

BBAA Astronomy Club, August 3, 2017 (TCC Science Building, Room JA-10)

Chuck Jagow (President):

Called meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members present included: Chuck Jagow, Jeff Goldstein, Shawn Loescher, Leigh Anne Lagoe, George Reynolds, Bruce Powers, Mark Gerlach, George Jarvis, Bill Powers, Pat Mangum (ASC), Bill Rust, H. L. Marks, Jane Marks, Matt McLaughlin, Ben Loyola, Rich Roberts, Lisa Roberts, Matt McLaughlin, Ben Loyola, Bob Beuerlein, Paul Tartabini, Roni Sharrett, Zoe Waring, Roy "Travis" Duff, Robyn Korn, Neill Alford, Joey Quinn, and Bird Taylor.

Chuck opened the meeting welcoming everyone. One question: Someone that sends Chuck email messages that signs it "D" asking for solar filter material. Who are you? Summer Picnic went well although attendance was down. Only 12 or 14 showed up. Sarah Jameson won the Georgie June Scholarship Fund Scope, and Richard Roberts won the other prize (not specified in the audio).

Chuck mentioned attending another meeting with Shawn Loescher on the Honorarium Agreement with the City of Chesapeake. They were much more conciliatory especially about the security checks. Now the final agreement has been toned down to: Cancellation within 24 hours and honorarium will be \$750 for Skywatch and Saturday Sunday Events. Small Event Permit for VAAS is now in the works, too.

Vice President Events Report (Shawn Loescher):

August:

- 8/01 – Boardwalk Astronomy (6 PM – 11 PM)
- 8/03 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC Room JA-10 (current location)
- 8/05 – Saturday "Sun" Day (Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake) 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- 8/12 – Skywatch NWRP (7:00 – 11 PM) only a 4 hour event + 1 hour before for telescope help
- 8/18 – 6/16 – CornWatch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset – Dawn
- 8/19 – NightWatch (Chippokes Plantation Permit Required) Sunset – until...
- 8/21 – Solar Eclipse viewing at VB Central Library (Vincent has volunteered to help)
- 8/25 – Corn Watch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset - Dawn
- 8/26 – Family Stargazing at Little Creek Naval Base (Golf Course: 2000 – 2200)
- 8/31 – Garden Stars (8:30 PM – 10:00 PM)

Sept:

- 9/05 – Boardwalk Astronomy (6 PM – 11 PM) the last one for the year

Secretary's Report (Jeff Goldstein)

Bruce Powers moved to read the minutes. Motion and seconded to waive the reading of the minutes, later.

Scholarship Committee Report (Ben Loyola)

Ben mentioned that there will be no report for a few months.

VAAS Report (Leigh Anne Lagoe)

Virginia Association of Astronomical Societies. Statewide convention Saturday October 21 2017.

We will conflict with the Stanton River Star Party. However, we have a good lineup.

We have four speakers, currently: Dr. Joe Zawodny will speak on Astrophotography, Dr. Eugene Tracy will speak on ancient navigation techniques using astronomy, (tentative) Dr. Michelle Shinn (Jefferson Lab) will speak on Dark Matter Dark Energy, Bob Beuerlein will talk on 3D Printing, George Reynolds will speak on outreach events and have a forum on other club's events to share ideas, John Goss from the Astronomical League will have a forum, and Kenny Broun will give planetarium shows during our event. We're planning on a Swap Table. Please register. We need help. The forum will cost \$15 for the all-day event attendance. Lunch Cookout, Cornland Park will be the venue for night observing. Our shirts will be \$18 posted on the website. Please itemize your choices for Bruce Powers to account for our funds.

RRRT Report (“Bird”) Mark Croom and Bird met with Dr. Carlos on the upgrades to the 24” Telescope on Fan Mountain (near Charlottesville). Partnership between BBAA, NSU, and UVA and many hours have spent on this project. Clamshell dome and 110 the volt system was underpowered for the system. Mark found a fuse to close the dome. Motors, controllers, and power supply are now 240 volts. It now has new computers for remote controlling. New weather system will detect adverse weather and not allow the dome to open. Cameras have been replaced. A sky account for BBAA to use the scope on sight, until the remote control system is updated. The proposed date of remote control will be at the beginning of this semester. BBAA has offered to help calibrate the system, but no news, yet.

Observing Reports:

Sunday, Chuck Jagow took his 20” Skywatcher with the GOTO System. Fully Assembled 400x Saturn was unbelievable! Chuck’s 14” telescope is now for sale.

Ben Loyola continues to work on the Herschel Award many galaxies on the horizon were washed out and has about 30 left to go.

