

DAS EBOARD MINUTES - 2003

Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting

January 10, 2003

Acting President, Carla Swarz Presiding

Dan Wray gave a brief report on Larry Brooks. He is showing some improvement in walking and working on speech. He will probably leave Swedish Hosp. Jan. 21st to a rehab facility.

Secretary Ron Pearson, read the Dec. eboard minutes. They were approved as read. Patti Kurtz was out ill.

DU: No report, Dave Trott not present.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Carlson distributed the monthly balance sheet. He noted he needs public night names for name tags. There was a donation of \$400.00 to the Chamberlin Restoration Fund from the Ghost Town Club of CO. There was some discussion of the status of the restoration funds. It was noted the Ed Kline Dark Site fund is now over \$8,000.

Ron Pearson reported that he and Dave Trott had been to Pine Valley Observatory, near Pine CO., to assist the JeffCO Open Space Parks people with repairs to the clock drive of the 6" Fecker Refractor. Dan Wray will be helping on a second planned trip to retrieve the weights.

Carla reported there will be a star party at the Majestic View Nature Center on the Feb. 5th.

List Serv: Bill Ormsby still having access problems.

Public Night: There will be a safety procedure meeting @ 12 noon that Saturday by Ron Mickel for operators.

Newsletter: Patti sick but getting to it.

Old Business:

Public Night Answering service was discussed at length. The latest bill was higher than the last. The fees were as follows:

10/17 to 11/13/02 there were 40 + 403 calls total was \$418.67

11/14 to 12/12/02 there were 40 + 615 calls - total was \$607.35

Carla reported she is getting calls from public asking for info that they can't get from the service. She also reported we can get additional 20 calls and voicemail answering for

questions for an additional \$25 per month. A recorded message can provide the astronomy information then can direct to PN reservations, if want to make a reservation. No per person charge for the recording. There was a motion to add the \$25 per month charge for voicemail answering. Motion was approved. Board will continue to monitor and change if necessary.

Steve Solon has been recording a monthly "Skies Over the Rockies" on public access cable TV using the 20" as background.

Astrophoto web gallery discussed. Tabled till get further info on costs through Patti.

EKDS: permit material reviewed. Wayne Kaaz will update the blueprints with handicap access and other items, then submit to county authorities. Sandy Shaw's sign has been posted at the site.

Joe Gafford reported he had been doing asteroid astrometry at the site and sent data to the Minor Planet Center. The site will get an observatory designation.

Reminder for the banquet.

February speaker has canceled. Looking for a replacement.

Discussion of PN slide shows, some are missing or with Steve Solon. Problem with scheduling & calendar fixed.

Astro League website and newsletter - Patti to submit for an award.

Astrographix - we can get 15% from purchases through the website. Motion made to accept, was approved.

Adjourned about 9:45 pm

Minutes Approved at Feb. 2003 meeting of the Eboard
Ron Pearson, Secretary, DAS, Inc. [Ron Pearson, Secretary](#) DAS

Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting

March 7, 2003

Acting President, Carla Swartz Presiding

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p.m. Acting President Carla Swartz, presiding.
Secretary Ron Pearson on excused absence; Steve Solon, acting recorder.
February E-Board Meeting minutes were read, corrections made and approved.

A short video presentation began the meeting with a story on CBS' "Sunday Morning" about the Winter Star Party in the Florida Keys.

REPORTS:

Steve Solon reported that the beginning CCD-imaging class would be held on the June's Saturday cleanup day from noon until 3 p.m. - will to forward info to Patti for the Observer.

Chuck Carlson, DAS Treasurer

- Reported 'fat' budget due to banquet income.
- Discussed needing some additional detail in the presented budget to clarify available monies.
- Presented Dan Wray with his name tag.
- Discussed trip to Alaska to visit granddaughter and slushy IDITEROD.

