

West Jersey Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes for: August 17, 2018

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

Location: Virtua Moorestown

Members in attendance: 13

Visitors: 1

Officers present:

Pres.: Roger Cowley

Vice Pres.: Steve Kutoroff

Sec.: Paul Bender

Informal Meeting

Our president **Roger C** opened the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Visitor **Roger** from air force interested in AP, doesn't own scope yet: he plans on coming to star sessions to help decide upon his needs.

Next Formal meeting will be on 9/7.

Joe S had **Steve** put Mars shots on screen, taken through an 8" Newtonian w 2x Barlow and a ZWO 120mc camera, (Aug 15th) from ALPO Japan on his sjastro.org site, demonstrating improvement in the Mars Dust storm. He also showed a WinJUPOS (program) generated clean synthetic image of Mars for comparison.

Paul R pointed out that the two side-by-side Mars images (2nd taken 7.3 min after 1st) on **Joe's** site, generates a 3D image when superimposed together. (I used double vision to confirm this).

Joe had **Steve** display the beautiful image of Comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner captured by **Howard S** while vacationing at Cape Cod Mass, on screen. **Joe** mentioned it was now ca 8th mag and may get a little brighter.

Looking at a very sharp image of Saturn by **Sean Walker** on S&T website put onscreen by **Steve**, initiated a discussion of visualizing its 3-4 brighter moons.

Bernie K mentioned that you could see spokes in the A ring with careful, patient observation.

Alan D reported Venus is now about half illuminated and will be getting larger (closer).

Bernie K put up a quote from the novel "Impact," stating that "the Andromeda Galaxy" was located at the bottom of Orion's sword and was seen as a "maelstrom of 500 billion stars through an amateur telescope. NOT!

Roger asked if anyone saw the Perseid meteor shower? No clear meteor observations were made in our area.

Bernie K asked what is a meteor called that is brighter than Venus?: fireball

Pres Roger C closed the meeting at 9:28 PM.

Submitted by Sec **Paul Bender** on Aug 29, 2018.