

President's Message

In 2011 I hope to build on our previous years' successes. I hope to make our new Ray Center relationship a success and to guide the Board in starting up our loaner telescope program again. Like all the previous presidents, I depend on your creative ideas and the enthusiastic support of club activities.

Thanks!

★ John Bishop
NHAS President 2011

Highlights for This Month

This month's highlights are the election of 2011 officers, and the NHAS December holiday pot luck supper, held in lieu of our usual business meeting agenda. My best wishes to all for the coming new year!

★ Paul Winalski
NHAS Secretary 2010

Total Lunar Eclipse, 21 December 2010

A total lunar eclipse will be visible in the early morning of 21 December. Partial eclipse starts at 1:32:37 AM Eastern Standard Time. Totality begins at 2:40:47 AM. Totality ends at 3:53:08 AM, and partial eclipse ends at 5:01:20 AM. Here's hoping for clear skies.

★ Paul Winalski

Salem High School Sky Watch, 6 January

This was Winter Physics Day at Salem NH High School. I gave an indoor presentation to 11th and 12th graders, emphasizing the contributions of Sir Isaac Newton to the field of Astronomy. Newton was the first to build a reflector

telescope, and of course invented the reflector configuration that bears his name. The main part of the presentation was a description of the various types of celestial objects, with an emphasis on the importance of gravity.

We had a fine night's observing on the football field behind the school. My thanks to the NHAS members who presented the night sky to the students.

★ Paul Winalski

Thanks from the Nottingham West Elementary School

We received the following note of thanks from the Tina Green, Nottingham West Elementary School, Hudson NH:

"On behalf of the Nottingham West Elementary School Family, I want to thank you for the skywatch. It was very interesting and informative. Having never looked through a telescope, I was very impressed with your telescopes and what we were able to see through them. It was an unforgettable experience!"

"Please pass on my thanks to your colleagues who were there that night."

"Have a very Merry Christmas and a fun-filled New Year!"

★ Paul Winalski

Library Telescope Program Update

The Library Telescope Program continues to be a big success. We are nearing twenty lending telescope placements at New Hampshire libraries. The program continues to get national, and even international, recognition.

Marc Stowbridge sends these new photos of recently placed library telescopes, and their proud caretakers:



Ted Blank and the Seabrook Library Telescope.



The librarians of Wigin Library, Stratham, and their new lending scope.

★ Paul Winalski

Additional Public Outreach Events for 2011

We are expanding our public outreach efforts for 2011 with two additional monthly observing events:

Rey Center Public Sky Watch: On the Saturday nearest New Moon of each month, a NHAS member will be giving an indoor presentation, followed by a sky watch, at the Rey Center's Curious George Cottage in

Waterville Valley. Additional NHAS members and their scopes are welcome, and encouraged, for the sky watch. We are committed to six of these events, after which we and the Rey Center will review the success of the program.

Sidewalk Observing in Downtown

Portsmouth: On the Saturday nearest First Quarter Moon of each month, **Ted Blank** and **Tom Cocchiaro** will be coordinating a NHAS sidewalk astronomy observing event in downtown Portsmouth, NH. Members are welcome to bring their scopes and present the night sky to passers by.

I hope we'll see you at one or more of these new (for NHAS) outreach events!

★ Paul Winalski

NHAS December 2010 Business Meeting

The December business meeting was held at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, **Rich DeMidio** presiding.

There was only one business agenda item—the election of 2011 officers and a Director (for a three-year term). There were no further nominations at the December meeting. As there was only one nominee for each office, a motion to have a voice vote, versus secret ballot, was entertained, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. The nominated slate of candidates was duly elected by unanimous voice vote. Your officer corps elected for 2011 thus is:

President: **John Bishop**

Vice President: **David Gilmore**

Secretary: **Paul Winalski**

Treasurer: **Ken Charles**

Director: **Jean Buckley**

The remainder of the meeting was a social event with an excellent pot-luck supper. Among the entertainment was a “put together the December sky” puzzle, where you had to put together puzzle pieces cut to the official boundaries of the constellations of the December early night sky. I tried it, and it proved quite a challenge!

There was also a small musical skit extolling the benefits of refractors vs. reflectors.

The only other business item was the presentation of the President's Awards by Rich DeMidio:

Maintaining Operational Reliability of our Website

To **Matt Marulla**, for his efforts as our webmaster to incorporate demanding requirements in a timely manner, and for providing easier website maintenance for the officers.

Running the Books



... is not an easy task. **Ken Charles** has worked hard to keep the membership well informed as to our finances, and has, in addition to this big workload, volunteered for additional tasks.

Parliamentarian

My appreciation to **Paul Winalski** for his efforts to in preparation for, and running of, the club elections, and for producing professional content for all to enjoy.

President's Appreciation



To **Mike Townsend** for representing NHAS in public events, and for being a trusted advisor and providing insight on those hard decisions.

The Rising of Venus Award



To **Don McDaniels** or dedication to contributing, even when it might be difficult, and being not afraid to ask the obvious questions that we ought to think about, after qualifying as the first to mistake Venus for Saturn after Venus becomes the morning star.

