

BBAA Astronomy Club meeting March 3, 2022. at Tidewater Community College, room JC-13. Also broadcast on Zoom.

Shawn Loescher called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

Vice President Events Report,

Calendar events

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

April 2022

- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 4/1
- Girl Scouts @ ODU Planetarium 4/2 @ 6:45 PM
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 4/2
- Malibu Elementary Science Night 4/6 @ 5:30 PM
- BBAA Club Meeting, TCC (VB Campus) 4/7 @ 7:30 PM
- NC Statewide Star Party - Dowdy Park, NC 4/8 @ 7:30 PM
- EGGS- Treme Egg Drop @ Tarrallion Park 4/9 @ 11 AM
- Garden Stars @ NBG, 4/12 @ 8:30 PM
- Saturday “SUN”day@ Elizabeth River Park 4/16 @ 10 AM
- Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, 4/23 @ 8:00 PM
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 4/29
- Cub Scout Pack 700 Spring Camp Out @ Northwest River Park, 4/29 @ 7:30 PM
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 4/30

Secretary’s Report:

A motion was made to dispense in the reading of the minutes, which was approved.

Treasurer’s Report: (Richard Roberts):

- General Fund: \$7,361.27
- Primary Scholarship Fund: \$1350.29
- GJ Scholarship Fund: \$1,004.00
- Total Funds: \$9,060.03
- Expenses: \$315.70

- Balance: \$9,060.03
- 4 Honorary Members
- 6 Associate Members w/AL
- 2 Associate Members
- 133 Regular Members
- 145 Total Members on Roster

Jeff Goldstein was tasked with auditing the Treasurer books and completed the task with no discrepancies found. Thank you, Jeff!

Scholarship Report: (Benito Loyola)

Scholarship notifications have been sent out to all the Hampton Roads High schools and the deadline for the application is May 1, 2022. The 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 started out with a big shout out to Jeff Goldstein for keeping this zoom meeting connections going. This night, Bruce was stuck in the office until just one hour ago, and if not for the zoom meeting connection he would not have made the meeting. Bruce then recognized several members whose names have appeared in the Reflector magazine for awards given out through the AL. George Reynolds receive the outreach observing awards for all three levels. Outreach, stellar outreach and master outreach. The master outreach requires 100 plus hours of outreach, and as always, George overachieved and exceed that threshold so congratulations to George! George Reynolds also received the Lunar II Observing award. Brian LaFitte received the Beyond Polaris Observing Program award. Thomas L. Epps, Samantha Erb, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Brian LaFitte, Shawn Loescher, Melvin Spriull Jr. and Jeffrey Thornton received the NASA Observing Challenge –International Observe the Moon Night award. Brian LaFitte and Shawn Loescher both received the Outreach Observing Award. Congratulations to all! George Reynolds also had his letter to the editor published in the March 2022 edition of the Reflector.

Bruce is making progress in getting the East Coast Star Party replacement 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 had a successful zoom meeting with Stephanie Allen of Staunton River State Park, Jayme Hanzak of the Chapel Hill NC Astronomical Society (CHAOS), Shawn Loescher, Jeff Goldstein and Bruce Powers. As a result of the meeting, a request has been sent to the Ben Richard, Park Manager at

DCR, Virginia State Parks, Chippokes Plantation State Park and hopefully a decision and next steps will follow soon.

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 club still has several T-Shirts for sale in sizes of small, medium and large, \$12 each.

New Business:

Shawn Loescher was given several poster, stickers and assorted goodies from David Dickerson and Shawn will be raffling it off at the upcoming BBAA meetings.

Shawn also had all the raffle prizes on hand to show everyone what the prizes are.

Shawn also brought in the dew heater material for the workshop that is happening this spring.

A special election was held for a new Vice President as the former one resigned. The names that were submitted were George Reynolds and Jeff Goldstein. With a vote of 18 to 1, Jeff Goldstein was elected as our new Vice President and will serve the remainder of the current term.

Congratulations Jeff!

Observing Reports:

Richard Roberts reports he has been approached by a researcher in Germany that wants to use some of his data to study the star V CVn. The researcher is studying the polarization of the light. Richard is supplying him with photometric magnitudes in B, V, R, and I so we can study how the color indices of the star change along with the polarization to better understand the circumstellar envelope which surrounds the star.

Shawn Loescher reports that the Sun has been very active over the last couple of months and it's making our Saturday SUN day events interesting. He is encouraging everyone who has a solar filter or H alpha scope to please come to this club event.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

