

**Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting  
Feb. 1, 2002**

**Minutes of Eboard Meeting of the DAS**

**Feb. 1, 2002**

**Larry Brooks presiding**

Secretary Ron Pearson, read the minutes of the Dec. 01, eboard meeting (there was no meeting in Jan. 02). The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Chuck Carlson distributed a copy of the monthly balance sheet. He announced that DAS had received an invitation to the DU Founders Day Dinner. The cost would only be \$6,000.00 or \$175.00 per individual. No motion was made to allocate funds for the dinner.

VP Patti Kurtz was not present, no report.

President Larry Brooks announced cleanup of the old board room had been done on cleanup day. Corrections have been made to the Blue card schedule and calendar. The Las Vegas Astronomical Society sent a letter regarding DAS joining a network list of events. Paul Kaiser has donated his Meade LX200 10" SCT to the DAS. The scope was damaged by a fall. We need to check out the condition then eboard can decide what to do with it. Need a signed letter for tax deduct. purposes.

DU Rpt.: Dave Trott reminded the eboard that on Sat. Open House events DAS is required to abide by City Park & Rec. rules and DU invites use of the observatory. Dave discussed the various types of users at Chamberlin which include DU, DAS and public. DAS member Ron Mikel has been doing public nights and some research. Dr. Stencel inquires whether his public night openings for a church group are considered sponsored by DAS? He charges the same to the group as other public nights. Similar question for his research observing? This was tabled to New Business.

Dave also discussed the 'risk management' practices of using the Clark, and wants operators to change the procedure so whomever covers the scope manually bring the scope down to floor level and not have to climb the ladder, which is one way to reduce risk of falling. DU highly recommends use of a 'buddy system'. When using the scope tell someone you are. Generally with groups, two operators are in the building so this should not be a problem.

Dark Sky Site Comm.: reported the porch is built onto the hut. The scope raffle raised \$1,100.

Library: Jerry and Dr. Stencel want to improve the libraries relevance. Suggest doing a survey of members at one of the meetings. Now using a strip of paper for checkout and Library of Congress system. Discussed possible use of Word and Exel to database the catalog.

ListServ: no report

Public Events: Need a few more operators. Larry has a list of 10-12 to do it, will send Dave Trott. Recent purchases include 2 red lights, UHC filter, planispheres, Messier object chart.

#### Old Business:

There was mixup on nominations announced for the Feb. meeting. Ballots are now made up.

DAS now has two scopes donated for CAD. An ETX 125 and a ETX 90. Discussion was to hold to next CAD. Raffle would start in March for the 125 to end on CAD @ \$10 per ticket. ETX 90 would start on CAD till Christmas. Motion was made and passed.

#### New Business:

Van Nattan Scholarship Fund Pres. Dave Larson reported the fund received a donation of \$200 from a Reid VanNattan in Virginia. Dave distributed a financial summary of the fund. He announced the VN board had met and approved a scholarship award \$1,000 for Deborah Davis for her studies in astronomy at the U. of Arizona.

Larry announced that member/former VP, Ed Klein has been diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. There was discussion about various ways we might honor Ed for his many contributions to the DAS and especially his leadership for the Dark Sky Site. A motion was made to allocate \$100 toward an appropriate plaque (sp?). Other possible honors will be discussed at the next board meeting.

The question of Ron Mikel's use of Chamberlin scope was discussed. He is bringing in a church group for viewing through the scope with permission from Dr. Stencel. He is also doing variable star research, which is a project sponsored by Dr. Stencel and DU. The research should be under DU responsibility & insurance. If a request is made through the DAS for group viewing on any night other than tues. or thurs. regular public nights, then it must be approved by the Eboard to have DAS responsibility and insurance coverage. Larry will present a letter to eboard before sending to DU. Motion was made that for public events that are extraordinary must get the permission of a DAS officer. Motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved as read. March 1, 2002 Eboard meeting.

Ron Pearson, Secretary DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**March 1, 2002**

Eboard Meeting of the DAS  
President Larry Brooks Presided

Secretary Ron Pearson, read the minutes of the Feb. 2002 eboard meeting. They were approved as read.

