

NOVA



Official Newsletter of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society
Volume 49 Number 3 May - June 2019

Please Welcome The Newest SLAS Members!

Farrell, Peggy
Ferguson, Ernest
Franz, Michael

Fulghum, Kelley
Hunter, Scott A
LaGrow, Lori

Remington, Lacey
Schaffner, Sheryl
Scott, Jenette

Sutton, Neil
Thalman, Joan
Vogt, Dave



NGC 2903, Image processing by Tony Sarra, Image data from the U of U's Eccles Observatory

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

13 March 2019

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

Board Members in Attendance: John Johansen, Leslie Fowler, Luke Moses, Jim Keane

General Members in Attendance: Rodger Fry, Larry Holmes, Patrick Wiggins

President John Johansen called the meeting to order: 7:00 PM

John went over the list of speakers at upcoming meetings. That information will be posted on the online Calendar of Events.

Astronomy Day is 11 May. The planetarium has asked for volunteers to help with daytime Sun viewing.

The board voted to add legal coverage of the board to the existing insurance policy. Cost for \$1 million coverage is about \$700 per year. This will be presented at next week's general membership meeting.

There was much discussion about the club's association with the Astronomical League. Going forward the club will stay affiliated but individual members will be given the option of opting in (up to now the club's policy has been to make all SLAS members be members of the League). Those who opt in will pay an additional \$2.50 per year. This will also be presented at next week's meeting.

Rodger reported that all of the scopes and buildings at SPOC have been de-winterized and are ready for the upcoming season. Initial and refresher training on the facility's scopes will start soon.

Once the existing supply of books that were purchased for the purpose of being given away is exhausted they will not be replaced. No more purchased (as opposed to donated) items will be raffled off at public SLAS events.

Leslie is going to look into small promotional items that could be given out at SLAS functions.

Leslie has the 2019 star and Sun party fliers and will help with their distribution.

The board thanked the printers, Tooele Transcript Publishing, for providing the fliers free of charge.

The board will look into the possible purchase of additional banners, posters and signs for use at SLAS events.

There was also discussion of purchasing more embroidered SLAS hats to be given to speakers at club meetings and for being sold to club members and the public. If those sales prove successful the offerings may expand to include other items such as shirts.

John will provide a master copy of the 2019 star and Sun party schedule to Joan Carman which she can then distribute to the various libraries with loaner-scope programs. The libraries can then print fliers to be given away to their patrons.

A total of \$110 has been spent on Facebook advertising so far this year which has resulted in much more traffic on SLAS's various online sites and increased attendance at general membership meetings. The ads have proven so successful that more of the \$500 allocated to the project will be spent on additional Facebook advertising.

All SLAS members are encouraged to share information about SLAS on social media.

John has been working with the Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News to get information published about SLAS and it's activities. Patrick was given the ok to do the same with the Tooele Transcript Bulletin.

A private star party will be held at SPOC the afternoon and evening of 20 July to which members of the Ogden and Utah Valley club's will be invited. Details to be announced later.

As no one has volunteered to organize a SLASTrofest this year none will be held unless a volunteer does come forward. In its place members will be encouraged to help less experienced members at star and Sun parties.

There was a brief discussion about amending the parts of the club's constitution dealing with elections. The hope is to amend the 20th century document to better conform to 21st century practices. This will be discussed in depth at next month's board meeting. Anyone with suggestions is encouraged to attend the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:49 pm

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

20 March 2019

Location: Room 103 Calvin Rampton Technology Building at Salt Lake Community College

Attendance: 60

Board Members in Attendance: John Johansen, Leslie Fowler, Denise Larsen, Luke Moses, Jim Keane

President John Johansen called the meeting to order: 7:40 pm

John welcomed everyone. After taking a quick survey, about 12 people heard about the meeting on Facebook. John encourages all members who are on Facebook to repost the club's ads on their own personal feeds.

He announced next month's General Meeting speaker would be BYU professor Dr. Jani Radebaugh. Her presentation will be Meteorites in Antarctica.

WSU professor Dr. Stacey Palen then gave her presentation on Polynesian navigation.

Club Business

Upcoming Events

March 30 – Special Star Party at Wasatch State Park

April 12 – Public Star Party at Taylorsville Harmons

April 26 – Public Star Party at Wheeler Park – there will be basic scope training for new people.

June 26-29 – Bryce Canyon Astronomy Festival

Please refer to the SLAS calendar for more events

Luke Moses presented the insurance update. The liability has been revised and Directors and Officers Insurance has been added for \$727. Luke made the first motion, Patrick Wiggins made the second motion. The membership vote was unanimous for these revisions.

Luke also announced the club will remain affiliated with the Astronomical League but dues will now be optional. Those wanting to be involved with the League will pay an additional \$2.50 for membership dues, which equals \$22.50. This will go into effect June 1, 2019. John made the motion and Luke seconded. The membership vote was unanimous in favor of the change.

