THE EVENT HORIZON

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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Curiosity, the (Robot) Martian

Ms. Valerie Fox will be featured at the November meeting of the St. Louis Astronomical Society. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM Friday, November 20, in McDonnell Hall, Room 162, on the Washington University campus.

The ancient rock record of our neighboring planet, Mars, holds significant clues about the planet's watery past and the possibility of habitable environments in its early history. The Mars Science Laboratory rover, Curiosity, made a spectacular landing in August 2012. Now three years into its mission, Curiosity has discovered ancient dry stream and lake beds and detected minerals that, on Earth, formed in the presence of liquid water. It is now examining the rock layers of Gale Crater, which have recorded changes in the Martian environment over billions of years. Ms. Fox will discuss some of the rover's recent findings as Curiosity begins the ascent of Mount Sharp, the crater's 3 mile high central mountain.

Valerie Fox is a PhD candidate in Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University. She studies the geologic history of Mars using images and data from Mars orbiting spacecraft as well as from Mars rovers. She is also actively involved with the operational and science teams for both the Opportunity and Curiosity rovers, and with the science team for the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter's Imaging Spectrometer. She received her Bachelor's degree in physics from Carleton College, Minnesota in 2012 and Master's degree from Washington University in 2014.

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Greetings from the Borg Collective (Brad Waller)

Over the past year, the Collective has been busy assimilating items for SLAS. We have reached the point where we can now announce our Membership Initiatives for 2016.

MEMBERSHIP INITIATIVES

Membership Initiatives main task for 2016 is to come up with fun ways on rewarding the SLAS Membership for attending SLAS Meetings. Also, as part of its responsibilities, Membership Initiatives will be holding, "Welcome Aboard" Meetings for New SLAS Members. These meetings will take place before the Monthly Meeting. New SLAS Members will be given a SLAS Informational Folder containing information about SLAS and other related Astronomy topics.
Prizes for SLAS prizes will take the form in two ways.
Prizes for Raffles: For 2015, the Dr Neil deGrasse Tyson Raffle was a HUGE success. For 2016 there are two raffles planned. Raffle Tickets are: $1 apiece. For $5 you can get six tickets.
Two tickets for Astronaut James Lovell appearance at SIU-E on 15 April 2016. This Raffle will run from Dec 2015 thru March 2016. The drawing will take place at the SLAS Monthly Meeting in March 2016 ($58.00).
One Registration Fee to MSRAL 2016. This raffle will run from Jan 2016 thru April 2016. The drawing will take place at the SLAS Monthly Meeting in April 2016 ($40.00).

Quarterly Attendance Prizes. As it states, attendance will be taken. In order to win, you need to be at the meeting when the Prize is drawn. Prizes will be given away in: March, June, September, and December. If you are not there for the meeting and your name is drawn, YOU LOOSE! Another ticket will be pulled.
"Signed" Items: Books, CDs, or other signed items.
One or Two 1 year SLAS Memberships ($25.00).
Two Tickets to the Hi-Pointe Theater for: STAR TREK "Beyond" The movie scheduled to be release in July 2016. Along with the two tickets, you will also have two drinks and….POPCORN!!!!!
For December a Special Prize: One Ottewell Calendar for 2017 ($20.00)

Presidents Corner—Jim Small

Keeping it brief this month because of the budget being loaded into the newsletter this month. There are many star parties this week, a chance to get yourself up to FIVE events to volunteer for in order to be eligible for the Night Sky Network Outreach Pin. See the article in another page for the current number of events and hours through October.

Read through the budget for this month and discussion will take place at the November meeting. Providing we work everything out, the December vote on the budget should be a brief one. We are looking forward to a great year for SLAS next year!

We are celebrating the ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY of the SLAS LIBRARY TELESCOPE program this month at the regular meeting. Come join us for some cake!

Assumption Summary – 2016

St. Louis Astronomical Society Annual Budget

Work began on the 2016 budget after the financial close for September 2015. The year to date information is therefore through September 30, 2015 with an estimated projection of activity from October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

The budget information was assembled partially based on assumptions developed from the September 2015 year to date actual in areas such as membership information available at that time. The balances of the budgetary items were prepared on a line by line basis by the individual committees and committee chairpersons.

Revenue / Income:

The primary source of Revenue for the Society stems solely from membership fees that are assessed on an annual basis that is based on the member's individual anniversary date. The current fee structure was adopted in 2004 where the "Family Membership" was created and set at an annual rate of $40.00 per year. At the same time, the fees for the Youth membership were decreased from $15.00 to $10.00 per year.

The total revenue from the membership fees for 2016 is based on:

Regular (Adult) Memberships	107 @ $25.00/year	$2,675
Youth Memberships	5 @ $10.00/year	50
Family Memberships	25@ $40.00/year	1,000

As indicated in the budget, this will provide operating revenues in the total of $3,725 for 2016. The actual revenues that will be realized during the calendar year may be different due to any changes in the actual membership numbers.

Magazine subscriptions are referenced as a memo item. The Society acts solely as an agent in these transactions as a convenience to the membership. It should be noted that the same "Club" rates for the subscriptions are available to each member in good standing through the Night Sky Network for those who choose that option.

Albeit that the Society does receive donations for the outreach activities, these donations have been ignored for the purpose of the 2016 budget due to the uncertainty. The donations are solely for the purpose to contribute to the cash flow and offset a portion of any deficit.

