

## **Minutes of the February 9, 2013 Meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the AAC**

The February 9<sup>th</sup> 2013 meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club was held in the CEWC Conference Center in Mansfield, GA at 4 PM with 16 adults and 5 youth in attendance.

Theo Ramakers gave out the 2012 Night Sky Network awards to chapter members who made significant contributions to public outreach events in 2012. Pins and certificates were given to Theo Ramakers, Frank Garner, Steve Siedentop, Jeff Rebitzke, Kiernan Rebitzke-Brown, Marie Lott, Dan Schmitt and Jack Fitzmier. Theo aced the outreach totals with 61 events! For upcoming outreach events in March, help will be needed at Charlie Elliott for an all day Girl Scout event - 500 scouts are expected. (Contact Theo for the new date. ) March 23<sup>rd</sup> will be our annual solar event at Anna Ruby Falls, so bring your solar scopes and filters up to Unicoi for a nice day of outreach at the falls.

Theo gave a presentation about his new solar imaging technique using a 3.8 micron Baader film made specifically for imaging. The combination of that filter with an additional green planetary filter has given Theo some promising results with his C11 scope. John Towne finished up the meeting with his monthly "What's Up" slideshow highlighting the locations of our favorite planets and other selected observing targets for the coming month. John's challenge object for the month is the emission nebula NGC 2359, "Thor's Helmut", located 15,000 light years away in Canis Major. The nebula has an extremely hot pre-supernova-stage central star.

After the meeting, members and guests set up 20 scopes and binoculars on the Jon Wood Astronomy Field for a nice night of observing, complete with a great view of Mercury and Mars at sunset followed later by a bright, full-sky ISS pass.

The next chapter meeting will be at 5 PM on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> in the CE Conference Center. This will be our quarterly potluck ("Dinner and a Movie") night.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Lott,  
Secretary