



Willingboro Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:58 PM by President Drew Maser

New guests

None

Attendance

Was Members: 17

Was Officers: 3

Introductions and astronomical events of interest update

WAS business meetings and events listed on the website

- Formal business meeting June 5th – All things Lunar and Solar
- June 16th new moon
- July 3rd formal business meeting
- July 11th Club picnic
- November 20th Speaker on old telescopes
- Dec 12th Holiday party

Current list of Star watches for 2015 (check for solar date times)

- 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

- 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

Pizza

- Current pizza restaurant closes by 10:30PM, so a new restaurant is needed

Alternative pizza restaurants:

1. Benito's in Maple Shade - open to 11:30 PM
2. Michael Angelo's in Cherry Hill – open to 11:30 PM
3. Pat's pizzeria on Chapel Hill west – open to 11:30 PM

Will try King of Pizza on Route 70 tonight

Topic for WAS formal business meetings:

- June 5th – Lunar and Solar events

Observations and General Discussion (Solar and Lunar)

- Drew M: Potential Locations for Solar Eclipse in August 2017:
 - Showed a map with the path through the US for full umbra
 - Charleston has 72% chance of rain in August
 - Weather forecast for the East Coast shows high probability of rain
 - Eastern side of Cascades have best weather forecast.
 - Salem and Madras Oregon have the best weather and location
 - Casper Wyoming is OK
- Recommendation for WAS members interested in viewing the Solar Eclipse:
 - Called Madras, Oregon all hotels already booked
 - WAS sponsored stay is in Prineville , Oregon.
 - Will be part of event sponsored by local astronomy club.

- April 8 2024 have another solar eclipse
- Solar Eclipse Predictions for Philadelphia in 2024 has 88% blocked. Toronto is 97%
- Alan D: Discussed Lunar orbital dynamics
- Bernie K: Showed Lunar pictures (Tycho, Clavius, Copernicus, Gassendi, and Rilles)
- Jerry L: Showed pictures of the moon, lunar X, the moon and the Pleiades, occultation of the moon with Chi Taurus, a Lunar transit, an ISS transit, Clavius, Aristarcus, Copernicus, the phases of a total Lunar eclipse, HDR image of a thin crest moon, a crescent moon over Philadelphia (APOD), HDR sunset, sun spots, a solar flare in Halpha, a Solar prominence, the Mercury transit in 1989, a ISS solar transit, the 2004 Venus transit, and an Annular total eclipse,
- Val K: Has 3 astronomy books, which are free for the taking

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.