Operating Expenses:

These are expenses that are incurred to run the Society on a month to month basis to provide goods and services to the membership. Some of the expense categories are required to meet specific obligations that enable Society to function as an organization. The balance of the expense categories are considered discretionary and may be adjusted accordingly. The items that will be discussed in detail are the discretionary items.

Starting with 2015 the printing expenses for both the newsletter and brochures, along with the general administrative printing have been combined into a single item under operating expenses. This allows us to better track printing resources, since the functions utilize the same printing resources. The overall budget for printing expense has been increased to reflect an anticipated higher volume of brochure printing for 2016.

Events

The Homemade Fest budget remains $100. This budget is primarily used to purchase refreshments, plates, plastic ware and door prizes. SLAS hopes to continue getting the meeting room free of charge from the Science Center or the Kirkwood Community Center. Kirkwood waived the fee in 2015 because of our hosting telescope viewing at Kirkwood Park at least twice a year.

The Star-B-Que has been kept at a constant level as the previous year budget. This event will again be member pot luck with SLAS providing the meat, paper goods, and trivia quiz prizes. SLAS hopes to continue getting the picnic pavilion free of charge. This is normally a $80 charge, but Babler has waived the fee because of our hosting Night Skies Over Babler twice a year.

The members in attendance will be asked to provide items as with the Homemade Fest to complement the main course provided by SLAS. This will require that the membership provide their RSVP and number of attendees so the event can be planned accordingly.

Library Telescope Program:

The SLAS Library Telescope program's was launched into the St. Louis area on November 10, 2014. Just one year from our launch, there are now 57 telescopes in the area wide program. The public's response to the program has been very positive with nearly 1,000 library patrons are on a waiting list to "checkout" these telescopes with some library locations reporting a waiting list of 90 or more people.

By the end of 2015, we estimate that the telescopes already in the program will have circulated to more than 1,400 families. We estimate another 2,000 families will checkout the telescopes in 2016 as we get our first full year of circulation of the 57 telescopes. Based on current statistics, each new telescope placed into circulation will circulate to an additional 40 families each year.

The Library Telescope Committee requests $200 in operating expenses for use in promoting the program and purchasing of supplies to fix minor issues with the telescopes to keep them in good working order. This equates to less than $4.00 per telescope. Parts for major repairs are considered the responsibility of the libraries and are not budgeted.

The Library Telescope Committee also requests that SLAS make an additional investment in the library telescope program

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

escrow by funding $1,000, as a below the line (other) expense, with the funds used to reduce the significant waiting times for library locations already in the program. The specific locations will be determined by working with library executives to determine the most effective allocation of the telescopes to reduce patron waiting times.

2017 Eclipse Workshop:

SLAS will budget $200 towards registration fee and/or travel expense for a SLAS representative to attend one of the American Astronomical Society eclipse workshops/conferences in 2016.

2017 Eclipse Committee:

An $800 allocation is budgeted as a below the line (other) expense for the funding the 2017 Eclipse Committee. These funds represent an investment in a once in a generation opportunity for SLAS to help educate our community leaders in preparation for the historic eclipse. $300 of the allocated funds is for sponsoring workshops for local community leaders to help them prepare for the eclipse. The remaining $500 is for task force expenses, including $168 for constant contact email service and $332 for promotional materials (glasses, handouts, posters, and mailers).

Meeting Expense:

Meeting expense is comprised of Meeting Refreshments and Meeting Speaker Fees. The meeting refreshments are self-explanatory and have been budgeted at $350, $100 lower than the 2015 budget level. The amount was lowered to be consistent with actual expenses for the last two years. The Meeting Speaker Fees are used primarily to present honorariums to guest speakers and occasionally to partially offset travel expenses. The speaker budget has ranged between $250 and $500 in recent years. The 2016 speaker budget remains unchanged from 2015 at $250.

Membership Initiatives:

Membership Initiatives started holding, "Welcome Aboard" Meetings for New SLAS Members. These meetings take place before the Monthly Meeting. New SLAS Members are given a SLAS Informational Folder containing information about SLAS resources and other related Astronomy topics.

Membership Initiatives plans to follow-up with the successful Tyson ticket raffle with two or more additional raffle events during 2016 as opportunities arise. Planned raffles include two tickets for the astronaut James Lovell appearance at SIUE on April 15, 2016 and a SLAS sponsored registration for MSRAL 2016.

In addition, membership initiatives is planning attendance prizes to be awarded quarterly to encourage participation in SLAS's monthly general meetings. Planned prizes include signed books, CDs, movie tickets, and an Ottewell calendar.

Membership Recognition:

Two membership recognition programs have been budgeted for 2016. For 2015, 14 members were recognized for their Outreach activities. An engraved plaque has been awarded to recognize the long term efforts of a member for their service to SLAS and the community, with two more awards planned for the end of the year.

The membership recognition will budget $260. This will include $60 for Night Sky Network pins and certificates. The remaining $200 will be budgeted for recognition of members for contributing their time for other SLAS functions. A membership recognition committee has been formed and an email address, recognition@slasonline.org has been set up so that recommendations can be submitted to the committee. The committee has proposed using a combination of certificates, service pins and custom made name badges to recognize members who have maintained their membership for 10, 20 or 30 or more years. The allocated budget will be used to purchase these items.

Merchandise:

A budget of $45 has been established to cover the setup fees for embroidery/silkscreen. Several local retailers are being considered based on overall price, quality, and convenience.

