

NOVA



Official Newsletter of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society

Volume 40 Number 3 May - June 2010

Please Welcome The Newest SLAS Members!

Dillon, Toby - Tooele, UT
Hollinshead, Scott - South Jordan, UT
McCabe, Kenneth - Bluffdale, UT
Morrow, Frank - Salt Lake City, UT

Mullaly, Catherine - Park City, UT
Oldham, Cecile - West Valley City, UT
Schafer, Chaise - Salt Lake City, UT
Taylor, Mike - Park City, UT



M-63, The Sunflower Galaxy Image by Tyler Allred (color & processing) & Patrick Wiggins (luminance).

Congratulations!

Jeremy Jackson for completing training on SPOC's Bogdan Refractor.

Jay Eads, Mark Shelton and Fred Swanson for completing training on SPOC's Ealing Reflector.

Minutes of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society

Board Meeting, 09 March 2010

SLAS President Dave Bernson called the meeting to order in the Denny's restaurant located at 250 West 500 South in SLC at 7:05 p.m. Others in attendance were Vice-President Rodger Fry, Secretary/Treasurer Joe Bauman & Board Members at Large Nate Goodman & Mike Wilson and members, Bruce Grim, Roger Butz, Patrick Wiggins, Cory Bauman, John Houser, Alpine Stringham, Lowell Lyon, David Hays and Kevin Hays.

Joe reported that he had filed the paperwork with the Utah Department of Commerce which will allow SLAS to seek donations. He said that during the filing process he learned that it is illegal for SLAS to hold raffles or drawings. Kevin Hays will look into how SLAS can handle awarding door prizes at parties.

Joe said that the value of the star party fliers the Tooele Transcript Bulletin was \$410.00. Roger Butz said he had expressed our thanks to the Bulletin.

Joe added he had ironed out the problems we've been having with Zion's Bank and he no longer thinks we need to switch banks.

He concluded by noting that the recent \$600 donation from Harmons must be spent only on Harmons star parties. To that end he will add a "Harmons" line item to the budget.

Dave said that he had spoken to Mike Murray at the planetarium about buying planispheres in bulk to be given away at Salt Lake County star parties. ZAP funds would be used for the purchase. He will get back to Mike and ask specifically about Edmund Star Finders.

The club is planning Messier Marathons at SPOC this Friday and Saturday and next Friday and Saturday as well.

Lowell Lyon reported on preparations for the upcoming ALCON at Bryce Canyon. He said the League wants to hold ALCONs at Bryce every 3rd year. While there will be no discounts for SLAS members Lowell said Ruby's Inn has agreed to donate use of their convention center and will offer discounts to convention attendees. Astronomy magazine will advertise the ALCON.

Roger went over SLAS Loaner Scope program requirements. Two of the Dobsons will be available after 30 days of SLAS membership. Most of the other scopes can be borrowed after 60 days, the exceptions being the new Intelliscope and the PSTs (solar scope) which require 6 months membership.

The PSTs can be borrowed for 1 week. The Intelliscope for 2 weeks. The rest of the loaner scopes can be borrowed for one month.

Mike Wilson said that a number of school star parties had been scheduled. Details of school and special star parties can be found by [logging in](#) to the Members Only portion of the club's website and clicking on "[Events Calendar](#)".

Dave said that Dr. Marjorie Chan from the U of U's Geology & Geophysics Department would be the speaker at next week's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

General Meeting, 16 March 2010

SLAS President Dave Bernson called the meeting to order in room 105 of the University of Utah's Engineering/Mines building at 7:31 p.m. Approximately 40 people attended the meeting.

After the usual introduction of board members and new members Dave introduced the evening's guest speaker Dr. Marjorie Chan from the U of U's Geology & Geophysics Department. Dr. Chan spoke about Mars / Earth analogs.

After a break Dave showed a stack of Observers Guides to this year's star parties that Kurt Fisher wrote and printed.

SPOC training director Mark Bloomenthal announced that the SPOC instructors are finishing up refresher classes and that SPOC telescope operator classes for all interested members will start soon.

Sec/Treas Joe Bauman displayed the treasurer's report. It showed:

General Fund	\$ 4,716.90
Postage & Printing	192.12
Entertainment	256.38
Astronomical League	565.00
Insurance	1,315.50
Outreach	934.00
SPOC	3,091.15
H-Alpha	120.00
ZAP Grant	2,131.32
Harmons Grant	600.00
Total	\$13,922.37

Joe noted that the Harmons Grant is a new entry and reflects money recently received from Harmons for use only at Harmons star parties. The money is intended to cover the cost of two telescopes and a pair of binoculars to be given away at Harmons on Astronomy Day.

Dave reported that an award and grant SLAS had applied to Astronomy magazine for was declined.

He asked if there were any objections to paying money from the ZAP fund for out of town speaker expenses. There were none.

Dave went over upcoming public star parties and Mike Wilson announced upcoming private star parties. Members should check the club's website for details.

The meeting was adjourned to "Advanced Training" at Village Inn on 900 East 400 South at 9:06 p.m.

