

BBAA March 2014 Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2014

The March 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM in room JC-10 at TCC in Virginia Beach by president Jim Tallman.

Members in attendance were:

Neill Alford, Bob Beuerlein, Kenny Broun, Brenda Butler, Scott Cadwell, Tom Flatley, Mike Galvas, Dean Giangregorio, Mary Giangregorio, Pete Goulart, Chuck Jagow, Karen Jagow, Chris Jarvis, Tom Jarvis, Leigh Anne Lagoe, Curt Lambert, Kirk Leppert, Matt McLaughlin, Bill McLean, Maya Ogaldez, Bruce Powers, Joey Quinn, George Reynolds, Mel Spruill, Kevin Swann, Jason Tackett, Jim Tallman, Paul Tartabini, Bird Taylor, and Christopher Weller
Guests were Kayleigh Forrest, Justin Knightes, Bill Moore, Mark Reehm, Ashton Temple, Kent Versland, and Chris Weller.

Meeting started with a drawing for a Sky & Telescope magazine. A second magazine was awarded to Bruce Powers for correctly identifying a “Hubble’s Cat” cartoon image reference.

Reports:

A motion was made by Chuck Jagow to waive the reading of the previous month’s minutes. Motion seconded by Bird Taylor. All were in favor.

Vice President Report/Outreach Coordinator:

Garden Stars for March 7th was canceled. VPAS will be at Gosnold’s Hope Park on March 7th.

Calendar:

3/8 - Princess Anne Library Sleepover, 8:30-10 PM
3/9 - Daylight Saving Time begins
3/10 - PTA Science Night at Deep Creek Elementary School, 6 - 7:45 PM
3/11 - Plaza Middle School Science Night, 6 - 7:45 PM
3/21 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park, dusk - midnight
3/27 - 3/30 - Staunton River Star Party
4/3 - BBAA Club Meeting at TCC VB Campus, 7:30 - 9 PM
4/5 - Mt. Trashmore Star Party, 6:30 - 11 PM
4/11 - Garden Stars at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, 8 - 10 PM
4/12 - Carrollton Library event in Carrollton, VA, 11 - 11:45 AM
4/15 - Total Lunar Eclipse, 1:57 AM - 5:46 AM
4/18 - Skywatch at Northwest River Park, 7:30 PM
4/26 - Nightwatch at Chippokes Plantation State Park, 6:30 PM

ALCOR (Astronomical League Coordinator):

Bill McLean reported Paul Tartabini is the Messier Cup Champion for the Tidewater area.

Observing Reports:

Leigh Anne Lagoe taught several after-school astronomy enrichment classes to elementary school students using tools from the Night Sky Network. Mr. Jarvis reported that he recently viewed two meteors. George Reynolds reported that the 4H Space Camp on February 22nd had a successful turnout. They had an indoor presentation, then viewed Andromeda, Jupiter, and toured the constellations with a green laser. There were more than 100 people that showed up at a William and Mary's Newton Day event. Mary Giangregorio informed us that the city of Virginia Beach will be participating in Earth Hour on March 29th at 8:30. All nonessential lights within the city are expected to be turned off.

Scholarship Report:

Applications have been submitted to schools around the area with a deadline of May 1st.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Jagow reported that there is \$1492.75 in the General Fund and \$2389.67 in the Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$3882.42.

Old Business:

The incorporation certificate should arrive next week. Jim Tallman reminded the club to log their hours for any event they do, whether it's an NSN event or not. Also, be sure to log our miles as they are tax deductible.

New Business:

BBAA began putting VPAS events on the calendar so local people can find their events. Jim Tallman would like feedback from members about what we can do to get them more involved with public outreach. We would like to form a picnic committee to help organize the July picnic in Redwing Park. Bird Taylor and Kunio Sayanagi will be going to the RRRT on Fan Mountain on March 29th to do a status assessment of the equipment. March 16th, 4:41 AM, there will be a launch out of Florida to the Space Station.

Door Prize Drawing: White light/Red light headlight awarded to Dean Giangregorio.
Constellation Mug awarded to Leigh Anne Lagoe.

Going For a Swim in Europa's Ocean:

Planetary Scientist, Dr. William B. Moore, from Hampton University discussed his research of Jupiter's icy moon Europa. His research investigated the dynamics of the moon's interior. He discussed whether volcanism or tidal forces could be causing convection within the ice, bringing sulfate salts up from below. Dr. Moore explained the many obstacles there are on the way to exploring Europa's ocean, which is buried under at least 16 kilometers of ice. (ie: Jupiter's radiation belt, Europa's lack of atmosphere, sublimating ice, the use of hydrobots, and transmitting information) Dr. Moore also briefly talked about the molten rock tides on Io, which move it's surface up and down by about 50 meters as it orbits Jupiter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.