



**Official Newsletter of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society
Volume 48 Number 2 March - April 2018**

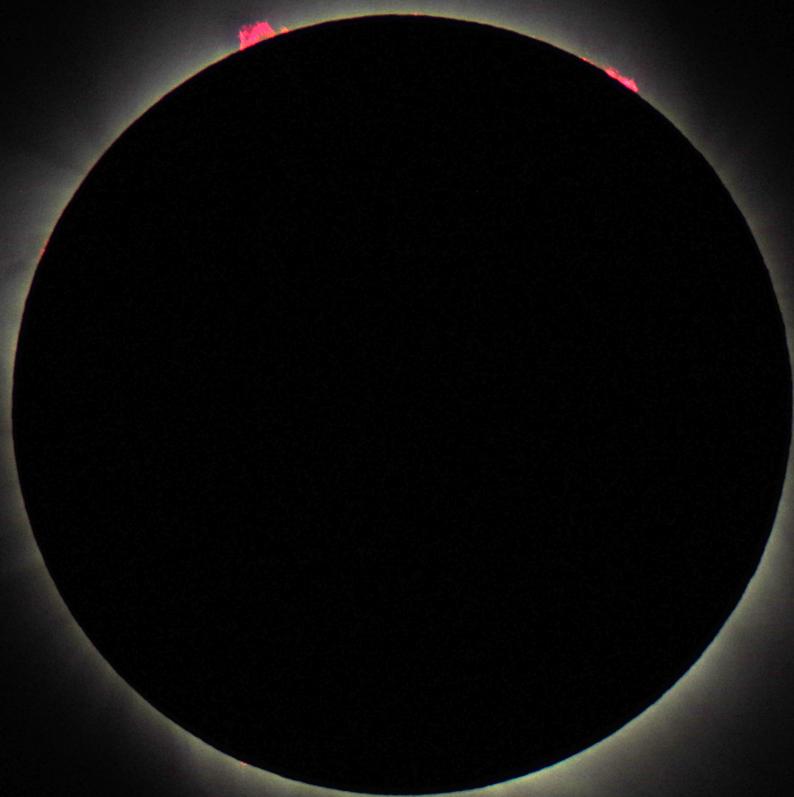
Please Welcome The Newest SLAS Members!

Barker, Brent
Beard, Stephenv

Bothell, Jacob
Fontaine, Marie

Johnson, Diane
Maez, Jaxton

Nelson, Kirsten
Olsen, Neil



Chuck Hards shot this image of last August's eclipse in Thornton, Idaho. Details: Pentax DSLR on a University Optics 80mm f/7 "Kit Scope" from the early 90's, & 1.6X Barlow lens. The corona has been suppressed to bring out the prominences

SLAS Vice President Resigned

SLAS Vice President Joe Bauman resigned his position on 14 February. Per the SLAS constitution a replacement will be appointed by the board soon.

New Nova Editor

To the surprise of many Nova Editor Shoshana Ebertz has resigned. Patrick Wiggins who previously served as editor off and on for over 20 years has agreed to fill the vacancy.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING 10 JANUARY 2018

Location: Denny's Restaurant, 250 W 500 S, Salt Lake City

Board Members in Attendance: Dave Bernson, Joe Bauman, Denise Larsen, Nate Goodman, Jim Keane

General Members in Attendance: Rodger Fry, Observatory Director, Patrick Wiggins, Larry Holmes, Siegfried Jachmann, Leslie Fowler, Luke Moses & Jill, Joan Carman, Don O'Cain

Meeting called to order: 7:00 pm

School Star Party Requests

Jim Keane, who is the new School Star Party Coordinator, has 2 requests already from schools. The first is for Middle Canyon Elementary for January 25. The second is for February 7 for some homeschoolers in Lakepoint. Both events are asking for volunteers to present some general astronomy information. Please refer to the emails from Jim for more details.

Winter Sun Parties

Nate Goodman wanted everyone to be aware that, during the winter, he and other club members host sun parties at the Utah Museum of Natural History. He noted that the New Year's Eve day party was especially successful! He asks all members to support when they can. He reminded us that all volunteers can get free tickets to the museum.

Financial Records Update

Denise read off the financial records updated as of January 10, 2018. Rodger noted that Ken, the webmaster, still needs to give her access to edit the business page and that records at PayPal still need to be changed so that she gets the PayPal notifications instead of Rodger. Joe reminded the board that the ZAP account needs to show up on the records. (Denise showed only those accounts that had money.)