Carla Swartz, DAS Vice President and Acting President

- Discussed upcoming E-Board meeting on April 4th - VP-elect Rich Lane will conduct.
- Reported on President Larry Brooks' appreciation with "President Emeritus" award.
- Discussed possible star party at Life Care Center of Littleton where Larry is convalescing - will be held at end of April or beginning of May. Carla will discuss with Cathie Havens from S&S Optika.

Listserve

- Jack Eastman reported frustration with Yahoo! group access ID and password.
- Patti Kurtz discussed possible need to elect new listserve moderator at Board elections.

Public Outreach

- Discussed next-night astronomy classes to be conducted by Ted Cox and Todd Hitch
- Discussed upcoming star party in Castle Rock.

Newsletter

- Discussed mailing quantities versus webpage downloads.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Carla Swartz reported Alpha Page invoice of \$404.80 - not significantly less than previous invoice. February/March projected costs <\$200.00.
- Discussed monitoring next few months' invoices for reduction to discuss at a later date.
- Todd Hitch expressed concern with PN charges occasionally being waived when weather is poor - raised questions regarding possible policy - suggested meeting of PN participants to discuss.

- Patti Kurtz suggested that charges hold regardless of conditions due to nature of program and weather-risk possibility.
- Carla will call for a possible PN meeting for the following Saturday to discuss these and other concerns.

EGK Dark Site

- Site engineer Wayne Kaaz presented changes to blueprints for handicap parking spaces.
- Revised electrical drawings to comply with wire gauges sizes supplied by Ted Cox.
- Reviewed and revised plans for vault toilet size and location at the site.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Observer editor Patti Kurtz discussed possibility of bulk mailing the newsletter - Dan Wray strongly suggested against doing so based on experience with other groups he participates in.
- Carla discussed upcoming Chamberlin Observatory Preservation and Restoration conference - Deputy Director Dave Trott suggested DAS participation and input.
- Carla discussed committees for upcoming Astro events: two lunar eclipsi, Mars Midnight Madness and Colorado Astronomy Day - needs team leader for Mars event.
- DAS member Keith Pool won a \$200.00 discount coupon from Astro-Pier and donated it to the Society. Carla suggested possible use for mounting one of the Society's telescopes at the EGK Dark Site and presented the coupon to the DSS committee.
- Discussed raffle of Meade ETX-90 telescope, to take place from July to CAD - proceeds benefit the EGK Dark Site.
- Lively discussion of proposed digital projector for Public Outreach - much input as to its potential use and by whom - will discuss further at upcoming PN meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 9:42 p.m., seconded, passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Steve Solon, Acting Recorder

Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting

April 4, 2003

Vice President, Rich Lane Presiding, Pres. Carla Swartz absent.

Secretary Ron Pearson read the minutes of the March meeting. They were approved as read.

DU Report: Dave Trott reported that parking fees at Olin Hall are to be increased from \$2.50 to \$3.50. The Physics Dept. covers \$100 to help offset the cost. There was discussion of the increase and options. Ron reminded board of previous decision that once parking passes are gone, we had decided that would be it and people would be on their own. Dave noted this was International Dark Sky Week and there was a press release from DU & DAS promoting Dark Sky Assc. here and open house on April 5. Dave is doing a powerpoint presentation on lighting.

Treas Chuck Carlson distributed monthly balance sheet.

List Serv- no problems reported.

Pub Nite update on 3/15 meeting - will charge full price regardless of weather. The LCD projector will be put on a 'wish-list' in the DAS newsletter. Ron Mickle is the the new PN Team Leader.

Observer - no report

Old Business:

Answering Service bill for Feb-March was \$486.39 (!). Member Wayne Green is working on and on-line alternative. Hope to have it up and running and will review at next eboard meeting.

Dark Site Comm: working on permits. Discussion on pier with donation and scope for EGKDS.

