March 18, 2020

To All PAC Members

I am sorry to have to inform our members that all club in-person activity has been cancelled until further notice.

This is not something that was decided lightly. In fact, it was decided for us.

Touchmark has cancelled all outside group events, meaning our meetings, until further notice.

The Highland Center has cancelled all activities until April 13, so maybe the star party on April 25 will still happen. Stay tuned.

With the recommendations of two members of the club, I have cancelled the Pronghorn park star party for March 28.

METASIG has been cancelled.

The Prescott Public library is closed until April 13.

All Arizona schools are closed until further notice.

Lowell Observatory has cancelled all public access until further notice.

The ERAU SciTech Fest has been cancelled.

I am in touch with most other Arizona Astronomy clubs by email. Most of them have reported that they have cancelled their in-person activities.

I attempted to conduct an online meeting of the PAC Board last night, but only four members were present. Without a quorum, we could not hold an official meeting. During this COVID-19 pandemic, for anyone over the age of 80 (including me), self-isolation has been strongly advised.

The good news is that the Internet is still working. I will continue to prepare short videos and post them on the website to keep us all informed about the latest news in Astronomy and What’s Up This Month. These will be posted on the day of our regular meeting.

If you have any jokes for April that you would like to share, send them to David Visco and he might include them in the next issue of the Ephemeris. And I will continue to send out periodic memos to keep everyone informed of our activity status. So it’s not going to be a black hole for our club during this COVID-19 pandemic.

John R Carter Sr
PAC President