

BBAA August 2014 Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2014

The August 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM in Plaza Middle School's Kiva Auditorium in Virginia Beach by vice president George Reynolds.

Members in attendance were:

Robert Beuerlein, Brenda Butler, Mark Gerlach, Dean Giangregorio, Mary Giangregorio, Pete Goulart, Michael Hiser, Chuck Jagow, Jeff Klein, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Curt Lambert, Ben Loyola, Daniel Pelzel, Vincent Pendleton, Bruce Powers, George Reynolds, Melvin Spruill Jr., Kevin Swann, Paul Tartabini, and Bird Taylor.

Guests were:

Christopher Aubright, Brooke Buonomo, Jason Buonomo, Michael Connly, Brenda Lamb, Shelby Lamb, Zachary A. Lamb, and Charlene Webster.

Reports:

A motion was made by Chuck Jagow to waive the reading of the previous month's minutes. Motion seconded by Bruce Powers. All were in favor. Minutes are published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Jagow reported that there is \$957.79 in the General Fund and \$889.67 in the Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$1847.46. 94 total members, 88 general members. All members in good standing.

Vice President's Report:

Calendar for upcoming month not discussed.

ALCOR (Astronomical League Coordinator):

No report.

Scholarship Report:

Ben Loyola read a 'thank you' letter from Isacc Tan, the recipient of the \$1500 scholarship.

Old Business:

The July club picnic was a success. Due to the BBAA logging events through the Night Sky Network, we have received our first Outreach Kit, which we can use at future outreach events.

New Business:

No new business reported.

Observing Reports:

96X Fest Rockin' with the Stars in June had torrential downpours, lightning, and high winds. Fortunately no major damage to equipment. Michael Hiser recommends watching Melvin

Spruill's time-lapse video on the BBAA Facebook page. Boardwalk Astronomy #4 was a success. Guest Chris Aubright visited dark sky location, Cherry Springs, in Pennsylvania and highly recommends it for viewing. Michael Hiser reported that a campground near Quimby on the Eastern Shore is dark and set up well for viewing.

Astronomy 101:

Vice President, George Reynolds, discussed the basics of observational astronomy. He encouraged learning the night sky with binoculars and a planisphere, explained the drawbacks of a department store telescope, and touched on some of the different types of telescopes. The question, "What's the Best Telescope to buy?" was answered with, "The one you're going to use." Only "scratching the surface" of astronomy, he discussed red lights, adjusting the finder scope, keeping a log, joining a club, light pollution, and more. Q&A followed.

Two Sky & Telescope magazines were given away to our guests.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02PM.