



Charlie Elliott Chapter Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, January 13, 2007

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

**ATTENDENCE:**

Twenty guests and members attended the January CE chapter fun filled meeting.

**BUSINESS:**

Chapter director, Larry Owens, took a moment to thank all the volunteers who do anything for the club [personal note – LARRY OWNES Included!]. THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS! Larry continued with a status report on the club's equipment and projects. The February event will be POT LUCK and with vote taken, the time for that event will remain at 3 p.m. The Gwinnett regional Science & Engineering Fair is February 24<sup>th</sup> – they have requested help from us in the form of judges (degree required) and instructors (See our Web-site for details or E-mail Larry Owens at [Director@CEastronomy.org](mailto:Director@CEastronomy.org) For future meetings, Larry is adding a 'Sunset Alert' right after the Feature Presentation.

Alesia Rast, Charlie Elliott Liaison, pointed out that small game season is through February 28, and the astronomy field is NOT in a 'safe zone'. You can still go there anytime, just be aware. Hunting ends at sunset, allow a few minutes extra and please do not pet any hunting dogs that may come your way. March through April is Turkey season, hunting ends at sunset. Jon Wood asked about the wild pigs and self-protection, i.e. is it ok to shoot them if they attack? Alesia said the pigs will usually avoid you unless they are with piglets – they get aggressive then. So, YES YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF – and, as a last resort, IF you are licensed to carry a firearm you can shoot them, but be sure to call 911 to let them know what happened. And of course, inform the Charlie Elliott staff as soon as practical.

Jon Wood gave a detailed presentation on the 12.5-inch Optical Craftsman telescope donation to the club is restoring.

Jon also advised the members that Tim Nix of CAMERA BUG made a donation of a 102 mm Celestron refractor (needs some work – want a project?) to the club. John highly recommends you consider Tim Nix and CARERA BUG when you are considering an astronomy purchase.

2007 schedule for the CEC Meetings is:

**February 10**, March 10, April 14 (back to 5 p.m. for the summer), May 19 (JAKES DAY – volunteers needed, and ELECTION of Officers), June 9, July 7, Aug 18, September 15, October 6 (note: Peach State on the 13<sup>th</sup>), November 3 (back to 3 p.m. for the winter), December 15.

### **FEATURE PRESENTATION:**

Steve Bieger gave an information filled presentation [among about a ton of show and tell telescopes] titled, “Basic Telescopes, their features and how to use them”. Steve kept bringing up things that caused everybody to input their experience and great ideas too. It was a great cooperative event! He started with 1<sup>st</sup> things first, then to telescope types and their uses, mount types, coordinate systems, shopping tips, resources, Startup Essential including four wish lists. Steve ended with a long list of TIPS, the last of which was HAVE FUN. WHEW! He covered a lot of ground. Thanks Steve!

### **SUNSET ALERT:**

It was announced that sunset will occur at 5:50PM, and that anyone wishing to setup on the observing field should think about leaving the meeting soon.

### **CURRENT EVENTS:**

Clevis Jones opened his presentation with a flashback to the “Charlie Elliott Launch Control Center” at the last CE meeting and showed Jon Wood’s photo taken on the CE astronomy field of the Launch of Space Shuttle Discovery and STS-116. Jon filled in the details. STS-117 is set to launch in March. He went on with the Wolf Moon, discovery and details on comet C/2006 P1 McNaught, STEREO, SOHO, and ended with a live current movie of McNaught’s pass through SOHO’s LASCO C3 camera’s FOV. Newcomer, Angela Poore, delighted everyone with an outstanding photograph she took of McNaught on January 11<sup>th</sup> from a tall building at the Atlanta airport, in daylight! Thanks!

### **OBSERVING REPORT**

Steve Bieger filled us in on Up Coming Events, Native Myths and Legends, Constellations and Objects, Science Features, and included resources with web links and a target list that will be on the CE Web-site. This month’s Moon is the Wolf Moon. He covered information on Featured Constellations, Featured Double Stars, The Milky Way, Dancing In The Sky with Hyades and their importance as reference stars. He covered the very important contributions of two scientists, Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel (1784-1846) and Joseph von Fraunhofer (1787-1826). – Thanks Steve!

### **OBSERVING SESSION:**

The skies were NOT cooperating, but a few determined souls tried for McNaught, just above the horizon, and whatever else they could find.

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

**February 10, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. – (winter schedule).**

### **FEATURE PRESENTATION:**

POT LUCK – bring your favorite covered dish (optional) and ENJOY !!! Time permitting after the feature presentation,

Observing Report: What’s Up Tonight: by Steve Bieger and Current Events: by Clevis Jones AND THE SATURN OPPOSITION PARTY!

[Personally, I am not opposed to Saturn :-]

**Place:** [Charlie Elliott Visitor's Center](#)

**March 10, 3:00 p.m.:** TBD

**FOR UPDATES & DIRECTIONS:** PLEASE check the CEastronomy website for the most current meeting information !

<http://www.CEastronomy.org>

Submitted:

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