President Larry Brooks reported on the following items:

He planned to meet with DMNS reps to start planning for Colorado Astronomy Day (CAD). Chamberlin cleanup - did put file cabinet in the library and will hang magazines in the files, also obtained a computer program to make tags, cleaned the upstairs and back coffee room. Carla Swartz made new signs. The LX200 10 inch scope was looked at by Greg Marino and Ted Cox. They got the dec working and it is ok for visual use, probably not accurate for anything else. Paul Kaiser, who donated the scope would like 50% of the money to go to the DSS and 50% to Paul Kaiser, if DAS sells the scope.

Library Comm. Reported Pauline Ide has arranged the books. Needs Dr. Stencil to look at what can be stored or tossed. There will be a survey in the newsletter. Purchased a library program.

DU: no report.

DSSC: report tabled to Old Business

List Serve: no report

Public events: Larry reported they had done two school programs and received very good comments.

Spring Banquet: Greg reported 21 tickets so far another 7-8 on eboard indicated they will be going.

DAS Election: Jerry Sherlin and Bill Ormsby were not re-elected. Sandy Shaw will be a new board member, and Carla Swartz will be VP.

Old Business:

Jack reported an email from Peter Abraham of the Antique Telescope Society, list of requirements for hosting the ATS meeting. Larry suggested forming a committee of interested DAS volunteers.

It was proposed to name the Dark Sky Site for Ed Kline. A motion was made and approved unanimously. It will be designated the Edmund G. Kline Dark Site. Larry will make a presentation to Ed and invite Ed and wife Debbie to be guests at the Annual Banquet.

Blair Award for Western Amateur Astronomers (WAA) nomination and voting delayed. A motion to cast the DAS vote for Jack Eastman was made and passed. Jack voted against himself.

Dave Larson reported there is a new VanNattan scholarship application.

Larry reported the construction plans for the DSS now include:

8- 6'x6' pads, 4-3'x3' pads on the north side

6'x6' pads on south side - we need to check drainage and runoff.

Vault toilet cost estimated around \$4,500. There was discussion of whether its better to suffer the porta potty or spend the money for vault toilet. General DAS Funds are used for the porta-potty (\$1,200 per year) and construction funds would be used for the vault toilet construction. Question of use of general funds on continuing basis vs. DSS funds to fund the toilet. It was noted that if a vault toilet is built, it should be handicapped accessible. The discussion was tabled. There had been a proposal from a member to supply power to pads using solar power installation at the south end. The DSSC did not consider this to be an urgent need but may consider it at later date.

Larry reported that some people using the DSS do not appear to be DAS members. He reported a conversation with a member of the club in Aurora (A3), who told him the A3 had a DSS with new pads! The member of the AAA apparently had mistaken information regarding the ownership of the DSS. He suggested to the board the need for a sign designating the site for use by members of the DAS. It was suggested this be made part of the statement on a plaque naming the site in Ed Kline's honor, such as this site is provided by and supported by and for the members of the DAS Inc. Larry will draft a notice and email to the board.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved as read April 4, 2002

Ron Pearson, Secretary, DAS Inc.

[Ron Pearson, Secretary DAS](#)



## Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting

April 5, 2002

Larry Brooks Presiding,

Secretary Ron Pearson read the minutes of the March eboard meeting. They were approved with minor changes.

Meeting opened with general discussion of several general items: A meeting with DMNS and DAS is being scheduled. Dave Trott and Patti want to attend.

The Dark Sky Site will now be known as the Edmund G. Kline Dark Site - aka Ed's Place".

The ATS convention - Jack got an email back from Peter Abraham. Jack will forward to eboard - send comments back to Jack.

DU Report : Dave Trott reported 'bad news' and 'good news.' The bad news: DU has decided that the Driscoll Center will not be taking reservations for Public Nights any longer. May 1, deadline was extended to June 1. Discussion about the alternatives for DAS to replace the reservation service - Larry estimated calls at 4-6 per week. He looked into an answering service and the cost would be about \$100 per month. DAS is currently paying DU about \$400 per year for the phone in the observatory. Chuck Carlson suggested a face to face meeting with DU rep Sheila Wright to discuss the relationship of DAS and Public Night & DU. Currently public night fees go into a PN fund to buy equipment for PN. This could probably continue if DAS raised fees to cover the cost of an answering service.

The Good News: Dave announced that he and Dr. Stencel had met with preservation architects of DU who will be writing a proposal to the Colorado Historical Society for restoration matching funds. The DU preservation architects toured the observatory and are very interested in additional restoration and raising funds. Given this, for now, DAS should hold off on sanding of the floors in the dome room. Larry stated for the Eboard, the DAS will be willing to support whatever efforts we can in this area.