Library:

Library expenses for 2016 will be for the purpose of purchasing the latest CDs available for both Sky & Telescope and Astronomy Magazine at an estimated cost of $30 each. $40 is budget for the purchase of books with and an emphasis on beginners.

Loaner Scope Program:

SLAS has in its inventory, telescopes ranging from 13" to 75mm. This includes five Dobsonian reflectors, two Refractors, two ETX Maksutovs, one Schmidt-Cassegrain, one 20x80mm binocular, one Hydrogen-alpha, and one white light solar telescope. These are housed in a storage shed when not checked out by members. The current year Loaner Scope budget will be $50 for maintenance/repair of the telescopes and upgrade of some accessories. Projected purchases for 2016 include eyepiece cases.

SLAS also added four "Library Telescopes" to its inventory for the exclusive use of SLAS members during 2015. These scopes are available for checkout at the monthly general meeting. Board member Brad Waller is in charge of checking out the "Library Telescopes" to members.

SLAS Brochures:

Brochure printing expense was been combined with the newsletter printing expense starting with the 2015. The brochures contain information about the Society that is distributed to the general public at all outreach events. Brochure paper requirements are estimated at 12 reams of "astro-bright" premium paper at a cost of $120.

Summary:

The board and participating committee members have decreased several budget items where the budgeted has not be historically spent as well as for programs that are under-utilized. In addition, funding for two key long term initiatives, the 2017 Eclipse Escrow and the Library Telescope Escrow have been categorized as investments and we be recorded as below-the-line (other) expenses. The net result is 2016 budget as presented equals a net loss from operations of $1060 for 2016, down from a net loss of $2,068 for the 2015 budget. Meeting the projected expenses for the upcoming year will require supplementing the operations from cash reserves to the extent donations do not make up the shortfall. The below the line expenses for the 2017 Eclipse Escrow and the Library Telescope Escrow total $1,800. All attempts have been made during this process to continue to provide valued programs for the membership.

If you have questions about the amounts presented in this budget, please direct them to the individual committee chairs. They will be the best source to address these questions.

Respectfully,

Bill Winningham, Treasurer

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY						
PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET - 2016						
	Actual	Budget	Projection		Budget	
	Year to Date	Year to Date	Oct-15 to	Year to date	Annual	Annual
	Sep-15	Sep-15	Dec-15	Dec-15	2015	2016
Income						
Magazine Subscription						
Astronomy Magazine Sales	$ 510.00	$ 476.00	$ 306.00	$ 816.00	$ 782.00	$ 680.00
Sky & Telescope Sales	787.85	724.90	527.20	1,315.05	1,252.10	1,054.40
Total Magazine Subscription	$ 1,297.85	$ 1,200.90	$ 833.20	$ 2,131.05	$ 2,034.10	$ 1,734.40
Membership Dues	$ 3,065.00	$ 2,560.00	$ 880.00	$ 3,945.00	$ 3,440.00	$ 3,725.00
Merchandise Sales	389.48	-	-		-	-
Total Income	$ 4,752.33	$ 3,760.90	$ 1,713.20	$ 6,076.05	$ 5,474.10	$ 5,459.40
Cost of Goods Sold						
Magazine Subscriptions						
Astronomy Magazine Cost	$ 510.00	$ 476.00	$ 306.00	$ 816.00	$ 782.00	$ 680.00
Sky & Telescope Cost	787.85	724.90	527.20	1,315.05	1,252.10	1,054.40
Merchandise (tyson tickets)	135.35					
Total Cost of Goods Sold	$ 1,433.20	$ 1,200.90	$ 833.20	$ 2,131.05	$ 2,034.10	$ 1,734.40
Gross Profit	$ 3,319.13	$ 2,560.00	$ 880.00	$ 3,945.00	$ 3,440.00	$ 3,725.00
Operating Expense						
Programs & Events						
Home Made Fest	94.28	100.00	-	94.28	100.00	100.00
Star BBQ Expense	168.81	175.00	-	168.81	175.00	175.00
Library Scope Program Escrow	600.00	600.00	-	600.00	600.00 *	*200.00*
Eclipse Workshop Dues	-	200.00	-	-	200.00	*200.00*
2017 Eclipse Committee	-	200.00			200.00	-
Meeting Expenses						
Meeting Refreshments	173.62	337.50	60.00	233.62	450.00	350.00
Meeting Speaker Fees	134.49	187.50	60.00	194.49	250.00	250.00
Total Meeting Expenses	$ 308.11	$ 525.00	$ 120.00	$ 428.11	$ 700.00	$ 600.00
Membership Initiatives (excludes "profits")	$ 100.68	$ 150.00	$ 80.00	$ 180.68	$ 200.00	$ 200.00
Merchandise	$ 16.52	$ 90.00	45.00	61.52	$ 120.00	45.00
Membership Recognition	26.00	150.00	150.00	176.00	200.00	260.00
Programs & Events	$ 1,314.40	$ 2,190.00	$ 395.00	$ 1,709.40	$ 2,495.00	$ 1,780.00
Newsletter Postage	$ 86.32	$ 135.00	$ 20.00	$ 106.32	$ 180.00	$ 200.00
Total Newsletter	$ 86.32	$ 135.00	$ 20.00	$ 106.32	$ 180.00	$ 200.00
Library expense	$ 199.95	$ 225.00	$ 100.00	$ 299.95	$ 300.00	$ 100.00
Astronomical League Dues	690.00	650.00	-	690.00	650.00	695.00
Loaner Scopes**	1,027.24	1,150.00		1,027.24	200.00	50.00
Insurance	380.00	380.00	-	380.00	380.00	380.00
Website	131.88	135.00	-	131.88	135.00	150.00