Press Releases

Joe Bauman mentioned he will send out 2 press releases. The first will go out in a few days inviting the public to the General Meeting on January 17, 2018. This meeting will be about our stories of the 2017 solar eclipse. The second will be released closer to month's end. It will be regarding the fact that there will be no official SPOC viewing of the lunar eclipse since neither the timing nor the location is good.

SPOC Advisory Committee

Rodger wants to continue the 3-year term for members of the advisory committee. Advisory committee members whose term had expired were renewed for another 3-year term which are: Rodger Fry, Stan Eriksen, Bill Kennedy, Nate Goodman, Larry Holmes. Joe made the first motion and Denise seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Jim raised a good question as to how we get the rest of the club more involved on the advisory committee.

The Advisory Committee will be meeting at the Denny's at 250 W 500 S on Saturday, March 3, at 3pm. They will be talking about how to get SPOC ready for the season.

Grant Proposal for SPOC

Rodger assured us how pleased the Tooele Tourism Board is with the money they have invested in us. Rodger will present a grant proposal for \$2,500.00 to them. This money will fund a brochure that is intended to give SPOC better publicity. These brochures will be placed at strategic locations along I-80 and other places. Joe made the first motion and Nate seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

For more details, please refer to the email that he sent out tonight.

Star Party location adjustments

Joan suggested moving one of the Midvale Harmon star parties located on 7th East to 11453 South Parkway Plaza (3600 West) to give folks in that area easier access. Harmon's has a new rep for the club but I don't believe I heard a name. If anyone did, please let me know.

9,000 copies were made last year of the star and sun party schedule. There was a discussion on how many should be published for this year. Rodger Fry said that he will create the art work for the schedules as he has done in the past.

Old Business

Don lead a discussion in which he mentioned that he and Siegfried have talked about if the club should experiment with some new locations for the sun parties. There was a general agreement that we could send out SLAS blasts for sun parties and experiment with new locations so that they are not always in the same place.

New Business

Joe Bauman mentioned that according to the SLAS constitution, we need to read the minutes of the board meeting at the general meeting. A discussion was held and many agreed that attendees would be bored. It was resolved to publish the board meeting minutes in the news letter that goes out via email weekly.

Joe mentioned ZAP is giving us one grant but in two payments. Joe will parse out the requirements, such as using the ZAP logo. He will send out a SLAS Blast to the club on those. Denise will include this account in our financial records in all future board meetings.

And what a WONDERFUL way to end the night! Patrick gave a HUGE thank you to Denise, the new secretary and treasurer, for editing the Member Information pages and making it look much better!

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 pm

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

17 January 2018

Location: Room 203 Calvin Rampton Technology Building at Salt Lake Community College

Attendance: 43 members and guests

Meeting called to order: 7:30 pm

SLAS President Dave Bernson welcomed everyone and introduced the re-elected board members: Vice President Joe Bauman and Star Party Coordinator and Board Member at Large, Nate Goodman, as well as the new board members, School Star Party Coordinator and Board Member at Large, Jim Keane and Secretary/Treasurer, Denise Larsen.

Lowell Lyon presented a check to the club for \$4,635.18. He suggested it could help members take advantage of future League opportunities.

Don Colton, who is the Private Star Party Coordinator, spoke about this year's Bryce Canyon astronomy festival. He would like suggestions from members on where they would like to have future private star parties. Please email him your ideas! This is a chance to go to new locations.

Joe Bauman announced the editor of the club's newsletter, Shoshana Ebertz, needed to resign. He asked Patrick to take the position and Patrick agreed. He also mentioned that SLAS has been awarded another ZAP grant of \$2,000.

Dave Bernson mentioned previous talks about raising the SLAS membership fees but the board has unanimously decided to keep it at \$20.00 a year.

Motions were approved for this year's star party schedule, the meeting schedule and the budget.

Joe also reported that Patrick Wiggins recently discovered his 5th supernova and that interestingly the discovery was made 4 years to the day after finding his first supernova. Congratulations, Patrick!!

Joan presented an update on the library loaner program in which Athan Balamis was highlighted. This local boy scout helped with modifying the telescopes. This allowed him to earn his eagle scout award. There are a total of 24 telescopes in the program and Joan expects that number to grow.

Presentation

Joan Carman, Nate Goodman, Craig George, John Johansen, Mike Wilson and Larry Holmes presented their experiences of the total solar eclipse from last year.

