

BBAA February 2014 Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2014

The February 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM in room JC-10 at TCC in Virginia Beach by president Jim Tallman.

Members in attendance were:

Neill Alford, Bob Beuerlein, Kenny Broun, Scott Cadwell, Tom Flatley, Mark Gerlach, Jeff Goldstein, Michael Hiser, Chuck Jagow, Chris Jarvis, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Curt Lambert, Ben Loyola, Matt McLaughlin, Bill McLean, Bill Newman, Maya Ogaldez, Bruce Powers, Joey Quinn, George Reynolds, Jim Tallman, Paul Tartabini, Bird Taylor, and Michael Webster.

Guests were Devan Dunbar, Kirk Leppert, Michelle Phillips, Janice Taylor, Melvin Spruill, and Kent Versland.

Reports:

A motion was made by Chuck Jagow to waive the reading of the previous month's minutes. Motion seconded by Ben Loyola. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Jagow reported that there is \$1714.58 in the General Fund and \$2383.67 in the Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$4098.25. The club has several members delinquent on their annual dues.

Vice President Report/Outreach Coordinator:

Please log in to the Night Sky Network (NSN) to sign up for events. All members should have received an email with their log-in information.

The "S.T.E.M." program is now called "STEAM": Science, Technology, Engineering, ARTS, and Mathematics.

Calendar:

- 2/7 - Garden Stars at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, 7 - 9pm
- 2/19 - Landstown High School Astronomy Club Meeting, 2:15 - 3:15pm
- 2/21 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park, dusk
- 2/21 - STEAM Night at Greenbrier Middle School, 6 - 8pm
- 2/22 - 4H Space Camp at the Airfield Conference Center in Wakefield, 7 - 9pm
- 3/1 - Nightwatch at Chippokes Plantation State Park, dusk
- 3/6 - BBAA monthly club meeting at TCC in Virginia Beach, 7:30 - 9pm
- 3/7 - Garden Stars at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, 7 - 9pm
- 3/8 - Princess Anne Library Sleepover, 8:30 - 10pm
- 3/9 - Daylight Saving Time begins
- 3/10 - PTA Science Night at Deep Creek Elementary School, 6 - 7:45pm
- 3/21 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park, dusk
- 3/27 - 3/30 - Staunton River Star Party at Staunton River State Park

ALCOR (Astronomical League Coordinator):

Bill McLean reported that Chris Jarvis, Tom Jarvis, and Mark Gerlach received their Outreach Awards.

Observing Reports:

Jeff Goldstein has assisted in the discovery of exoplanets through zooniverse.org.

Skywatch was very cold, but kept warm with heaters and warm beverages. The supernova in M82 was easily visible.

Ben Loyola has been working on finding the Messier objects.

Bird Taylor and Paul Tartabini observed a Galilean moon transit while viewing Jupiter with students at Poquoson primary school.

Old Business:

Bird Taylor reported that a tornado took out a building near the observation dome at the GAP, but the dome is intact. The area is condemned until it can be cleared so they are temporarily relocated to Gosnold's Hope Park with access any time of day. Outreach at Gosnold's will be the 1st and 3rd Fridays.

New Business:

Boardwalk Astronomy will resume Tuesday, May 13 and we are scheduled for five events.

Paperwork has begun to turn the club into an incorporation. Becoming incorporated will relieve the officers of liability should someone take legal action against the club.

The Hexagon and Polar Vortex at Saturn's North Pole:

Guest speaker Dr. Kunio Sayanagi discussed the feature using images from the Cassini Imaging Science Team. Using false color images that depicted the range in depth of the clouds, and images to demonstrate jet stream rotation, it was explained that the hexagon feature on Saturn is created by a jet stream keeping smaller particles in and larger particles out.

Door Prize Drawings:

Winner of Astronomy Calendars: Janice Taylor & Leigh Anne Lagoe

Winner of the Constellation Mug: Michael Hiser

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.