

BBAA Meeting Minutes 11/4/2010

The November meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m. by President Mark Gerlach. Those in attendance were Neill Alford, Ken Broun, Courtney Flonta, Mark Gerlach, Chuck Jagow, Karen Jagow, Curt Lambert, Ben Loyola, Matt McLaughlin, Bill Newman, George Reynolds, John Sammons, Catherine Shola. Jim Tallman, Margo Zuchristian, and Wendy Zuchristian.

There was some initial discussion concerning the 2011 VAAS conference, to be hosted by the BBAA. Potential speakers mentioned were Ted Forte, Michelle Shinn, and Dr. Bruce Bodner.

The main order of business for this month's meeting was the election of officers for 2011. The nominees were:

President, Mark Gerlach
Vice President, Courtney Flonta
Secretary, George Reynolds
Treasurer, Jim Tallman

All four were elected by acclamation.

John Sammons, of Greenbrier Intermediate School, brought refreshments -- pizza and sodas -- to thank the members of BBAA for supporting the school's Science Night last month.

Chuck Jagow said he will send a request to Chippokes Plantation State Park for renewal of the club's use permit for next year.

The annual BBAA anniversary luncheon held in December was mentioned. Several people indicated that they would prefer a location other than Lynnhaven Fish House this year. The date and place will be set and the members will be informed via the Backbayastro Yahoo group.

We will need to obtain a meeting place for the January 2011 meeting, since TCC will not be available. Mark Gerlach will contact Chuck Dibbs and ask for the VBCPS Planetarium.

Ben Loyola gave an informative presentation on the use of filters for astronomy. He described and demonstrated various nebula filters, OIII (oxygen 3) filters, narrow-band and broad-band filters. He described how some very narrow-band filters block all but one or a few wavelengths of light. He suggested that for imaging in light-polluted areas, a very narrow-band filter be used. He showed how so-called light pollution reduction filters work to attempt to block the wavelengths of mercury- and sodium-vapor lights and other forms of light pollution. He explained how some colored filters may be used in visual astronomy to enhance certain features on the planets, and how a neutral density or variable density filter can help one see the moon or bright planets by cutting some of the glare.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. by President Mark Gerlach.