



## Willingboro Astronomical Society

### Meeting Minutes – March 7, 2014

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**The meeting was called to order at 7:48 pm by President Drew Maser**

#### **New guests**

Dennis from Willingboro

#### **Introductions and events update**

Reminder: March 8/9 daylight savings time turn back clocks

#### **Moon Phases**

1. Next full moon - March 16<sup>th</sup>
2. Next new moon - March 30<sup>th</sup>

#### **Star Party Dates**

1. Northeast Astronomy Forum & Telescope (NEAF) show is April 12 – 13
2. Texas Star Party is May 25 - June 1
3. Cherry Springs Star Party is June 26 - 29
4. Black Forest Star Party is Aug 22 – 24

Showed: Tonight's sky for March movie to club members

#### **Old Business**

##### **Treasurer's report**

December, Jan and Feb – income and balance as of the end of February, 2014 was presented to club members attending meeting.

##### **April formal business meeting – vote on proposed new WAS meeting schedule:**

- 1) Formal business meeting will be held on the Friday of each month closest to full moon
- 2) Informal will be held on the Friday of each month closest to the new moon
  - a) On clear nights, propose group observing
  - b) On cloudy nights, propose speakers and special topics of interest requested by members

- 3) No meeting minutes will be taken during informal business meetings
- 4) At future formal business meetings will discuss eliminating business meetings during Summer months

Willingboro Astronomical Society (WAS) Star Watches (mark your calendars):

- 1) J Harold Van Zant Elementary School March 21st
- 2) Kresson School - March 28<sup>th</sup>
- 3) Batsto Village – April 5<sup>th</sup>
- 4) Timothy Christian Academy (TCA) - April 11<sup>th</sup>
- 5) Good to go thru Sept for schedule posted on WAS website

By Laws and Articles of Incorporation

By laws have not yet been approved by the IRS

## **New Business**

Budget

Present annual budget proposal at next formal business meeting

Picnics

Propose moving the WAS summer picnic to Camp Ockanickon:

- Lake and canoes
- Barbecue
- Observations

Speakers for future meeting

Winter star party participants will give a presentation

## **Observations and General Discussion**

1. Observing notes: Mars is over 12 arc seconds and getting bigger
2. Occultation of Regulus by an asteroid – may be arranging trip to NY to view this event. Contact Bernie K if interested. Date is March 20<sup>th</sup>. Time: 2AM (weather permitting)
3. Drew - Manhattan Henge: NY City is aligned along N/S lines. At certain dates moon or sun align with streets. Photo opportunities for sunrise and sunset. For further information goto website: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manhattanhenge>
4. Bernie – Optics: what do the wave rating numbers mean
5. Janet-Presentation on the books - Chasing Copernicus, the book nobody read and Packing for Mars
6. Jerry - presented his new book

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

*Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.*