

Minutes of the May 11, 2013 Meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the AAC

The May 11th 2013 meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club was held in the CEWC Conference Center in Mansfield, GA at 5 PM with 14 adults and 2 youth in attendance.

Today was a big day at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center, hosting their annual JAKES Day for children. The ranger stepped in and told us that over 874 kids attended. Theo Ramakers, Frank Garner and Bruce Wengryn spent several hours with their solar telescopes showing the sun to the JAKES Day guests. Other large upcoming outreach events include three days at Trickum MS, LifeLabz STEM day at Georgia Piedmont Technical College (May 18) and a two-day home school event at Stone Mountain Park in September. We will be invited back to do solar sessions at Charlie Elliott's summer camps this year.

Theo and Marie are testing a new Night Sky Network's toolkit called "Planet Quest" which includes a "Celestial Treasure Hunt" of different types of objects in the night sky and a PowerPoint presentation about the search for exoplanets. We viewed the slide show and had a lively discussion afterwards, providing many comments and suggestions to send back to NSN.

Chapter elections were held. Officers elected for 2013-2014 were: Steve Siendentop, Director; John Towne, Observing VP; and Marie Lott, Secretary.

John Towne gave the monthly "What's Up" presentation, noting that Jupiter is setting early now. There will be a rare conjunction of Mercury, Venus and Jupiter at the end of the month which should be quite spectacular in the NW sky just after sunset.

There was no observing after the meeting due to clouds.

The next chapter meeting will be at 7 PM on Saturday June 8th in the CE Conference Center. This will be our quarterly potluck ("Dinner and a Movie") night.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Lott,
Secretary

