



PO Box 17, Minto, NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Held at 33 Hickson Circuit, Harrington Park, NSW
on Wednesday 6th April 2011

Meeting opened 7.25 pm, closed at 9.30 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Present: John Rombi (Chair), Trevor Rhodes, Tony Law, Lloyd Wright, Stewart Grainger, Carol McVeigh, Chris Malikoff & Roger Powell.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The previously distributed minutes were taken as read. Motion: "That the minutes dated 3rd March be adopted". Moved: JR, seconded: TR, carried unanimously. The minutes were signed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Annual General Meeting

Annual Reports: Auditor, Treasurer, Merchandise Officer, President - to reach Geoff Young by Monday 11th.

Membership Awards: Ten year badges go to Bob Monckom and Ned Pastor. There will be 10 five year certificates and 4 fifteen year certificates. Chris to get names from TL and do all design work. TL will then print and laminate.

Nominations for election: Only one nomination has been received by the Secretary for each of the seven positions. The nominations have been posted on the website.

Returning Officer: As JR is not nominating for election, he can act as the Returning Officer.

Motion to amend the constitution: No further comments have been received from members.

3.2 General Meetings/Forum

(i) UWS room bookings & location for 2011: The possibility of remaining at UWS remains open but is uncertain.

(ii) Future sponsorship of the Forum: Geoff Young received an e-mail from Extravision seeking information about sponsorship. JR will follow up with them.

3.3 UWS Executive Dean: A meeting was held on 8th March with the new Executive Dean, College of Health & Science, Professor Branko Celler, to discuss UWS/MAS issues. The Dean proposed that MAS collaborate with UWS on a joint outreach programme aimed at schools and that if this goes ahead, he would have no problem approving our room fee waiver for 2012. TR will follow up with UWS.

3.4 Bunnings Barbecue

JR has approached Bunnings Warehouse and is still awaiting a kit re Saturday barbecues.

3.5 Photographic Competition: Deferred.

3.6 Wedderburn Airfield It was agreed to accept an invitation from NSW Sports Aviation Club to hold an evening at Wedderburn Airfield on 7th May, in lieu of Stargard. The night is likely to end at 10 pm.

3.7 Any other business arising from the minutes: Further discussion on potential social evening next time Stargard is cancelled. Need to gauge membership attitude.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

(i) Audited annual financial report: TL presented the finished report for 2010-11, which will be published in the Annual Report document. He advised that, following discussions with Graeme Bellamy, improvements have been introduced to both the accounting and stock list reporting systems. TL advised a profit of \$4,300 for the year 2010-11, much of it due to profit on the trip to Coonabarabran.

(i) Monthly financial report: a cash report (dated 28th February) was provided by TL (attached). Summary:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Term deposit: | \$7,000.00 |
| Cash account: | \$3,760.35 |
| PayPal account: | \$292.37 |
| Refreshment float: | \$40.00 |
| Merchandise float: | \$100.00 |
| Cash/cheques undeposited: | \$502.00 |
| TOTAL CASH ASSETS: | \$11,694.72 |

Subsequent to this, TL banked \$502 (membership) and \$107 (coffee); and an \$140 extra is now in PayPal. Membership renewal of \$40 from Ahmed Alcheikh has also been received. This increases cash assets to \$12,483.72.

(ii) motion: "That the Treasurer's Report be adopted" moved: TL, seconded: JR, carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership:

Motion "That the membership applications from Alan Hobbs & Luke Williams be approved"; moved JR, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

Current membership status is 96, which includes 3 honorary members and 20 members who have yet to renew. Clive Pickup, Scott Nickless, Carlos Real & Marc Arignou are not expected to renew. Robert Zindler's membership date is wrong, he already has his ten year badge.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding: SG presented a Stock Report dated 6th April, indicating a total stock value of **\$2117.64**

(ii) acquisition of new stock: deferred.

4.4 General meetings:

Guest speaker list 2011: Apr: AGM and Daniel Ross; May: Andrew Hopkins; Jun: Lisa Harvey-Smith; Jul: Mike Ireland ; Aug: Geraint Lewis; Sep: tba; Oct: Gary Kopff; Nov: Bryan Gaensler.

Les Dalrymple's presentation was very well received last month. Need to hold workshops next year and possibly this September.

4.5 Members observing nights:

(i) Since last meeting: since last meeting: Forest (4th/5th March); Stargard (26th March); Forest (1st/2nd April). Stargard was clouded out and so was the Forest, apart from Friday 1st April.

(ii) Coming up: Stargard (9th April); Forest (30th April).

JR advised that mining activity has been mooted for Belanglo Forest.

4.6 Public outreach events in 2010:

(i) public night at The Oaks: 12th March was cloudy with some clear intervals. Only about 40 members of the public attended.

(ii) proposed SKA public night at UWS: To be raised with UWS again.

(iii) proposed SKA public lecture at UWS: To be raised with UWS again.

(iv) Wollondilly Anglican College, observation night 11th June has been arranged.

4.7 Prime Focus magazine: the deadline for contributions is 11th April, which includes annual reports.

4.8 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook: Going well but a bit quiet.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Correspondence in:

Letter from Wollondilly Shire Council regarding contact details.

Renewal money order for \$40.00 from Ahmed Alcheikh.

Letter of resignation from Dr Ragbir Bhathal.

Letter of resignation from Clive Pickup.

5.2 Correspondence out:

Membership approval to Robert Zindler

Follow up e-mail to Professor Celler.

