

West Jersey Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes for September 2, 2016

Thirteen (13) people in attendance, start at 7:48 pm.

Pre-conversation of Jupiter and Venus close encounter. Some more people have come in. Time to get started. Matter of Atsion field, discussion of what is needed for Atsion access. An identification card and a club official needs to be there, as it stands now. Dan McCauley to be Atsion Field director.

Batsto Public Star Watch will be on September 10th. Some review of last week's Star Watch at Rancocas Nature Center. Val has an outreach effort on Wednesday, September 14, at the United Methodist Communities on Haddon Avenue in Collingswood, NJ. Help with scopes would be welcome. Bernie zooming-in on map.

Some talk of a holiday party and where. Followed by some more discussion of access to Atsion and other state park areas. Now Roger has an image of Venus Jupiter at conjunction on August 27, but Mercury was too low. Roger demonstrates the narrow separation and resolution of the two objects using closely-spaced LED lights. More analysis of the image being projected. Now showing Joe's image of Jupiter and Venus on August 27 from a different location followed by an image of Saturn, Mars and Antares together. Followed by an image of V Aquilae, a very red carbon star in the M11 area. Joe and Bernie fill in some details of the content.

Comment from Bernie on seeing Antares and its companion, magnitude and color contrast. Followed by the Alan-D-type question regarding the orbit of earth and its speed in orbit, difference from winter to summer (perihelion vs. aphelion respectively). Looked up some actual speed values on Google. Then looked at site with a large (and expensive) Ed Byers telescope for sale. Side trip to site with metallurgy and heat treating information. Back to Byers telescope and the ronchigram for its mirror.

Adjourn at 9:24 pm.