

## BBAA May 3, 2012 meeting minutes

The Meeting at TCC classroom was called to order by president Courtney Flonta at 7:32PM.

Those in attendance were: Neill Alford, Kenny Broun, Bob Beuerlein, Courtney Flonta, Bill Holmes, Curt Lambert, Matt McLaughlin, Bill Newman, Andrew Reisenweber, George Reynolds, Bernie Strohmeyer, Kevin Swann, 'Bird' Taylor and Larry Wade.

### Treasurer's report:

\$2601.23 general fund

\$2719.92 Scholarship fund

\$5371.15 Total

### Outreaches:

The last Garden Stars had approximately 35 people in attendance. Courtney Flonta & George Reynolds were present. Viewing was Saturn, Venus, Mars & the moon.

Yuri's night – had many clouds

4/14 Camp Silver Beach – Bird Taylor attended. The event was for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. About 45-50 people were present. Bird recommends returning for a new moon. There are campers there all summer.

### Calendar:

May 18 Friday, Cub Scout Belt Loop @ New Life Presbyterian Church on Dam Neck rd (near Farmers' Market) 8:15PM to 10:15PM

May 19 Saturday, Nightwatch @ Chippokes

May 25 Friday, Night Hike @ Northwest River State Park, 7PM

May 25 Friday, Garden Stars @ Norfolk Botanical Gardens

May 26 Saturday, Chippokes presentation – tentative primary

June 4 Monday, Boardwalk Astronomy @ VA Beach boardwalk, 6PM

June 5 Tuesday, Venus Sun Transit 5:03PM until Sunset. Will not happen again until 12/11/2117!

TCC scope will be operational for this event.

June 8 Friday, Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, Equestrian area, 7PM

June 16 Saturday, Nightwatch @ Chippokes

June 22 Friday, Night Hike @ Northwest River State Park, 7PM

June 29 Friday, Garden Stars @ Norfolk Botanical Gardens

June 30 Saturday, Chippokes presentation – tentative alternate

July 3 Tuesday, Boardwalk Astronomy @ VA Beach boardwalk

July 13 Friday, Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, Equestrian area, 7PM

July 14 Saturday, BBAA family picnic, (location TBD) 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

July 20 Friday, Night Hike @ Northwest River State Park, 7PM

July 21 Saturday, Nightwatch @ Chippokes

July 27 Friday, Garden Stars @ Norfolk Botanical Gardens

July 31 Tuesday, Boardwalk Astronomy @ VA Beach boardwalk

August 10 Friday, Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, Equestrian area, 7PM

August 18 Saturday, Nightwatch @ Chippokes

August 24 Friday, Night Hike @ Northwest River State Park, 7PM

August 24 Friday, Garden Stars @ Norfolk Botanical Gardens

August 25 Saturday, Science Saturday, Blackwater Regional Library, Carrollton, VA, 10-11AM

August 27 Monday, Moon Watch, Princess Anne library (Nimmo pkwy), 6:30-7:30PM

August 28 Tuesday, Boardwalk Astronomy @ VA Beach boardwalk

September 6 Thursday, monthly meeting @ TCC

September 7 Friday, Skywatch @ Northwest River State Park, Equestrian area, 7PM

September 15 Saturday, Nightwatch @ Chippokes

September 21 Friday, Night Hike @ Northwest River State Park, 7PM

September 21 Friday, Garden Stars @ Norfolk Botanical Gardens

September 25 Tuesday, Boardwalk Astronomy @ VA Beach boardwalk

June 20's Green Bank star party

New Guest: Andrew Reisenweber, USAF transfer from Las Vegas.

Old business:

Larry Wade asked if we should incorporate. He has all the information. George Reynolds suggested we discuss this at a future meeting with larger attendance.

Kenny Broun mentioned the 20" scope at TCC is down for repairs. The wire got wrapped around it. The TCC planetarium is now fixed but lacks calibration. This is done remotely.

New business:

President Courtney motioned & Kenny Broun seconded to publish the fact that the Vice President is the BBAA official outreach coordinator. It should be posted on the web pages & changed on all our pamphlets.

To prepare for Venus transit 6/5, you can get welding goggles from local company ARCET (it only takes a few minutes to establish an account to purchase from them), or get welding lenses from "Harris" on E-bay. Auto darkening lenses are not recommended due to range only up to shade 13 max. you should have shade 14.

You can also project onto a white board but remember, your secondary & tertiary lenses can get very hot & even possibly melt the glue off causing your lens to fall off! For further information ask someone in the club or Google "camera obscura". A funnel & standard projector screen can also be used. You can also use Baader solar film because it produces no ghosting but is very fragile.

Before the presentation we viewed Astronomy picture of the day from 5/1. It was a comic style short video called "Dark Matters" by PhD comics. It was very educational about quarks & leptons that gave an entry level understanding on the subject.

The evening presentation was Astronomy Magazine's "Infinite Cosmos"/ Gravity chapter 1, Life & Death of Stars.

Observing reports:

Bird Taylor says the sun is very active and has good sunspots.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01PM