



August, 2019

Â Notes from the President

The TAAA Board met on August 14, 2019.Â Some of the topics addressed at that meeting include:

- Organizing two Bylaws Amendments to propose to the Membership at the September Meeting
- The Board amended and approved TAAA Election Procedures proposed by NVRC
- Approving a change in fee for 2021 TAAA Calendars. 2020 Calendars are currently in production and will remain \$10.00. However, due to increases in production costs, TAAA Calendars for 2021 will sell for \$15.00.
- Reviewing recent responses to a Grand Canyon Star Party feedback survey.
- Reviewing current progress at CAC regarding clearing land and planning for various trenches. One surveillance camera is permanently set on construction operations.

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Please note that [TAAA Site and Telescope Use Information](#) was published in the July TAAA Bulletin. A duplicate copy of that document occurs for your convenience at the [end of this document](#). If you are interested in using TAAA telescopes, receiving training on TAAA telescopes, or interested in our dark sky sites at TIMPA or CAC, please consult this document for the basic Information concerning policies, etc.

Check your email along for [new TAAA Member Sale Information](#). This sale has some great items at our wonderful [Members Only prices](#)!!

TAAA Trivia!

Trivia Question 1: When did TAAA become part of the Worldwide Global Fireball Network Observatory system and what does this System do?

Trivia Question 2a: How many library telescopes does TAAA now support and what does this program do? **2b.** Which TAAA members received Astronomical League Awards in July? **2c.** The relative of which two TAAA members won the GCSP t-shirt Design Contest for 2019?
(Trivia answers are at the end of this document.)

NOTE from David Klein, who presented on his New World Observatory at the July Member Meeting: Anyone who wishes to schedule a visit to see David's Observatory (located in Tucson), please contact him at astroisme@msn.com/Â He will be glad to schedule a time with you to visit.

IMPORTANT DATES for your CALENDAR

TAAA Star-B-Que at CAC , Saturday, October 26th (further information coming)

TAAA Holiday Party, Saturday, December 7th (further information coming)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Member Meetings 6:30 and 7:30 Â September 6th will be held back in our regular location at the UA Steward Observatory Auditorium, UA, 933 North Cherry Avenue. The auditorium has a separate entrance West of the Cherry Entrance across from the College of Education. Free parking after 5:00pm can be found in a few blocks of Steward on the Speedway end of North Vine Street.

NOTE: Vine Street between 2nd Street and Speedway is scheduled to be repaved in the next week or so, but repaving is due to be completed prior to our meeting.

We are excited to be going back home!!. Remember that there is a handicapped automatic door on the West side of the building. And, Terri Lappin will be at the front of the auditorium

with hearing assistive devices.

ALWAYS let us know if you have any difficulty hearing at any of our TAAA meetings.

Reminder: Announcements for any 6:30/7:30 Member Meeting should be emailed to Mae Smith one week prior to the meeting. There is not adequate time immediately prior to or during a meeting to adequately preview and discuss new announcements and it can delay meeting activities to attempt to do so. Please respect our guest speakers and Do Not wait until a meeting is in progress to discuss the possibility of new announcements.

Special thanks to Gary Rosenbaum and Terri Lappin for their extra behind the scenes work. For each of the summer Member Meetings at UA Modern Languages, Gary and Terri brought tables over to Modern Languages from Steward Observatory so there would be tables for TAAA refreshments and then they needed to return the tables to Steward after each meeting as Modern Languages had no storage place. We appreciate this extra effort!!!

6:30 Member Meeting September 6th will contain

** Personal Observatory Report from Gregg Ruppel for his Dark Sky New Mexico Observatory.

***Presentation from Doug Smith on a couple of proposed TAAA Bylaws changes

TEMPORARY Welcome Coordinator needed: Susan O'CONNOR has been serving as our Welcome Coordinator for Member Meetings and when she has been out of town, Jim O'CONNOR has been substituting. The O'CONNORS will not be able to serve in this capacity in the upcoming Fall/Winter months. We are looking for someone who could temporarily substitute for them. Having someone in this position makes a significant difference in making visitors and new members feel welcome at club meetings and in helping them find their way to becoming involved in club activities. If you are available to assist with this effort, please contact Mae Smith at President@tucsonastronomy.org

AISIG: Aug 21st 6:30 – 8:00 (notice time change)

LNO: Aug 22nd (Notice Date Change) and Sept 19th

TIMPA dates include Aug 30th (Fr), SEPT 21st (Sa) and Sept 27th (Fr)\

TAAA BOD Sept 11th, 6:30

AFSIG: Sept 12th , 6:30pm(see below)

CAC dates include Sept 20th (Fri) and Sept 21st (Sa)

NOTE: AFSIG LOCATION for September 12 and October 10 meetings. These meetings will be held at 6:30pm at 3202 East 1st Street (Office of Tucson City Council Ward 6). This location is one block East of Country Club and one block South of Speedway Boulevard. Proceed East from the University on Speedway, Cross through the Speedway/Country Club intersection and proceed one block East to Anderson Street. Turn south onto Anderson Street (Walgreen's is located at the corner of Speedway and Anderson). Proceed South on Anderson for one block which brings you to 1st Street. Ward 6 is located on the southeast corner of Anderson and 1st Street. You may parallel park on the street or there is a small amount of parking on the South side of the Ward 6 building. You may also park in the south side of the Walgreen's Parking lot (permission given by Walgreens). Enter the building on the South side (back). AFSIG will be meeting in the EAST room. Information about this location change will be distributed on the website (tucsonastronomy.org), at Member Meetings, at AFSIG meetings, and via email.