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY						
PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET - 2016						
	Actual	Budget	Projection		Budget	
	Year to Date	Year to Date	Oct-15 to	Year to date	Annual	Annual
	Sep-15	Sep-15	Dec-15	Dec-15	2015	2016
Administrative Expenses						
Corporate Filings	-	-	-	-	-	20.00
Office Supplies/banking fees	21.40	123.75	10.00	31.40	165.00	165.00
PayPal Fees	26.22	30.00	10.00	36.22	40.00	40.00
Postage	49.00	56.25	30.00	79.00	75.00	90.00
Printing / Copying Expense (combined 2015)	573.17	666.00	150.00	723.17	888.00	1,115.00
Administrative Expenses	$ 669.79	$ 210.00	$ 200.00	$ 869.79	$ 1,168.00	$ 1,430.00
Total Operating Expense	$ 4,499.58	$ 5,075.00	$ 715.00	$ 5,214.58	$ 5,508.00	$ 4,785.00
Net Income/(Loss) From Operations	$ (1,180.45)	$ (2,515.00)	$ 165.00	$ (1,269.58)	$ (2,068.00)	$ (1,060.00)
Other Income / Expense						
Other Income						
Donations						
SLAS Club Members	1,100.00			1,100.00	-	-
Donations - Other	600.00		310.00	910.00	-	-
Total Donations	$ 1,700.00		$ 310.00	$ 2,010.00	$ -	$ -
Interest Income	$ 31.98	$ 75.00	$ 10.66	$ 42.64	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Non-Operating Income (Astro Mag Award)	2,500.00			2,500.00	-	-
Total Other Income	$ 4,231.98	$ 75.00	$ 630.66	$ 4,552.64	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Other Expense						
Physical Inventory Adjustment	$ 203.69			$ 203.69	$ -	$ -
Astro Mag Award Dispursements	1,756.47		$ 743.53	2,500.00		
2017 Eclipse Escrow Funding						$ 800.00
LTP Escrow Funding						$ 1,000.00
Total Other Expense	$ 1,960.16	$ -	$ 743.53	$ 2,703.69	$ -	$ 1,800.00
Net Other Income / (Expense)	$ 2,271.82	$ 75.00	$ (112.87)	$ 1,848.95	$ 100.00	$ (1,700.00)
Net Income / (Loss)***	$ 1,091.37	$ (2,440.00)	$ 52.13	$ 579.37	$ (1,968.00)	$ (2,760.00)

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY						
PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET - 2016						
	Actual	Budget	Projection		Budget	
	Year to Date	Year to Date	Oct-15 to	Year to date	Annual	Annual
	Sep-15	Sep-15	Dec-15	Dec-15	2015	2016
Required versus Discretionary Spending						
Gross Profit	$ 3,319.13	$ 2,560.00	$ 880.00	$ 3,945.00	$ 3,440.00	$ 3,725.00
Required Expenses						
Newsletter Postage	$ 86.32	$ 135.00	$ 20.00	$ 106.32	$ 180.00	$ 200.00
Astronomical League Dues	690.00	650.00	-	690.00	650.00	695.00
Insurance	380.00	380.00	-	380.00	380.00	380.00
Website	131.88	135.00	-	131.88	135.00	150.00
Corporate Filings	-		-	-	-	20.00
Office Supplies	-	123.75	85.00	85.00	165.00	165.00
Banking Fees	21.40	-	-	21.40	-	-
PayPal Fees	26.22	112.50	30.00	56.22	40.00	40.00
Postage	49.00	56.25	20.00		75.00	90.00
Printing / Copying Expense	573.17	666.00	75.00		888.00	1,115.00
	$ 1,957.99	$ 2,258.50	$ 230.00	$ 1,470.82	$ 2,513.00	$ 2,855.00
Balance for Discretionary Items	$ 1,361.14	$ 301.50	$ 650.00	$ 2,474.18	$ 927.00	$ 870.00
Discretionary Spending						
Home Made Fest	94.28	100.00	-	94.28	100.00	100.00
Meeting Refreshments	173.62	337.50	60.00	233.62	450.00	350.00
Meeting Speaker Fees	134.49	187.50	60.00	194.49	250.00	250.00
Membership Initiatives (excludes "profits")	100.68	150.00	80.00	180.68	200.00	200.00
Merchandise	16.52	90.00	45.00	61.52	120.00	45.00
Membership Recognition	26.00	150.00	150.00	176.00	200.00	260.00
Astronomy Day	-	-	-	-	-	-
Star BBQ Expense	168.81	175.00	-	168.81	175.00	175.00
Library expense	199.95	225.00	100.00	299.95	300.00	100.00
Loaner Scopes	1,027.24	1,150.00	-	1,027.24	200.00	50.00
Library Scope Program Escrow	600.00	600.00	-	600.00	*600.00* *	200.00
Eclipse Workshop Dues	-	200.00			*200.00*	200.00
2017 Eclipse Committee	-	200.00			*200.00*	-
	$ 2,541.59	$ 3,565.00	$ 495.00	$ 3,036.59	$ 2,995.00	$ 1,930.00
Net Income/(Loss) From Operations	$ (1,180.45)	$ (3,263.50)	$ 155.00	$ (562.41)	$ (2,068.00)	$ (1,060.00)
Other Expense						
2017 Eclipse Escrow Funding						$ 800.00
Library Telescope Program Escrow Funding						1,000.00
Total Other Expense					N/A	$ 1,800.00

* Membership approved expenditure for 3 library telescopes with funds available through 2015

** Membership approved expenditure of $1000 to add 4 Library Telescopes to the SLAS loaner scope program for members.

Volunteer Hours - October

From January through October, 57 SLAS members have volunteered for Outreach events. Events include Library Telescope viewing at local libraries, Library Telescope Training and building events, First Friday events at the McDonnell Planetarium, Spring and Fall Astronomy Day events, telescope viewing at the Arch, state, county and municipal parks, schools and other organizations. Almost 1300 total hours have been generously donated by these members.