New Business:

Dave Trott brought up suggestion from Dr. Stencel (in agenda) that for special open houses such as upcoming lunar eclipse the DAS charge \$1 per person to look through Clark scope. With money to go towards the Clark set aside in separate fund. There was lengthy discussion of observatory-telescope restoration and use of funds for the Clark, status of historic funding options that are being worked on. Consensus of board was not to charge for viewing, but to make the 'donation' box more prominent, with more encouragement for voluntary donations. Consensus of board was to maintain existing Restoration Fund account and apply toward the observatory and the Clark as needed, as has been done in the

past. There was no need to start a separate fund.

Discussion drifted into need for preventative maintenance of the Clark. The upcoming ATS meeting will be an excellent opportunity to 'pick the brains' of antique telescope experts. The following items were discussed in relation to maintenance:

Procedures and documentation of what repairs maintenance need to be done and what's been done. Discussion of need for 'proposals' for maintenance required to be submitted to Dr. Stencil. It was noted some of these have been submitted with no response or action in reply, apparently lost or ignored. Too formal, and bureaucratic. Proposal form put together by Carla was more for restoration.

Discussion headed toward need for DAS to form a Clark Maintenance committee. A maintenance schedule should be prepared by DAS and idea to form a committee was supported by Dave Trott. The idea was 'tabled' for further discussion at next or future eboard.

May total lunar eclipse; Steve Solon heading up program. Images transferred to powerpoint by Steve worked well. Copy of cd-rom available to those who want to use for own presentations.

Vice-President Rich Lane submitted a letter of resignation from his position to the Eboard. Resignation is due to a new job that will keep him out of the area and unable to serve. He offered his apologies to the Eboard. Board accepted his resignation and apology. The question of replacement was discussed; volunteers of eboard or others present were asked for, none accepted. Board will ask for volunteers at next regular meeting and could approve by eboard vote at the meeting.

Discussion of DAS Website: Ron Mickle recommended putting articles by DAS members on the website. Ron would call Wayne Green and see if he can help Patti restore the "D-Files."

Ivan mentioned a paper by Tony Brown, DU student. Chuck Carlson will check thesis list. - didn't get what paper was about??

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

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Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Minutes of DAS Executive Board Meeting

June 6, 2003

Minutes of the DAS Executive Board Meeting

President, Carla Swarz Presiding

Secretary Ron Pearson read the minutes of the May Eboard meeting. They were approved as read with minor corrections.

DU Report: Dr. Stencel spoke about a new lighting proposal for the City and County of Denver. There are a number of meetings and hearings to take place in the near future. Dr. Stencel would like DAS member participation in an action committee. A copy of the proposed regulation and petition was distributed. A meeting with developers at city council was coming-up at 6pm Monday. Would like DAS members to show up if possible. Response from some eboard members was DAS could make lighting part of the PN Presentations and possibly add to displays in Chamberlin with 'good-lighting' examples. Dr. Stencel thanked the DAS for PN efforts. A website for lighting codes statewide can be found at www.rockymountainIES.org

PN Report: Wayne Green gave a presentation on the 'on-line' reservation system and plan he has developed. The website is www.Infosavvy.org/calendar.html. He hopes to have it running by the end of July. Discussion following the presentation about keeping Alphapage system for a time and dealing with Mars Maddness phone questions. Carla will check with Alphapage about the contract. Todd Hitch and Cathy Havens (S&S Optika) donated a moon filter for the 20" scope.

VP Report: Frank reported he is contacting the Channel 9 and 4, meeting with 4 next week. Ron should send notices to newspapers. Frank reported he is working on enhancing the volunteer prize participation prizes to encourage more volunteers.

List Serv: No problems reported.

Dark Site Report: Vault toilet is ready for excavation and installation. Review for Fire Code indicates we need to add EXIT signs to Warming Hut. A "Fire-Lane" needs to be constructed at the DSS; 20 feet wide, of 6 inches crushed gravel.

Restoration & Maintenance Comm: Ron Pearson read the committee's 'Charter' and asked for any comments from the eboard or DU. Reviewed items that were discussed at the first meeting. Todd Hitch brought up the need for shielded lighting the outside of Chamberlin. Discussion with Dr. Stencel, agreed it is needed, something should be found in keeping with 'historic' appearance. Asked Todd to help come-up with suggestions for appropriate light fixtures.

