

BBAA Astronomy Club meeting February 3, 2022. broadcast on Zoom.

Shawn Loescher called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

Vice President Events Report, (Samantha Erb)

February 2022

- BBAA Club Meeting, Zoom 2/3, 7:30 PM
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 2/4
- Garden Stars @ NBG, 2/8 @ 7:00 PM
- Saturday “SUN”day@ Elizabeth River Park 2/12 @ 10 AM
- Girl Scout Star Viewing @ A place for girls, Cedar Rd, Chesapeake, VA, 2/12 @ 5:30
- Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, 2/19 @ 5:00 PM
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 2/25
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 2/26

March 2022

- BBAA Club Meeting, TCC (VB Campus) 3/3, 7:30 PM
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 3/4
- Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, 3/5 @ 5:00 PM
- Garden Stars @ NBG, 3/10 @ 7:30 PM
- Saturday “SUN”day@ Elizabeth River Park 3/19 @ 10 AM
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 3/25
- Boy Scout Troop 407 Astronomy Merit Badge, 3/25 @ 6:00 PM
Location: Izaak Walton League, 2136 Trailsend Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23323
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 3/26

Secretary’s report:

Secretary was not present to give the report

Treasurer’s Report: (Richard Roberts):

- General Fund: \$6,775.74
- Primary Scholarship Fund: \$1340.29
- GJ Scholarship Fund: \$944.00
- Total Funds: \$9,060.03
- Expenses: \$315.70
- Balance: \$9,060.03
- 138 Dues paid in full members
- 4 Honorary Members
- 7 Associate Members w/AL

- 2 Associate Members
- 156 Regular Members
- 169 Total Members on Roster

Scholarship Report: (Benito Loyola)

Scholarship amounts will be \$1,500 for the general BBAA Scholarship and \$1,000 for the Georgie June Scholarship. The scholarship award will be distributed in the spring of 2022 to the first and second place student applicant. The scholarship awards shall be in the form of a check payable to the college or university listed on the recipient's scholarship application, or to such other college or university designated by the recipient to which the recipient has been accepted, or to the applicant if a college or university has not been determined. The application has been posted on the BBAA website, as well as distributed to all schools in the region. Anyone interested in applying for the scholarship may download it from this address:

<http://backbayastro.org/about.php#scholarships>

Astronomical League Report: (Bruce Powers)

Bruce is still trying to get the East Coast Star Party or whatever new name we want to give it, going once again. We are shooting for the October 2022 timeframe and having it at Chippokes Plantation State Park. Bruce has sent out several emails and is in the process of scheduling a zoom meeting between all parties in order to get this going.

Benito Loyola was just awarded his double star pin from the Astronomical League just today! Everyone is encouraged to work on your AL projects, send in the paperwork and get these awards. It increases the BBAA prestige within the Astronomical League.

Shawn Loescher informed the members that our club is in the **Mid East Region of the Astronomical League – MERAL**. MERAL does have a website that keeps up with what events are coming up, so you don't have to go to a bunch of different websites to find out what astronomy events, within our region, are coming up. This is a link to the site:

<https://www.meralastronomy.org/>

Old Business:

George Reynolds mentioned that the Georgie June Scholarship raffle is still going on and you still have time to buy tickets. You can purchase them from any officer in the BBAA.

The BBAA Apparel order for t-shirts has come in and George has them in his possession. There are a few extra t-shirts that can be bought for \$12 each.

Back in the July 2021 timeframe, Shawn Loescher submitted a non-binding informal agreement for the Music and Astronomy Ambassador Program: Bringing Science to Underserved Groups at Free Outdoor Concerts and Cultural Festivals (MAAP) grant proposal. Shawn was informed that this proposal did not get approval.

New Business:

George Reynolds received a kit from the Night Sky Network called the galactic quest. This is a series of exercises that has been set up for the four H club. This maybe a good workshop type of project for the scouts' outreach events the club is asked to attend.

Jeff Goldstein mentioned that there is a rocket launch in June from Cape Canaveral that is going to the moon. Jeff is going as well as several other people from his rocket club. If any members of the BBAA are interested in going, please get in touch with Jeff about the details.

Observing reports:

On February 1, the BBAA had an event, Winter Sky Night at the Carrollton Branch Library. There was a good group of people, and the sky was clear.

Presentation:

The presentation that was given was about NASA's Artemis program and our long-range plans to go back to the Moon. This is a link to the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBsGew4oNkQ>

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM