

18:34 - meeting started (Randy Hemann)

### **Meeting Attendees**

20 present:

Randy Hemann, Jeff Newland, Julie Gawarecki, Barb Hanning, Mike Quirk, Chris Gawarecki, Joe Gawarecki, Jerome Taubel, Bill Davidson, Luka Bajzer, Jay McLaren, Rick Murray, Diane (?) Murray, John Martin, John Attewell, Mike Carlin, Josef Chlachula, Robert Fealey, Michael Currie, and Brandon Wyman.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- 1 new member, 50 members for the year.
- Income: \$611.95
- Expenses: \$0 (personal card used for calendars due to fulfillment issues)
- Balance: \$7371.80 (\$100 in PayPal account)

### **Observing Notes**

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### **News**

- Review meeting minutes.
- Library telescope update. LT1 & LT2 in circulation. 44 holds tonight. Very popular. The other telescope will be going into circulation soon. Chris has some show-and-tell on some assembly tasks after break to eat. Julie is looking to get a survey for users to fill out, to see how we can improve things.
- RAC Outreach Meeting Report. Randy said that the club outreach for 2018 was strong. Recap of last outreach event from Bob Fealey.
- Summary of planned 2019 events:
  - Messier Marathon March 6th or April 5th. Randy said that two days usually means neither good.
  - NCRAL 2019, May 3 - 5, Poplar Astronomy Club, Moline, IL. Facebook post on our page.
  - Astronomy Day, May 11.
  - ALCON, July 25 - 29, Kennedy Space Center.
    - Bill Davidson registered.
    - John ??? needs to clear the date with his son.
    - John Martin said there is an article on it coming in the Reflector.
    - Cruise ship. 50th anniversary.
    - <https://alcon2019.astroleague.org/>
  - John Martin - Lunar Map website.
  - Regional and national star parties:
    - Texas Star Party, April 28 - May 5 (pre-registration January 18)
    - Nebraska Star Party, July 28 - August 2.
    - Okie-Tex Star Party, September 21 - 29.
    - Enchanted Star Party, October 8 - 12.
  - Personal/Group Outreach Activities
    - Mike & Randy - Eclipse, Quarry Hill?

- Josef - Soccer fields and Salem Glenn.
- Mini-reports/Show-and-tell.
  - Mike Carlin - Comet 46P pictures and animation. 108 pictures, each 30 seconds. Ultra. ISO 4000. Canon DSLR.
  - Mike Carlin - Orion, mosaic of two photos. 20 seconds. Focal reducer. 8-inch SCT.
  - Mike Carlin - plans to modify camera to full spectrum.
  - Mike Carlin - R2D2 almost done. No photos.
  - Luka Bajzer - stack of photos shared. Dumbbell Nebula, M51, M33, Comet from 2010 with M35, Trifid Nebula, Moon, M101, Leo triplet (posted to website), Orion Nebula, Lagoon Nebula, The Eagle Nebula, North America Nebula (wide field), Jupiter video, M78, Pleiades, The Swan, and Sagittarius region.
  - Randy Hemann - After the meeting, Randy showed off a 5000mW blue LASER he had purchased.
- 2019 website plans - John Martin.
  - Lunar Pages, WordPress 5.0.
  - 3-person web team.
  - Plans to open up to members blogs to the club.
  - Need to replace the website header with something more "RAC-ish". Submit your photos or ideas! There was a great suggestion to use the silhouette photo of Dean, from the newsletter.
- 2019 email goals. Adding a [friends@rochesterskies.org](mailto:friends@rochesterskies.org) mailing list. Another for club member communications.

## **RAC Meetings/Calendar**

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## **Other News/Notes/Announcements**

- Bill Davidson is having trouble emailing the newsletter. He will email a link (too large). John Martin is working on getting it available through our website.
- Questions & Feedback on website, forum, mailing list (GMail spam filter), alternatives to the current forum (John mentioned Simple Machines Forum, possibly archive current forum as read-only). John Attewell said that the current/old forum is clunky with a capital K. Josef brought up using Slack.
- John Attewell mentioned seeing a "UFO". Michael Currie asked when, guessed about 2 weeks ago. John said it was December 15th, in the southeast. Michael also saw it, waiting for his wife to pick him up.
- Randy and John Attewell talked about the Iridium flares ending. The old satellites are being allowed to drift while new ones are put in place to replace them. Bye bye flare website?
- Josef brought up the idea/topic of a young astronomers education group. The idea would be for some public sky observing activities, along with other activities. He was thinking an age group of 12+. We would need to submit a plan (to the library). He was thinking it would be nice to get it started in March. The library would be a good venue, pretty safe, and parents would know where to drop off the young astronomers. There was a talk with Heather, someone at the library, and she seemed very excited about the idea.

### **Officer Elections/Appointments**

- Randy had not talked to Kirk. He was unable to make the meeting. Randy is assuming that Kirk is okay with being/remaining vice president.
- Randy made a call for anyone on the current list of officers that did not want to be on the list.
- Randy made a call for nominations or self-nominations.
- John Attewell made a motion to approve the current list of officers. Mike Currie seconded. All Ayes, no naves.
- 2019 Officers:
  - President: Randy Hemann
  - Vice President: Kirk Severson
  - Secretary: Brandon Wyman
  - Treasurer: Julie Gawarecki
  - Astro League Coordinator: Dean Johnson
  - Night Sky Network Representative:
  - Newsletter Editor: Bill Davidson
  - Webmaster: John Martin
- Randy said that he will call Dean to verify he will continue to serve as ....
- Randy said that he will also call to check with Kirk.

20:23 – meeting adjourned. Membership/roster updates, socializing.

Submitted by Brandon Wyman - Rochester Astronomy Club secretary