As we enter the final 2 months of 2015 there are still many opportunities for SLAS members to participate.

Check out the SLAS calendar on our website and RSVP for an upcoming event.

Thank you to all our volunteers.

Donald Ficken 56 events; 138.5 hours
Cook Feldman 40 events; 124.4 hours
John Beaury 37 events; 120 hours
Larry Campbell 27 events; 60 hours
Mark Jones 26 events; 79.5 hours-
Frank Mack 25 events; 60.5 hours
Rick Menendez 22 events; 55.5 hours
Jim Trull 17 events; 41.5 hours
Rich Heuermann 16 events;42.3 hours
James Small 14 events; 44.5 hours
Richard Fefferman 13 events; 27 hrs
Ann Trull 11 events; 26 hours
Sharon Bertram 10 events; 23.5 hours

Bill Breeden 9 events; 32 hours
Randy Gettman 9 events; 17 hour
Richard Jennings 9 events; 28.5 hours
Bill Biermann 8 events; 17.5 hours
Brian Mills 8 events; 24.5 hours
Benjamin Winningham 7 events;19hrs
William Winningham 7 events; 19 hrs
Lee Halbeck 6 events; 15.5 hours
Colleen O'Toole 5 events; 17 hours
Rita Breeden 5 events; 17.5 hours
Bradley Waller 4 events; 9 hours
Dale Engelbrecht 4 events; 10 hours
Daniel Corso 4 events; 9.5 hours
Eric Kovach 4 events; 13 hours
William Neubert 4 events; 13 hours
Angie Johnson 3 events; 6.5 hours

Chris Nobbe 3 events; 5.5 hours
Eddie Agha 3 events; 15 hours
Gaylene Engelbrecht 3 events; 7.5 hrs
Gregory Rigelman 3 events; 11 hours
James Twellman 3 events; 3.5 hours
Jerry Loethen 3 events; 7.5 hours
Steve Sands 3 events; 14 hours
Tom Keutzer 3 events; 7.5 hours
Doug Blum 2 events; 4 hours
Edward Frey 2 events; 8.5 hours
John Boncek 2 events; 4 hours
Lynn Fee 2 events; 7.5 hours
Marcos Do Olival 2 events; 4.5 hours
Mark Fedde 2 events; 8 hours
Nicholas Kirschman 2 events; 3.5 hour
Renee Mettle 2 events; 9 hours
Robert Fischer 2 events; 5 hours
Roy Lieberman 2 events; 6 hours
Gary Holt 1 events; 3 hours
Gregory Gaines 1 events; 3 hours
James Griffith 1 events; 1.5 hours
Joe McHugh 1 events; 3 hours
Kelly Robinson 1 events; 5 hours
Michael Callaghan 1 events; 2 hours
Mike Saville 1 events; 3 hours
Nancy Matchett 1 events; 2 hours
Patrick Smith 1 events; 6 hours
Wayne Clark 1 events; 6 hours

FOR SALE:

8" Hardin Optical Deep Space Hunter, plus extras $400 OBO for Everything! (selling as entire package only)

TELESCOPE: Hardin Optical Deep Space Hunter 8-inch Dobsonian Manuals/documentation included Purchased new in 2003 – One Owner
Eyepieces (all 1.25-inch, but telescope can also accept 2-inch) Astrola Plossl 9mm and 25mm (came with telescope) Scopetronix Plossl 15mm Celestron 2x Barlow
Filters Scopetronix Basic Color Filter Set – Yellow/Green/Blue/Red Lunar Filter
ViewFinders Rigel QuikFinder (includes extra mount and tape w/ instructions)8x50 Finder Scope
Collimators Tectron Sight Tube AND Tectron Cheshire Eyepiece. Includes detailed collimation instructions printed from web
Extras! Additional 9mm Plossl (has minor flaw – replaced by company with eyepiece noted above) Eyepiece cases (plastic foam-ended cases) Rigel Infralite LED w/ lanyard Aluminum Case w/ foam inserts
Additional Information SORRY, I WILL NOT SHIP! Will travel within St. Louis/St. Charles/Jeffco/Metro-East area to transfer to purchaser. Transaction will occur in a mutually agreed upon public location (for example, police department parking lot). Cash or money order accepted. No personal checks.

Email queries to Ted at gk4239@hotmail.com , with "Deep Space Hunter" in the subject line. I hope this scope finds a new owner that has more time to use it than I have. I had fun with it when I had the time, and I'm sure you will too!

