



The Albuquerque
Astronomical Society

TAAS Board Meeting

6:30 PM 28 December 2022

Held by Video Conference

Meeting called to order: 6:30 P.M.

Attendance: Jim Fordice, Steve Snider, Carl Larson, Bob Anderson, Mark Goodman, Rick Vergas, Boris Venet.

Absent: David Downs, Bob Havlen.

Visitor: Christina LeGrand, Mike Pendley, Joey Troy.

- Approve Agenda: Motion, approved.
- Approval of 23 November 2022 Meeting Minutes: Motion, approved.
- **Old Business**
 - Website Update: The new website is nearly completed. The auction functionality is already built in. Membership renewal reminders and new member welcome emails have been automated. The website release could happen sometime after the Annual Meeting in early to mid-January 2023.
 - Annual Meeting: Planning for the meeting is well under control and there are no other updates.
 - Nominating Committee: There are four nominations for TAAS officers for 2023 with no further nominations coming from the membership so far. Steve Snider – President, Boris Venet – Vice President, Mike Pendley – Treasurer, Christina LeGrand – Secretary. Proxy votes have been solicited via TAAS talk for those not attending the Annual Meeting in person.
 - Awards Committee: The award plaques have been ordered and will be available for pick up in the next week or so.
 - Insurance Renewal: No change from last month. The new policy will be received in late January/early February. Jim Fordice will work with the insurer to have the new contact shifted to Steve Snider.

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- Astronomy eBooks: No update.
- Books and Gear Donation: Steve Snider, with help from Rick Vergas, has picked up and moved all the gear and books to the storage facility. Some eyepieces will be integrated into the Loaner Program. All the donations will be segregated into four categories: 1) Loaner Program, 2) Equipment to be sold, 3) Items to be used as giveaways to members, 4) Items to be discarded. Mark Goodman has volunteered to help Steve Snider sort through all the books. Rick Vergas has four boxes of donated books which can be included.

The additional storage space that was rented to house these donations will be paid for with proceeds from equipment sales.

- **New Business**

- Astronomical League By-Laws: The Astronomical League has submitted a significant update to its by-laws. The most significant change is to the how votes are allocated to clubs and at-large members. Currently, at-large members have an outsized voting advantage. Other changes will bring the by-laws to be in alignment with state law in Missouri, where the AL is incorporated. There were no objections raised to the proposed by-law changes by the membership or Board.

Jim Fordice made a motion to approve the revision of the by-laws proposed by the Astronomical League in their entirety. Motion, approved. Jim will send forward TAAS Board approval to the AL.

- **Committee Reports**

As a reminder, more detailed committee reports are submitted to the Board and are available to be read on the TAAS website. Only more significant items or issues not mentioned in the reports are discussed in the Board Meetings and captured in the minutes.

- Finance: None. The financial report will be submitted in a few days.

Update January 1, 2023: David Downs submitted the December financial update and Jim Fordice submitted the General Fund Summary to the Board by email.

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- Membership: Received. Discussed. Joey Troy suggested that at some point in the future it might be useful to survey members who do not renew about their reasons for leaving. This could be automated.
- Education: Received. Discussed.
- GNT0: Received. Discussed. Over \$2500 in donations have been received for mold mitigation and repairs. A clearer picture of the total cost for the project will emerge once the work begins in the March 2023 timeframe.
- Telescope Loan Program: Received. Discussed. Activity in the Loan Program has been lower this past month, most likely due to the holiday season. Rick Vergas will give Joey Troy some additional pictures of scopes and accessories for inclusion on the new website. The automated procedures for the Loan Program that Joey has incorporated into the website should be helpful to keep the program running smoothly and as intended.
- Public Events: Received. Discussed. Steve Snider has not had any members volunteer to take over his role as Public Events Director.
- Non-Public & Special Events: None.
- Publicity: Received. Discussed. Lynne Olson would like to have help with all her publicity efforts. Board members were encouraged to point interested members to Lynne.
- Conclusion—Round the Table. Jim Fordice thanked the Board for all the support given to TAAS and him personally during his tenure as President. He expressed appreciation for the efficient and collegial way the Board worked together. In turn, the Board thanked Jim for all his efforts over the past 4+ years as President.

Adjourn: 7:14 P.M.

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GNTO Report for the Board of Directors

Submitted on 26 December 2022 by Jim Fordice

General

- We have received \$2,575 in donations for the mold demolition and Main Dome repairs.