Board Meeting, 13 April 2010

SLAS President Dave Bernson called the meeting to order in the Denny's restaurant located at 250 West 500 South in SLC at 7:08 p.m. Others in attendance were Vice-President Rodger Fry, Secretary/Treasurer Joe Bauman, Board Members at Large Nate Goodman and Mike Wilson and

members Cory Bauman, David Hays, Kevin Hays, John Houser, Bruce Grim, Roger Butz, Erik Hansen and Patrick Wiggins.

Joe announced we have our charitable solicitation permit from the Utah State Commerce Department.

Dave said he'd received word from a SLAS member living in central Utah, who's also a ranger at Capitol Reef, that there's to be a private star party near but not in Capitol Reef and they asked SLAS to participate. No date yet but they are thinking about a weekend near the new Moon in October or November. Dave will ask the membership and get back to the requestor.

At Patrick's suggestion the board agreed that the club should not agree to do any private star parties until enough volunteers have been found.

Dave said Dinosaur National Monument and Jordanelle State Park are seeking volunteers for star parties.

Dave will be the "go to" person for this year's Astronomy Day activities. He will arrange for the purchase of the telescopes to be given away at our activities which will be held 1 May at SPOC and 21 May at the Brickyard Harmons.

Patrick has spoken with Edmund Scientific about planispheres to give away at star parties. Normally \$50 plus shipping for packs of \$25 they will sell them to us for \$40 with shipping included. The board approved buying 500 and accepted Patrick's offer handle the purchase.

Erik said we need to put together a budget for next year's ZAP grant application. The board approved the purchase of two mounts for the club's PSTs from Orion using ZAP funds. Banners, books and binoculars were also suggested.

\$50 was approved for an honorarium to a grant writer for the next ZAP grant.

Rodger will check with channel 7 about taping an interview on "Contact" about star parties.

Patrick discovered a situation with the online reservation system that allows some members to reserve a SPOC scope without paying the SPOC fee. The board confirmed an earlier policy that anyone wishing to reserve a SPOC scope must first pay the annual SPOC user fee. Patrick will contact the webmaster about fixing the glitch.

Roger suggested the Daystar solar filter should routinely be used on the Bogdan refractor prior to SPOC public star parties and one Saturday afternoon per month for members and guests only. Roger will see that the latter is put on the members only part of the club's website.

Nate Goodman, Bill Kennedy, Dave Bernson and Roger Butz will share the responsibility of curating the club's Orion Intelliscope. Others wishing to help with the scope's curation should contact one of the above. Like the C-11 at SPOC the scope belongs to SLAS but is not part of the loaner scope program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

General Meeting, 20 April 2010

SLAS President Dave Bernson called the meeting to order in room 104 of the University of Utah's Engineering/Mines building at 7:33 p.m. Approximately 51 people attended the meeting.

After the usual introduction of board members and new members Dave introduced the evening's guest speaker, Dr. Stephan LeBohec from the U's Department of Physics and Astronomy. Dr. LeBohec spoke about stellar imaging and the U's Optical Interferometry work, including that being conducted at their site near Grantsville, Utah.

Mike Wilson went over upcoming special star parties.

Don Colton spoke about this year's Bryce Canyon Astronomy Festival to be held the nights of 7 through 12 July. Those wishing to attend with telescopes are encouraged to sign up ahead of time.

Lowell Lyon presented an update on next year's Astronomical League convention (ALCon) to be held in Bryce Canyon 29 June through 2 July. Lowell noted this will be the first time the league has held a convention in a national park. He also invited everyone to attend this year's ALCon in Tucson.

Dave went over this year's SLAS Astronomy Day activities and purchases. We will purchase 1,000 planispheres from Edmund Scientific with half of the money coming from ZAP funds and half from the General Fund. He said he'd also arranged for a special price for 4 telescopes. The telescopes and the planisphere's will be given away as part of our Astronomy Day activities.

Sec/Treas Joe Bauman announced we now have our permit from the state to solicit donations. He then displayed the treasurer's report. It showed:

General Fund	\$ 4,916.61
Postage & Printing	178.12
Entertainment	308.88
Astronomical League	670.00
Insurance	479.50
Outreach	976.00
SPOC	3,316.15
H-Alpha	140.00
Sky Publishing	32.95
ZAP Grant	2,131.32
Harmons Grant	600.00
Total	\$13,827.53

The meeting was adjourned to "Advanced Training" at Village Inn on 900 East 400 South at 9:09 p.m.

SLAS Meeting Parking

When parking at the University of Utah for SLAS meetings only those parking lots marked with a "U" are free after 6:00 p.m. Parking is also permitted in the "A" lot north of the Kennecott Building after 6:00 p.m. Map: <http://slas.us/location.htm>

2010 SLAS Member Information

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

Loaner Telescopes For SLAS Members

SLAS has several scopes available for loan to current SLAS members. Contact Roger Butz at 435.830.4684 for details. Or look on the SLAS web site under "[Membership Benefits](#)".

