

BBAA December 2014 Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2014

The December 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM in room JC-10 of the Science Building at TCC in Virginia Beach, by president Jim Tallman.

Members in attendance were:

Neill Alford, Kenny Broun, Mark Gerlach, Jeff Goldstein, Bill Holmes, Chuck Jagow, Thomas Jarvis, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Curt Lambert, Ben Loyola, Matt McLaughlin, John Murray, Maya Ogaldez-Umber, Bill Powers, Robert Powers, Joey Quinn, Mel Spruill, Doug Stoddart, Kevin Swann, Jim Tallman, Richard Thibault, and Matt Turner.

Guests were:

Adam Murray, Roni Sharratt, Leon Van Dyke, and Owen Van Dyke.

- Dues for membership for 2015 are due in December. Dues are still \$18 per year but will need to increase soon.
- Skywatch will be held on Saturdays in 2015. Set up will be 90 minutes early to allow members to help others set up telescopes while it's still daylight.
- Due to logging of events on the NSN, we were submitted in a drawing for a prize and won. We will be receiving the Nigh Sky Adventure Take-Home Kit.

Reports:

A motion was made to waive the reading of the previous month's minutes. Motion seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Jagow reported that there is 1796.25 in the general fund, 1995.67 in the scholarship fund, for a total of 3791.92. Membership is currently at 97.

Vice President's Outreach Report:

- 12/5 - VPAS at the GAP
- 12/6 - Moonlit Journey at Paradise Creek Nature Park, Portsmouth
- 12/8 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park
- 12/13 - BBAA Anniversary Luncheon at Tripps in VA Beach
- 12/13 - Star Party at the Virginia Living Museum
- 12/19 - VPAS at the GAP
- 12/20 - Nightwatch at Chippokes
- 1/2 - VPAS at the GAP
- 1/8 - BBAA Monthly Meeting (location pending - TCC closed)
- 1/10 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park
- 1/31 - 4H Space Camp in Wakefield 7-9PM

Observing Opportunities:

12/13-14: Geminid Meteor Shower

12/22-23: Ursid Meteor Shower

VB Planetarium currently has a Holiday Lights program that George Reynolds recommends.

Scholarship Report:

Ben Loyola reports that we will be able to award a \$1500 scholarship again this year. Excellent job on contributions and Boardwalk outreach efforts.

Observing Reports:

Chuck Jagow has a new 50mm solar scope that he is very happy with - the view is very bright. Kenny Broun reports that the secondary mirror on TCC's telescope has been repaired - it was held in place with double sided tape.

Leigh Anne Lagoe tried to watch the Antares launch from Fort Story when it exploded. Bruce Powers reports that the launch pad will be repaired in 2015 and relaunching should begin in 2016.

Have You Seen My Planet Pluto?:

Jeff Goldstein led the club in a hands-on activity. Using the SLOOH telescope, he printed off pictures of Pluto. Deciphering Pluto from the other stars in the field is possible by comparing the pictures over time. By flipping the pages back and forth, we watched the movement of Pluto against the background of stars, causing a "blinking" effect.

Old Business:

Constitutional Bylaws still need to be reviewed.

BBA Luncheon on 12/13.

New Business:

Lunar X will be visible 7:21PM 12/29.

Dates for the ECSP are set for early May and early October of 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44PM.