

West Jersey Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes for: March 21, 2019

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

Location: Virtua Moorestown

Members in attendance: 12

Visitors: 0

Officers present:

President: Steve Kutoroff

Secretary: Arnie Rosemoff

Informal Meeting

Steve calls the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

Steve mentions Astronomy on Tap, enjoying astronomical lectures at a tavern and he showed a picture of such an event he attended in Tucson. They are now [holding events in Trenton](#).

We discussed the club-owned scopes and where they are. Wade has a list of what we think is club owned. We also are seeking the club projection equipment.

We talked about our web page registration and hosting provider. The invoice for the latter is overdue, but is the result of some inscrutability in their billing procedure.

There is a Public outreach at Swedesboro Library that we need to discuss as they have sent the club a memo with open dates that they have available for an event.

We looked at a picture of the Running Man Nebula in Orion that member Howard S. took over several imaging sessions.

Joe brings up "Longitude" by Dava Sobel and wondered where the club's audio CD version (that had been circulating through members) might be.

Roger has a presentation on the long-period variable star, Mira. He has followed the changing magnitude for two years in a series of photos and charts.

Susan L. came in late after the Indian Mills School science night and discusses her presentation to the elementary school children who attended the event.

Joe talked about a lunar occultation of a 7th magnitude star that he observed during the previous week's star watch at Clara Barton School in Cherry Hill. He also showed a recent photo of the Moon and described the "Looney 11" rule-of-thumb exposure guide, where at f/11, the lunar exposure is the reciprocal of the ISO setting. For example, ISO 1600 = 1/1600 second exposure at f/11.

Word is out that Sky & Telescope's parent company, F&W Media, is in bankruptcy reorganization and might be going the way of the dinosaurs.

Joe shows a snapshot of the asteroid, or minor planet, (2) Pallas, that he caught near Arcturus in Boötes. He also showed a picture of Barnard's Star and described its rapid proper motion across the sky.

We looked at current planet positions and it seems that the early morning is now the best time for observing the planets.

We looked at a recent solar photo on Spaceweather.com and saw a new active region with several spots (unusual in this period of considerably low activity).

Steve adjourns the meeting at 9:35 pm.

Meeting to be continued at Friday's restaurant...#

Submitted by Secretary Arnie Rosemoff on March 23, 2019.