Neil Alford travelled to the Smokey Mountains two weeks ago. Sky was pretty good, and the National Park Service sold 8,000 tickets in the 1st 5 minutes for the Solar Eclipse Path. “Accidental observing report” when I was up there at Stowe Park observed Jupiter and moons with a 400 mm telephoto lens and took great pictures. M7 was observed in binoculars (Southern most nebula). Binocular program (unidentified member) reported 38 targets).

Chuck reported on Green Bank on last Wednesday’s trip. Between the bathrooms and dormitories, he noticed a large telescope with a Losmondy mount and 4 extensions. It was John Richmond’s 8 or 10” f/15 refractor (objective made by Bob Royce) custom made, but the customer never took delivery. John bought this telescope from Bob Royce. Used cinderblocks to raise the telescope high enough to bring the eyepiece height in kneeling range to be able to see Saturn. Michelle Shinn also looked through the scope.

Treasurer’s Report (transcribed by Bruce Powers)

General Fund Income: \$ 5,309.57
General Fund Expenses:\$ 1,636.80
General Fund Balance: \$ 3,512.77

Scholarship Fund Inc: \$ 2,062.52
Scholarship Fund Exp: \$ 1,500.00
Total: \$ 562.52

GJ S’ship Fund Income:\$ 1,531.00
GJ S’ship Fund Exp: \$ 500.00
Total: \$ 1,031.00

BBAA Checkbook \$ 5,106.29
Pending PayPal Depos. \$ -
Checkbook \$ 5,132.43
Checkook + PP – Fin. \$ 26.14

Membership Data

Honorary Members: 4
Associate Members w/AL: 8
Associate Members: 1
Regular Members: 111
Total Members on Roster: 124

Paid up Members: 119
Members’ Dues (Due March) 2
Delinquent in dues: 0
Anticipated 2017 Dues: \$ 51.00

Anticipated Expenses

AL Dues	\$ 650.00	Paid on 5/3/17
State Corp. Comm. Fee	\$ 35.00	Paid on 3/2/17
Insurance	\$ 325.00	Due in March, Paid Date?
Fees PO Box	\$ 102.00	Paid 1/9/17
Picnic	\$ 250.00	July Expenses TBD
Mailings	\$ 150.00	Newsletter Snail Mail Mailings
Charitable	\$ 150.00	IDA and Clear Sky Chart
Misc.	\$ 800.00	Awards, Raffle Prizes, etc.
Total:	\$ 2,462.00	

Program: Solar Eclipse (Presented by Chuck Jagow)

Chuck shared a website that was posted by Jerry Lodriguss on the upcoming Solar Eclipse.

www.astropix.com/html/i_astrop/2017_eclipse/Eclipse_2017.html "Catching the Light"

Numerous details, charts, camera settings, safety, solar filters. Here's an excerpt of the huge contents of the website:

1. About the Eclipse

- o [The Path of Totality](#)
- o [Weather](#)
 - [Forecasts](#)
 - [Satellite Images](#)
- o [Forest Fires and Smoke](#)
- o [Traffic](#)
- o

2. General Preparations

- o [Local Circumstances](#)
- o

3. Visually Observing the Eclipse

- o [Safe Solar Filters](#)
- o [Phases of the Eclipse](#)
- o [What to Look For](#)
- o [Visual Observing Equipment List](#)
- o

4. Photographing the Eclipse

- o [Photographic Game Plan](#)
- o [Basic DSLR Camera Settings](#)
- o [Photographic Filters](#)
- o [What Camera to Use](#)
- o [What Lens to Use](#)
 - [Wide Angle](#)
 - [Telephoto or Telescope](#)
 - [Tripod Stability, Mirror Lockup, and Camera Vibrations](#)
 - [Framing](#)
- o [Focusing](#)
- o [Fixed Tripod](#)
 - [Eclipse Exposure and Blur on a Fixed Tripod](#)
- o [Telescope Mount](#)
 - [Polar Aligning in the daytime](#)
- o [High Dynamic Range Imaging](#)
- o [Extreme Imaging](#)

- [Maximum Corona](#)
- [Earthshine](#)
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5. [Eclipse Exposure Table \(Printable PDF\)](#)

- [Exposure Sequence](#)
- [Calibration Frames](#)
- [Automation](#)
 - [Camera Control Software](#)
 - [Automation Logistics](#)
 - [Accurate Location and Time](#)
 - [Automation Tips](#)
 - [Computer Settings](#)
 - [Camera Settings](#)
 - [Wide-Angle Camera](#)
- [The Full Monty](#)
- [Notes](#)
- [Top 10 Tips](#)
-

6. [Appendix](#)

- [Equivalent F/Stops](#)
- [Intermediate Shutter Speeds in 1/3 stops](#)
- [Intermediate ISOs in 1/3 stops](#)
- [Optical Density](#)
- [Calculators](#)
- [Image Scale Per Pixel](#)
- [Photographic Equipment Lists](#)
- [References and Resources](#)

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.