2010 SLAS Board of Directors

President	David Bernson	801.263.9264	dustynebula@juno.com
Meetings			
Vice President	Rodger Fry	801.268.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Publicity & Public Relations			
Secretary-Treasurer	Joe Bauman	801.583.7935	josephmbauman@yahoo.com
Membership Dues & Renewals			
Board Member at Large	Mike Wilson	801.966.4981	astro_outwest@yahoo.com
School & Special Star Parties			
Board Member at Large	Nate Goodman	801.964.6199	ngoodman@lgcy.com
Public Outreach Director, Web content			

2010 Appointed Positions

Astronomical League Contact	Erik Hansen	801.253.2201	zaurak@digis.net
Dark Sky Committee Chair	Scott Crosby	801.295.5798	scott.crosby@hill.af.mil
Equipment Manager	Roger Butz	435.830.4684	dutchbutz@yahoo.com
Historian	Ann Blanchard	801.485.6629	a.blanchard@ugs.utah.edu
Inreach Director	Rodger Fry	801.268.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
NASA Night Sky Ambassador	Ann House	801.671.8447	ann@annhouse.org
NASA Night Sky Ambassador	Troy Stratton	801.647.5142	tmstratton@comcast.net
New Member Director	Bob Moore	801.580.0466	bmoore@commercecrg.com
Nova Newsletter Editor	Patrick Wiggins	435.882.1209	paw@beehivewireless.com
Observatory Director	Bruce Grim	435.882.5237	bmargrim@msn.com
Observatory Training Director	Mark Bloomenthal	801.842.1242	markbloomenthal@yahoo.com
Private Star Party Coordinator	Don Colton	801.571.9757	dcolton@sprint@earthlink.net
Solar Scope Manager	Rodger Fry	801.268.0851	rcfry@comcast.net
Webmasters	Ken & Kathleen Warner		webmaster@slas.us
ZAP Grant Committee Chair	Erik Hansen	801.253.2201	zaurak@digis.net

2010 SPOC Advisory Committee

Chair serves through JAN 2012	Ken Harris	801.572.3457	kharrismar@earthlink.net
Member serves while SLAS Pres.	Dave Bernson	801.263.9264	dustynebula@juno.com
Member serves through JAN 2011	Mark Bloomenthal	801.842.1242	markbloomenthal@yahoo.com
Member Harmons Representative	Kevin Bushnell		
Member serves through JAN 2013	Roger Butz	435.830.4684	dutchbutz@yahoo.com
Member SPOC Training Director	Wayne Clarke	801.942.4685	waynesclarke@msn.com
Member Observatory Director	Bruce Grim	435.882.5237	bmargrim@msn.com
Member serves through JAN 2012	Bill Kennedy	801.964.6199	truss_tube@hotmail.com
Member serves through JAN 2012	Boyd McNeil	435.882.1901	bmcneil@wirelessbeehive.com
Member serves through JAN 2011	Patrick Wiggins	435.882.1209	paw@beehivewireless.com

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, special club events. The editor of NOVA is appointed by the Board. Members are encouraged to contribute content. Current NOVA editor is Patrick Wiggins, paw@wirelessbeehive.com, 435.882.1209.

Events Calendar

May 2010

- 01 Public star party at SPOC (Astronomy Day).
- 11 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, SLC.
- 18 General Meeting at U of U Engineering/Mines Classroom Building, Room 105.
- 21 Public star party at Brickyard Harmons, 3200 S 1300 E in SLC.
- 22 Public star party at SPOC.

June 2010

- 04 Public star party at Wheeler Farm, 6351 S 900 E in SLC.
- 05 Public star party at SPOC.
- 08 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, SLC.
- 15 General Meeting at U of U Engineering/Mines Classroom Building, Room 105.
- 18 Public star party at Midvale Harmons, 7755 S 700 E in Sandy.
- 19 Public star party at SPOC.
- 26 Public Sun party at Winchester Park, 6400 S 1100 W in Murray.

July 2010

- 02 Public star party at Wheeler Farm, 6351 S 900 E in SLC.
- 03 Public star party at SPOC.
- 07-11 Bryce Canyon Astronomy Festival at Bryce Canyon National Park
- 13 Board Meeting at Denny's restaurant, 250 W 500 S, SLC.
- 16 Public star party at Bangerter Crossing Harmons, 13800 S 100 E in SLC.
- 17 Public star party at SPOC.
- 20 General Meeting at U of U Engineering/Mines Classroom Building, Room 105.
- 24 Public Sun party at Winchester Park, 6400 S 1100 W in Murray.
- 30 Public star party at Wheeler Farm, 6351 S 900 E in SLC.
- 31 Public star party at SPOC.

View a list of all 2010 public SLAS events at on the Events Calendar page on the SLAS [website](#).

Unless otherwise noted board meetings begin at 7:00 p.m, general meetings begin at 7:30 p.m., public star parties run from dusk until 11:00 p.m. and public Sun parties run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Star and Sun parties are held weather permitting.

Salt Lake Astronomical Society
P.O. Box 26114
Salt Lake City, Utah 84126-0114
<http://www.slas.us>