



Willingboro Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes – May 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:56 PM by President Drew Maser

New guests

None

Attendance

Was Members: 18

Was Officers: 4

Introductions and astronomical events of interest update

WAS business meetings and events listed on the website

- Formal business meeting May 1st – Show and Tell Night
- Informal business meeting May 17th Observers and telescope clinic weather
- Formal business meeting June 5th – All things Lunar and Solar

Current list of Star watches for 2015

- May 29th (Friday) – Cecil Creek Farm
- June 27th – Batsto Village
- July 25th – Batsto Village
- July 31st – Belleview Winery
- August 7th (Friday) – Rancocas Nature Center
- August 22nd – Batsto Village
- August 29th – Riverside Swim Club
- September 19th – Batsto Village
- November 7th – Batsto Village

October is still open

Area Events for 2015

- Texas Star Party: 5/10 to 5/17
- Cherry Springs: 6/11 to 6/14
- Mason Dixon: 7/15 to 7/19
- Stellafane: 8/13 to 8/16
- Black Forest Star Party: 9/14 to 9/20
- Next Lunar Eclipse is in October – more favorable viewing

Old Business

Treasurer's report:

- Balance presented

New Business

Solar Eclipse 2017

- Eclipse 2017 – Salem and Madras Oregon have the best weather prospects and views of full lunar eclipse. Drew will get additional information on flights and hotels.
- Closer to the East Coast has worse weather prospects.
- Harold W. – going to Alliance Nebraska

Miscellaneous

- High Point Scientific will extend discounts to WAS members

Topic for WAS formal business meetings:

- May 1st – Show and Tell
- June 5th – Lunar and Solar events

Observations and General Discussion

- NEAF report: The usual vendors where there – nothing new to report
- Drew talked to Thierry Legault

Show and Tell

- Harold W: Showed an Ioptron Sky Tracker
- Bill: Showed a rare Edmund 6" F4 – takes a 2" eyepiece
- Bernie K showed:
 - Fine grinding powder
 - 6" mirror grinding tool

- Partially and fully ground 4.5" Edmund Astroscan mirror glass
- 5" finished mirror glass
- 3.5" Questar Optics
- Bernie K.: Polishing is done by embedding abrasive (cerium oxide) in pitch
- Alan D: Showed a VK H alpha Solar telescope – The scope initially had a Calcium filter. Won at NEAF. Next year ,exchanged the Calcium scope for a Halpha Lund scope
- Jerry L: Showed the movie, 'A Long Cloudy Night' (see website:Astropix.com)
- Al: Swift binoculars that zoom, a Carl Zeiss Jena set of binoculars and a brass antique Carl Zeiss microscope

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 PM.

Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.