Equipment Status

- The inverter in the PV System has shut down a couple of times. We have installed a temporary inverter to obtain reliable power for the 120 VAC devices. Due to the cost for the mold issue, I have tabled action on this effort for now.

Projects Underway

- Isengard Nexus DSC Pro: We are updating the Isengard User Guide for the new Nexus DSC Pro.
- Mold Demolition & Main Dome repairs.

Upcoming Projects

- TBD

Financial Status

- All reimbursements received.

Next Events

- 14 Jan: 3rd Quarter Moon Observing
- 21 Jan: New Moon Observing

Education Outreach: December, 2022, TAAS Board Report

The School Star Party at Cleveland Middle School, held on Tuesday, November 29, was a great success. Jess Popp, the head of the science department, was on hand to assist with the evening, as was the school Principal, Ms. Marisol Fraga. (It turns out that Ms. Fraga's son attends Cochiti Elementary, where TAAS had hosted a star party on November 15, and he was so excited by it that he wanted to attend the one at Cleveland.) The school that evening was a little busier than it has been in years past for our star party with them; there were two basketball games going on that evening, in addition to a food truck that had been scheduled. Jim Greenhouse and Geoff Skelton set up the portable planetarium in the school cafeteria, the gym being devoted to basketball. Boris Venet brought his optical bench to demonstrate the operations of a refractor to the students. On the observing field were Trish Logan, John Laning, Eric Edwards, Ed Juddo, Tom Grzybowski, and Steve Snider. A Cleveland student had also brought his scope out, and I had a long conversation with him and his mom about TAAS, encouraging him to join and attend our events. There were four planetarium shows, with a total attendance of 107. Attendance on the observing field was steady, being augmented by the students and families after the conclusion of the basketball games. Jess and I are working on a date for Cleveland Middle next year.

The following star parties have been scheduled.

Tuesday, January 10—Atrisco Heritage Academy, Elaine Stevens, contact

Thursday, January 26—San Antonito STEM Magnet School, Theresa Rodriguez, contact (No portable planetarium)

Tuesday, February 28—Mission Ave. STEM Magnet School, Dawnielle Rodriguez and Melissa Caudillo, contacts (This is a daytime classroom visit to a Kindergarten class.)

Friday, March 3—Holy Child School, Tijeras, Lisa Sanchez, contact
Fish fry being scheduled the same evening!

Tuesday, March 28—Salam Academy, Tariq Khraishi, contact

April 15-July 8, 2023—New Mexico Arts Imaginative Collective, Karen Cunningham, contact
NMAIC made an application to the Open Space Visitors Center to host a multi-media and multi-arts show. The proposal was accepted and will run for the noted dates. TAAS and NMAIC will discuss ways in which TAAS can be involved.

May 4, 2023—Mission Avenue STEM Magnet School school-wide STEM event: 4:00-7:00 p.m., portable planetarium

The other schools/individuals that are still in the discussion stage for dates are:

Teisha Holloway: After-school enrichment programs

Horizons Albuquerque, Dennis Shaulis, contact

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Goodman

TAAS Board of Directors Report
From
Steve Snider, VP & Public Events Coordinator
12/28/2022

Monthly General Meetings:

- Speakers booked:

01/07/23: Melanie Templet – “How We Got to the Moon”

- Always looking for additional speakers
- All meetings are In-Person

Public Star Parties:

01/28/23: Placitas Star Party, Placitas Community Library

Take it away Boris!!! I wish you success!

TAAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 28, 2022
PUBLICITY REPORT

For this last BOD Meeting of 2022, I would like to put forth some ideas for Publicity for 2023:

. Contact with General Meeting Speakers and Astro 101 Presentations

This information is given to Publicity by the Vice President, I contact these people and ask for a synopsis of the talk, a short bio and a preferred image and then put together an article for the webpage/newsletter and out to our resources.

. TAAS Facebook

TAAS Facebook reaches more people everywhere than you might imagine. We have gained members this way, answered questions about TAAS and attracted people to our events. In the beginning, I had three other TAAS contributors, all gone now, and was the Administrator. Now it is only myself and would like to expand and eventually turn it over to someone else as Administrator.

. TAAS Newsletter

There have been changes in the input/publishing dates on the calendar that are certainly needed, and I think they will work to everyone's advantage after the first adaptations. Ricky and Gary are excellent editors and have been very flexible to work with.

