

## **BBAA Astronomy Club, September 7, 2017 (TCC Science Building, Room JC-10)**

### **Chuck Jagow (President):**

Called meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

Members present included: Chuck Jagow, Jeff Goldstein, Shawn Loescher, Leigh Anne Lagoe, George Reynolds, Bruce Powers, Kenny Broun, George Jarvis, Bill Powers, Pat Mangum (Visitor), Bill Rust, Matt McLaughlin, Ben Loyola, Rich Roberts, Lisa Roberts (Visitor), Bob Beuerlein, Robyn Korn, Joe Quinn, Joey Quinn, Bird Taylor, Jonathan Longman, Curt Lambert, Neill Alford, Tim Flatley, Lisa Roberts, Dean "Dino" Giangregorio, Mary Giangregorio, Sunny Hanes (Visitor), Michael Haynes (Visitor), Katie Martin (Visitor), Stephen Copetas, Fran Sansone (Visitor), Shanine Ecleo (Visitor), and Allison Aslett.

Chuck opened the meeting welcoming everyone. There is no presentation tonight, however we will give each member the opportunity to talk about the eclipse. We have new club "flyers" that were distributed to several members for folding. We received a "Thank You" card from Samuel Listener (recipient of the main \$1,500 Scholarship). Chuck read the note aloud to the club. Chuck also mentioned getting a Thank You Note from the Slover Library as we have done several presentations, there.

### **Vice President Events Report (Shawn Loescher):**

September:

- 9/05 – Boardwalk Astronomy (6 PM – 11 PM) the last one for the year
- 9/07 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC Room JC-10 (current location)
- 9/09 – Saturday "Sun" Day (Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake) 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- 9/15 – CornWatch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset – Dawn
- 9/15 – VPAS at the GAP.
- 9/16 – Skywatch NWRP (7:00 – 11 PM) only a 4 hour event + 1 hour before for telescope help
- 9/22 – CornWatch (Cornland Park Private) Sunset – Dawn
- 9/22 – Lynnhaven Shores Girl Scout Event. Formerly Silver Beach. George Reynolds)
- 9/23 – NightWatch (Chippokes Plantation Permit Required) Sunset – until...
- 9/27 – Isaac Walton (Chesapeake, 136 Trailton Ave) George Reynolds
- 9/28 – Garden Stars at Norfolk Botanical Gardens (8:30 PM – 10:00 PM)
- 9/29 – Movie Night at Mt. Trashmore (expecting 1500 attendees)

October:

- 10/05 – BBAA Club Meeting at TCC Room JC
- 10/12 – 10/14 – East Coast Star Party at Coinjock, NC.
- 10/21 – VAAS Conference at TCC + Observation at Cornland Park

Shawn request for all club members to sign up for the VAAS Event that we're hosting. Jeff will invite Dr. Neil DeGrasse Tyson. Sign-up sheet is here for you to sign up. 10 T-Shirts have been committed. Please sign up for T-shirts, too. We would like club members to volunteer for jobs during the VAAS Conference. We get this hosting about every 10 years. Last one we hosted was in 2009.

### **Secretary's Report (Jeff Goldstein)**

Motion and seconded to waive the reading of the minutes. Minutes are posted on the BBAA Website.

### **Scholarship Committee Report (Ben Loyola)**

Ben gave a good report on what the Scholarship supports. Based upon funds received from outreach (1,500 and \$500) we give these two scholarships. These are tax deductible for the donors. We're proud of being a part of supporting scientific education. We also had all five Boardwalk Astronomy events this year. We received \$250 for each event. Sometimes these are rained out, but we were lucky this year.

## Treasurer's Report (transcribed by Bruce Powers)

General Fund Income: \$ 5,547.93  
General Fund Expenses: \$ 1,749.55  
General Fund Balance: \$ 3,798.38

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 \$ 5,391.90  
Pending PayPal Depos. \$ -  
Checkbook \$ 5,395.04  
Checkbook + PP - Fin. \$ 3.14

### Membership Data

Honorary Members: 4  
Associate Members w/AL: 8  
Associate Members: 1  
Regular Members: 117  
Total Members on Roster: 127

Paid up Members: 127  
Members' Dues (due Sept.) 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	Paid \$320 on 6/11/17
Fees PO Box	\$ 102.00	Paid 1/9/17
Picnic	\$ 199.00	Paid 8/14/17
Mailings	\$ 150.00	Newsletter Snail Mail Mailings
Charitable	\$ 150.00	IDA and Clear Sky Chart
<u>Misc.</u>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>	Awards, Raffle Prizes, etc.
Total:	\$ 2,411.09	

### **Self-Introductions**

Each club member made self-introductions and "mini-reports" on their respective BBAA club activities.