Luke also announced that if a member is in need of a scope, to please contact him in regards to the club's loaner scope program. He emphasized there are a variety of scopes to lend.

Tony Sarra announced that the next imaging session will be March 29 at the U of U.

The meeting was adjourned to Village Inn for "Advanced Training" at 9:15 pm.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

10 April 2019

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

Board Members in Attendance: Jim Keane, Leslie Fowler, Luke Moses and Denise Larsen

General Members in Attendance: Joan Carman, Larry Holmes, Patrick Wiggins, Rodger Fry, Ken Warner and Tyler Reid.

Board Member at Large Luke Moses called the meeting to order: 7:00 PM

Speakers

Jani Radebaugh will present Antarctic astronomy at the next General Meeting, April 17. Please send suggestions for speakers to the Board. Luke will send a SLAS blast to get members' suggestions on speakers.

Anil Seth from the U of U will speak June or July.

Insurance

The Directors & Officers Insurance was approved during March's General Meeting. It will be \$747. Luke is still working out all the details with our insurance agency and will keep us posted.

Guest Speaker Gifts

After a short discussion, the board decided to give speakers the option of a \$25 gift card or a SLAS hat as a thank you.

Budget

Jim presented an updated version. We have received \$9,870 from membership dues, donations and ZAP so far this year. Jim showed us what was pre-allotted from January vs what has been spent so far. ZAP 2018 grants MUST be spent this year.

Luke made first motion and Jim gave second motion, board vote unanimous that 30 hats be bought and sold at various SLAS events. These hats will be bought from Uptown Embroidery. Patrick raised concern as to how and where they will be sold. Short discussion ensued. It will be an experiment in raising more money.

Jim asked Denise to carefully track the ZAP spending since Jim has to report this to the county. They will both track what has been allotted vs what is actually spent. Jim and Denise will get together to revise the budget.

SPOC

Rodger was reimbursed \$1,200 from Tooele County for the brochures, which he will soon be distributing.

SPOC clean-up will be this Saturday, April 13 at 3:00 pm. He will send out a SLAS blast reminder. Please bring gardening tools.

He also announced we will continue the members-only potluck dinners before certain SPOC star parties.

Advertising

John and Leslie have been doing this on Facebook. Jim said we are contracted to also advertise all Salt Lake County events on the county's activity website: nowplayingutah.com. Leslie told us that she has already been doing this for a few weeks now.

The star party flyers were handed out at all of the Harmons stores and Wheeler Farm. They will also be placed at various restaurants in Tooele. Jim told us that ZAP has their own Facebook page and they will advertise our events there as well.

Strategic Goals

Star party with UVAC (Utah Valley Astronomy Club) on July 20. Details will follow.

Old Business

Luke handed out a page of proposed amendments for the constitution. John has reworded some areas to bring it into the computer age. Members that showed up all got a copy; however, ALL members are invited to email any suggestions or thoughts to the entire Board. Please mention WHAT you want amended and WHY.

Members that weren't at the board meeting can ask Luke by email for a copy of this. The Board is hoping to devote an entire board meeting to the constitution, depending on how many replies are received.

Website

Luke said that SLAS blasts are getting delayed to members and asked Ken what can be done to fix the problem. It is authenticating the host server that the mail is coming from. Spam is also a contributor. A discussion ensued. Ken will keep us posted on what he can do.

Ken will also look into eliminating the "slasinfo" junk email some are getting. To work out more of the website issues and looking into updating the website, Ken will get together with the Board, and any other members interested, to work on this.

New Business

Luke announced that John is going through some medical issues right now and will be absent from events for April. The Board will cover for him. We wish John a very speedy recovery!

Officers' Reports

Leslie Fowler – nothing

Denise Larsen – we will have our solicitation permit soon. Also Jim and John need to sign the Signature Card Agreement and Powers of Resolution at Bank of Utah.

Jim Keane – has mentioned concern that not many volunteer to help with our special events and special star parties and he would like to see this change. If he doesn't get the necessary number of volunteers, he will have to cancel events. ***PLEASE VOLUNTEER*** Please pay attention to the SLAS blasts he will be sending for upcoming events.

Luke Moses – still waiting to hear back about the Liability insurance. He will be handing out loaner scopes at our first SPOC star party this Saturday.

Patrick Wiggins – we are exempt from collecting sales tax as long as it is for our non-profit organization.

Ken Warner – He expressed concern about SLAS blasts and status updates on trainees. This will be further discussed in the website meeting.

Joan Carman – library loaner program continues to be VERY successful! Currently she is working on Utah County and coordinating with UVAC.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 pm

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

17 April 2019

Location: Room 103 Calvin Rampton Technology Building at Salt Lake Community College

Attendance: 36

Board Members in Attendance: Leslie Fowler, Denise Larsen, Luke Moses

Observatory Director Rodger Fry called the meeting to order: 7:30 pm

Rodger Fry welcomed everyone. He excused President John Johansen from the meeting due to health problems. We wish him a speedy recovery!! He also introduced the board members.