. TAAS Webpage

This will be more sophisticated as our new Webpage structure changes with the new host server and posts are more adaptive. I have a question about the "subscription" aspect put forward for some of our offerings to the public, and enjoy working with Troy on getting the most out of this medium

. Outreach to Resources in Community

In the past, this has been limited mostly to a list of about ten local entities - business, educational, organizational. The reason for the short list is that most of the others are looking for events several months in advance for their publications, and most of ours are not solidified until that time has passed. Also, some of the venues have limited capacity. Would like to evolve our submissions to more targets and begin working with more State/City/County contacts

. THE TEAM APPROACH:

I am hoping that we can build a team with a lead in each of these areas to give TAAS the exposure it deserves, and there is a huge resource of members, old and new, with talent and experience to make this happen. As I've said in the past, I'm not fond of asking for volunteers--rather that these are opportunities for involvement and creativity!

TAAS Membership Report for January 2023

New TAAS members from 21 November 2022 to 27 December 2022

Vakar Ahmed
Cam Arkin
Susan DeWitt
Brad Forbush
Drew Forbush
Julia Forbush
Kyle Forbush
Lauren Forbush
Galileo Grady
Kattie Grady
Nathaniel Grady
Anne Greene
Ronald Hahn
Anne Hittson
Finn Hittson

Jeff Hittson
Nicholas Hogan
Joseph Lukas-Drouillard Hogan
Dan Mayes
Dawn Rardin
Donald Rardin
Larry Schneider
Lisa Smith
Adam Vogt
Adam Vogt Jr
Angelica Vogt
Noah Vogt
Lisa Wood
Ferrigno Yuselew

29 New TAAS members from 21 November 2022 to 27 December 2022

554 Total TAAS Members

Regular: 294

Honorary: 4

Military: 1

Educator: 24

Student: 20

Family Members: 211

34 Renewal Notifications for March 2023

Telescope Loan Program

All is quiet on the loan Program front during this holiday season. The auction is being set up by Joey and should take place after the set up after the new TAAS website is finalized and running.

| Loan Program Statistics | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | # of Scopes | # on Loan | # Available | % on Loan |
| | 40 | 32 | 8 | 80% |
| Type: | Reflectors | Refractors | Catadioptrics | |
| | 21 | 9 | 10 | |
| Size: | Large (>8") | Medium (5"-8") | Small (<5") | |
| | 8 | 17 | 15 | |
| Tracking: | Manual | Push-To | Go-To | Tracking |
| | 24 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| | | | | As of: 12/26/22 |

The Albuquerque Astronomical Society
Treasurer's Report
Saturday, December 31, 2022

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Previous Month</u> | <u>Change</u> | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Total Account Funds | \$31,535.47 | \$28,137.89 | \$3,397.58 | Acct - Fund |
| Total Funds on Deposit | \$31,535.47 | \$28,137.89 | \$3,397.58 | (\$0.00) |

FUND SUMMARY

| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Previous Month</u> | <u>Change</u> | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| General Funds: | \$3,356.26 | \$3,640.57 | (\$284.31) | |
| GNTO Fund | \$8,148.59 | \$4,669.20 | \$3,479.39 | |
| Astronomical League | \$785.00 | \$642.50 | \$142.50 | |
| Scope Loan Program | \$493.22 | \$493.22 | \$0.00 | |
| Education Fund | \$2,127.40 | \$2,092.40 | \$35.00 | |
| Portable Planetarium Fund | \$16,110.00 | \$15,935.00 | \$175.00 | |
| Science Fair Fund | \$515.00 | \$665.00 | (\$150.00) | |
| Total Funds on Deposit | \$31,535.47 | \$28,137.89 | \$3,397.58 | (\$0.00) |