**RRRT Report ("Bird")** During the self-introductions Bird gave a synopsis on the status of the Rapid Response Remote Telescope (RRRT) located on Fan Mountain near Charlottesville. This is a 24" Robotic Telescope (Coordinated observatory between UVA, VSU, and BBAA). Dr. Carlos Salgado is the coordinator for the \$1M grant. This few months, the telescope should be online. Bird has one set of keys. We will soon submit proposals and the telescope operators will send FITS photos of targets we select. New cameras and computer are a welcome addition. Currently, there will be no "real-time" remote observations. First, the request will be imaged and results will be mailed to the requestors. Priority for the process will be determined, soon. Bird will be planning and coordinating a "Backbay on the Mountain Night". Huge field and dark sky there. It will be fun.

## **Observing Reports (Solar Eclipse of 2017):**

Chuck Jagow + 9 other BBAA members went to Anderson, SC at the Starlight Theater Parking Lot. However, there was a huge cloud that blocked the eclipse from one hour before to almost one hour after the eclipse. We were disappointed that we missed it. We did see the darkness, but we were surprised that it wasn't very dark.

Shawn Loescher went to Spring City, TN (South of Knoxville) and there was not a cloud in the sky. The totality was beautiful.

George Reynolds went to the Hopkinsville, KY area (about 7 miles up the road was Cerulean KY at Sinking Fork Christian Church) to view the eclipse. He set up a canopy tent, two computers, a banner, the club's Coronado PST telescope, and his telescope with a solar funnel. It was a beautiful sunny day. He saw only one cloud the whole day. About 350 people from all over the country convened on the church. He gave two talks to folks and answered many questions as our Solar System Ambassador. Saw Venus and Regulus during the eclipse. It took twice the time to get home as usual. It was a lot of fun.

Kenny Broun took the family down to N. Charleston. Network News folks were present in Downtown Charleston. Decided to go to Santee, SC to get away from the crowd. He found out that his daughter was about to receive a marriage proposal during the eclipse. Totality comes, and his daughter's suitor forgets all about the proposal.

Dino Giangregorio gave his report on the Virginia Beach Public Library for the city's partial eclipse. Estimated 2,500 people came out to view the eclipse. They gave away over 1,000 pairs of eclipse glasses. Casey was responsible to keep the lines to the telescope organized. The library provided a large screen TV that we used to transmit the picture.

Fran Sansone related a story about seeing the eclipse in Irma, SC (near Lake Murray Blvd). Tents were set up and they took their 4.5" scope, filters, etc. It was party time when the eclipse started. Eclipse cookies (with eclipse phases), food. Folks took pictures through their scope and folks were lined up to do so.

Jeff Goldstein mentioned the Astronomical League Award for this eclipse. He will submit the award for attempting the award. It's the attempt that counts. Bird mentioned that we have until September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Curt Lambert went to Hopkinsville, KY (but not with George). Soybean fields were all around, and there were signs, since NASA informed them about the eclipse, so the town was truly ready for a large crowd.

As a "finale" of the eclipse presenters, today, Bruce Powers' went to a place just north of Boise, ID. Bruce gave a beautiful presentation of the eclipse with a two minute sequence from the GoPro Camera, and iPhone camera, and a slide show of stills. He had four cameras running. He captured the event and edited the video. There were several sequences of the eclipse captured from different cameras. His sister's family was present and very interested in the totality and the afterwards. This was approximately 3,000 feet in elevation in this vista. He captured the moans and screams of the crowd, and it was very interesting to watch. Club members laughed at the crowd's reaction and moans. Bruce's brother-in-law's iPhone captured the video of the eclipse without any filters. They did see Betelgeuse, Jupiter, and Venus in the background, as well. Bruce also filmed the landscape surrounding the eclipse and mentioned it was turning "pink".

**Program:** (none)

**Meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.**