

**BBAA Astronomy Club, April 7 , 2016 (TCC Science Building, Room JC-10 )**

**Chuck Jagow (President):**

Called meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members present included: Chuck Jagow, Karen Jagow, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Jeff Goldstein, Bob Balcom, Bird, H.L. Marks, Jane Marks, Matt McLaughlin, Bill Rust, Pat Manguam, Shaun Sheppard, Milton Labarr, Danny Mauslof, Bill Holmes, George Reynolds, Kenny Brown, Mike Webster, Ben Loyola, Jeff Singer, Tiffany Kellar, Kayla Roboski (daughter), John Wilson, Paul Bietz, Sarah Jameson, Jim Tallman, Fran Sansone, Larry McFaddon, and Amanda McCombs.

**Vice President (Leigh Ann) Events Report:**

April:

4/7 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC  
4/8 – Corn Watch (Cornland Private)  
4/9 – VLM Star Party  
4/9 – Nightwatch at Chippokes (Private)  
4/14 – Family Science Night at Malibu Elementary  
4/15 – VPAS at GAP  
4/16 – Saturday “Sun” Day (10:00 AM)  
4/23 – Solar Filter Workshop at Jim Tallman’s house (not on the BBAA Calendar but scheduled.  
Currently too late to sign up. All equipment and parts were paid for in advance.)  
4/27 – Stargazer Party (Knotts Island Elementary Library) (6:00 – 7:30 PM)  
4/30 – Skywatch at NWRP

May:

5/5 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC  
5/6 through 5/9 East Coast Star Party at Coinjock, NC  
5/9 – Venus Transit at Boardwalk (setup at 6:00 AM) 7:00 AM – 2:40 PM  
5/12 – Garden Stars  
5/13 – Corn Watch (Cornland Private)  
5/13 – Garden Stars  
5/14 – VLM Star Party  
5/14 – National Astronomy Day (Bells Mill Park & coordinated with Chesapeake Planetarium)  
5/14 – Saturday “Sun” Day (10:00 AM)  
5/17 – Boardwalk Astronomy Outreach (6:00 PM)  
5/20 – VPAS at GAP  
5/28 – Skywatch at NWRP

**Treasurer’s Report (Mark Gerlach) Not present** (These are the March Report Figures)

General Fund:	\$ 3,572.99
<u>Scholarship Fund:</u>	<u>\$ 2,184.02</u>
Total:	\$ 5,757.01

General Membership:	84
Associate Members:	6 + 7 (members of Astronomical League)
<u>Honorary Members:</u>	<u>4</u>
Paid up Members:	101
<u>Delinquent in dues:</u>	<u>50</u>
Total Members roster:	151

**Secretary’s Report (Jeff Goldstein)**

Moved and seconded to waive the reading of the minutes.

**RRRT Report (by “Bird”)** Not present

**Old Business:**

Constitution change in work. Should be ready by the summer. Still waiting for inputs.

Mt. Trashmore Star Party did not happen this year. Things have changed this year. They’re treating us like a “vendor”, having to fill out all the same pages and pages of paperwork, front and back, etc. Therefore, in lieu of them the City Park of Chesapeake is planning a Space Movie so we can be a part of that at Greenbriar (on June 18<sup>th</sup>). Haven’t heard very much from them since the initial planning. So, we just set up our telescopes, some people watch the movie, some people can look through the scopes.

Also, the City of Virginia Beach is asking us to do a couple of Movie Nights, too! Chuck is thinking if there is interest, then we’ll probably put one on in late July, and it will be out at Mt. Trashmore. Plan on “hauling” your equipment a little way. This is a separate entity from the folks at Boardwalk Astronomy.

We’ll be filling out the paperwork for Red Wing Park for our Picnic Meeting on July 16th.

Question about the Solar Eclipse of August, 2017. No discussion, yet. Secretary mentioned that reservations are not available for that time frame. Chuck may be heading towards Colorado. Coordinating it for the club may be hard. Perhaps, we can think of a committee for an away event in one location.

Constitution rewrite still in progress (awaiting several inputs, not received). Perhaps, end of the summer or fall?

**Observing Reports:** George: Mars, Saturn, and Antares are close proximity. Antares (“Rival of Mars”). Also a good time to see Mercury, between now and end of the month Greatest Eastern Elongation (45 minutes after sunset). Many have never seen it. Chuck has an Explorer Scientific that just arrived. Solar Scope whereabouts.... In the hands of Leigh Anne. (Club’s PST can be checked out). The table-top scope that was donated to us can be used as a scope or a model of a scope.

**Scholarship Committee Report (Ben Loyola):** Committee convening and waiting to notify the winner.

Chuck (President) mentioned that Chuck Dibbs was also starting a scholarship at his school in the name of the Nick Anderson Scholarship. (Nick came up through the ranks, and had an untimely demise last Christmas.

**Program:**

**Jeff Goldstein, Club Secretary**

**Presentation on: “Celestial Navigation: How Much Do You Already Know?”**

Jeff presented this as a group participation workshop. The audience was enthusiastic, and realized that the Nautical Almanac and Air Almanac was needed. The latter was found more useful for interpolation since the readings are made every 10 minutes, instead of hourly from the Nautical Almanac. It was emphasized that precise UTC time was needed to establish one’s longitude to a greater accuracy. The latitude and longitudes were found and actually within 1 mile for each line of position. The workshop included some YouTube videos to show the complexity of using all tables. Our audience at BBAA realized that they knew quite many facts about the earth and sky relationships needed for Celestial Navigation. Many questions and answers were done, tonight. The entire presentation was placed on my website: [www.jeffgold.net](http://www.jeffgold.net) and linked from Face Book and the listserv.

**Door Prize (from a random number generator):** Winner: Jane Marks.

**Topic Ideas needed for future meetings:** Chuck will present his Lens Cleaning Fluid Batch Method, soon. Also, Kenny Brown announced that the June and August meetings cannot be at TCC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.