Treasurer Report: Chuck distributed the monthly balance sheet. He noted we made money on the Annual Banquet. Then an eboard member pointed out he had not taken account of money paid out to the Blue Bonnet, which wiped out the 'profit'. Discussion of who needs new name tags.

VP Carla Swartz held her report for new business.

Dark Site Comm: Larry announced he will be getting building permits for warming hut electrical, vault toilet and pads. They are thinking next year we will try to construct an observatory for the 17" scope, and will start planning for it this year. This means they will need more fund raising for an observatory. Larry also reported he has been having visions related to a possible case of "aperture fever." A suggestion has been made that members

should have priority for concrete pad use, this was deferred to new business.

List Serve: no report, no problems.

Public Events: have a school program coming up at Parker. Various purchases for PN, will check with Van Slyke. Reported a Hubble slide show had a melt down in the projector, and needs to be replaced. Dan will check out condition of projector to figure why it melted the Hubble.

Old Business:

Banquet - reported under Treasurer's report, it was suggested to look into White Fence Farm for next year. Blue Bonnet was too small for the 50 people that came.

The 125 ETX raffle will start at the July Open House. The Paul Kaiser donated LX200 - ideas for what to do with it were discussed. Motion was made to leave the scope at Chamberlin for DAS use on pub nights, programs, etc. Motion passed.

New Business: Driscoll phone reservations - discussed meeting with Sheila of DU., possible letter to DU administration depending on outcome of meeting, and hiring and answering service.

Suggestion made to modify DS courtesy rules stating DAS members have priority for use of concrete pads, and that they may not be held by others waiting to show up.

Patti Kurtz reported Signal Graphics refunded us some overpayment. They are going to glossy paper which will be about \$12 more. Motion to go with the glossy paper for extra expense was made. Motion was tabled until Patti can get more information on the printing processes and prices.

Carla Swartz would like a system to reward volunteer participants, such as gift certificates. Motion was made to have small raffle prizes on a quarterly basis for recognition of volunteers, to be administered by Carla. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Minutes approved as read w/minor corrections, May 3, 2002

Ron Pearson, Secretary DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**May 3, 2002**

Meeting called to order at 8:10 p.m..  
Secretary Ron Pearson on excused absence.  
Executive Board member Steve Solon, Acting Recorder.

Steve Solon read the minutes of the April, 2002 Board meeting; they were approved as read with minor corrections.

Larry reported on the Open House cleaning of the 20-inch Alvan Clark telescope at Chamberlin Observatory, restoring it to beautiful condition.

### **TREASURER:**

Letter from Robert Clark indicating a large piece of optical glass available for sale to the Society if there is interest.

Had a catalogue for "Project Star", a childrens program of introductory astronomy.

The Antique Telescope Society will hold it's annual meeting in Dublin, Ireland from September 20-25. Treasurer Chuck Carlson will attend at Dan Wray's expense.

Motion made to, again, donate \$100.00 to Dunston Middle School for their annual "National Science Olympiad." -- motion passed.

Expense for new name tags for current new Board members discussed.

### **VICE-PRESIDENT:**

No report pending discussion of new business.

### **ED KLINE DARK-SITE COMMITTEE:**

June 1 set for staking and forming of proposed new concrete pads pending leveling by bobcat.

Larry will submit papers for proper construction and electrical permits on May 5 or 6.

Funding discussed for Dark Site observatory project slated for 2003.

### **LIST SERVE:**

No report

### **PUBLIC EVENTS:**

Damaged Public Night slide programs have been restored (kudos to Bill Ormsby.)

Decision made to reveal the "Mystery Astronomer" and purchase something for the Society from S&S Optika with the indicated prize money.

### **NEWSLETTER:**

Patti reported that paper costs for printing the "Observer" have risen -- necessary to consider options for glossy paper @ \$294.36 for the printing or matte finish for \$49.00 less -- decision made to go with matte finish. Folding and stapling now costing \$60.00 -- Board

decision to accept new expenses.

Discussion to impose a \$25.00 charge for non-members to post a "For Sale" ad in the newsletter.

