

## **BBAA Meeting Minutes October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Jim Tallman. Initial discussion points included:

1. No VAAS this year, the club responsible, Norfolk Astronomical Society, for hosting this year was plagued with problems preventing a successful presentation.
2. It was announced that our Newsletter Editor, Paul Tartabini was nominated for and won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the National Astronomical League's Mable Stern's newsletter award for excellence. CONGRATULATIONS PAUL!!!!

### **SECRETARY's REPORT:**

With the absence of the Leigh Anne it was moved, seconded and voted on to pass the reading of the previous meeting minutes.

### **TREASURER's REPORT:**

The treasurer Chuck Jagow reports that the club current holds \$3,380.86 split between the general Fund at \$1,391.19 and the Scholarship Fund at \$1,989.67. It was noted that BBAA had received the proceeds from the city of Virginia Beach for the five sessions of Boardwalk Astronomy.

### **ALCOR's REPORT:**

The ALCOR Bill McLean reports that several folks have completed programs and have earned certificates. The individuals were name and recognized by the members present:

1. Dino Giangregorio– Astronomy Outreach Certificate
2. Ben Loyola – Messier Certificate

Congratulations were heartily conveyed by all present. Bill adamantly invited others to engage and complete Astronomical League observing club/programs.

### **GARDEN STAR's REPORT:**

George Reynolds reported that there would be no Garden Stars this month.

### **RRRT (Rapid Response Robotic Telescope REPORT:**

Lawrence Taylor "Bird" reported that he is still endeavoring to acquire a set of keys to the observatory and Fan Mountain and encouraged others to submit proposals for use of the RRRT. Bird also reported that he believed that much of the RRRT system was operational, but may require some additional "tweaking" to enhance performance. The efforts to bring SkyNet to the RRRT are in progress as well. Bottom line is that the RRRT is up and ready for business, we just need to get some proposals for use to Dr. Salgado.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE's REPORT:**

Ben Loyola, the scholarship committee Chairman had little to report other than a heart full Thank You for all of the folks who supported the Boardwalk Astronomy efforts.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Conversation to revive the committee to amend of the constitution and by-laws was discussed and George Reynolds the VP asked interested parties to see him after the meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The club's officer elections will be conducted at the November meeting. Current president Jim Tallman has indicated that because of his increased school and work commitments he does not desire to continue as President.

The BBAA officer's terms are for but one year, however, the constitution and by-laws allow an officer to hold the position for a maximum of two years. After two years the position must be filled with a new individual. The remaining officers holding the positions of VP, Secretary and Treasurer have expressed they are willing to continue in the following year.

Nominations for ANY of the positions are solicited and can be voted on, however the position of President is apparently the only position we need to fill. If anyone has an inkling of desire to be President, DO NOT HESITATE to “toss your hat into the ring”.

2. The December luncheon was discussed and it was recommended that it NOT be held at Fire & Vine. After much discussion it was decided to pursue having the luncheon at Tripps in Virginia Beach. We have held it there in the past and all were happy with the venue. The luncheon is currently scheduled for Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> at noon and tentatively to be held at Tripps. Bill McLean has volunteered to make arrangements with the restaurant.

### **OBSERVERING REPORTS:**

1. The Peninsula folks reported some good viewing at Grunland park.
2. Chuck Jagow reported that on a few mornings, Jupiter has been outstanding and the seeing allowed observations above 500X in his 14” dob at Rott’n paws observatory in the heart of Greenbrier.

### **PRESENTATION:**

George Reynolds gave an excellent presentation on the moon, indicating the type of presentations he regularly provides for outreach.

### **SCHEDULE OVERVIEW:**

1. BBAA would not be observing the Fall Astronomy Day.
2. Night watch at Chipokes on Saturday the 25 would be held due to ECSP.
3. Skywatch is the 10<sup>th</sup> at the North West River Park in Chesapeake.
4. Cub Scouts in North Carolina is the 11<sup>th</sup>, still need more volunteers.

5. Greenbrier Intermediate School STEM on the 16<sup>th</sup> in Chesapeake behind the Greenbrier mall.
6. The Orionids meteor shower peaks on the 21<sup>st</sup>.
7. ECSP the week before Halloween 10/24 – 10/26, folks are welcome to arrive before Friday, just inform the campground and pay for each night.
8. A partial solar eclipse can be observed near sunset on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**CLOSING REMARKS:**

Much discussion ensued concerning outreach with many members chiming in on the personal rewards of providing public outreach in an attempt to encourage more support by the members