



Peoria Astronomical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 10111 Peoria, IL 61612-0111
Section of Peoria Academy of Science
Affiliate of the Astronomical League

www.astronomical.org

STARLITE

SUMMER, 2014

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Directors:

President:

Vice-President:

Secretary: Tatiana Johnson, 2gsheps@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dan Son, sonshine92@comcast.net

Parliamentarian: Nick Johnson, johnsnl@comcast.net

Nominating Chairman: John Barra, jbarra31@aol.com
Legal Agent: Mike Hay, me.hay@comcast.net
Northmoor Chairman: Nick Johnson, johnsnl@comcast.net
Jubilee Chairman: Robert Pauer, sbpauer@winco.net

PEORIA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/PeoriaAstronomicalSociety

Editor's Notes: Starlite Editors: Mike and Linda Hay: me.hay@comcast.net or ls_hay@yahoo.com (little L not #1 and underscore between s and h)

Articles may be submitted via two email addresses: ls_hay@yahoo.com or Starlighteditor@gmail.com. Deadlines for articles for the 2014 publications are: August 20 and November 19. (Please submit all articles in a **WORD** format. I have an older Windows XP desktop computer that is using Word 2000. Files sent as PDF files cannot be read on it.) I appreciate the cooperation with meeting the deadlines. It makes my job so much easier. Thank you. Thank you also for the promptness of articles this time.

PLEASE NOTE:

Please notify Scott Swords at sswords3@comcast.net if you will be getting a new mailing address, email address and/or phone number. It is important that he has your personal information correct so you will continue to receive the Starlite and the Reflector. He would also like to receive any changes to your e-mail address as this is part of his database.

If you would like to join the Peoria Astro e-group or if you have changed your e-mail address, please notify Mike Frasca at mfrasca@att.net with your e-mail address (for in-club use only – not given out to other sources). He does not need your mailing address or phone number. If you are not a member of the e-group, you may want to consider joining. A great deal of club activity information is sent via the e-group. And by the way, it is free to join!!!

NEW MEMBERS:

The Peoria Astronomical Society welcomes new members:

Sarah Flanagan, Dunlap
Emily Jacob, Tremont

GOODBYE TO A MEMBER:

As we welcome new members, we also remember Wally Jaquet, a long time member of the PAS who passed away this past month. He was very active in the East Peoria Festival of Lights as well as well as PAS. He will be missed by many.

POSITIONS (URGENTLY NEEDED TO BE FILLED)

PRESIDENT of PAS You may have noticed that the President and Vice President positions on the Board of Directors on page one are blank. It is extremely important that we have someone willing to step up and take these positions bringing fresh perspectives, leadership and ideas to the Society. There is a great Board of Directors (some who are already holding more than one position on the Board and/or committees) willing to work beside you to keep the Society growing and accomplishing great things. (As a note: Legal paperwork that is filed with the State of Illinois requires a President's name.)

VICE-PRESIDENT of PAS

Program Chairman

If you are willing to serve in one of these offices/positions or know someone who might be willing, please contact John Barra, nominations chair.

Standing and Special Committees:

Northmoor Observatory Committee Chairperson - Nick Johnson

Membership Committee Chairperson - Scott Swords

Jubilee Chairperson - Bob Pauer

Public Relations - Kathy Dittmeier

Starlite Committee Chairperson - Mike Hay, Linda Hay

Program Chairperson - Open

Peoria Academy of Sciences Rep - Bill Cole

Light Control Chairperson - Jesse Hoover

Light Control Committee - Rich Tennis, and Kathryn (Kate) Shackelford

Website - Jesse Hoover

Observing - Gary Bussman

Nominating Committee – John Barra

Submission of photos / article content for the website:

If you have taken a nice photo that you would like to display on the PAS website, please send these to hooveje@gmail.com. Photos can be anything relating to astronomy. Maybe you snapped a good photo from a star party, club event, personal viewing, etc. Any astro-photography is encouraged! Also, if you have educational content, tips, techniques, lessons learned, or how-to articles with photos, we encourage that material also for the website. Just send me your photos or content, and I can review and post it to the website. Thanks! –Jesse Hoover

The Caterpillar Matching Gifts Program

From Brian Hakes

As of July 1, 2012 the Cat matching gifts program changed. Employees/Retirees are asked to submit matching gift forms electronically via the Caterpillar Foundation website, www.caterpillar.com/foundation.

The process is easy. Once you made your gift to the PAS you can go on line to the Cat Foundation website and complete the electronic form, there is no paper involved. Once the form is registered with the foundation they will notify the PAS and the treasurer will then verify the gift has been received. Because there will be no mailings, the turnaround time for the whole process will be negligible. This is especially advantageous at the end of the calendar (tax) year.

This is an excellent way to support the PAS. If you can, please participate in this generous program. This is a great way to help the society and the promotion of astronomy in the greater Peoria area.

TELESCOPE CLINICS

There will be clinics offered by Rich Tennis on how to use your telescope. These will take place at Northmoor Observatory on the second Saturday of each month through October, weather permitting). Bring your telescope and he will offer you guidance about how to use it. More clinics may be offered later in the summer.

SUMMER STAR PARTIES/OBSERVING NIGHTS Observing Chairman: Gary Bussman

Here are the dates for our star party's to be held out at Jubilee Observatory.

May 23/24 3rd quarter moon weekend
30/31 new moon weekend

June 20/21 3rd quarter moon weekend
27/28 new moon weekend

July 18/19 3rd quarter moon weekend
25/26 new moon weekend

August 15/16 3rd quarter moon weekend
25/26 new moon weekend

These are the weekends that are the best for deep sky observing. Most people will communicate using the e-group to see if anyone is going out to Jubilee observatory. On July 26th we are having a star

party out at Lake Thunderbird in Putnum County. This will be hosted by Larry Wilson. More information to come in the coming months on this.

