

BBAA Minutes (June 2025 monthly meeting)

Date: 06/05/2025 @TCC VA Beach Science Building

In attendance: Jeremy Mitchell, Jeff Goldstein, Eddie Parris, Shawn Loescher, Ben Loyola, Chris Ward, Matt McLaughlin, Jeff Edmondson, Richard Thiemann, David Lamb, Sylvio Canu, Olivia Maddry, Jeff Thornton, Eric Fadely, Barry Bryant, Dennis Rowley, Will Kuff, Ethan Krauss, Joe Reynes. **On Zoom:** Richard Roberts, Bruce Powers, Roland Downing, Steven Bellavia, Kevin Brooks, Max Nomad

7:30 pm: The June 2025 meeting of the BBAA came to order. Recording started.

REPORTS:

7:31 pm: VP/Schedule Report (Jeff Goldstein).

-Calendar of events for June:

Monthly Meeting (Thurs Jun 5 @7:30 pm).

Boardwalk Astronomy (Tues Jun 3 @6:00 pm).

Esther's Bat Mitzvah (Sat Jun 7 @7:06 pm).

Garden Stars (Tues Jun 10 @6:30 pm).

Science in Science Fiction (Wed Jun 11 @6:00 pm).

Saturday Sun Day (Sat Jun 14 @10:00 am).

Enigma Labs (Thurs Jun 19 @7:00 pm).

Skywatch (Sat Jun 21 @8:00 pm).

Pride in the Peake (Sun Jun 22 @10:00 am).

Corn Watch (Fri Jun 20 and Jun 27 @8:15 pm).

-Calendar of events for July:

Garden Stars (Tues Jul 1 @8:30 pm).

Saturday Sun Day (Sat Jul 5 @10:00 am).

Boardwalk Astronomy (Tues Jul 8 @6:00 pm).

Rooftop Astronomy (Fri Jul 11 @8:30 pm).

BBA Annual Picnic (Sat Jul 12 @11:00 am).

Skywatch (Sat Jul 19 @8:00 pm).

Westminster-Canterbury (Wed Jul 30 @8:00 pm).

General Information/Events notes: N/A

7:42 pm: Scholarship Report (Ben Loyola): Today was awards day for the two BBA scholarships, totaling \$3,500. The winner of both scholarships was Olivia Maddry, of Virginia Beach.

Special Program (Major General Reynes, Citizens Responsible for Lighting, 7:52 pm):

-Reynes, as well as some of his colleagues, run a nonprofit organization designed to help fight against rampant light pollution and urbanization. He is a pilot with over 3,500 hours of time. He defines light effects as color, illumination, and distribution, and also states that artificial light is the single most disruptive change that human beings have made to their environment. Light pollution not only washes out the stars, but also disrupts nocturnal animals, pollinators, bird migrations and more. Reynes helped replace the Langley Air Force base runway lights with LEDs, which are far more long-lasting than incandescent bulbs and gas lamps. The organization is working to work with more environmentally-friendly LEDs in major cities and to collaborate with the local power grid and the city of Norfolk. Not only is this better for birds and bugs, but it also saves money long-term that would otherwise go into electricity bills. It also prevents long-term effects of being exposed to blue light that is found in many intense modern LEDs, such as melatonin production. Melatonin is a preventer against IBS, heart disease, Alzheimer's, etc., and disrupting it can lead to an increase of these issues, according to recent studies. CRL is working with Norfolk on more responsible lighting fixtures and is hoping to make a difference and reverse some of the ignorance about proper lighting fixtures.

Power was temporarily lost at 8:46 pm. It returned at 8:54 pm.

8:54 pm: Treasurer's Report (Rich Reports)

-Finances are still doing good, but the scholarship fund has been drained now that the two scholarships have been paid out.

-183 members currently on the club roster.

-Treasurer's Report was accepted at 8:56 pm.

Gabriel was absent tonight, so the secretary's report was foregone.

No ALCOR report due to lateness. Same with George Reynolds's refreshments' committee.

8:58 pm: New Business:

-Many new people attended the meeting, which is great to see.

-Astronomical League dues have been paid for the club.

-Jeremy is still working to get the Chesapeake Planetarium reopened for shows again soon.

Next meeting is at the BBAA picnic on July 12, 2025.

Meeting was adjourned at **9:07 pm.**