"AD" award packet will go Larry and Carla for distribution.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Public Night reservations -- Larry met with Sheila - discussion handed down to Todd as to whether the Driscoll Center would continue to handle reservations for DAS Public Night, but Board feels the decision had already been made by this point, to the negative. Sending the letter proposed by the Board would have no effect. A decision was made to hire a private company to handle reservations. Larry had investigated several firms for this service.

Motion made to raise Public Night fee from \$2.00 and \$1.00 (adults and children) to \$3.00 and \$2.00 - monies to help defray new costs of private reservation company -- passed.

The DAS expressed interest in assisting the Antique Telescope Society with reservations, observatory operation, etc..

It was noted that over the course of time, several eyepieces and a binocular are missing -- discussion on expenditures to replace them.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of "Lady Astronomer's Night", a get-together for the Society's women astronomers for fun and discussion at a local restaurant.

Vice-President Carla Swartz furthered discussion on the "DAS Membership Prize Drawing" program to encourage increased participation in Society out-reach programs. Funding the prize program would require \$120.00 annually -- motion to fund the advertising and ensuing prizes passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m..

Minutes approved as read, June 14, 2002

Steve Solon, Acting Recorder [Ron Pearson](#), [Secretary](#) DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**June 14, 2002**

**Larry Brooks Presiding**

Larry started off by mentioning we need a new sign for the Public Nite fee.  
Ron Pearson, read the draft minutes of the May EB meeting. Approved as read.

### **DU Report-**

Dave Trott, reported:

New signage has been put up in Chamberlin; DU Physics and Astronomy Dept. U. of Denver's Historic Chamberlin Observatory. New name being promoted for restoration. Basement door has been fixed after vandalism.

There was lengthy discussion by Dave, regarding relationship of DU P&A and DAS. Dave wanted it to be known that the sudden change re Driscoll reservations came from 'higher-up' at DU and does not want to leave an image of 'hostility' of DU to DAS. To clear the air re this and other recent discussions and concerns, Dave related 'his' take on the situation, he can't speak officially for Dr. Stencel or DU; DU is looking to do restoration of Chamberlin, so they need pristine relationships with all involved with the Observatory, including DAS, DMNS and Neighborhood Association. Dave related how he has had a long history with DAS and restoration and DU. Dave's appointment is an 'act of friendship', effort to reach out to DAS and Driscoll's cutoff was unfortunate, not a signal of cutting relationship. The mission of DU is to educate students, do research, and there is no budget for public outreach. The telescope proposal made sense in the 'do research & education mission.'

The future looks like DU Facilities have budget to work on the Observatory, windows, electrical, but Dave does not know where it's going. Stated goal is to keep opening and functioning. DAS is the tool to do that, but it might be operated under a different aegis. There is a possibility of more DMNS collaboration. At meeting with Larry present, it was mentioned training DMNS to operate the telescope. It was noted by eboard members that finding out these things in a 'big surprise' is what hurts the relationship the most.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Chuck Carlson reported that his balance sheet program had under-reported the balance, which is now over \$10K. He had received notice for the insurance due. The rate will be going up to \$654 per yr. from \$548 per yr. Chuck presented a name-tag to new Eboard member, Sandy Shaw.

**Secretary: no report**

**VP Carla Swartz: not present, no report.**

**President Larry Brooks report:**

New Public Night reservation system is up and operating well. Rates vary on minutes, but should be about \$60 per month. The reservation price has been raised to cover the expense. There is a 24 hr. human that answers the phone. Driscoll is giving out the new phone number to those that call the old. Public Night is booked through June.

New blue cards have been printed. Inventory was recently completed and found eyepieces and binocs that were thought missing. Taking some small stuff off the inventory list.

DSC: Steve Solon reported on June 1, they staked out 6x6 pads. July will excavate and run electrical lines. May stake out the astro-photo pads then. There was some delay in requesting permits. Member Glen Frank is doing the engineers report and then can get the permits.

### **ListServe: no report**

Public Events: Larry reported that a new gate on Observatory Park driveway access put up by Park Dept. Susan Fry, says it was due to Rugby players driving on the grass. DAS also needs to keep cars off the grass. The gate will have a combination lock, which DU Security will have. We will try and get it also. Raffle for Meade ETX starts in July.

**Astronomy Day:** no report, waiting for Patti to return from S. America.

### **Old Business:**

Antique Telescope Society meeting. DAS can be here to keep Chamberlin open for meeting.