Old Business:

Dan Wray obtained Larry Brook's Observatory key.

Picnic - Sandy went out to Pine Valley and reported it is a good site with plenty of picnic tables.

Librarian - Carla had not yet discussed with Pauline

New Business:

Joe Gafford reported that Kenosha Pass was a no-go for the Sept. Star Party. It is now a Forest Service Campground.

Purple schedules are running short. Does DMNS want to updated with new Planetarium?

Cleaning Day will be at 5pm - clean TV's and VCRs. Mouse droppings are turning up in old board room. Dr. Stencil suggested it be reported to the physical plant.

Steve Solon's CCD class went very well.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

Minutes approved at July eboard meeting.

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

Minutes of DAS Executive Board Meeting

August 8, 2003

Minutes of the DAS Executive Board Meeting
Secretary Ron Pearson on excused absence
Board Member Steve Solon - Acting Recorder

Call to Order at 8:02 p.m. -- President, Carla Swarz Presiding

July E-Board meeting minutes read and approved with minor corrections.

University of Denver - Chamberlin Observatory

- **Deputy Director Dave Trott** read a statement concerning use of the observatory and Surrounding park grounds - emphasis given to curfew time and necessity for permit for use over curfew limit

- Discussed upcoming use of the 20" Clark for Mars and emphasized the need for additional personnel for crowds and proper number of operators and assistants during DAS use.

- **Vice President Frank Mancini**, Rich Loper, and Darrell Dodge passed the driver's test for the 20-inch Clark refractor

- Mention was made of a possible natural gas smell near the south door, which will be checked and reported on as soon as possible.

Treasurer's report

- **Chuck Carlson** reported he would be absent from the Open House next evening, as will Frank Mancini.

- Space Governance Society contacted the DAS seeking possible new subscribers.

- Royal Astronomical Society of Canada contacted the DAS concerning availability of its yearly calendars.

- Mentioned the increase in subscription rate for Sky & Telescope to \$32.95 - some confusion as to when - Chuck contacted S&T - increase is effective immediately.

- Final AlphaPage invoice - \$462.36. Discussion of a few minor glitches with the new online reservation system, but overall performance and satisfaction seems very good.

Secretary's report. - Unavailable - Secretary on excused absence.

Vice President s report

- Frank Mancini thanked the members who helped him with training for the 20-inch Clark's driver's test - Dave Trott good-naturedly reported passing him with a 'High 'D'."

-Discussed Jeffco's Windy Peak Outdoor Lab seeking DAS assistance and advice for a proposed \$400.00 roll-off-roof observatory - group is part of the local Kiwanis Club.

- Discussed Canon special-purchase catalogue and its benefits to club members by way of available discounts - mentioned specifically NOT selling binoculars to prevent infringing on S&S Optika business - mentioned ways of ordering to minimize shipping charges.

- Mars Madness publicity - 'Critic-at-Large" Greg Moody (Channel 4) will come back on the 27th, as will other television crews.

New Business

- VP Frank Mancini donated a laser printer for the Chamberlin library - Carla expressed thanks and asked for further donations of used PCs or laptops.

- Todd Hitch discussed re-informing the membership of availability of the library to DAS members and clarifying the procedures for its use,

- Carla and Patti will meet with DMNS on the upcoming Monday (August 11) to discuss coordinated efforts for Colorado Astronomy Day - discussion of door prizes, raffle tickets, etc. Possible speakers include Drs. Robert Zubrin and John Bally, Doug Duncan and a presentation by Bryan White.

- Carla mentioned the yearly Halloween party for the neighborhood group at Chamberlin suggested that DU host and run the event and the DAS will offer assistance if requested.

