

BBAA Astronomy Club, April 6, 2017 (TCC Science Building, Room JC-10)

Chuck Jagow (President):

Called meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members present included: Chuck Jagow, Jeff Goldstein, Shawn Loescher, George Reynolds, Curt Lambert, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Bruce Powers, Bill Rust, Mrs. Rust, Jane Marks, H.L. Marks, George Jarvis, Bob Beuerlein, Bird Taylor, Michael Baxter, Kenny Broun, Ben Loyola, Mark Gerlach, Stephen Copetas, Jim Tallman, Tom Pearson, Tom Flatley, Fran Sansone (for Danny Mausolf), and Samuel Hunt.

Chuck opened the meeting and spoke of the Orion 4.5" Telescope Raffle (complete with accessories to be given at the July Picnic at Redwing Park Gazebo. The proceeds go to the Georgie June Scholarship Fund.

Vice President (Jim Tallman) Events Report:

April:

- 4/01 – DePaul Solar Viewing at Province Place of DePaul (1:30 PM – 3:30 PM)
- 4/06 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC Virginia Beach Campus (7:30 – 9:00 PM)
- 4/07 – VPAS at the Grundland Astronomical Park (GAP) 4:15 PM – until...
- 4/08 – VLM Star Party (Virginia Living Museum) Sunset – until...
- 4/13 – “Spring Break” Backyard Bash at Camp Outback, Cedar Rd. (Girl Scouts) 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM
- 4/15 – Saturday “Sun” Day (Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake) 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- 4/21 – Corn Watch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset - Dawn
- 4/21 – VPAS at the Grundland Astronomical Park (GAP) 4:15 PM – until...
- 4/22 – Skywatch at NWRP (7:00 – 11 PM) only a 4 hour event + 1 hour before for telescope help
- 4/28 – Corn Watch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset – Dawn
- 4/29 – International Astronomy Day. Virginia Beach Central Library
- 4/29 – Nightwatch (Chippokes Plantation Permit Required) Sunset – Dawn

May:

- 5/03 – Garden Stars (George Reynolds) 8:30 – 10:00 PM
- 5/04 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC Virginia Beach Campus (7:30 – 9:00 PM)
- 5/05 – VPAS at the Grundland Astronomical Park (GAP) 4:15 PM – until...
- 5/06 – Star Gazing with Joint Expeditionary Base (JEB) Little Creek Library
- 5/13 – Saturday “Sun” Day (Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake) 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- 5/13 – VLM Star Party (Virginia Living Museum) Sunset – until...

Treasurer’s Report (Bruce Powers)

General Fund: \$ 4,785.90
General Fund Expenses:\$ 357.13
General Fund Balance: \$ 4,428.77

Scholarship Fund: \$ 2,062.52
GJ Scholarship Fund: \$ 1,045.00
Total: \$ 7,536.29

BBAA Checkbook \$ 7,583.73
Checkbook+PPal-Fin. \$ 47.44

Membership Data

Honorary Members: 4
Associate Members w/AL: 8
Associate Members: 1
Regular Members: 105
Total Members on Roster: 118

Paid up Members:	116
Members' Dues (Due March)	2
Delinquent in dues:	0

Anticipated 2017 Dues: \$ 51.00

Anticipated Expenses

AL Dues	\$ 725.00	Estimated # of AL Dues Paying Members
Insurance	\$ 325.00	Due in March
Fees	\$ 100.00	P.O. Box and State Corporation Commission
Picnic	\$ 250.00	July
Mailings	\$ 150.00	Newsletter Snail Mail Mailings
Charitable	\$ 150.00	IDA and Clear Sky Chart
Misc.	\$ 800.00	Awards, Raffle Prizes, etc.
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>	

Secretary's Report (Jeff Goldstein)

Moved and seconded to waive the reading of the minutes.

Scholarship Committee Report (Ben Loyola)

We will wait until May (two more weeks to send out flyers) No applicants, yet.

VAAS Report (Leigh Anne Lagoe)

We're hosting this year's conference, October 21st. Planetarium Shows, Guest Speakers: Dr. Joe Zwadny (NASA Scientist) will discuss Astrophotography or Astro Software that he developed, Dr. Gene Tracy (William & Mary) will discuss the Polynesian Navigation with Astronomy of the time, T-Shirts around \$13 shown by Jeff Goldstein. Registration will be online shortly. Suggestions made to get a block of rooms at the ocean front for out of town folks.

RRRT Report (by "Bird") No Report, however Sky Maps passed out, tonight. Also, April 8, NASA Fine Art Center open to the public Saturday & Sunday celebrating the 100th anniversary. On May 6th at HR Convention Center is a Mini-Maker's Fair. Steampunk folks, goggles, teaching soldering techniques.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Chuck Jagow met with the Chesapeake Managers of the City Parks. They want to change several items (mostly to the good). they want us to sign an agreement and conformity about holding and sometimes cancelling events. Another club (not ours) complained about the park cancelling the event and complained and threatened to sue. Communication procedures. Honorarium will be given by Chesapeake Parks for \$800 for both events. If any of these are cancelled, improperly, the park will deduct a portion of the \$800. Not all the details have been released. Bottom line: Chuck will notify the park by Friday, Noon should we cancel that event. Should there be a catastrophic event that cancelled the event, we will not be held accountable. More information to be announced at the next club meeting. September 29th will be a Trashmore Movie Night.

Observing Reports:

Jim Tallman spoke of attending an outreach Old Age Home and dispelled rumors about us being able to tell fortunes. He gave several anecdotal stories of events that took place. This will be another fun event for us in the future.

Bruce captured the Virgo Trio a few nights ago.

George Reynolds re-introduced Tom Pearson, an old member of BBAA, who is now in Arizona and helps at Lowell Observatory with visitors. Fascinating to get visitors from around the world at the Observatory in Flagstaff, AZ. International Dark Sky Site. One can easily see the Milky Way from Flagstaff.

Tonight's Speaker, Jim Tallman on Imaging Software using PixInSight Software:

PixInSight is specifically built for Astronomy, and also may be used for Terrestrial users, too. It does take quite a bit of power and requires a fast processor. It can be used with a free trial, then a \$200 registration fee is required. Comparing DSS which does not necessary require all darks, bias shots, etc... This one does require all these for processing. Jim uses 30 darks and 40 or 50 of the other shots in his processing.

Jim actually went through the post-processing steps to show what looked like poor images to beautiful quality astronomy shots. He discussed dithering, hot spots, plate solve, stretching, noise levels, and other technical aspects of the software. His techniques were very good and very informative to even a novice of astrophotography.

Drawing for Door Prizes: Moon Disk was won by Bob Beuerlein. George Reynolds won the Solar Glasses.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.