Rodger then introduced the speaker, Jani Radebaugh, BYU Professor. She then gave her presentation on finding meteorites in Antarctica.

Club Business followed

Nate Goodman announced the first Solar Party of the season will be at Winchester Park from 9am to Noon, 6400 South 1200 West, Murray. This is weather dependent.

He also announced that for the new moon weekend, May 2-5, there will be a star party at Capitol Reef.

SLAS member Steve Anderson gave a nice tribute to long-time member, Scott Crosby, who died recently.

Tom Svecik, Clark Planetarium employee, announced he needs 2-3 volunteers for Astronomy Day on May 11. He is also asking for two solar scopes for display. Please email John Johansen if you can volunteer.

Rodger Fry thanked everyone who helped with the SPOC clean-up. He also thanked our SLCC host, Jonathan Barnes for letting us always use the room.

Tony Sarra announced the next Imaging Session will be May 4 at 8PM at the U. He will send a SLAS blast.

The meeting was adjourned to Village Inn for "Advanced Training" at 8:50 pm.

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.

2019 SLAS Board of Directors

President	John Johansen	801.550.0993	jjmagic19@comcast.net
Meetings			
Vice President	Leslie Fowler	801.554.5697	2sistersatstudio32@gmail.com
Publicity, PR and Web Content			
Secretary-Treasurer	Denise Larsen	801.913.1622	climberette@yahoo.com
Membership Dues & Renewals			
Board Member at Large	Luke Moses	970.376.2529	luke.moses1@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	Rodger Fry	801.288.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Private Star Party Coordinator	Don Colton	801.571.9757	dcolton@sprint@earthlink.net
Solar Scope Manager	Ken Porras	801.210.8427	kennethprrs@gmail.com
Webmaster	Ken Warner		webmaster@slas.us
ZAP Grant Writer	Jim Keane	801.942.3516	jimk@sisna.com

SPOC Advisory Committee

Chair through JAN 2021	Rodger Fry	801.288.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Member through JAN 2021	Rodger Fry	801.288.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Member through JAN 2021	Stan Eriksen	801.446.1479	staneriksen@icloud.com
Member through DEC 2020	Larry Holmes	801.467.7855	larry@kijoda.com
Member through FEB 2022	Leslie Fowler	801.554.5697	2sistersatstudio32@gmail.com
Member through DEC 2020	Patrick Wiggins	435.882.1209	4099wiggins@gmail.com
Member through JAN 2021	Jim Keane	801.913.7372	jimk@sisna.com
Member while SLAS President	John Johansen	801.550.0993	jjmagic19@comcast.net
Member through FEB 2022	Tony Lau	801.910.2170	tony@waymega.com
Member as Obser. Dir. Emeritus	Bruce Grim	435.882.5237	bmargrim@msn.com
Member while Harmons Rep.	Vacant		

SPOC Telescope Instruction Coordinators

Refractor	Marlene Egger	801.557.4549	marleneegger@ymail.com
Ealing	Jim Keane	801.913.7372	jimk@sisna.com
Grim	Rodger Fry	801.288.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Clements	Leslie Fowler	801.554.5697	2sistersatstudio32@gmail.com

Events Calendar

May 2019

- 08 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 10 Star party at Cougar Harmons, 4872 W 6200 S, dusk to 10:00 pm
- 11 Star party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 10:00 pm
- 15 General Meeting at SLCC's [Rampton Technology Building](#), Taylorsville Campus, 7:30 pm
- 18 Sun party, 6400 S 1100 W, 9:00 am to noon
- 24 Star party at [Wheeler Farm](#), 6351 S 900 E, dusk to 10:00 pm
- 25 Star party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 10:00 pm

June 2019

- 07 Star Party at Brickyard Harmons Grocery Store, 3270 S 1300 E, dusk to 11:00 pm
- 08 Star Party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 11:00 pm
- 12 Board Meeting at Denny's Restaurant, 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 15 Sun party, 6400 S 1100 W, 9:00 am to noon
- 19 General Meeting at SLCC's [Rampton Technology Building](#), Taylorsville Campus, 7:30 pm
- 21 Star party at [Wheeler Farm](#), 6351 S 900 E, dusk to 11:00 pm
- 22 Star Party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 11:00 pm

July 2019

- 05 Star Party at 7th Street Harmons 7755 S 700 E, dusk to 11:00 pm
- 06 Star Party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 11:00 pm
- 10 Board Meeting at Denny's Restaurant 250 W 500 S, 7:00 pm
- 17 General Meeting at SLCC's [Rampton Technology Building](#), Taylorsville Campus, 7:30 pm
- 20 Sun party, 6400 S 1100 W, 9:00 am to noon
- 26 Star party at [Wheeler Farm](#), 6351 S 900 E, dusk to 11:00 pm
- 27 Star Party at [SPOC](#), dusk to 11:00 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.