FUND DETAILS

| | General Fund | GNTO Fund | Astronomical League Fund | Scope Loan Program Fund | Education Fund | Portable Planetarium Fund | Science Fair Fund | TOTAL | Error |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Income: | | | | | | | | | |
| Memberships | \$590.00 | \$350.00 | \$142.50 | | | \$175.00 | | \$1,257.50 | \$0.00 |
| Donations | \$75.00 | \$2,800.00 | | | \$35.00 | | | \$2,910.00 | \$0.00 |
| Interest - Checking | \$0.24 | | | | | | | \$0.24 | \$0.00 |
| Interest - Savings | \$4.68 | | | | | | | \$4.68 | \$0.00 |
| GNTO Donation Boxes | | \$198.47 | | | | | | \$198.47 | \$0.00 |
| Blackbaud Giving Fund | \$61.49 | | | | | | | \$61.49 | \$0.00 |
| Fidelity Charitable | | \$200.00 | | | | | | \$200.00 | \$0.00 |
| Pressable Refund | \$187.50 | | | | | | | \$187.50 | \$0.00 |
| PayPal Giving Fund | \$1.00 | | | | | | | \$1.00 | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total Deposits | \$919.91 | \$3,548.47 | \$142.50 | \$0.00 | \$35.00 | \$175.00 | \$0.00 | \$4,820.88 | \$0.00 |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | | |
| Adobe Subscription | \$57.10 | | | | | | | \$57.10 | \$0.00 |
| RightSpace Storage (F32) | \$218.00 | | | | | | | \$218.00 | \$0.00 |
| RightSpace Storage (F28) | \$225.00 | | | | | | | \$225.00 | \$0.00 |
| RightSpace Storage (F28) | \$190.00 | | | | | | | \$190.00 | \$0.00 |
| PayPal expense | \$106.19 | | | | | | | \$106.19 | \$0.00 |
| Verizon (GNTO Fund) | | \$69.08 | | | | | | \$69.08 | \$0.00 |
| Website (Site Ground) | \$59.88 | | | | | | | \$59.88 | \$0.00 |
| Website (WP Webhooks) | \$160.55 | | | | | | | \$160.55 | \$0.00 |
| TAAS Science Award (CK #142) | | | | | | | \$150.00 | \$150.00 | \$0.00 |
| Pressable Charge | \$187.50 | | | | | | | \$187.50 | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total Withdrawals | \$1,204.22 | \$69.08 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$150.00 | \$1,423.30 | \$0.00 |
| Total Fund Changes | (\$284.31) | \$3,479.39 | \$142.50 | \$0.00 | \$35.00 | \$175.00 | (\$150.00) | \$3,397.58 | \$0.00 |
| Check Totals | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Actual current: | | | | | | | | | |
| Checking | \$ 3,638.68 | | | | | | | | |
| Savings | \$ 27,003.32 | | | | | | | | |
| PayPal | \$ 893.47 | | | | | | | | |
| Total: | \$ 31,535.47 | | \$31,535.47 | CheckSum | \$0.00 | | | | |