### **New Business:**

Combination lock for Ed Kline Dark Site - Larry has been telling members that called the combination. He is concerned about new people who have never been out about using the electrical and warming hut. Discussion of situation - Sandy noted she had let in 2 people that were locked out. Suggested - putting a notice in newsletter about the lock on the gate and on website so people know ahead of time- use a different combination for gate so any member can get in. The procedure will be to give out combination to gate to any member, but to change the combination on the hut and powerpole and to be given out only after a member has been shown how to use it.

DAS payment on DS lease is past due. Henry mentioned they are having a tough time due to drought. A motion was made to add extra amount on the lease payment this year of \$200, because we forgot to pay on time and for additional electrical useage. Motion passed. Treasurer will send immediately.

Larry brought up a recent email on the list about parking campers next to pads at the DS. There was discussion about parking campers and vans next to pads. Some reported it getting crowded at times. People need to show courtesy about not blocking others view or

being blocked in. Some discussion about non-members using the site; it was reported one person said he'd been going to the site for 2 years and said he will now join. Larry will post sign up about members use only and guests. Will route to eboard on eboard email list.

Jack Eastman reported he represented DAS at the Western Amateur Astronomers at RTMC. Nothing of consequence at the meeting.

Reminder the Picnic is in July, get with Carla on details.

Astronomy Day is Oct. 12.

Meeting adjourned, 10pm

Minutes Approved w/ minor corrections; July 12, 2002 Eboard meeting  
[Ron Pearson, Secretary](#) DAS

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Meeting adjourned, 10pm

Minutes Approved w/ minor corrections; July 12, 2002 Eboard meeting  
[Ron Pearson, Secretary](#) DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**August 2, 2002**

**Carla Swartz Presiding**

**President Larry Brooks** - absent

**Carla Swartz, Vice-President** presided, (not at an unknown location)

**Secretary Ron Pearson** read the minutes of the July eboard meeting. They were approved as read.

### **Reports:**

**DU:** No report.

**Treasurer:** Chuck Carlson reported there was a donation of \$300.00 to the Dark Site Fund. Steve Solon will write a letter of thanks to the donater.

**VP:** Carla reported we had received a letter on our building permit application from Arapaho Co. A copy was attached to the agenda for everyone to read. Portions of the letter were read. We have a lot to do to get up to building code/county requirements on the Dark Site construction. Therefore any new construction planned for this year may have to go on the 'back-burner' until items not approved yet are brought up to code.

**List Serv:** no report

**Public Events:** a list of items considered for purchase include eyepieces and adapter for donated telescope doesn't have. A key for the Observatory Park driveway gate will be hung on the inside of the board room door.

**Astronomy Day:** arrangements being made for all day events to be at DMNS, night events at Chamberlin. The Ricketson Auditorium has been reserved, at no charge to DAS. Alan Stern confirmed as one speaker, potential for 2-3 others. There will be 30 minute talks with Q&A. DAS members and others will have to pay the DMNS entrance fee. Exhibits will include the STARLAB, Lockheed Martin table, Liberty Bell 7 capsule on exhibition, a rocket works lab, Jack Murphy meteorites, Discovery Zone for kids. We will be allowed to have door prizes. There will be a DAS table - not sure about raffle tickets. Carla will be arranging for vendors at Chamberlin, Larry & Patti doing publicity and PR. DAS volunteers needed for cryogenics comet cart, a few displays.

**Public Night** Reservations going ok. Steve Solon said he would be interested in holding a CCD class for those interested.

### **New Business:**

Larry has a proposal for Public Night Comm. to purchase a laptop computer projector to do programs with. There was discussion of possibilities and ways to purchase. There was

discussion of name tags for regular volunteers. Steve will look into it.

**Dave Larson reported for the VanNattan-Hansen Scholarship fund.** The V-H Committee met and voted to continue support for Debra Davis, student at U. of Arizona, Tucson. He asked the eboard to vote on V-H committee members. Dave Larson, Ivan Geisler, Deb Sorg, Dennis Cochran, Tim Pimentel and Ron Pearson are the current members, and all agreed to serve again. A motion was made to accept the nominations and the motion passed. Dave asked for a short article in the newsletter about the V-H Comm. and scholarship.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Meeting Minutes Approved at Sept. 13, 2002 Eboard Meeting

Approved Minutes respectfully submitted  
Ron Pearson, Secretary DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**September 13, 2002**

**President, Larry Brooks Presiding**

**Secretary, Ron Pearson**, read the minutes of the Aug. eboard meeting. They were approved with minor corrections.

**Treasurer Chuck Carlson**, distributed a monthly balance sheet and reported balance is staying about the same. He reported that we can get 2003 Astronomy Calendars for half price of \$6.00 and we could resell them to raise money. Motion was made to buy 50 calendars and DAS will sell them for \$8.00. Motion passed.