The Scrivener Extraordinaire Award

To **Paul Winalski** for keeping the members advised on upcoming events, being meticulous when it comes to writing, and working hard

with the many duties that fall upon his office.

The Graphics Designer Excellence Award



To **Tom Cocchairo** for his fabulous creativity in NHAS literature, attention to detail with great messaging, and for consistently volunteering to create and print literature.

The Urban and Visual Observing Award



To **Ted Blank** for his passion in promoting Astronomy no matter what the venue, for his enjoyment of being around very large crowds (where some of us are more anxious), and for promoting the vision of a visionary.

The Farming and Future Astronomers Award

To **Marc Stowbridge** for conceiving and driving the Library Telescope Program, for promoting LTP outside of NHAS, and for putting a smile on so many children and parents.

Outstanding Leadership Award



To **Rich Schueller** and **Matt Amar** for their outstanding vision and drive in making the Educational Outreach Committee what it is today, for reaching out to other organizations and promoting NHAS. And for being maniacally focused on outreach and on herding the cats.

And One Final One

To **The Members of NHAS** for being the most important asset we have, for contributing to the success of this organization, AND my sincere gratitude in making my job easy for the last two years.

With thanks from the bottom of my heart,

Clear skies,

★ Rich DeMidio

The Bottom Line

Starting Balance:	\$7547.00
Deposits/Credits:	
Membership:	630.00
Donations:	125.00
Bank Interest:	1.90
Calendars:	112.00
Total :	868.90
Net Account Balance:	\$8415.90
Petty cash drawer:	\$100.00
Cash Balance:	\$8515.90

Membership: 108

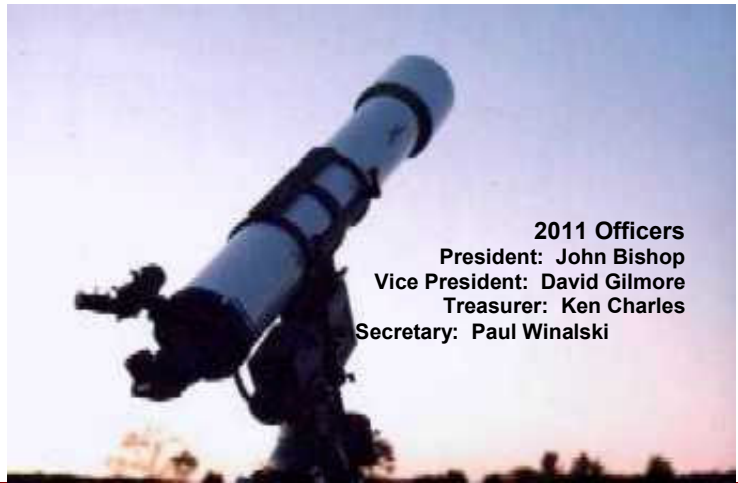
Donations:	
Dave Weaver (EOC)	3.00
MSC	2.00
Reeds Ferry P.F.A.	100.00

Concord School District	20.00
Total:	125.00

New Members:

- Tom Bearor**, Colebrook NH
- Pat Bourque**, Manchester NH
- Gerry Elmer**, Merrimack NH
- Gerry Long**, Gilford NH
- Luanne Pigeon**, Concord NH
- Chris White**, Nashua NH

★ Ken Charles
NHAS Treasurer 2010



2011 Officers
President: John Bishop
Vice President: David Gilmore
Treasurer: Ken Charles
Secretary: Paul Winalski

DEADLINE February 2011 Issue: 5 PM February 13

E-mail articles to the Editor.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS – Notify the Treasurer of changes to postal or e-mail address.

How to Join N.H.A.S.

Write to us:

NHAS
P.O. Box 5823
Manchester, NH 03108-5823
Attn: Treasurer

Send E-mail to:

info@nhastro.com

Use our web site:

<http://www.nhastro.com/>

This month's contributors:

John Bishop, Marc Stowbridge, Rich DeMidio, Ken Charles

New Hampshire Astronomical Society
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NHAS Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
NHAS Business Meeting	January 21	7:30 PM	St. Anselm College, Manchester NH
Coffee House Night	January 28	5:00 PM	YFOS
Astro 201: Introduction to the Titan Mount	January 28	7:00 PM	YFOS
Discovery Center Sky Watch	February 4	7:00 PM	McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, Concord NH
Rey Center Sky Watch	February 5	6:30 PM	Curious George Cottage, Waterville Valley NH
Amherst Library Sky Watch	February 11	5:00 PM	Amherst Library, Amherst NH
Sidewalk Astronomy	February 12	6:00 PM	Market Square, Portsmouth NH
NHAS Business Meeting	February 18	7:30 PM	McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
Coffee House Night	February 25	5:00 PM	YFOS
Discovery Center Sky Watch	March 4	7:00 PM	McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
Rey Center Sky Watch	March 5	6:30 PM	Curious George Cottage, Waterville Valley NH
Astro 201: Stellar Evolution	March 11	7:00 PM	Phillips-Exeter Academy, Exeter NH