2022 TAAS General Fund Financial Summary

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total | Budget |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Memberships | \$465.00 | \$375.00 | \$335.00 | \$530.00 | \$350.00 | \$530.00 | \$300.00 | \$500.00 | \$280.00 | \$515.00 | \$395.00 | \$590.00 | \$5,165.00 | \$4,000.00 |
| Donations | \$30.00 | \$80.00 | \$20.00 | \$185.00 | \$37.50 | \$465.50 | \$60.00 | \$252.50 | \$75.00 | \$342.50 | \$60.00 | \$75.00 | \$1,683.00 | \$1,400.00 |
| General Mills | \$61.49 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General Electric | \$100.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Amazon Smile | | | \$36.79 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Blackbaud Giving Fund | | | | \$61.49 | | | \$61.49 | | | \$61.49 | | \$61.49 | | |
| PayPal Giving Fund | | | | | | \$1.00 | \$1.00 | | | | | \$1.00 | | |
| Berlyly Comm Fund | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$954.24 | \$400.00 |
| Fidelity Charitable Fund | | | | | | | | | \$0.06 | | | | | |
| Amazon Smile | | | | | | \$35.01 | | | \$38.43 | | \$38.69 | | | |
| Bachechi Star Party Fee | | | | | | | | | | | \$100.00 | | | |
| Pressable Refund | | | | | | | | | | | | \$187.50 | | |
| Interest | \$0.25 | \$0.23 | \$0.20 | \$0.21 | \$0.19 | \$0.21 | \$0.21 | \$0.21 | \$0.23 | \$0.22 | \$0.23 | \$4.92 | | |
| ALCON Vendor Payments | | | | \$100.00 | | \$350.00 | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | -\$575.00 | | | | \$0.00 | |
| Banquet Deposits | | | | | \$805.00 | \$420.00 | -\$1,225.00 | | | | | | \$0.00 | |
| Total | \$656.74 | \$455.23 | \$391.99 | \$876.70 | \$1,192.69 | \$1,801.72 | \$522.70 | \$777.71 | -\$81.28 | \$919.21 | \$593.92 | \$919.91 | \$7,802.24 | \$5,800.00 |
| Adobe Subscription | \$57.16 | \$57.16 | \$57.16 | \$57.16 | \$57.16 | \$57.16 | \$57.10 | \$57.10 | \$57.10 | \$57.10 | \$57.10 | \$57.10 | \$685.56 | |
| Storage Unit | \$198.00 | \$198.00 | \$198.00 | \$198.00 | \$198.00 | \$198.00 | \$218.00 | \$218.00 | \$218.00 | \$218.00 | \$218.00 | \$218.00 | \$2,496.00 | |
| Insurance | \$975.00 | | \$601.50 | | | | | | | | | | \$1,576.50 | |
| Pleated File Folder | \$25.34 | | | | | | | | | | | | \$25.34 | |
| Door Prizes | | \$400.00 | | | \$100.00 | | | | | | | | \$500.00 | |
| Annual Awards | | \$331.45 | | | | | | | | | | | \$331.45 | |
| Norton Subscription | | \$113.27 | | | | | | | | | | | \$113.27 | |
| Move funds to Science Fair Fund | | | | \$200.00 | | | | | | | | | \$200.00 | |
| Post Office Box | | | | \$182.00 | | | | | | | | | \$182.00 | |
| NM Corporate Registration Fee | | | | \$10.00 | | | | | | | | | \$10.00 | |
| Zoom Subscription | | | | | \$161.70 | | | | | | | | \$161.70 | |
| Aphelion Banquet | | | | | | | \$962.36 | | | | | | \$962.36 | |
| Aphelion Banquet - Cash Bar | | | | | | | \$110.74 | | | | | | \$110.74 | |
| Notebooks | | | | | | | | \$23.71 | | | | | \$23.71 | \$7,361.00 |
| Stamps | | | | | | | | \$12.00 | | | | | \$12.00 | |
| Postage | | | | | | | | \$4.50 | | | | | \$4.50 | |
| ALCON 2021 Door Prize | | | | | | | | | \$150.00 | | | | \$150.00 | |
| Laptop Repair | | | | | | | | | \$138.65 | | | | \$138.65 | |
| Laser Pointer | | | | | | | | | | | \$37.70 | | \$37.70 | |
| Website License for WPForms | | | | | | | | | | | \$99.00 | | \$99.00 | |
| General Meeting Speakers Dinner | | | | | | | | | | | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | |
| Extra Storage Unit for Donated Items | | | | | | | | | | | | \$415.00 | \$415.00 | |
| Website (Pressable) | | | | | | | | | | | | \$187.50 | \$187.50 | |
| Website (Site Ground) | | | | | | | | | | | | \$59.88 | \$59.88 | |
| Website (WP Webhooks) | | | | | | | | | | | | \$160.55 | \$160.55 | |
| PayPal Cost | \$36.25 | \$32.20 | \$24.87 | \$43.98 | \$55.71 | \$65.81 | \$31.34 | \$43.91 | \$24.02 | \$49.11 | \$33.52 | \$106.19 | \$546.91 | |
| Total | \$1,291.75 | \$1,132.08 | \$881.53 | \$691.14 | \$572.57 | \$320.97 | \$1,379.54 | \$359.22 | \$587.77 | \$324.21 | \$495.32 | \$1,204.22 | \$9,240.32 | |
| Monthly | Month Change | -\$635.01 | -\$676.85 | -\$489.54 | \$185.56 | \$620.12 | \$1,480.75 | -\$856.84 | \$418.49 | -\$669.05 | \$595.00 | \$98.60 | -\$284.31 | -\$213.08 |
| Balance | Monthly Balance | \$2,934.33 | \$2,257.48 | \$1,767.94 | \$1,953.50 | \$2,573.62 | \$4,054.37 | \$3,197.53 | \$3,616.02 | \$2,946.97 | \$3,541.97 | \$3,640.57 | \$3,356.26 | |

2021 EOY Cash \$3,569.34

Anticipated Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Annual Awards | \$0 |
| Banquet Door Prizes | \$0 |
| Banquet Subsidy | \$0 |
| Paypal Costs | \$0 |
| Insurance | \$0 |
| Storage Unit | \$0 |
| Post Office Box | \$0 |
| Science Fair | \$0 |
| Astronomical League Dues | \$0 |
| Norton 360 | \$0 |
| Zoom Subscription | \$0 |
| Quicken Subscription | \$0 |
| Adobe Subscription | \$0 |
| NM Corporate Registration Fee | \$0 |
| ALCON 2021 Door Prize | \$0 |
| Misc Costs (e.g. Speakers) | \$0 |
| ALCON Vendor Payments | \$0 |
| Banquet Payments | \$0 |
| Total: | \$0 |