

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

The “big rocks” to report for 2016 were as follows:

- 1) **March** – Old C14 was stolen, along with > \$1,000 worth of premium eyepieces
- 2) **April** - New C14 offered by Celestron (security, mounting, installation completed in Dec).
- 3) **Eclipse Glasses** – we have a substantial inventory, which should gain in value (some are promotional giveaways)
- 4) **Library Telescopes** - AfA purchased and donated 3 telescopes (Orion 4.5” Starblast) at \$285.00 each for a total of \$855.00 (Note: this was a notable dent in our bank account). These 3 were donated to the Library District. Note that our financials show the Library District gave us a “donation” for the purchase of the 7 scopes that they bought (which we purchased from SLAS – same as for ours). This continues to be a solid Outreach program.
- 5) **ASEM Astro-calendar** – New venture. Exceeded goals for a first try and made over \$600. May try to double sales next year, probably at reduced pricing. If AfA board members have ideas on how/where to sell more, please advise.
- 6) **ASEM membership** – increased from 83 in January to 87 at year end 2016.
- 7) **Donated telescope** - I was contacted, and subsequently picked up a scope donation in December. The newly-acquired scope is a 11” Celestron SCT (non GPS, but Go-To). We will need to run this thru some trials and testing. The end-use of this scope has not yet been determined. It may occupy the soon-to-be-donated 10foot ProDome, or become predominately a back-up scope (for 14” or 12”). It came with a JMI case, wheelybar, and multiple eyepieces (new asset valuation : + \$1,500 for all). Note that there was (separately) also a donation of a home-made, long focal ratio Newtonian that has been accepted by our DIY group as a “project”. We intend to auction off (or sell via CloudyNights) excess inventory, as we have done in the past.
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- 8) **Donated 10 foot ProDome (pending)** – TO be installed Spring 2017, and possibly house 12” Meade SCT.
- 9) **32 “** – I have hung the ProDome as a JOINT deal to house the 32”, and pour two pads at once. We still need to provide plans for a roll-off building for the 32”. The 32” will cost AfA some funds to install, unsure of the total expected as of yet. Once again, “I really think this will happen” ...stay tuned.
- 10) **Pending Donations (2017)** – an 18” Obsession (pending consideration).
- 11) **2017 Total Solar Eclipse (Aug 21)** and Solar Eclipse EXPO (June 17 - www.eclipseexpo.org) – I am on a panel (task force) for the ST LOUIS AREA eclipse. This group is headed by ASEM and SLAS member Don Ficken, and represented by SLAS, ASEM, St Louis County Parks, St Louis Science Center, and others (educators, etc.). The size of this “task force” is nearing 100’s. Interested AfA board members should seriously consider attending this “Expo”. I plan for us (ASEM/SCCP, and maybe SCCC) to have a booth there (\$100) and be represented among many who are hosting.