

Back Bay Amateur Astronomers Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2023

Called to order @ 7:30 PM, @ at TCC by President George Reynolds

Members in Attendance:

Sam Bartholomew, Eric Fadely, Shawn Loescher, Eddie Parris, George Reynolds, Bill & Marcella Rust, David Shouldice, Richard Smith, Patrick Vartuli, Jeff Goldstien. Lindsay Pavlick, Ana Kohlway, Madison Diguilio, Jeremy Mitchell, Arron Weaver, Shawn Weaver, Bill Powercl, Tom Flatloy, Dylon Vastel, David Fontany, Ron Rypinski

ZOOM Attendees:

Rich Roberts, Ben Loyola, Bruce Powers, Les Wilson, Sandy Paxon, Johnathan Scheetz, Kevin Brooks, Roland Downing, Chuck Jagow

REPORTS:

Events Report: Vice President, Jeff Goldstein

Calendar:

- Club Meeting- TCC (VB Campus) 9/7/23
- Corn Watch @ Cornland Park 9/8/23
- Skywatch@ Northwest River Park 9/11/23 7:00-11:00pm
- East Coast Star Party (Fall 2023) 9/14-9/17/23 2:00pm-12:00pm
- Star Party Public Night 9/15/23 6:00-10:00pm
- Kempsville Rec Center Astronomy 101-5 9/20/23
- Garden Stars 9/21/23 8:00-10:00pm
- Night Hike @ Northwest River Park 9/22/23 7:00-9:30pm
- Saturday "Sun" Day 9/23/23 10:00-1:00pm
- Boardwalk Astronomy #5 9/25/23 6:00-10:00pm
- Club Meeting- TCC (VB Campus) 10/5/23
- Croatan Star Gazing 10/6/23 8:30-10:00pm
- Skywatch@ Northwest River Park 10/7/23 7:00-11:00pm
- Solar Eclipse Program 10/10/23 10:00-12:00pm
- 3rd Public Arts Festival @ ODU-Day 1 10/13/23 6:00-10:00pm
- Fantastic Planet @ ODU 10/13-10/15/23 5:00-11:00pm
- Annular Solar Eclipse (31% obscured in Tidewater) 10/14/23 11:00am-3:15pm
- 3rd Public Arts Festival @ ODU-Day 2 10/14/23 6:00-10:00pm
- 3rd Public Arts Festival @ ODU-Day 1 10/15/23 6:00-10:00pm

- Kempsville Rec Center Astronomy 101-6 10/18/23 7:30-9:00pm
- Garden Stars 10/19/23 7:30-9:00pm
- Churchland Primary Spooktacular Science Night 10/24/23 6:00-8:00pm
- Saturday “Sun” Day 10/28/23 10:00-1:00pm

Treasurer’s Report (Richard Roberts):

- **General fund = \$5,480.21**
- **Primary Scholarship = \$1,338.29**
- **Georgie June Scholarship = \$900.00**

MEMBERSHIP DATA

- **Honorary Members = 4**
- **Associate Members w/AL = 9**
- **Associate Members = 2**
- **Regular Members = 171**

Total Members on Roster = 186

Secretary’s Report: (Eddie Parris)

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

Scholarship Report & Award of Scholarship’s (Benito Loyola)

Ben reported funds look really good and nothing new to report. He is setting up a new type of raffle in the future to bring in more funds. And looking up more ways to bring in more revenue streams.

RRRT Report

Raid Response Reflector Telescope) is a million dollar telescope which is available to all members to use. it’s not in service right now due to it being serviced (Mirror is being resilvered). But should be up by the end of May.

ALCOR Report (Bruce Powers)

Bruce sent George some information on resources about the Astronomical League informing what’s up this month. Also, with star charts available from the league. Bruce stated that in this month’s Reflector magazine that we had no BBAA members up for observing awards. He challenged BBAA members to strive for getting the awards. He also demonstrated how to get the awards.

OLD Business:

Bruce Powers spoke on the East Coast Star Party. He showed the Web Site and spoke about the accommodations such as the parking and camping and viewing area's locations. The area's that are designated for RVs. He gave information about the cookout and shared photos of past star parties and how they were well organized. There will also be raffle prizes. This will be the first restart of the BBAA Star Party.

Observing Reports:

A meteor shower was observed by Bill Rust. David Shouldice was at Boardwalk Astronomy and observed Saturn.

Meeting features: Astronomy Astro Imaging by Bill Rust

Bill gave an excellent presentation on how to Polar Align using two intersecting planes. He started doing Astronomy at an early age. He explained how important it is to have your telescope in aligned with the poles if you're imaging. And the consequences you will have with star trails if not properly aligned. Bill had designed his own mathematical formula to properly align your telescope without the use of a computerized mount.

Note: at the beginning of the meeting George Reynolds gave out a door prize ticket to attending members. The prize was a 3D Sun poster from NASA. The ticket was called out and awarded to the lucky winner! George also informed all that we have Solar glasses still available @ \$1.00 each and also BBAA apparel available for sale.

Meeting Adjourned @ 9:04PM