- Discussion of gift for Wayne Green for his generous efforts in creating the new online Public Night reservation system - plaque and cash award or binoculars - member friends will covertly assess his needs and wants and report back to the Board

- Board member Joe Gafford reported he is building the initial DAS calendar for 2004 mentioned that July 2004 is open for a star party - discussed possible joint event with Western Colorado Astronomers on the western slope in Grand Junction, Colorado.

- David Shouldice mentioned his upcoming absences from Public Night and requested help in filling the slots.

-Bill Ormsby mentioned his upcoming pacemaker implant surgery, but was unsure of dates mentioned hospital stay and recuperation periods and requested help in filling his absences from Public Night when necessary.

Motion to adjourn accepted at 9:53 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted,
Steve Solon, Acting Recorder

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

Executive Board Meeting of The DAS

September 5, 2003

President, Carla Swarz Presiding

Secretary Ron Pearson read the August eboard minutes submitted by Steve Solon. They were approved as read with minor corrections.

DU Report: neither Dr. Bob or Dave Trott in attendance. Carla passed on a thankyou to all DAS volunteers for their efforts at the "Mars Madness" nights from Dr. Stencil.

Treasurers Rpt: Chuck Carlson said he will be traveling in October and will miss the Oct. eboard meeting. He will turn the checkbook over to Carla while gone. He reported he has ordered 20 copies of the Royal Astronomical society of Canada's handbook for 2004. He had not yet received the Alphasage bill for August yet. A monthly balance sheet was distributed.

VP Report: Frank reported we had great publicity for Mars Madness. He also reported he will be getting a new Canon price list about every month.

Pres. Rpt. Carla reported she has had new Open House blue cards printed. She reported we have public programs scheduled at the Majestic View Nature Center in Arvada for Oct. 15, Nov. 15 from 7 to 8:30pm and McElwain elem. on Nov. 5 at 7pm. She asked for volunteers to bring scopes or binocs. Scope Operators are asked to volunteer for the Antique Telescope Society meeting observing at Chamberlin on Sept. 26th and 27th.

List Serv: no problems reported.

Pub Night reservations: reported the new on-line reservation system working well, but some groups are booking two dates, presumalby to cover for nights that are clouded out. Carla will talk with Wayne to see what can be done to prevent this.

Newsletter: Sept. issue to be at printer's on Monday. Patti Kurtz may be moving to MO. and may need to give up the newsletter. Pat Ryan willing to take over, but needs software for producing it. Motion was made to spend \$60 for software for Pat. Motion approved. If Patti leaves we will also need someone to take over website. Carla will announce and ask for help at regular meeting.

PN Rpt. New Operators Frank Mancini, Rich Loper and Darrell Dodge were congratuated for completing their training. On PN before Mars Madness, over 100 extra people showed up. Had enough people to cover w/ Sandy Shaw. There will be operators meeting on Sat. at 4pm to discuss control of crowd, collecting of money from walk-ins, which is an issue of fairness to those with reservations and cover PN expenses.

DSS Comm. an attempted breakin was reported. The lock on the gate had been partially cut

through. Need to replace the lock. Ted Cox has built the Vault toilet.

Mars Maddness - John Flemming commented how good natured and tolerant the crowds were even though the event was clouded out. At least 1000 people attended based on tickets given out. Discussed lessons learned and suggestions for improvement.

CAD: have two speakers; Dr. Laura Danly and Dr. Stencel. Setup solar scopes at 11am, go until 5pm at DMNS. Speakers to start at noon. We can set up a DAS table in Space Odyssey and Carla requested volunteers to staff the main table on two hour rotations. Star party at 7pm at Chamberlin with a couple of vendors. Frank reported doing a couple of door prizes at Chamberlin at 9pm. Suggested to spread out the door prizes at 8, 9, and 10pm.

Halloween Party at Chamberlin has been cancelled.

Dan Wray reported on jacket designs and costs. Straw vote was for the 2 color design.

