

BBAA Minutes (July 2025 Annual Picnic)

Date: 07/12/2025 @Elizabeth River Park

In attendance: Waived

11:00 am: The BBAA Annual picnic began. It lasted until about 2:30 pm.

REPORTS (All reports were either shortened or canceled because of the picnic):

VP Report: Jeff Goldstein arrived late, but he gave a brief summary of June's outreach events and of the highlights, including Skywatch.

Treasurer's Report: Rich was not in attendance, so no report here.

Secretary's Report: Gabriel gave a brief summary of the June minutes on his phone, highlighting the dark sky initiative and the loss of power at TCC.

1:30 pm: New Business/ALCOR (only new business was attended to per Jeremy's suggestion, to save more time for eating and socializing. In addition, Bruce opted to lump some of his Astronomical League highlights with it):

- The Planetary Society, which Bruce is a member of, offers grants named after Shoemaker which helps observers locate NEAR-Earth objects. The grants are privately funded by local organizations, so he suggested that BBAA might help fund them. This was deferred for the scholarship committee at the next meeting.

- There is a motion to give a telescope to the Chesapeake Library, as we have done so for Virginia Beach and Newport News libraries already. We also proposed the idea of helping with telescope upkeep as well.

- In the latest issue of Reflector magazine, one article highlighted astronomy outreach to children and families in hospitals. One spot where BBAA could do outreach is the Ronald McDonald house in Norfolk. Jeff Goldstein offered to take a look into this.

- We are still looking for a spot for the BBAA annual holiday luncheon. Surf Rider in Greenbrier is the current frontrunner, with room for 30, but Gus and George's is still in contention as well.

-West Neck educators club in Virginia Beach invites guest speakers and the like to help raise money for Kellam High School scholarships. Jeff is also looking into getting BBAA involved there.

-There has been some proposals to buy banners for the club that can be displayed at events like Boardwalk Astronomy. In addition, we also proposed buying a hot dog machine to satisfy Kent's bottomless stomach at East Coast Star Party.

-International Observe the Moon Night is in October. A venue has not yet been confirmed, but both ODU's Planetarium and the Chesapeake Planetarium should hopefully be supporting it.

Next meeting is on August 7th, 2025.

Meeting was adjourned at **2:15 pm.**