Meeting was adjourned to Advanced Training: 8:55pm

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING
14 February 2018

Location: Denny's Restaurant, 250 W 500 S, Salt Lake City

Board Members in Attendance: Joe Bauman, Jim Keane, Denise Larsen, Nate Goodman

Other Members in Attendance: Luke Moses, Leslie Fowler, John Johansen, Alpine Stringham, Joan Carman, Cory Bauman and Observatory Director, Rodger Fry and Patrick Wiggins

Meeting called to order: 7:00 pm

Since our President, Dave Bernson, was absent with the flu, our Vice President, Joe Bauman, conducted the meeting.

Joe Bauman

Joe reminded us to follow Robert's Rule of Order - a book designed to keep a meeting in order.

He wanted to point out that Patrick once again made the Deseret News with his article about the recent lunar eclipse.

Joe entertained a discussion to put in the NOVA newsletter a recognition of Shoshana for her efforts as editor of this publication. There was a unanimous vote of the board to thank her.

Joe said that he went to Charlie Green's house and found out that he was in rehab for knee problems. We wish him well on his recovery.

Joe also reconfirmed the ZAP grant that we received. \$1,200 came in the first installment and we should be receiving the rest in March.

The General Meeting is next Wednesday, February 21. The featured speaker is BYU's Dr. Jani Radebaugh. Her presentation is "Saturn and Titan: Looking back at the end of Cassini and ahead to the possibility of Dragonfly".

Joan Carman

Joan mentioned that her library contact, Paul Reynolds, is willing to distribute the star party schedule to the different branches. 30 copies will go to each branch, totaling 210.

Denise Larsen

Denise confirmed from Joan that the Amazon credit Denise noticed on the bank account is from smilesamazon.com. Any member can sign up on this website and a portion of the purchase will be automatically sent to our bank account. We received \$15.00 from them this week. How nice!

Denise said she received the insurance policy from Liberty Mutual. When she noted there is not enough money in the insurance fund to cover the cost of the premium the board decided to transfer money from the general fund to cover the shortage. This has been done in the past.

Denise received two 2018 wall calendars and an Explorer 1 poster from NASA. It was decided that these would be given away at the General Meeting next Wednesday, the 21st.

Denise read the financial report. We are solvent and all funds accounted for. \$18,600.53 is the total as of February 1, 2018.

Jim Keane

Jim announced that the participation for the two school events that happened (Jan 25 and Feb 7) were awesome! He made particular mention that only about half of the parents at one of the events knew about SPOC and that we should bring more awareness to the club.

He also mentioned that he has received a few more school requests. These are yet to be scheduled.

Nate Goodman

Nate said that there will be a special event at the Tooele Library but it is still too early to schedule this.

He also said that, as of lately, the weather has not been cooperative with the winter solar parties at the Museum of Natural History. These take place every Saturday from 12-3. However, the weather does look very favorable this Saturday, the 17th, and one is planned. As Nate so diligently does, he will be sending out a SLAS blast to remind everyone.

Rodger Fry

Rodger said that the SPOC advisory committee meeting will be at the Denny's on 500 South on March 3 at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

He said that he is still the "middle man" for PayPal notifications that he forwards to Denise and she said she is still unable to edit the business section of the website. Patrick Wiggins said he'd speak with the webmaster about getting that fixed.

Rodger also mentioned that Mike Clements reminded him that information about his 70" scope needs to be added to the website. Patrick said he is working with Ken on this.

Rodger announced he will be giving a presentation titled "Size of the Universe". This will be on May 8 at 7pm at the Tooele County Historical Society.

He also gave us an update on the grant money we will be receiving from the Tooele Tourism Board. This will fund brochures highlighting SPOC and will be placed between Elko and Evanston along I-80.

New Business

The board decided that about 9,000 star party flyers should be printed for the upcoming season. Patrick will check with the printing company to see if they will donate the flyers again this year and if not, get an estimate of the cost.

Jim Keane suggested, for the sake of marketing, that we have a solar party for the Stansbury Days. Patrick will check with the organizers to see if they'd like that added to the schedule.

Jim also suggested solar parties at the downtown farmers' market. This market is every Saturday during the summer with a few thousand attending. A marvelous opportunity for advertising.

Don Colton was absent tonight but Joe Bauman mentioned the private star party proposal that Don made and everyone approved. At Patrick's suggestion the board voted to officially thank Don for his many years of service to SLAS.

