

18:34 - meeting started (Randy Hemann)

Meeting Attendees

20 present:

Randy Hemann, Jay McLaren, Julie Gawarecki, Joseph Gawarecki, John Martin, Jeff Newland, Melissa Gerken, David Meyer, John Attewell, Mike Carlin, Charles Beckjord, Dean Johnson, Kirk Severson, James Benthall, Luka Bajzer, Mike Q, Bill Davidson, Todd Christensen, Melissa Gerken, and Brandon Wyman.

Treasurer's Report

- The first page was sent to Randy, just got today, so only the first page is done.
- 15 paid members.
- Dean's calendar payment came in.
- Balance is around/about \$10,000 + the \$100 in the second account..

News

- Invited to the Sola Fide Observatory in Austin, exclusively for our club. Randy saw Dark Sky Jim, tell us about it? New Starmaster 18 all installed... pick a night in March to meet there ... check out their stuff...Randy will shoot something to the forum...Luka, thinks it might be a bit darker than Root River... concrete pads there, so could bring some of our scope as well. John Martin went there once, on a call for help, and had a good time. Luka was there once, good time as well. Randy says try to not interfere with dark nights or outreach.
 - From James Benthall to Everyone 06:54 PM
 - forwarded from Ken Fiscus;
 - We at Austin's Sola Fide Observatory want to invite you guys to a special meet-and-greet at our updated facility. We hope that many of you can find a night in March that you could come over to observe with our new-to-us 18" Starmaster and check out our powered concrete observing pads. This night would be just for you (no public). Feel free to share this invitation in the club including my phone number.
 - Ken Fiscus
 - 507-383-7334
- April traditionally at Randy's, outdoor, pick best day typically... Friday or Saturday? Then into June, and who knows...hard to predict, stopped trying to predict, but there is some hope we will get together in person this year.
- Outreach comments. Mike Carlin. Last Friday, the outreach group had a quick outreach event at Oxbow Park. First time in a long time. People showed up. About 10 showed up. Tried to get a telescope to work remotely. Josef was there. Bob Fealey was there as well, with a small scope. It was a good night, with a fairly decent turnout. Melissa Gerken said that she was there, she worked there last summer... first viewing time with the Rochester Astronomy Club. Think 12 people counted. It was cold, but it was good.
- John Martin. Elgin thing...will send an email out to the club. Works with 8th grade science class. There is an 11-inch Celestron SCT donated to the school. They asked if they could get some help to setup a school

astronomy club. John said he was excited to try that... first meeting in March. This meeting would be at the middle school in Elgin, which faces south over a field. There are a lot of lights, but someone is working to get them turned off. They don't know how to use a telescope... help setup... Possibly end of March, like the 27th or 28th (Monday or Tuesday). Said anytime that works with us, so move around Sola Fide event. Mike Carlin says to put him down for that. Jay said he was also able to help.

Other News/Notes/Announcements

- Josef will not be able to attend tonight. Not clear if he can watch the movie later or not.
- John went to a Falcon 9 rocket launch. Florida Kissimmee, where at. Cape Canaveral...east & west, launch east, for ...spy satellites go into a polar orbit, which don't normally launch from there, most out of Vandenberg, CA. FL launch south, then correct orbit. 39b & 39a launch pad. this one was from launch pad 40. 5 days to watch, it had 4 scrubs. cell phone to take video, takes a while for sound to come 11.5 miles. 2 stages start firing at each other after 1st stage separation. 1st stage goes to landing zone 1... little puffs coming out. 2 fairings (sp?) land in the ocean and they have to go collect them. sonic boom when it lands, someone there ... knows someone that works for them....

Observing Notes

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RAC Meetings/Calendar

- Major regional star parties for 2022
 - Texas Star Party, May 24th - June 1st. (<https://texasstarparty.org/>)
 - Rocky Mountain Star Stare, June 22nd - 26th. (<https://rmss.org/>)
 - Nebraska Star Party, July 24th - 29th. (<https://www.nebraskastarparty.org/>)
 - Okie-Tex Star Party, September 23rd - October 1st. (<http://www.okie-tex.com/>)
 - Heart of America Star Party, date TBD. (<https://askc.org/index.php/events/hoasp>)
- Club Calendar:
 - March 4th,5th - Dark Sky Weekend

Featured Presentation

Presentation: Special film presentation: "Luminous"

- <https://vimeo.com/621649510>
- Preview/trailer: <https://luminous-film.com/trailer>
- 19:00 - Julie says watch now button on webpage...
- 19:01 - everyone went on mute....watch video/film.
- 20:44 - Sam talking. Discussion, Q&A.
- From Melissa Gerken to Everyone 08:57 PM
 - You took a potentially dry subject and made it very interesting by including the human interest story. The music and cinematography were wonderful and totally contributed to the feel of the show. Well done!
- 21:05 - Randy asked, "Where do you go from here now?"
 - ss - 20 to 25 sneak peaks... submitting to film festivals ... fine cut ... O-3 plots... hope something

on public television...

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V1309_Scorpii
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KIC_9832227

21:12 – meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Brandon Wyman - Rochester Astronomy Club secretary