New Business:

VP Frank Mancini reported that Dr. Stencel would like the DAS to have an IDA dark sky representative. Frank discussed options as to DAS involvement and said Dr. Stencel had invited him to 'protest' at city hall with him for the proposed lighting regulations. Frank decided to decline the opportunity. Discussion that the DAS needs clarification of the dark sky goals. Suggestions were made for positive pro-active approaches such as sponsoring a school competition for good lighting design. Carla said she will discuss with Dr. Stencel, needs and goals.

Joe Gafford presented a draft 2004 calendar. Board will go over in Oct. board meeting and thanked Joe for taking this on again.

The Western CO. astronomy club is interested in hosting the MARS party July 15th -18th, 2004.

Ron Pearson reported on checking on reserving facility for holiday party on Dec. 6th and need for 'cleanup' committee for after the party.

Ron Mickel discussed a need a for having 2 keys per PN team to cover those nights when one can't make it or has to leave early. Asked Eboard to send a formal letter to Director Stencel to accomodate the 2 keys with alist of potential keyholders.

Discussion of appropriate recognition for Wayne Green for work on the PN reservation system. Motion was made to present a placque at the next regular meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Minutes approved by Eboard at Oct. Board meeting.

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

Executive Board Meeting of The DAS

October 3, 2003

President, Carla Swarz Presiding

Secretary Ron Pearson read the Sept. minutes, they were approved as read.

DU Report: no report

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Carlson was traveling, Carla handling account. Carla reported PN had taken in a lot of money this past month and had sold 16 Chamberlin pins to the ATS.

VP Report: As a followup on lighting and Dark Sky Assc., had met with Dr. Stencil about specifics. He would like letters from DAS members that live in the city and co. of Denver. Carla had drafted 3 letters that members could send in and ask people to contact their city council representatives. Carla noted there are 22 DAS members resident in Denver. Frank feels we have done what Dr. Stencil has asked. He reminded eboard members to continue to 'meet and greet' new members after the regular meetings.

Pres. Report: Carla reported an event with OASIS (older advisor service information) group -did not get info out in time due to bulk mail delays.

List Serv: Carla reported Greg Marino is now moderator on both DAS groups.

Public Night: Ron Mickel reminded eboard members they can schedule PN viewings for anyone they wish, special nights need to be coordinated with PN staff. They have shuffled PN operators to alleviate the observatory key shortage problems. There was discussion of turning in one key, suggest could be Dan Wray's key then to be turned over to David Shouldice. There are two new operator trainees.

Dark Site Comm: the gate lock has been replaced after the vandalism reported last month. The toilet is set, wainscoating is up, waiting on chemicals. There have been repeated issues related to people leaving car lights on or opening car doors disturbing observers. Discussion that it is up to everyone to politely inform new members or careless individuals of the dark site courtesy.

Restoration & Maintenance: nothing particular to report. Todd Hitch reported that some eyepiece threads are shot, would like to repair.
Need to check out whether they belong to DU or DAS.

Old business:

Antique Telescope Soc. - Jack reported the meeting was a great success. Would like a list of PN operators and others that helped out so he can forward to ATS for thankyou's.

CO Ast. Day - Carla reported we are set to go. Two prizes to be given away as door prizes and so far only rec'vd payment for one vendor.

Holiday Party - Carla will put out a request on the group list to members for possible locations since previous venue was booked up. Discussion that we can 'fall-back' to Chamberlin if necessary.
Meeting adjourned 9pm

Minutes approved Nov. 7, 2003 Eboard meeting.

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

Executive Board Meeting of The DAS

November 7, 2003

President, Carla Swarz Presiding

Secretary Ron Pearson read the Oct. minutes. They were approved as read.

DU Report: Dave Trott presented a memo from Dr. Stencil that requires a \$1.00 per person charge be collected by DAS for all public access. For Public Nights the \$1 can come out of the \$3.00 now charged. Dave also notified the board that they will be rekeying the observatory locks, date has not been scheduled but after sometime after Jan. 1, 2004. DU will list of who DAS wants to reissue keys to. Re; DAS draft calendar dates for 04, Dave would like to reschedule eboard Friday meetings except for Jan. 23rd and Sept. 17th. The rest need to be moved due to use by DU. Dates were quickly reviewed and Joe Gafford will redraft the calendar. The regular meeting for Jan. will be at Olin Hall since Carla has not been able to schedule a planetarium night at DMNS as planned.

