



## Willingboro Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2014

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**The meeting was called to order at 8:03 PM by President Drew Maser**

### **New guests**

Vince (Jim's father)

Ken and Stefanie from Blackwood

### **Attendance**

Was Members: 16

Was Officers: 3

### **Introductions and astronomical events of interest update**

#### WAS business meetings and events

1. December 5<sup>th</sup> formal meeting – elections
2. December 13<sup>th</sup> Holiday Party
3. Dec 19<sup>th</sup> non-formal meeting

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

### **Old Business**

#### Holiday Party December 13<sup>th</sup>

- WAS will provide the food (stuffed shells, meat Balls, roast beef, cheese, potato salad, coleslaw, macaroni salad, rolls, and soda)
- Cost \$5 per attendee will have a sign-up sheet
- No gift exchange or pollyanna
- Ask members to bring desserts

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

- November 15<sup>th</sup> Batsto Village in Wharton State Forest

## By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation

Beginning of year will start working with the adapted by-laws

## Budget

Treasurer's report:

- Income reported
- Holiday party is next expenditure

## **New Business**

- Membership benefits/card holders – DVAA has a discount for members.
- Ask that current members provide contact information.
- WAS has access to two Yahoo email groups – check to see if the new letter one can be used for this purpose.

## Propose to change the name of WAS to something generic

- The goal is to get rid of the location reference.
- Next month or so provide a list of names.

## Nominations

- President: Drew Maser.
- Vice President – Jerry Lodriguss.
- Treasurer – Joe Stieber.
- Secretary – Jim Foy.

## 2015 Calendars and Handbooks

- Provide order and money to Alan D. by the end of the November formal meeting for:  
RASC Handbook, \$24  
RASC Calendar, \$17
- Gary W – Will order Kalmbach calendars, \$13

## Comic interlude

## **Observations and General Discussion**

- Drew M.: 35 to 40 people waiting for the cancelled Antares launch. Later learned had an explosion on the Tuesday night launch.
- Alan D: Season on Mars is mid-Autumn in the northern hemisphere with the southern hemisphere tilted towards sun. Mercury (waxing gibbous) is in the morning sky.

- Joe S. observations reported by Alan D. – Venus technically in evening sky after superior conjunction on October 25<sup>th</sup>; saw it with binoculars mid-day on November 7<sup>th</sup> just 3.5 degrees from sun (*which was blocked by house!*). Mercury now bright to unaided eyes in morning twilight; Jupiter also high and bright in morning sky.
- Scott E: In Texas, not able to observe partial solar eclipse due to clouds.
- Alan and Bernie K: – Largest sun spot in 25 years is visible with a naked eye. This sunspot produced a couple of x-class eruption without a CME.
- Roger: Showed lights in neighborhood thru a diffraction grating all are emission lights. Made a long tube diffraction grating and used this to take a photo of the sun – saw Fraunhofer lines in the sun photo.
- Bernie K: A doublet refractor gives blue halo to stars because the glass is corrected for C and F lines. When is astronomical full moon – time of full moon is determined as 180 degrees apart in ecliptic longitude. Showed a list of Full moon names. Also showed a spectroscope made with 5 prisms.
- Lolyd B: New Celestron Nexstar Evolution – has new mount that uses worm gears and has manual clutches for alt.-az. It also has a built in Li ion battery, so there is no need for carrying a battery. Can control the scope with IOS and Android smart phone by tapping star or object.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

*Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.*