on the C 14 at CAC?

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

Space Race has been postponed until Spring. Sign up with Doug Smith.

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ALSIG: Banner UMC Auditorium Room 2600, Dec. 11 @ 7:00p.m. Topics:

Mounts and processing software demos.

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Note: We are conducting a review and updating of the TAAA Website www.tucsonastronomy.org/. Send your suggestions or comments to Mae Smith ssmith@email.arizona.edu.Â Also, keep watching the blog section. Some interesting items will be occurring there.

Often unrecognized: Â In every organization, there are those people who work quietly making significant and ongoing contributions, often behind the scenes, and go unrecognized. In this time of Thanksgiving, I would like to call attention to only a very few of the many behind the scenes contributors to TAAA.Â I would like to say **thank you to:**

Shirley Ross, Chuck Ross and **Warren Hensey**, who all helped form the **Community Outreach Team** at CAC and have developed successful approaches to **advertising** for local community events and, in addition, significantly contribute to **running** those **events** at CAC.Â

Karen Liptak, Â who every month sends out information about TAAA events to newspapers and other **publicity** sources in Tucson. These notices bring in many visitors and new members at TAAA member meetings. Karen also takes leadership roles in Astronomy Education in TAAA, participating in **training programs** where her learning benefits TAAA: sometimes bringing in direct donations to the club and always providing learning that she uses in her regular ongoing event participation and leadership through **Starry Messengers SIG**.

Please take a moment to say or send an email **thanking** them for their many **unrecognized contributions to our club**. And please, think about all those other "behind the scenes" people who contribute so much to TAAA.

Available TAAA Positions:

Grand Canyon Star Party Assistant: GCSP is in June. National Park Service is already coordinating planning with us for the event. There are many facets to the GCSP and an Assistant could contribute in areas according to their interests.

TAAA Property Manager: keeps an inventory of TAAA Property. Anyone with prior experience in this area "military or otherwise" is invited to apply.

Refreshment Coordinator: Organizes volunteers to provide refreshments after monthly meetings

The **December TAAA Board meeting** will be on Wednesday the 12thÂ at UA College of Education, Room 312. (NOTE TEMPORARY LOCATION CHANGE.) 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 a week (Wed, Dec. 5th) prior to the meeting to get on the schedule. If you need directions to the new location, also contact Mae.

Answers to Trivia Questions!

Answer to Trivia Q 1: Wally Rogers, for whom the Wally Rogers Observatory at CAC is named in appreciation of his many gifts to CAC, also donatedÂ lensÂ kits and six telescopes Â to TIMPA. Three of the telescopes are different sized Dobbs and three are non "Dobbs with differing characteristics and sizes. Wally was an extremely generous man, always committed to astronomy education, and we miss him.

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Answer to Trivia Q 2a: The following TAAA members completed training on November 2nd Â in the new TAAA course, "Fundamentals of Interacting with Minors" and will receive Certificates for their efforts: **Vince Baker, Ken Bertschy, Pati Dunlap, Vern Dunlap, Gerry Hodge, Ralph Jensen, Liz Kalas, Dean Ketelsen, Susan Knoll, Paul Koss, Peter Laylin, Kay Lehman, Nina Lehman, Sara Liberty-Laylin, Dennis Means, Ralph Means, Elaine Miller, James Miller, James O'Connor, Rick Paul, Cheryl Read, Tom Rolfsmeyer, Gary Rosenbaum, Byron Skinner, Carter-Thaxton Smith, Gene Solosky, Larry Stepp, Bernie Stinger, Marlin Vance Tanner, Mary Turner, Michael Turner,Â and Patricia Vega**. Thanks to each of you for supporting TAAA's efforts in this very important area.

Â **Answer to Trivia Q2b:** The following Astronomical League awards were recently earned: **Allen Klus**, Lunar Observing Award; **Gus Gomez**, TWO awards: Binocular Messier Award and Outreach Award; **Cheryl Read**, Outreach Award; **Mae Smith**, Outreach Award; and **Dean Ketelsen**, Master Level Outreach Award.

Answer to Trivia Q 2c: **Ed Foley** and **Jim Knoll** recently completed training and passed their "check out" exam on the C 14" at CAC.

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