Three Plossl eyepieces (9mm, 15mm, 25mm seen top left);
Barlow 2x eyepiece (middle);
extra 9mm (above Barlow);
Tectron collimation set (top right);
Lunar filter (below collimation tools);
4 color filter set;
Rigel Infralite (in bag, lower center)

SLAS Executive Board Meeting Minutes October 8, 2015

1. Opening Activities: Read and approve minutes from September Meeting opened at 7:00 Jim Small, Tom Nickelson, Bill Winningham, Bradley Waller, Mark Jones, Larry Campbell, Paul Baldwin September minutes reviewed and approved

2. External Business

Report from meeting with SLSC to discuss need to SLAS volunteers to adhere to SLSC volunteer policy. Issue has been resolved, SLAS needs to send copy of SLAS certificate of insurance to the SLSC. SLAS volunteers will still qualify for SLSC volunteer recognition. SLAS needs to determine the number of SLSC events members must attend for qualification for SLSC volunteer recognition dinner and SLSC membership.

Motion: by Brad, second by Mark. SLAS will require its members to volunteer for a minimum of 6 SLSC events per year in order to qualify for SLSC volunteer benefits. First Friday event will count as single event and longer event s such as Astronomy Day will count as two events.
Discussion by Board. Motion was modified and reintroduced as follows:

Motion: by Tom, second by Bill. SLAS will require its members to volunteer for a minimum of 5 SLSC events per year in order to qualify for SLSC volunteer benefits. First Friday event will count as single event and longer event s such as Astronomy Day will count as two events. Motion passed.

Next board meetings: Nov 12, Dec 10

3. Director Reports:

President:
MSRAL 2016 – ASKC meeting will be Oct 20th for them to vote on their participation in MSRAL 2016. Dates will be June 3-5 at Univ. Mo-Columbia. A planning meeting will be held in the next month.

Vice President –Paul Baldwin:
October – Kari Wojtkowski, Lindenwood University Belleville, "To be or not to be (a planet) that is the question".
November - Member Telescopes on Display
December - TBA

Astro 101: Oct. Disabled Scope - Tom Nickelson; Nov – Space Aps for your iwatch or iphone – Jim Small

Secretary – No report

Treasurer/ALCor – Set up budget meetings to take place SOON

Equity up YTD due to revenue received for the Eclipse Workshop and Library Telescope build. We still have $750 balance in Astronomy Magazine Award. End of 3Q2015 report submitted before the meeting. Net income $4700 YTD. Need to start working on 2016 budget. Bill will send out draft budget worksheet and narrative by 10/12. Officers and Committee heads need to provide inputs. Tentative budget meeting will be held Oct 26 at Young's at 18:30. Second budget meeting Nov 2 and third Nov 9th.

Hospitality – Larry Campbell No report

Board member at large reports

Brad Waller: (2016) New member orientation meeting held last month. Brad presented the New Member Packet. 2 loaner library telescope were checked out. 1 loaner scope still out. Membership initiatives in work are:

1: 2 Tickets to Astronaut James Lovell (15 April 2016) presentation on April 15, 2016 at SIU-E This will be similar to the raffle we had for Neil deGrasse Tyson in May. Also organizing a group to go to Lovell talk, goal is to reach the 10 ticket level to get the cheaper price, $29 verses $35.
2: Five Books signed by Canadian Astronaut and CDR of the ISS, Col Chris Hadfield. These books have been sent to his Office (This week). I talked to his Secretary and she said it could be a couple of months before we get them back. It all depends on his schedule.
3: Books and pictures signed Astronomer Mike Brown. We are still working on this one.
4: Two Books signed by Chap Percival. These are in Inventory.

Tom Nickelson: (2017) No report

BMAL (2018) - Vacant Nomination for BMAL 2018 will end at October Meeting.

4. Committee Reports: If needed

Library Telescope Program:

Membership – Report submitted before the meeting. 162 members as of Sep 30

Merchandise – No Report

Telescope Making – no report submitted

Librarian – No Report

Newsletter – Deadline 10/12. We need articles about stuff that SLAS is involved with. I can't write everything. Especially useful if pictures are provided.

Website – www.slasonline.org/joomla

Night Sky Network – No report

SLASdialogs – no report

Dark Site – Next event on Oct 10.

Loaner – Motion passed at last month's general meeting will provide funding up to $250 to purchase video camera for recording meetings.

Publicity – Paul has provided information for October press release

Observing Programs – No report

Star Parties: Check calendar for upcoming star parties. Many coming next week.

5. Old Business

ASKC will vote on this Tuesday, Oct 20 to provide funding for MSRAL 2016

6. New Business

None

7. Closing Activities

Motion by Mark Jones to close meeting second by Brad, meeting adjourned 9:07

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2015

	Dec 31, 14	Oct 31, 15
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Astronomy Magazine Award**	0.00	521.45
Checking - First Bank	5,161.12	4,232.20
Deposit, Certificate of	20,068.06	20,098.09
Library Telescope Escrow*	1,660.10	437.66
Merchandise Change Fund	20.00	20.00
PayPal	82.81	72.45
Savings - First Bank	3,359.27	5,361.45
SLAS Eclipse Conference Escrow***	0.00	451.70
YMCA Trout Lodge Escrow	542.87	542.87
Total Checking/Savings	30,894.23	31,737.87
Other Current Assets		
Inventory Asset	1,614.22	1,410.53
Undeposited Funds	261.95	75.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,876.17	1,485.53
Total Current Assets	32,770.40	33,223.40
Fixed Assets		
Accum Depr - Office Equp	(216.65)	(216.65)
Office Equipment	216.65	216.65
Total Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	32,770.40	33,223.40
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	167.90	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	167.90	0.00
Total Liabilities	167.90	0.00
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	8,137.66	8,137.66
Retained Earnings	22,221.50	24,464.84
Net Income	2,243.34	620.90
Total Equity	32,602.50	33,223.40
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	32,770.40	33,223.40

* Funds restricted for the Library Telescope Program. $1,660 was carried over from the end of 2014.

