



January, 2019

Notes from the President

The TAAA Board met on January 9, 2019. Some of the topics addressed at that meeting include:

- Update on TIMPA and TIMPA's Current needs with Stephen Ferris; Approval of cleaning, repairs and additional equipment for TIMPA 14" scope
- Discussion/review of Yahoo Group Forum with Ben Bailey. Instructions to Ben to notify non-members on the list that the Forum is a TAAA member-only activity, and non-members must be deleted. Approaches are being taken to reduce problems in joining the Forum and to review platform options available.
- Discussion of TAAA's 65th Anniversary activities which will include Presentations at the March 1st 7:30 Member Meeting and a Star-B-Que at TIMPA, 4:00pm, Saturday, April 6th.
- Planning a TAAA leader meeting for April.

TIMPA dates include February 2nd(Sa) and 8th (Fri).

CAC dates for February are the 1st (Fri) and the 2nd (Sa).

Member Meetings February 1st: 6:30 Astronomical League and Messier Marathon and 7:30 Astronomy and Satellite Tracking at Steward Observatory (Annual Report of President moved to 6:30 March 1st.)

AFSIG: No meeting in February 2019.

AISIG: Tuesday Jan 22nd, 7:00-8:30p.m., Total Wine and More (4370 N. Oracle)

TAAA Trivia!

Trivia Question 1: How many Charter members were involved in initially establishing TAAA? By the end of the first year of TAAA, how many members were there?

Trivia Question 2: What TAAA Activity is probably the one most influenced by the current Government Shutdown?

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

Some News Items:

2019 is TAAA's 65th Anniversary! Come to the March General meeting to share in festivities. We are seeking PHOTOS! If you have photos of prior TAAA events, please send them with the name of the event and the date/year (If you have them, also include names of people that are in the photos). We would especially appreciate photos from prior presidencies. Send photos to Mae at ssmith@email.arizona.edu

For the TAAA 65th Anniversary Star-B-Q at TIMPA, bring a dish to share and whatever you wish to grill along with whatever condiments you prefer. Hot drinks and water, grills and supplies will be furnished. Mark April 6th 4:00pm off on your calendar!

Angela De Maio has assumed the position of **Refreshment Coordinator**. She needs volunteers. Please contact Angela at **520 323-2448. A volunteer is needed for February 1st.**

Messier Marathon at CAC March 9th (SA). Start preparing by listening to Doug Smith's background information in his 6:30 presentation February 1st.

The February TAAA Board meeting will be on Wednesday the 13th at The UA College of Education, 1430 East Second Street (across the parking lot from Steward Observatory). 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, Feb. 6th) prior to the meeting to get on the schedule. If you need directions to the meeting, also contact Mae. Park in the same location as for Member meetings, at the large lot at the end of Vine (Between 2nd Street and Speedway Blvd.)

Answers to Trivia Questions!

Answer to Trivia Q 1: There were 5 persons initially involved in establishing TAAA (**Earl Burch, Kathryn Burch, Earl Soth, Hilda Vega, and John Vega**). The first organizational meeting was in March 1954. By the end of the first year (1954) of TAAA there were **46 paid members**.

Answer to Trivia Q 2: The TAAA activity that is the most influenced by the current government shutdown is likely to be the **Grand Canyon Star Party**. Immediately prior to the shutdown, TAAA had been notified that our typical Aspen Loop area of the Campground would not be available this year and discussions were held between the National Park Service and GCSP participants regarding alternatives. Prior to the scheduling of the new campsite area for GCSP the shutdown occurred. We are still awaiting more information and GCSP staff and participants do not have information that we usually use this time of year in making preparations. We have been promised the usual 20 free campsites, but have not been told where they will be located. We do not know how any other events TAAA has scheduled will be influenced by the shutdown. If we receive information about, we will let you know.

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