

19:02 - meeting started (Randy Hemann)

Meeting Attendees

27 present: David Meyer, Luka Bajzer, Julie Gawarecki, Dave Weinrich, Bill Davidson, Karl Shidler, Rick Murray, Jay McLaren, Noel Taylor, Stephen Carmichael, Jack Wiltsie, Larry Mascotti, Bob Fealey, John Attewell, John Martin, Nick Rogers, Rebecca Bomgaars, Michael Currie, Ron Purdue, Mike Carlin, Jerome Taubel, Josef Chlachula, Jeff Newland, Mike Quirk, Kirk Severson, Randy Hemann, and Brandon Wyman.

Treasurer's Report

- 1 new member. 36 paid members.
- It is that time of the year to purge the membership list. Members get subscription discounts and copies of Reflector.
- Income: Amazon Smile, donations \$362.60.
- Expenses: \$50.00 (gas card for speaker).
- Balance: \$6862.57

Observing Notes

- John Attewell got some new glass. He was at Mike's, got a coupon for a 5% discount that had a midnight deadline. He had a little tiny one before, but now he has a big monster. He had to help the UPS man get it off the truck. He was out on May 26th with the Celestron Advanced SX, equatorial mount, tripod, 2-inch tubes, in his yard. First light was on Jupiter. He had some problems getting it up, could not get Jupiter. He had a go for the moon, 95% full, WOW. He also saw a moon go behind Jupiter. There were two nights with good weather, but he had other events going on. Jerome asked if it auto-aligned, John said that it does not. Bob said that he thinks John needs to read the 40-page manual.
- Mike Carlin (?) brought up the topic about how he was not really sure that he was aligning his telescope on Polaris, so he used his 3-D printing skills to make a plug to fit his finder and his laser pointer. Now, he can be sure that he is indeed pointing at Polaris, however there has been clouds since he made it. John said that Mike was going to make him one as well. Mike also had an R2D2 head to show, from the 3-D printer with lots of parts, glue, and paint; a sort of Art, Engineering, Science project he hopes to finish and show at a later time.
- ??? was up north fishing with family with his son's 4-inch refractor, really dark skies. At one point, he was asked if it was getting cloudy, NO, that's the Milky Way. They saw twelve deep sky objects, and thought maybe The Ghost of Jupiter.

News

- Julie gave an update on the library telescope. Hopefully the telescope will be in the library before the next meeting. There is a question on the moon map, she thinks it might be rotated to the right.
- Outreach report. Josef talked about the good public outreach, thanks to Mike for the red light. It was really great that people showed up. The next public outreach will be next Friday, June 22nd at the same location (Watson soccer field). There might be another public outreach event next Saturday, June 23rd at Salem Glen Winery. Randy mentioned that this time of the year the sky gets dark late. There were some bad skies, but saw a lot: clusters, galaxies, Venus, and the moon. Josef mentioned being out at Salem Glen

Winery two weeks ago. He said that Dustin has a much bigger mailing list and Facebook followers. He thought this was a good reason to keep both events as a way to promote our events through his events. Jeff, John Martin, John Attewell, ... five members plan to be there at the next outreach coming up next week Friday. Julie, Jeff, and a few others plan to be at the Salem Glen event. Josef will send an e-mail to Dustin indicating that we will be there. Josef pointed out that we may have an opposite problem, too many people.

- ALCON is coming up. That brought up the topic of possibly getting together with MNAS about a Cherry Grove partnership (for an observing site). John Attewell mentioned just possibly joining the club. John had also talked with the Byron gun club president and he was not getting a warm feeling about some common ground on using that for astronomy observing. John plans on going to talk with them next quarter, there is a buffer zone location that is away from the rest of their stuff. Jerome mentioned that he keeps getting property listings, and mentioned a more recent 20 acre site 20 minutes for Rochester, north and east of Rock Dell. Jerome was going to share the information with Bob Fealey after the meeting, and plans to go have a look this weekend.
- New website. Josef plans on writing an article about the monthly outreach. John mentioned that the old site is still available, the new site needs more content. John also thanked everyone for the survey feedback. Randy asked if it would cost to keep the old site, John indicated no. John also mentioned that the e-mail for the mailing list is whitelisted again, but it was not clear why it was blacklisted. Julie asked about a forum problem, John indicated that it seemed to be some locale/country issue with the forum software getting confused. Luka asked if turning that off would help, John said he could look into trying that.

RAC Meetings/Calendar

- June 15/6 Dark Sky Weekend
- July 10 RAC meeting - Jack Wiltsie: Part II: Experiments Done During the Great Solar Eclipse of 2017.
- July 11-14 ALCON in Minneapolis

Other News/Notes/Announcements

- Nebraska Star Party August 5th-10th.
- Okie-Tex Star Party October 6th-14th.
- Enchanted Star Party October 16th-20th.
- Josef was out last Monday with his family to see "Silent Sky", playing until June 23rd.
- Bill Davidson mentioned trying to get New Horizons, but Barnes & Noble did not have it in stock.
- Jerome asked when the StarBQ was going to be. Randy indicated that he had not talked to Dean, but it sounds like we may have a different location this year.

Featured Presentation

"The Eye as an Astronomic Instrument" - Jay W. McLaren, PhD.

- Jay gave a similar presentation at NCRAL 2012.

21:04 – meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Brandon Wyman - Rochester Astronomy Club secretary