**VP, Carla** had nothing to report.

President reported that we have two laptops donated. One will be used for LCD projector, the other for the 20 inch. He reported that Dave Trott is trying to arrange for a LCD projector to be donated. Both laptops are being worked on.

**List Serv:** Greg Marino has taken over for Patti as Yahoo! group moderator.

**Newsletter:** Patti Kurtz reported there was a breakdown at the printer's, and asked for help putting the newsletter together at her house on Tues. Next month will be the Colorado Astronomy Day newsletter, it was ok to do 200 extra copies. And she will need help with biographies for the speakers. Steve Solon, Ron Pearson, and Chuck Carlson were volunteered.

**DU Report:** Dave Trott reported he is investigating getting a used LCD projector for \$300. It needs to be tested with the laptop however. Chamberlin will be open for Denver historic house tour on 10/4 and 10/5. Open House needs to leave up special signs for the tour. Re: restoration - they are writing a proposal to the Colorado Historical Society by Oct. 1. Restoration to include mainly repair of windows, not replacement. Chuck Carlson, noted the DAS Restoration fund has about \$2000.

**Dark Site:** Larry reported on the status of county permitting. The fire permit just requires smoke alarms, and to get some data on heaters. Nothing re wide driveways or other large problems. Re; the vault toilet, we may need to stick with porta potties. There will also need to be 4 handicap parking spaces close to the warming hut.

**Old Business:** CAD - DMNS going to put us in public access areas, including solar viewing telescopes in the new west atrium. Volunteers will need DMNS passes. Raffle will be at Chamberlin only, no door prizes this year. Publicity and press releases mailing will be 2 weeks before event. Carla reported vendors will be Vic & Jen Winter, S&S Optika, Maybe Software Bisque, Impactika meteorites, and The Nature Co.

**Use of DAS Telescopes:** two new donations were made to DAS - a new 6 inch Russian made newtonian and an old Criterion 6 inch Dynascope newtonian. Board decided to auction both scopes at the DAS Auction on Oct. 19th.

**New Business:** none

Adjourned 9:30pm

Minutes Approved at Oct. 11, 2002 Eboard meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Ron Pearson, Secretary DAS

## **Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting**

**October 11, 2002**

### **Vice President, Carla Swarz Presiding**

**VP Carla presiding**, Larry is in hospital with a heart problem.

**Dan Wray** updated Larry's status, he may be out tomorrow.

**Ron Pearson** read the minutes of the Sept. eboard meeting. They were approved as read.

#### **Colorado Astronomy Day (CAD):**

There have been several reports on the TV as noted on the agenda.

Solar telescopes for DMNS now include Chuck, Dan, Sandy Sandhouse, Bill Ormsby.

Speaker Intros; Chuck will introduce Alan Stern, Steve will Vic & Jen Winter, Ron will do John Spencer.

planning to have dinner with speakers at 5pm at the Blue Bonnet, 6pm at Chamberlin for the star party.

Vendors- two have paid; S&S Optika and Impacktica.

**Treasurer Chuck Carlson**, distributed a monthly balance sheet.

#### **VP Carla had no report**

#### **List Serv: nothing to report.**

**DU:** Dave Trott reported on a couple of issues. The east balcony railing collapsed, near accident with a child. An encoder cable has been broken on the 20" by rotating the scope too far around the mount. Incidents indicate the need for safety and operator training. They will be calling Melscheimer to repair encoder cable. But since Greg Marino is not available for training any longer, Dave needs help with training. A scope operator meeting is set for Oct. 25th. Noted that if balcony is to be open, then a person needs to be there all the time. Operation of the scope should be done by 1 qualified operator and 1 trainee --- pilot and co-pilot. Discussed may lock the downstairs door, so 2-3 could be upstairs during public night and no one is wandering downstairs unattended. Safety is absolute paramount concern. Discussion by several eboard members and Dave regarding the MOU between DAS and DU, and that it needs to be reviewed. Finally, Dave noted an LCD projector is available.

