



## Charlie Elliott Chapter Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 21st, 2006

[See photos and additional information about the meeting here.](#)

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Seventeen guests and members attended the January meeting held at the Charlie Elliott Visitor Center.

### **BUSINESS:**

Chapter Director, Larry Owens, began the meeting with an overview and history of the Byers mount project. The operational Byers mount with a 16-inch Newtonian attached was proudly, and due to its huge size, prominently displayed for all to see and touch. What a fantastic restoration!!! All agreed Larry should attach an emblem stating "OWENS / BYERS MOUNT, sn 001". Thanks to all who have contributed equipment, time and effort, and money to the project! And, there are a few more tweaks to come.

[CEC Recording Secretary note: the Byers mount project is a club mount/project. Larry has spent several hundred hours, a lot of sweat (it's HEAVY), and more than three hundred dollars on the superb restoration. He is also taking the lead on the 16-inch Truss-Tube project. If you would care to donate to help defray costs, contact Larry Owens at [planetographer@comcast.net](mailto:planetographer@comcast.net) ]

Larry also demonstrated and explained the CEC Web site changes he has made: explore "What's New" beginning here:

<http://www.atlantaastronomy.org/CEWMA/>

### **OBSERVING REPORT - What's Up Tonight:**

Steve Bieger presented "What's Up Tonight" with a theme of "Open Clusters". This month is the Wolf Moon. January 23<sup>rd</sup> around 6-7 a.m. (0600-0700 on the 24 hour clock) the moon will be near Jupiter. Saturn opposition occurs on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Of particular interest was information covering Harlow Shapely (1885-1972) and Robert Trumpler (1886-1956) and the classification of open clusters: informative and interesting.

### **CURRENT EVENTS REPORT:**

Clevis Jones deferred coverage of the return of STARDUST and the launch of NEW HORIZONS to the feature program he presented this month.

### **FEATURED PROGRAM:**

"A Long Time Ago ..." - Clevis presented a slide show introduction to astronomy and how a lot of astronomy relates to circles: from the 24-hour clock to the celestial sphere and its grid system, to your circle of astronomy friends. Also touched on were basic telescope and mount types supplemented with input from all those present that cared to comment. And, after a good amount of friendly ribbing between the two, Clevis graciously allowed Larry Owens to have the floor to cover the kinds of astro-imaging equipment available. Clevis then covered some useful to know facts about day and night vision. He wrapped up his presentation by inviting all to mingle and ask questions of the astronomers who had brought their telescopes.

Touching and talking about the telescopes, mounts, and cameras were the main event – thanks to all who brought equipment (Larry Owens, Steve Bieger, Ken Poshedly, Bud Sosebee, Crystal Watson, Jonathan Wood, Clevis & Debbie Jones). Questions and comments went on for a couple of hours – everyone had a good time at the CEC astronomy equipment expo.

### **OBSERVING SESSION:**

No observing due to overcast.

### **MEETING DATES AND PROGRAMS:**

February 18, 2006 - 3:00 p.m..

- Astronomy Current Events - Clevis Jones
- What's Up Tonight - Steve Bieger

Feature Program: - no feature program is scheduled – hope is, the sky will cooperate for some observing at the CE field!

Place: Charlie Elliott Visitor's Center

The 2006 Charlie Elliott Chapter meeting schedule is as follows: Jan 21, **Feb 18**, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 20, Jun 17, Jul 15, Aug 19, Sep 16, Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 09

### **FOR UPDATES & DIRECTIONS:**

**PLEASE check the CEC website for the most current meeting information!**

<http://www.atlantaastronomy.org/CEWMA/>

Submitted:

Clevis Jones, CEC Recording Secretary

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