

West Jersey Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2019

Location: Virtua Moorestown

Attendees: 9

Officers Present...

President: Steve Kutoroff

Treasurer: Wade Evans

Secretary: Arnie Rosemoff

Informal Meeting

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

Joe mentioned that our web host moved our site a new server and some previously valid file names (those with a "+" sign) are no longer valid, so you might find broken links or missing images. Several have already been corrected, so please advise him if any others are found.

The sun has a large spot currently and we checked it out on Spacewether.com. AR 2740 is now on the western limb and is seen as a prominence. If it survives and reappears at the eastern limb in a couple of weeks, it will be given a new number designation.

Gary arrived and discussed Tony's memorial on June 1. It will begin 1:00 pm at the Burlington Country Club, 170 Burr Rd., Mt Holly, NJ 08060. Members attending need to RSVP Gary or Pat.

Also, Gary is moving his store, the Gem Garden on Rt 70 in Cherry Hill, to Rt 38 in Larchmont and he will be selling his current inventory at a pre-move discount.

We talked about Bob King's online S&T article about the brief upcoming season to see multiple ISS passes in a single night because of the space station's favorable orbital inclination. There will be three visible passes tonight (May 16-17) and six visible passes tomorrow night (May 17-18), weather permitting of course. Check Heavens-Above.com for details.

Steve mentioned the astronomy on tap meetings that seem to be monthly at Trenton.

Wade mentioned that they are still working on access to Atsion site.

Mercury will be in conjunction on Tuesday, May 21 at 9:07 am EDT.

Mars will be at aphelion August 26 and in conjunction on September 2.

Most of the planets are not in really good visual locations now. Saturn and Jupiter are the only planets showing well currently.

Alan brought in a National Geographic special issue, *Guide to the Night Sky*, to point out a significant error about the moon and its position during an eclipse. He also mentioned their mislabeling of the alpha star in Capricornus.

Steve adjourns the meeting at 9:30.