PN Report: Ron Mickel reported a young volunteer age 14 wants to help with PN. Would not be an operator. Asked Dave Trott if there would be any other limitations? Dave suggested we should get good legal permission from her parents. Will check with Dr. Stencil if anything else is of concern, but encourages involvement by students/teens.

Treasurer Report: Chuck distributed a monthly balance sheet.

VP Report: Frank reported Fiske Planetarium is having 50th anniversary party with silent auction Nov. 14th to 16th. Distributed flyer with info and has posted on listserv. May be planning special open houses for Saturn and Jupiter, discussed options for speakers in upcoming months. Asked if a tour of Ball Aerospace would be of interest, will contact Gary Emerson to see what can be arranged.

Pres. Report: Carla said she would like to cancel the Alphapage contract, that the DU answering machine is working well. Motion made to cancel Alphapage was approved. Asked if Jack Eastman could do a 'skygazers almanac' for 5-10 minutes at a meeting. Jack consented. Carla suggested doing an Open House afternoon for new members in basic astronomy topics. Have scheduled another Majestic View Star Party in Feb. Last couple have been clouded out.

Wayne Kaaz reported he did the OASIS two groups on one day. DanWray also reported school presentations he had done and had one rescheduled coming up.

List Serv: no problems reported.

Newsletter: Pat Ryan has taken over from Patti Kurtz as editor.

PN Comm: need a 90 deg. Diagnol and visual back for Meade 10 SCT, will announce in newsletter to see if any donations.

Dark Sky Site: new toilet in and fully operational. May not need to use chemicals. Rental outhouse is gone. Inspection for Tri-County health is good to go.

Restoration & Maint. Comm: discussion of some ideas Carla listed. Question of whether lead paint might be an issue for floor was brought up. Safety lighting on the gantry and an l.e.d light strapped on railing was discussed. Wayne Green talked about his plan for installing a Short tube 80 finder on the Clark. Weak spots in the dome room floor and offset in balcony floor were brought up as potential maintenance items. Ron said he'd pass the reports on to Dave Trott. Dan Wray suggested the balcony floor may need to be recoated.

Old Business: the calendar was reviewed and dates redone.

New Business: A.L. dues increase doesn't take effect until June 04, so discussion of whether it can be covered in DAS dues was tabled until next month.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05pm

Minutes as approved Dec. 6th Eboard Meeting.

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

Attachement: DU Memo Re; One dollar per person fee for Chamberlin:

Here is the memo from DU.

In a message dated 11/6/03 1:23:35 PM, rstencel@du.edu writes:

MEMO 11/6/03

To: Ms. Carla Swartz, President, Denver Astronomical Society
From: Dr. Robert Stencel, Director, Chamberlin Observatory
Cc: Mr.David Trott, Deputy Director, Chamberlin Observatory

We at the University of Denver are very appreciative of the wonderful volunteer work the Denver Astronomical Society has done over many years at Chamberlin Observatory, and welcome the ongoing relationship that reaches even more people in the Denver area and actively supports the continued operation of the Observatory with its many needs for maintenance, upkeep and potential improvements.

It is my responsibility to grow the Chamberlin Observatory programs in the future, both academic and outreach -- the latter decidedly including the DAS. To raise necessary funds for program staffing, maintenance and eventual endowments, we therefore will be reverting to a more traditional arrangement of income sharing with DAS. Historically, DAS provided 25% of public night revenues directly to DU in support of these missions. **Rather than a percentage, we are going to implement a per person observatory admission**

charge [general public] effective Jan. 1, 2004. The charge will be \$1 per person. If the DAS wishes to charge more than this amount, the club can make use of the additional amounts. Please consult with Dave Trott regarding specific implementation questions you might have.