**DS Report:** Todd and Ted installed two fire alarms in the warming hut.

#### **Old Business:**

Jack reported that John Briggs will be heading up the ATS meeting arrangements here in Denver.

Carla reported Annual Banquet scheduled for March 22, 2003, will be at the White Fence Farm, cost will be \$20 per person. Room for 80 people. Motion was made to accept the location. Motion passed.

Chuck discussed the possible need to get name tags for regular volunteers at Open houses.

Todd Hitch requested a parallelogram mount for binoculars for public night/event use.  
Todd was advised to take the proposal to the Public Night committee.

Plans for the DAS Christmas party were discussed.

Meeting adjourned 9:20 pm  
Minutes Approved at Nov. 11, 2002 Eboard meeting  
Respectfully submitted  
[Ron Pearson, Secretary](#) DAS

## **Executive Board Meeting of The DAS**

**November 11, 2002**

### **Vice President, Carla Swarz Presiding**

Carla opened the meeting with a brief general discussion of condition of Larry Brooks, who had been hospitalized for a stroke on Oct. 22nd. Carla notified the Public night reservations company of her phone number.

General discussion of the President's position; Because it is expected that Larry Brooks will not be able to serve as President for the foreseeable future, Carla agreed to be Acting President and continue as VP until the next election of board and officers in Mar. 2003.

Secretary Ron Pearson, read the minutes of the Oct. Eboard meeting.  
The minutes were approved as read.

DU Report, Dave Trott reported on the following items:

There has been talk of a need to improve the outside lighting of the Observatory. Dave thinks it is ok to change bulbs or put a shield on existing lights. If we want to replace the entire fixture it would be best to go through DU to have installed.

Clark Operator Safety training - Ron Mickle and Steve Solon have been designated as head of new operator training. Would like to re-train or train all operators before Jan. 1st.

Dave reported he and a DU student had 'kluged' a fix of the broken encoder wires on the 20". Dave Shouldice has completed new (donated used) laptop swap and software upgrades. Chuck Carlson has mailed a copy of the insurance policy to Dave. There has been no further review of the MOU yet.

Dave noted he would like to have a couple of 80mm finders on the 20". Have an 80mm short tube for that purpose. Maintenance tasks for the telescope should go through Steve Solon.

John Briggs of ATS has been in contact. The national meeting of the ATS will be Sept. 26, 27, 28th of 2003. Dave has ideas for coordinating lunar eclipse events of 03 with DMNS. Need to develop a new contact person, since Larry is now out of the loop.

Treasurer Chuck Carlson, distributed a monthly balance sheet. Chuck will add Carla to signatures for bank checks.

List Serv: Jack Eastman reported problems with his Yahoo access, again.

Public Events: There will be an operator's meeting on Nov. 16th.

Newsletter: Patti reported the printer is running late.

Old Business: CAD a huge success for public. Over 2000 people were reported from DMNS and about 450 attended the star party.

Dark Site: Ted Cox will followup with building permits. Dan will check on finding paperwork from Larry on what needs to be done.

Volunteer name tags: Chuck needs to order 3.

CCD Classes: Steve Solon is thinking of spring or summer next year. Participation Prize: Next drawing will be at the Christmas party. Will be a subscription to S&T or Astronomy.

Leonid Shower: no official plan. Dan invited eboard members and friends to come out to his cabin in South Park.

New Business:

Majestic view Nature Center requests a star party for Feb. 5th 2003.  
Had 25-30 people there last month.

2003 Calendar put together by Joe Gafford was reviewed by all and only minor changes made to suggested dates. There was considerable discussion about when/if to hold a 'Mars Mania' event for the public in late Aug. or early Sept., for the Mars opposition. Ron used the new LCD projector and his mac laptop to show the sky for event dates being planned so that all could see what was up in the sky at the time. All should review the calendar dates before finalizing in Dec.

It was reported there has been a drop in Public Night attendance and some discussion of possible reasons.

Steve Solon proposed DAS do a calendar for sale with astrophotos of members and DAS event dates. Carla will check on prices with a printer in Greely. Sandy suggested selling planespheres.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm

Ron Pearson, Secretary, DAS, Inc. [Ron Pearson, Secretary](#) DAS

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