Patrick Wiggins displayed a picture Rodger had framed of Elon Musk's Tesla Roadster floating in space with the Earth in the background. Rodger directed the picture be displayed in SPOC's Refractor House.

There will be future discussion about what to do with the money given to us from the Astronomical League. Many opposed a previously proposed idea that it should be used to help people go to future Astrocons. Luke Moses suggested it be used as a recurring scholarship fund.

A much-needed discussion was held about Dave Bernson's inaccessibility to club members and the public. Since Dave was absent from tonight's meeting this will be discussed at next month's board meeting.

Jim suggested the SLAS website needs to be updated. An extended discussion followed. John Johansen showed us an awesome video he made of the solar eclipse for possible inclusion in the club's website. Several approved of this and it will be discussed in future meetings.

Luke asked that the finances be updated online for the beginning of the year. He also called attention to what appeared to be a board vote during "advanced training" after January's General Meeting to make a payment for something that had previously been decided against. He said he believed that the board should not be making decisions outside of official board meetings.

Meeting adjourned: 8:50 pm

**MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
21 February 2018**

Location: Room 203 Calvin Rampton Technology Building at Salt Lake Community College

Attendance: 54 members and guests

Board Members in Attendance: Dave Bernson, Denise Larsen, Nate Goodman and Jim Keane

Meeting called to order: 7:30 pm

President Dave Bernson welcomed everyone to the General Meeting. He introduced the members of the board, several of those holding appointed positions in the club and the club's liaison with Salt Lake Community College. He also welcomed the several guests that were there. He also mentioned that the Vice President position needs to be filled.

Dave spoke about the sun parties at the Museum of Natural History. Next month's General Meeting presentation will be about image processing by Don Colton.

Dave wanted to remind everyone that the Messier Marathon will be March 15-17. He talked about the possibility of it being held at SPOC.

Dave also wanted to bring to our attention that Mercury and Venus will be at a very close conjunction on March 3 in the western horizon.

Presentation given by Dr. Jani Radebaugh, Planetary Scientist and BYU Professor of Geological Sciences. Her presentation was "Saturn and Titan, Looking back at the end of Cassini and ahead at the possibility of Dragonfly". This was followed by a Q & A. until 8:35

Club Business ensued:

Don Colton reminded everyone of the Bryce Canyon Astronomy Festival June 13-16, 2018.

Rodger announced the Advisory Committee Meeting will be March 3 at 3pm. Members are welcome to attend. He will also be sending out SLAS blasts for work parties to get the observatory all ready for the season.

Secretary/Treasurer Denise Larsen gave away the NASA gifts we received in the mail, which were two wall calendars and one Explorer 1 poster.

Dave proposed that we pay Robert Reeves \$600 to have him come speak on lunar photography with the money coming from ZAP grant funds. A motion was made and approved.

Joe Bauman proposed and the vote was unanimous that we pay Ken Warner \$240 for 2018 web hosting services.

Meeting was adjourned to "Advanced Training": 8:50 pm

Proposed Amendment to the SLAS Constitution

by Joe Bauman (**Update, 01 MAR 2018:** Joe withdrew the amendment from consideration today.)

The purpose of this amendment is to prevent for-profit corporations and private individuals from asserting inordinate influence over the Salt Lake Astronomical Society through financial donations, and to assure transparency in larger contributions. As the SLAS Constitution indicates, the club is a voluntary nonprofit corporation; therefore, its democratic, grass-roots and citizen-driven nature shall be protected. The Constitution requires that any expenditure beyond a set sum must be approved in a general meeting in order to take effect. Presently, that amount is \$200. This amendment extends the same standard, with the same limitation on amount, to contributions by any for-profit corporation or any individual. Should the cap change on expenditures not needing general meeting approval, the cap on donations will change by the same amount. A donation above the cap may occur only with the approval of the membership at a general meeting. Integral to the vote shall be a detailed discussion of any quid pro quo that the donor or sponsor may anticipate.



Justin Davenport got this shot of Jupiter last January using a C-8 and Skyris camera.

SLAS Member Information

The SLAS Member Information file is available at <http://slas.us/slasbooks/NEWMEM.PDF>.

Loaner Telescopes For SLAS Members

SLAS has several scopes available for loan to current SLAS members. Check the SLAS website under "Membership Benefits" for details.