Acceptance of resignation: Dr Ragbir Bhathal.

Acceptance of resignation: Clive Pickup.

5.3 Publicity: Media statement re AGM.

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Dr. Ragbir Bhathal: Dr. Bhathal tendered his resignation as Patron of the Society.

6.2 Guest Speaker Dinner Costs: Agreed that TL will bill members the exact cost of the meal. The Society will pay for the guest speaker. Non-committee invitees to be cleared with President in advance.

6.3 Macquarie Fields School: The School is intending to take ten students to Space Camp and has publicly appealed through Radio 2GB for financial support. We have invited them to AGM for Daniel's talk. We will liaise with school on other ways of helping - including a public observing night at the school - and it was agreed to donate to the appeal. Other suggestions: donation of profits from merchandise and compendium sales and granting ten student memberships for one year. Motion: *That \$500 be donated to the Macquarie Fields Public School appeal.* Moved TL, seconded JR, carried unanimously.

6.4 Weekend Away: Gauge members interest in a possible trip to Parkes or Narrabri.

6.5 Trip to Hawaii: Gauge members interest in a future trip. If enough are interested, possibly set up a regular savings plan.

6.6 Concluding Remarks: John thanked the committee members for their work and for their friendship during the year and also his appreciation of the members of each committee he has served on over the last eleven years. The rest of the committee expressed their gratitude for John's wise leadership and years of hard work on behalf of the Society.

7 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Wednesday 4th May at Trevor Rhodes house.

8 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

*Roger Powell,
Secretary
7th April 2011*

Signed: (President)

R. Powell(Secretary)

APPENDIX 1:
MAS Treasury & Membership Report 31st March 2011
Treasury

Cash float of **\$40.00** for coffee etc.
 Stewart has **\$100.00** cash float for merchandising
 PayPal account **\$292.37**
 Un-deposited Cash/cheques **\$502.00**
 Term deposit **\$7,000.00**

| Date | Details | | Merchan dise | Membe rship | Forest | Donati ons | Other | Income | Expen se | Balance |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|
| b/fwd | | | | | | | | | | \$ 3,353.90 |
| 1/03/2011 | Pan sports 319 | | | | | | | | \$ 200.55 | \$ 3,153.35 |
| 7/03/2011 | See deposits 45811-18 | | \$ 240.00 | \$ 145.00 | \$ 104.00 | \$ 62.00 | \$ 128.00 | \$ 679.00 | | \$ 3,832.35 |
| 7/03/2011 | FWatson 318 | | | | | | | | \$ 100.00 | \$ 3,732.35 |
| 14/03/2011 | Post Box 321 | | | | | | | | \$ 86.00 | \$ 3,646.35 |
| 22/03/2011 | RPowell 85291 | | | | | | \$ 27.00 | \$ 27.00 | | \$ 3,673.35 |
| 22/03/2011 | TLaw 85292 | | | | | | \$ 27.00 | \$ 27.00 | | \$ 3,700.35 |
| 22/03/2011 | SarkisG 85293 | | \$ 50.00 | \$ 80.00 | | | | \$ 130.00 | | \$ 3,830.35 |
| 31/03/2011 | Internatio nal House 322 | | | | | | | | \$ 70.00 | \$ 3,760.35 |

See comments from Auditor as per his report - discussion

Membership

We have one return Membership from Kate Ross rejoining after 2 year's Maternity leave, have automatically re-listed her. We have two new Membership applications, Allan Hobbs and Luke Williams, to consider. With these the total Membership stands at 93 members and 3 Honorary – if all outstanding (20) renew. Clive Pickup has resigned due to age.

Have PM'd all unfinancial members requesting payment or a reason for not renewing.

Tony Law
Hon. Treasurer

APPENDIX 2**Macarthur Astronomical Soc. Stock list as of 6/04/11**

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| DVD Magnitude | 1 x copy | \$4.50 ea. | \$4.50 |
| DVD Magnitude II | 4 x copies | \$2.50 ea. | \$10.00 |
| Star Wheels | | | |
| Large | x 5 | \$19.20 ea. | \$96.00 |
| Small | x 1 | \$12.50 ea. | \$12.50 |
| Sew on Patches | | | |
| White | x 17 | \$7.00 ea. | \$119.00 |
| Black | x 14 | \$7.00 ea. | \$98.00 |
| Beanies | x 14 | \$11.22 ea. | \$157.08 |
| Baseball Caps | x 6 | \$15.30 ea. | \$91.80 |
| Coffee Mugs | x 73 | \$8.50 ea. | \$620.50 |
| Astronomy 2010:- | 2 x copies | \$17.11 ea. | Nil value |
| Astronomy 2011:- | 9 x copies | \$17.30 | \$155.70 |
| Emu Dreaming:- | 7 x copies | \$10.00 ea. | \$70.00 |
| Heavens Above:- | 10 x copies | | on loan |
| Compendium:- | 12 x copies (plus 1 x one sample) | | on loan |

Shirts

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Mens White | Mens Navy | Mens Black | Womens Navy |
| M x 2 | M x 4 | S x 1 | 12 x 1 |
| L x 2 | L x 1 | M x 4 | 14 x 1 |
| XL x 2 | XL x 2 | L x 2 | |
| | | XL x 2 | |

Total of 24 shirts @ \$28.44 ea. \$682.56

Total value of stock as of 6/04/11 \$2117.64