



## Willingboro Astronomical Society

### Meeting Minutes – September 5, 2014

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**The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by President Drew Maser**

#### **New guests**

Tom (Cherry Hill)

Ted (dual member, WAS and Rittenhouse Astronomical Society)

#### **Attendance**

Was Members: 16

Was Officers: 3

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

##### WAS business meetings and events

1. October 3<sup>th</sup> formal
2. October 17<sup>th</sup> (18<sup>th</sup> weather backup) informal
3. November 7<sup>th</sup> formal
4. December 5<sup>th</sup> Formal
5. December 13<sup>th</sup> Holiday Party

##### Public Events of Interest

1. Oct 14, 12:10 AM Scheduled Launch of Antares from Wallops

##### Showed: Tonight's sky for September movie to club members

#### **Old Business**

Second Picnic at Camp Ockanickon – stay tuned for future announcements.

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

1. September 20<sup>th</sup> Public Star Watch at Batsto Village

2. October 17<sup>th</sup> (18<sup>th</sup> weather backup) Public Star Watch at Atsion
3. October 25<sup>th</sup> Public Star Watch at Franklin Parker Preserve

#### By Laws and Articles of Incorporation

By laws have not yet been approved by the IRS. Provided addition documents requested by IRS. On schedule for general time lines provided by IRS for review of the application.

#### Budget

Treasurer's report: Income reported – Future expenditure for Insurance in October

### **Old Business**

#### Franklin Parker Preserve (FPP) proposal for new astronomy site

- Waiting for plan from FPP for training of WAS members to use equipment needed to maintain the site
- Expect a response before the October 25<sup>th</sup> scheduled star watch at FPP
- The WAS insurance policy needs to be evaluated to determine if FPP can be added

#### New Business

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

- Food
- Door prizes
  - Past \$400 to \$500
  - Last year \$150 but 2 or 3 big things
  - This year no door prize is the proposal
  - Pollyanna is the proposed alternative
  - Food cost \$350 last year
  - This year charge 5/head money due November and December meeting
  - Ask for additional desserts
  - When you register – provide dessert preference at that time

#### Comic interlude

### **Observations and General Discussion**

1. Janet K – found all the M objects in Scorpius and Sagittarius - favorite is Wild Duck
2. Joe – saw 2 comets: Jacques, only the coma is visible (no tail) – greenish color in scope; Oukaimeden barely visible in 16x70 binoculars
3. Jim M – image of Jacques – 3 minute exposure on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Then a second un-guided 6 min exposure

4. Roger – watched Venus and Jupiter conjunction from backyard at 5 AM. Saturday same conjunction with Jupiter much further away and a crescent moon.
5. Joe S – Tuesday found 8 and half planets in one night – Pluto being the half planet because of its contentious classification as well as difficult visibility, even in a scope
6. Drew – Andromeda Galaxy image from Spitzer – missing the spiral – most of the dust is in the center. Theory: M32 plunged through Andromeda and disrupted the spiral dust arms. The Milky Way and the Andromeda Galaxy will merge in about 5 billion years.
7. Drew – What is a red shift?
8. Jerry L – Presented a series of images...
  - a. Vesta and Ceres asteroid movement
  - b. Mars and moon July 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Saturn and Moon 2 days later
  - d. Comet Oukaimeden
  - e. APOD largest of the super moons
  - f. Venus and Jupiter conjunction
  - g. 20 Naked eye double stars

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.

*Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.*