** Funds from Astronomy Magazine Award, available until 4/10/2016.

*** Registration fees and donations for SLAS sponsored eclipse seminars

St. Louis Astronomical Society
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through October 2015

	Jan - Oct 15	Budget	$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Events Income****	2,974.52	0.00	2,974.52
Magazine Subscription	1,297.85	1,267.85	30.00
Membership Dues	3,355.00	2,855.00	500.00
Merchandise Sales			
General Merchandise***	239.48	0.00	239.48
Merchandise Sales - Other	150.00	0.00	150.00
Total Merchandise Sales	389.48	0.00	389.48
Total Income	8,016.85	4,122.85	3,894.00
Cost of Goods Sold			
Magazine Subscriptions			
Astronomy Magazine Cost	510.00	510.00	0.00
Sky & Telescope Cost	787.85	757.85	30.00
Total Magazine Subscriptions	1,297.85	1,267.85	30.00
Merchandise			
General Merchandise	135.35	0.00	135.35
Merchandise - Other	16.52	90.00	(73.48)
Total Merchandise	151.87	90.00	61.87
Total COGS	1,449.72	1,357.85	91.87
Gross Profit	6,567.13	2,765.00	3,802.13
Expense			
1-Programs & Events	1,550.74	2,349.78	(799.04)
2-Newsletter	115.72	150.00	(34.28)
3-Library expense	199.95	225.00	(25.05)
4-Astronomical League Dues	690.00	650.00	40.00
5-Loaner Scopes*	1,027.24	150.00	877.24
7-Insurance	380.00	380.00	
8-Website	131.88	135.00	(3.12)
9-Administrative Expenses	682.14	973.33	(291.19)
Total Expense	4,777.67	5,013.11	(235.44)
Net Ordinary Income	1,789.46	(2,248.11)	4,037.57
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Donations	2,000.05	0.00	2,000.05
Interest Income	32.21	83.00	(50.79)
LTP Receipts	12,928.21	0.00	12,928.21
Non-Operating Income**	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Total Other Income	17,460.47	83.00	17,377.47
Other Expense			
Astro Mag Award Dispursements	1,978.55	0.00	1,978.55
Eclipse Escrow Dispursements	2,289.54	0.00	2,289.54
LTP Disbursements	14,157.25	0.00	14,157.25
Non-operating Expense	203.69	0.00	203.69
Total Other Expense	18,629.03	0.00	18,629.03
Net Other Income	(1,168.56)	83.00	(1,251.56)
Net Income	620.90	(2,165.11)	2,786.01

* Budget reflects membership vote to purchase 4 Orion Starblasts for the Loaner Program

** Non-operating income includes a $2,500 award from Astronomy Magazine. $1,978.55 of the award proceeds have been spent to date, the remaining proceeds must be spent by April of 2016.

*** Tyson Raffle, net proceeds of $104.13 available for Membership Initiatives.

**** Events Income includes $231 of SLAS telescope auction net profit and $2,743.52 in SLAS Eclipse Conference fees and donations. The auction proceeds are to be used for the purchase of a video camera for recording General Meetings.

Wanted: Newsletter Articles!

The Event Horizon needs articles from people like YOU!

Interviews, current astronomy topics, historical articles, you name it, we can use it!

Send what you have to

Wanted: Volunteers!

Be sure to sign up on Night Sky Network for upcoming star parties. Lead volunteers need to know who will be there so they can tell where we are falling short. If you aren't sure how to RSVP, please ask anyone at the meeting and we can show you how on the computer after the meeting. Or contact any board or committee member to find out. See you at the next star party!

Upcoming Star Parties and Other Events

For details on these and other upcoming events, check out the Night Sky Network Calendar linked on the Home Page for SLAS at http://www.slasonline.org

SLAS Executive Board Meetings *Location will be at the Edward Jones YMCA*

12/10/2015

Dark Sky Observing Dates
See you in April!

Francis Park Events: These events are on Wednesdays the week nearest the first quarter Moon
SLSC Public Telescope Viewing Events: These events are held the first Friday of the month Planetarium shows start at 7pm
12/4/2015
YMCA Edward Jones Star Parties

SLAS EVENTS

November

18 Wed	St Louis Public Library Barr Branch
19 Thur	St. Louis Public Library Macheck Br.
19 Thur	St Charles Library Kisker Road
20 Fri	SLAS Regular meeting
21 Sat	Faith Academy
23 Mon	St Charles Library Corporate Parkway
24 Tue	St. Louis Public Library Central

December

4 Fri	SLSC Public Telescope Viewing
10 Thur	Cub Scout Meeting
10 Thur	SLAS Board Meeting
18 Fri	SLAS Regular Meeting
19 Sat	STEM University

Ordering Ottewell Calendar and RASC Handbook

Order the Ottewell Calendar directly from Universal Workshop and get the club discount of $19.95 shipping included! This will be the last year for the Ottewell Calendar! Here is the link:

http://store.universalworkshop.com/category_s/49.htm

RASC Handooks get a discount if you order 2 or more. They will be $27 shipping included with this discount.

Here is the link:

https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store_CURRPUB.aspx?Category=CURRPUB

SLAS Merchandise:

Soon to be available at Johnny Mac's Sporting Goods!

