

**BBAA Astronomy Club meeting September 1, 2022, at Tidewater Community College,
Also broadcast on Zoom.**

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

Vice President Events Report, Jeff Goldstein

Calendar of events

September 2022

- BBAA General meeting, 9/1 @ 7:30 PM, Tidewater Community College VB Campus
- Great Navy Campout, 9/3 @ 5 PM, Breezy Point Park, Naval Station Norfolk,
- Boardwalk Astronomy #5, 9/6 @ 6 PM, 2401 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach
- Garden Stars @ NBG, 9/8 @ 8:00 PM
- Saturday "SUN" day 9/10 @ 10:00 AM, Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake VA.
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 9/16, 2908 Benefit Rd. Chesapeake VA.
- Skywatch @ Northwest River Park 9/17 @7, 1569 Indian Creek Road, Chesapeake, VA
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 9/23, 2908 Benefit Rd. Chesapeake VA.
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 9/24, Surry, VA.

October 2022

- International Observe the Moon Night 10/1 @ 6:00 PM Site TBD.
- Garden Stars @ NBG, 10/4 @ 8:00 PM
- BBAA General meeting, 10/6 @ 7:30 PM, Tidewater Community College VB Campus
- Saturday "SUN" day 10/8 @ 10:00 AM, Elizabeth River Park, Chesapeake VA.
- Mars Festival 10/14 to 10/16 @ 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM each night, Barry Art Museum, 1075 W 43rd St, Norfolk VA.
- First Landing Fall Fest 10/15 @ 12:00 PM, First Landing State Park, Virginia Beach, VA.
- Skywatch @ Northwest River Park 10/15 @ 7:00 PM, 1569 Indian Creek Road, Chesapeake, VA
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 10/21, 2908 Benefit Rd. Chesapeake VA
- Nightwatch @ Chippokes Plantation State Park, 10/22, Surry, VA.
- Staunton River Star Party@ Staunton River State Park, 10/24 to 10/30, Scottsburg, VA 24589
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park, 10/28, 2908 Benefit Rd. Chesapeake VA

Secretary's Report:

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

Treasurer's Report: (Richard Roberts):

- General Fund: \$2,731.90
- Primary Scholarship Fund: \$100.29

- GJ Scholarship Fund: \$774.00
- 4 Honorary Members
- 9 Associate Members w/AL
- 2 Associate Members
- 153 Regular Members
- 168 Total Members on Roster

ALCOR Report: (Bruce Powers)

Bruce gave an overview of what the Astronomical League mission is and that they publish a quarterly magazine, The Reflector. Inside this magazine, you will find a list of awards that have been awarded over the previous three months. BBAA members' names are mentioned quite often.

Old Business:

The solar filter workshop will be happening soon. If you have sign up to participate, please send your money in by using the Members Event/Services Payments portion of the BBAA website. It's set up to accept payment via PayPal. You can get to it through the BBAA store portion of the website.

New Business:

George Reynolds has five BBAA t-shirts for sale tonight. I understand that a few were bought.

Shawn Loescher is looking for a location for the BBAA to set up telescopes for the International Observe the Moon Night on October 1st. Preferably at a community event where a lot of people will already be at.

The term of office of President and Treasurer will be up at the end of this calendar year, and elections will be held in November. Please think about volunteering for one of these positions, because Shawn and Jeff can no longer server. This is because of the term limits that are written in the by-laws.

Justin Mason, Director of the ODU planetarium was in attendance and informed the club of the upcoming Mars Festival that will be happening Oct.14 thru Oct.16. Following on with the success of the International Observe the Moon fest from last year, the BBAA has once again been invited to participate with this year's event. We will be setting up telescopes and showing the night sky, just as we did last year. Justin also gave an overview of the public events happening at the planetarium throughout the school year. You can find out more by following this link: <https://www.odu.edu/life/culture/discovery/le-planetarium/shows.html.html>

Observing Reports:

Eddie Parris reports that the last cornwatch event was very successful. Four BBAA members were able to get some very good imagery. Cornwatch is a mostly an astrophotography event, but all BBAA members are invited to use this dark site for visual observing.

George Reynolds reports that the BBAA Croatan Beach Galaxy Gazing event on August 26 was a success with over 50 people in attendance. **Chloe Reynolds** had her 4.5-inch Dobsonian reflector along with George's ShortTube 80mm refractor and an 8-inch Dobsonian. George had his scopes on the planets Saturn and Jupiter, while Chloe was able to show other objects, like M71, Albireo, Mizar/Alcor, the Coathanger Cluster (Cr 399, Brocchi's Cluster), and others. The crowd was enthusiastic, and all members of families got to see the celestial sights.

George Reynolds also reports that he was able to spend 4 days on the eastern shore viewing from a dark site. He was unable to see much because the clouds were not cooperating much. This was up until Tuesday morning at 4 AM when the sky opened. Orion shone brightly against a pitch-black sky. George could make out M36, 37, and 38 in Auriga with his 8x42 binoculars. George then brought out the 8-inch Dob and the star charts (and dew heater) and had some fun. The Trapezium in M42 was awesome! Jupiter and its 4 moons were visible, as were the equatorial bands. George could barely see the Andromeda Galaxy naked eye.

Richard Roberts reports that he has bought his four-year-old son a three-inch table-top Dobsonian and is getting good views of Saturn and Jupiter from it. Rich is hoping he and his son will get good views of the moon this weekend using this scope.

President Shawn Loescher reminded the members that anyone in need of a telescope to please give him a call and the club will loan you one for outreach. The club has several telescopes in need of use.

Damian Twyman won the door prize, a Sky & Telescope Field Map of the Moon.

Meeting portion adjourned around 8:15 PM.

A planetarium presentation was given after the meeting by Leah Flax.

This presentation was on the scale of the planets and stars and just how small our solar system is in the overall vastness of the universe. a laser show with music by Van Morrison (Moondance) and Pink Floyd (Another brick in the wall) A presentation on how the human eye works narrated by Neil de Grasse Tyson.