These payments are to be made quarterly in order to allow proper budgeting of their use, effective starting January 1, 2004 with the first payment invoiced on March 31, 2004, the second on June 30, etc.

As we recently have been doing, we will invoice the DAS for year 2003 phone charges in December, but those charges will be subsumed under this new arrangement next year.

Also, FYI, we will be re-keying the Observatory after the first of the year. We are working on a revision of the key-holder agreement to clarify access and safety issues. Keys will be issued to the current president of the DAS, lead Public Night operators and for special needs as they arise. In all cases the issuance of a key is subject, of course, to DU approval of the key-holder.

Together, DAS and DU can continue and improve our crucial outreach efforts to the community. I am always available to talk with you about how we can do things better. Thank you for your continued support of the University of Denver's historic Chamberlin Observatory!

Astronomically,
/Dr.Bob/

Dr. Robert Stencel, Wm. Herschel Womble Professor of Astronomy
303-871-2135

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

Minutes of DAS Eboard Meeting

December 5, 2003

President Carla Swarz Presiding

Secretary read the minutes and they were approved. Clarified DU key reissue statement in memo -discussion of key reissue by DU, concern we could be short a key and the lead lecturer needs to have a key.

DU -no report. Carla read an announcement from Dr. Stencil re a Denver City and Co. meeting on proposed lighting regs. DAS will try and get a couple members to represent with Dr. Stencil. Ron M., Frank and Steve said they could be put on DAS list.

Treas. Rpt.: Chuck distributed a balance sheet and draft cash flow report. There was discussion about the distribution of funds to DU and a review of the 1996 agreement of distribution. Chuck reported the A.L. dues increase with 352 paid members would cost \$1760 a \$544.50 increase. Chuck will review the budget and cash flow numbers again and discuss at the next eboard.

VP Report: Frank reported he had attended the Fiske Planetarium's 50th anniversary event and was at the head table with astronauts and other dignitaries. Made very good contacts for possible speakers.

Pres. Rpt: Alphapage has been officially canceled. Voice mails have dropped off. New Open House cards are ready. DMNS was late in getting approvals back. The OASIS Group is leaving Denver so events were canceled.

List Serv: no problems reported.

Newsletter: Pat thanked everyone for contributions, the deadline for Jan. is Dec. 19th.

PN Rpt: Ron M., reported the young volunteer is working now.

EKSDD Comm: vault toilet passed inspection.

Rest'n & Maint' Comm: Ron P., reported the comm. met on Nov. 30th with Dave Trott and presented two draft proposals to Dave and Dr. Stencil, for consideration and comments. Proposal No. 1 outlined some ideas to restore and improve the performance and configuration of the 20". Proposal No. 2 outlined some ideas to improve the exhibits and space utilized on the main floor of Chamberlin. There was good discussion of ideas and the proposals. They will review them and discuss further.

Old Business:

Joe has redone the calendar and distributed copies. There will be two meeting nights when

we cannot meet back at Chamberlin June 25th and Aug.

Holiday party is ready to go.

Open House/PN DU directive to charge \$1/person: Jack Eastman wanted it to be known that he is 137% opposed to charging for admission to Open House events. Jack suggests we ask for free-will donations and 'raincheck' tickets. The Eboard is not thrilled with charging, DU Director left no choice. There was continued discussion of the charge.

New Business:

An 'Astronomy 101' type class has been talked about for Feb. 28th. Steve Solon will do and will check with Dave Trott on availability of Olin Hall.

Elections - nominations are due in Jan.. Carla announced she will not be able to run for Pres., next year. Chuck Carlson also announced he will not run for Treasurer.

Nominating Comm., Dennis Cochrane volunteered to chair the comm., Ivan Geisler and Wayne Kaaz also volunteered to serve on the comm.

Meeting adjourned about 10pm.

Minutes approved as read

Jan. 23, 2004 Eboard Meeting.

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