2018 SLAS Board of Directors

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| President | Dave Bernson | 801.263.9264 bernsondave@gmail.com |
| Meetings | Vacant | |
| Vice President | | |
| Publicity, PR and Web Content | | |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Denise Larsen | 801.913.1622 climberette@yahoo.com |
| Membership Dues & Renewals | | |
| Board Member at Large | Nate Goodman | 801.277.0193 ngoodman6053@gmail.com |
| SPOC Star Party Coordinator | | |
| Board Member at Large | Jim Keane | 801.942.3516 jimk@sisna.com |
| School & Special Star Parties | | |

Appointed Positions

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| Astronomical League Contact | Aleta Cox | 801.966.2636 alc@fredccox.com |
| Equipment Manager | Luke Moses | 970.376.2529 luke.moses1@gmail.com |
| Historian | Patrick Wiggins | 435.882.1209 4099wiggins@gmail.com |
| NASA Night Sky Ambassador | Ann House | 801.671.8447 ann@annhouse.org |
| Newsletter Editor | Patrick Wiggins | 435.882.1209 4099wiggins@gmail.com |
| Observatory Director | Roger Fry | 801.288.0851 rcfry@comcast.net |
| Private Star Party Coordinator | Don Colton | 801.571.9757 dcoltonsprint@earthlink.net |
| Solar Scope Manager | Ken Porras | 801.210.8427 kennethprrs@gmail.com |
| Webmaster | Ken Warner | webmaster@slas.us |
| ZAP Grant Writer | Joe Bauman | 801.583.7935 josephmbauman@yahoo.com |

SPOC Advisory Committee

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chair through DEC 2018 | Roger Fry | 801.288.0851 rcfry@comcast.net |
| Member through JAN 2021 | Roger Fry | 801.288.0851 rcfry@comcast.net |
| Member through JAN 2021 | Stan Eriksen | 801.446.1479 staneriksen@icloud.com |
| Member through JAN 2021 | Bill Kennedy | 801.964.6199 truss_tube@hotmail.com |
| Member through JAN 2021 | Nate Goodman | 801.277.0193 ngoodman@lgcy.com |
| Member through DEC 2020 | Larry Holmes | 801.467.7855 larry@kijoda.com |
| Member through JAN 2019 | Ken Porras | 801.210.8427 kennethprrs@gmail.com |
| Member through JAN 2019 | Jim Keane | 801.913.7372 jimk@sisna.com |
| Member through DEC 2020 | Patrick Wiggins | 435.882.1209 4099wiggins@gmail.com |
| Member while SLAS President | Dave Bernson | 801.263.9264 bernsondave@gmail.com |
| Member as Obser. Dir. Emeritus | Bruce Grim | 435.882.5237 bmargrim@msn.com |
| Member while Harmons Rep. | Vacant | |

SPOC Telescope Instruction Coordinators

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Patrick Wiggins | Refractor | 435.882.1209 4099wiggins@gmail.com |
| Bill Kennedy | Ealing | 801.964.6199 truss_tube@hotmail.com |
| Roger Fry | Grim | 801.288.0851 rcfry@comcast.net |
| Mike Clements | Clements | 801.557.0187 mr70inch@gmail.com |

Events Calendar

March 2018

- 03 SPOC Committee Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 3:00 pm
- 14 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 21 General Meeting at SLCC's Rampton Technology Building, 7:30 pm

April 2018

- 07 Star party at SPOC, dusk to 9:00
- 11 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 20 Star party at Harmons Taylorsville, 5454 S Redwood Rd, dusk to 9:00 pm
- 21 SPOC, dusk to 9:00 pm
- 18 General Meeting at SLCC's Rampton Technology Building, 7:30 pm
- 28 Sun party 6400 S 1100 W, 9:00 am to noon

May 2018

- 04 Star party at Wheeler Farm, 6351 S 900 E, dusk to 10:00 pm
- 05 Star party at SPOC, dusk to 10:00
- 09 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 16 General Meeting at SLCC's Rampton Technology Building, 7:30 pm
- 19 Star party at SPOC, dusk to 10:00 pm
- 25 Star party at Cougar Harmons, 4872 W 6200 S, dusk to 10:00 pm
- 26 Star party at SPOC, dusk to 10:00 pm

View a list of all SLAS events online on the [Events Calendar](#)

Outdoor events are held weather permitting.

NOVA is a publication of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society, a non-profit organization. Nova contains minutes of meetings, Board member names & contact info, activities, reports and special club events. The editor of NOVA is appointed by the SLAS Vice-President. Members are encouraged to contribute content. Current NOVA editor is Patrick Wiggins, 4099wiggins@gmail.com.