Every Saturday night from May thru October, Northmoor Observatory at Donavon Golf Course is open for public viewing. Members are welcomed to bring their telescope out there for general observing. This will be good for the public to look thru telescopes. Look forward to the up coming viewing season and hope to see many of you out there.

From Starlites Past

By John Barra

50 Years Ago
Newsletter Summer 1964

“A total eclipse of the moon will be visible from Peoria, June 24, 1964. Although the moon will be totally eclipsed when it rises, part of the umbral and the entire penumbral portion of the ellipse will be observable from our location after totality.”

If you got up in the middle of the night on April 15 this year you saw a spectacular total lunar eclipse here. I got up twice to see it with my binoculars. The moon did look red during totality. Next total eclipse will be on October 8 of this year.

“In order that every member of our society may enjoy the fine facilities at our disposal, the observatory (Northmoor) will be open every Friday night, May through November, from 7:30 pm. to 10:30 pm.”

Fifty years later we are still providing that service, and to the public too. We have been doing that on Saturday nights for a long time. Now we are open from mid-May to Mid-October.

25 Years Ago
Summer Starlite 1989

“Summer is here and with it beautiful weather. Now is the time to get out to the Observatory (Jubilee). I (Mike Hay) was at Jubilee recently, and using the 14” Compustar, looked at six Messier objects in less than ten minutes.”

Now with the dome for the 14-inch back in service, but the electrical system for the scope fried for good, the board is considering several ideas for what type of scope to put into it. Any ideas from the membership should be forwarded to any board member.

“April 14, 1989, marked the passing of another charter member and early shining light in our Society. Josephine Anita Robinson who died at the age of 91 in her Peoria home. She is numbered among the few human beings who had the privilege of seeing Comet Halley twice!”

I won't, since Halley won't be back until 2061 and I would be 112. Then again I didn't see it the first time. Maybe I'll see Hale-Bopp twice. Wait. It won't return until around 4385!

Article for sale (from the PAS website)

6" Celestron Reflector Scope on a "go to" mount.

Here is an article by Ian Morison of Jodrell Bank Observatory talking about it:

<http://www.jb.man.ac.uk/public/im/cel130SLT.html>

Here is an ad for one :

<http://www.celestron.com/portal/celestron-nexstar-130slt.html>

It comes with a 25mm and a 9mm eyepiece, and all the manuals and cd's that came with it.

Asking \$350.00

Please contact Ron Ghighi if interested.

Please contact the [Webmaster](#) if you have an astronomy-related item for sale

FROM JESSE HOOVER:

I have a friend who is selling their Zhumell 12 in. dobsonian reflector telescope. It's \$700 new and they are asking \$500. Like new condition. Let me know if you are interested...

Thanks,

Jesse Hoover

<mailto:hooveje%40gmail.com>

(309) 258-0343

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2014

Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 PM by Jesse Hoover

Attendees: Rich Tennis, Nick Johnson, Scott Swords, Calene Fleming, Mike Hay, Gary Bussman, Jesse Hoover, Mike Frasca, Dan Son, Tatiana Johnson

Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed. A correction was made by Nick Johnson– the meeting was requested by the Great Burr Oak Science Club, and not the city of Pekin as stated in the minutes. The minutes were corrected and approved.

Dan Son reported that 45 PAS members had paid the dues up to the date. He also reported on the club's revenue and expenses, and emphasized the fact that the expenses exceeded the revenue. Nick reported the 2014 hosting schedule had been put together. However, there were not enough volunteers, and there would be no public viewings the first two weeks of May or the last two weeks of October. Mike Hay reported the Starlite would be mailed by March 1st. Dan inquired if anyone had written an article about John Dobson, and suggested Eric would be a good candidate to write it since he knew John Dobson personally.

Dan reported the decision had been made to purchase the telescope from Tim McGrath for \$250, with the digital equipment included. Tim's annual dues were waived in exchange. Meeting was adjourned at approx. 8:42 PM.

March 20, 2014

Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 PM chaired by Nick Johnson and Jesse Hoover.

Attendees: Rich Tennis, Nick Johnson, Scott Swords, Calene Fleming, Mike Hay, Gary Bussman, John Barra, Eric Clifton, Dan Son, Robert Pauer, Jesse Hoover, Tatiana Johnson.

Agenda was approved. February meeting minutes were corrected and approved.

Dan Son reported the number of members who had not paid the dues up to date. It was decided to make the payment to the Academy of Science before the April 1 deadline based on the current number of members. Nick, Eric and Rich met with the Art and Society Magazine for an interview and a photo shoot at the observatory. The article is scheduled to be published in the May issue of the magazine. Bob reported there had been no activity at Jubilee. He discussed securing the new door or repairing the old one with Eric. Bob had already priced the new door at Menards. He reported on the condition of the mower. Although the engine ran well, it made screeching noises and was in need of repair. Eric offered to contact Perry White regarding taking the mower in for service. Calene inquired about the newly purchased telescope from Tim McGrath. Dan Son had it in his possession, and would send the description to Calene. It was decided to store it at the Northmoor observatory. John Barra reported there were two vacant

positions on the Board - vice president, and program chairperson. Scott reported on a new member – Emily Jacob of Tremont. Jesse reported on the plans to have a more formal program schedule for next year. He volunteered to continue taking care of the technical aspect of the presentations. Scott suggested considering the Sportsmen’s club as a new venue for the meetings, in lieu of the planetarium. Gary reported the ICC start party was scheduled for April 25-26. He offered to send out a reminder and get a telescope count for the event through the e-group. Meeting was adjourned: 9:00 PM.

April minutes are not available due to the early publication of the Starlite before the Board meeting.