Immediate need for applicants familiar with WordPress for Webmaster position . To express interest send name, contact information, which position you are interested in, and list of qualifications to NVRCchair@tucsonastronomy.org.

The TAAA Board meeting for September will occur, on September 11th(Wed) at 6:30pm at Cafeteria Room C, UMC Banner Hospital. There is free parking in the lot South of the parking garage and that lot is designated as Zone 1 parking which is free after 5:00pm. There is also free parking at the New Main Entrance to UMC Banner Hospital on the North side of the hospital. Members are welcome to attend. Note that many prior South entrances to UMC/Banner are being locked and not open to the public. If you have a problem with south entrances, you may need to enter through the new North Entrances to the hospital and walk from there to the old cafeteria area (which is on the south end). 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 (the Wed.) prior to the meeting to get on the schedule. If you need directions to the meeting, also contact Mae.

NOTE: As TAAA Treasurer, Mike McDowell is our official TAAA representative that interacts with donors regarding donations. Mike is tasked with showing appreciation to donors who wish to make a donation to TAAA and collecting information about the nature of the donation; determining whether TAAA can use the donation; arranging for pick-up of an accepted donation; issuing a receipt of donation to a non-profit agency for the purpose of filing for IRS consideration of the donation. If anyone indicates to you that they would like to make a donation to TAAA, please help them contact Mike at cac-director@tucsonastronomy.org or put the person in touch with a TAAA Board member who will assist the person to contact Mike. Please be aware that once a person has mentioned to someone associated with the Club that they wish to make a donation, the person may feel that no further follow-up from them is needed; that it is the Club's responsibility to follow-up. So, please make that initial contact meaningful, clearly giving the person the information needed as well as getting the person's name and contact information and sending that on to Mike McDowell.

Answer to Trivia Q1: The Worldwide Global Fireball Network Observatory system is an international system which stations small computerized systems at sites around the world to constantly monitor for meteors falling into earth's atmosphere. These scopes work together to triangulate where meteors fall so that they can be quickly retrieved and studied. Our own TAAA CAC site became one of the monitoring sites in August 2019.

Answer to Trivia Q2a: Three TAAA members receive Astronomical League Awards in August: Our Paul and Cathy Anderson who are still TAAA members but moved away a couple of years ago received Master Observer Awards. Gus Gomez received the Double Star Astro League Award; **2b.** In 2019 TAAA has been sponsoring two telescopes at Pima County Public Libraries. Recently Terri Lappin and Jim Knoll worked together to obtain a third donated telescope from the Astronomical League which, when it is fully ready, will be donated to a third Pima County Public Library. **2c** The Winner of the 2019 GCSP T-Shirt Contest was Nic Gomez, son of TAAA members, Ruth and Gus Gomez.

TAAA Club Policy Reminders

Chiricahua Astronomy Complex (CAC) Site Use

TAAA members may use the CAC site 365 days of the year. However, access to the CAC site is by reservation ONLY. A security system has been installed at the CAC Site that makes it easier for members to access the site and it reduces the coordination effort of the CAC Director. It is required that all members notify the CAC Director via e-mail or phone to make a reservation to use the site; for both scheduled monthly club star parties and for private use. It is important for the club to know exactly who is on the site at any given time. This is for both club safety and liability requirements. Members should realize that although they may use the site with a reservation on non-event dates, at such times, there will be no one present to assist them at the site. Familiarization with and appropriate adherence to Site Use policies is necessary and required.

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Telescope Use at CAC

Club telescopes may only be used with the permission of the CAC Director or the acting site manager. There are several telescopes in storage containers available for member use. Only trained and certified individuals are permitted to operate observatory telescopes. The 40" and 9" telescopes in the Reynolds Mitchel Observatory (RMO) are dedicated for astronomy outreach and are not available for individual member use. The 14" in the Wallace Rogers Observatory (WRO) is available by reservation for WRO certified operators 365 days a year.

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Timpa Site Use

TAAA members may use the Timpa site 365 days of the year. However, to use the site, members must contact the Timpa On-Site Director, Ralph Means, for a key to the site and more information.

Telescope Use at Timpa

Club telescopes and equipment can be used only after contacting the TIMPA On-Site Director or Equipment Loan Coordinator (Ralph Means). Only trained and certified members are allowed to use the Meade LX 200R-14 (Gila Monster) and the Meade LX200R-10. Training is available for both scopes on non-Club Star Party dates and successful completion of training is required prior to individual use.

