

# West Jersey Astronomical Society

## Meeting Minutes for: June 1, 2018

Web Address: <http://wasociety.us>

Location: Virtua Moorestown

Members in attendance: 15

Officers present:

Pres: Roger Cowley

Vice Pres.: Steve Kutoroff

Sec.: Paul Bender

**Joe S.** Showed us a single frame of the 9.6 day waxing gibbous moon taken on his SVA 130T with a Canon 7D Mk II DSLR on May 24, 2018; **Joe** identified the crater pair Messier and Messier A in Mare Fecunditatis in an expanded view of the same frame.

**Roger C** formally opened the meeting at ca 7:53PM. Review of the WAS home page on screen; 2 star sessions coming up June 9, June 16. Will it rain? Pray before coming!

**Arnie R** was observing (and helping) at a **Bob Summerfield** (former member) event. Bob had several large Dobs which he lets school kids operate.

**Roger** gave an Astronomy presentation last Wed to a group at a Moorestown library; one attendee was a member when WAS was in Willingboro (**Hank Cutler**).

**Steve K** showed closeup single frame of moon through his Questar 3 1/2" taken on his Sony camera; along with an expanded version of it.

**Al M** used his new ZWO 1224 camera on his 18" scope; but the image file size was too large; he used Registax 6 to stack the frames. **Al** will bring them in next time.

**Jim Foy** will cover Photoshop at the June 27 Astrophotography meeting.

**Alan D's** Challenge: Got "Great Courses" catalog with a celestial photograph in the advertisement; is the photo real? What are the constellations and stars? Looking at the Hyades, Aldebaran seems to have a companion even brighter than itself. At the foot of Gemini is a bright star (Saturn or Mars or ???); horizon looks like the sun has recently set. Astronomer in photo is looking through a refractor with polar axis pointed to the right.

**Alan D:**The Franklin Institute used to have a Mark 2-4 Zeiss Planetarium, now have a digital projector. The Franklin still has a 10" f/15 Zeiss refractor with Astrographic mount from the 1930's. The Astrographic mount doesn't require an axis flip when going through zenith. Also, the pivot point on the scope is unusually close to the

tailpiece so that it does not swing too widely for public viewing.

There's a large, low-power eyepiece from the Zeiss scope that gives 31 power with a wide field (Huygenian?). **Alan** brought it in, looks as large as a cannon shell, and is heavy. **Paul R** thinks it is a focal reducer and a field collector.

**Bernie K** asked if anyone had experience with large older refractors. He has looked through a 23" refractor, these large scopes have very noticeable coloration.

**Joe** referred to S&T online article on Vesta's opposition in June; will be getting brighter.

Also, article about the Martian Moons: lead article of S&T on Asaph Hall's discovery of the moons using USNO 26" refractor. Whole S&T issue was about Mars.

**Roger** closed the meeting at 9:33PM

**Submitted** by Sec. **Paul Bender** on June 7, 2018.

Sent from my iPad