Watch for notification through NSN and the website!!

LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING!

To RSVP for any of these events log in to the Night Sky Network and submit your RSVP. If the event is canceled, you will be notified immediately according to the preferences you have selected.

SLAS Merchandise Available

SLAS merchandise is now set up for embroidery at **Headz n Threadz at** https://hnt.threadthis.com/

There are two locations:
Galleria: 2495 St. Louis Galleria, St. Louis, MO 63117
Telephone: 314.862.2695
galleria@headznthreadz.com
Delmar: 6662C Delmar Blvd St. Louis, MO 63130 Telephone: 314.863.2695 delmar@headznthreadz.com
Delmar Map

Simply take the garment, hat, etc you wish to have embroidered and they will take care of it. They have the SLAS logo on file. You may make modifications to the colors if you wish.

SLAS Logo is also available at Infini-tees and Johnny Mac's

SLAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: Last _____

First, Middle Initial _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

email address _____

Please send completed form with check (no cash please) made payable to

St Louis Astronomical Society

Don Ficken, Membership
13024 Barrett Crossing CT
St. Louis, MO 63122

Youth @ $10.00 / 1 year (18 yrs or younger) $_____

Individual @ $25.00 / 1 year $_____

Family @ $40.00/1 year $_____

Publications with discount available with your SLAS membership:

Sky and Telescope @ $32.95 / 1 year $_____

(S&T may also be renewed at their website: http://www.skyandtelescope.com)

Astronomy @ $34.00 / 1 year $_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED **$_____**

Check all that apply:

___ Renewal
___ Address Change Only
___ Please send my newsletter by regular mail
___ ***New Member!***

SLAS OFFICERS

President ***Jim Small*** 314-307-0692
president at slasonline.org

Vice President ***Paul Baldwin*** 314-781-4080
vicepresident at slasonline.org

Secretary ***Mark Jones*** 636-394-2342
secretary at slasonline.org

Treasurer ***Bill Winningham, (Don Ficken - membership)***
treasurer at slasonline.org 636-225-0269

Hospitality ***Larry Campbell*** 636-244-2867
hospitality at slasonline.org

Board Members at Large:

Brent Buch 314-239-0329
Board18 at slasonline.org

Tom Nickelson 314-346-9565
board17 at slasonline.org

Bradley Waller 314-481-7250
board16 at slasonline.org

ALCOR ***Bill Winningham*** 636-225-0269
(Astronomical League Correspondent)
treasurer at slasonline.org

MSRAL Rep. ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
msral_rep at astroleague.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dark Site Coordinator ***Mark Jones*** 636-394-2342
darksite at slasonline.org

Librarian ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
librarian at slasonline.org

Library Telescope Program ***Don Ficken*** 636-851-9630
lirbrarytelescope at slasonline.org

Loaner Equipment ***Greg Gaines*** 314-277-3082
loaner at slasonine.org

Merchandise ***Vacant***
merchandise at slasonline.org

Membership ***Don Ficken*** 636-225-0269
membership at slasonline.org

Newsletter Editor ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
newsletter at slasonline.org

Observing Programs ***Jerry Loethen*** 314-329-8008
observing at slasonline.org

Publicity ***Rich Heuermann*** 314-962-9231
publicity at slasonline.org

Recognition ***Larry Campbell*** 636-244-2867
recognition at slasonline.org

'SLASdialogs' Moderator ***Mark Jones, Rhonda Whelan***
dialogsmoderator at yahoo.com

Star Party Coordinator ***Vacant***
starparty at slasonline.org

Telescope Making ***Bill Davis, Jim Melka*** 314-469-3061
telescope at slasonline.org

Webmaster ***Jim Small*** 314-909-7211
webmaster at slasonline.org

Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

ST. LOUIS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

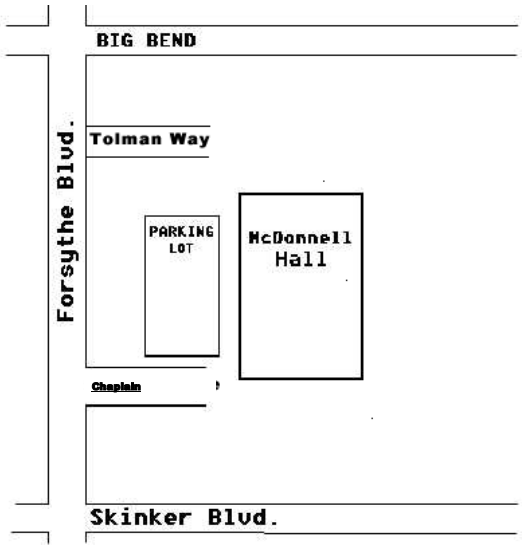
We're on the Web!
http://www.slasonline.org

Who We Are and What We Do

St. Louis Astronomical Society is a not-for-profit organization established in 1936. SLAS is devoted to the interest and advancement of the science of astronomy. Our mission is to promote an understanding of the science of astronomy to our members and to the public. Membership is open to any-one with an interest in astronomy.

For more information contact any SLAS officer or visit our website listed above. SLAS is affiliated with the Astronomical League, Night Sky Network and the Mid-States Region of the Astronomical League.

Meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each month at McDonnell Hall at Washington University. See the map to the right for directions.



St. Louis Astronomical Society
Jim Small
13128 Cozyhill Drive
St. Louis, MO 63122