

## Minutes of the November 2013 Meeting of Charlie Elliott Astronomy

The November meeting of the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club was held in the CEWC Conference Center Room "B" in Mansfield, GA on 11/02/13 at 4:30 PM. Director Steve Siedentop began the meeting with a welcome and announcements.

Guest speaker Dr. Richard Schmude entertained us with a lively presentation of his research on the North Polar Cap of Mars. He kept the audience on its toes with an interactive quiz at the end of his talk. John Towne gave the monthly "What's Up" presentation of current observing targets and highlights. In addition to trying to spot Comet ISON, the observing challenge of the month is nebula IC63 in Cassiopeia. Jack Fitzmier gave a book review of *The Georgian Star: How William and Caroline Herschel Revolutionized Our Understanding of the Cosmos* by Michael Lemonick. His talk was accompanied by background music composed by Wm. Herschel, who was a gifted musician as well as an astronomer.

Theo reported that the "Memorandum of Understanding" between Charlie Elliott Astronomy and the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center was signed by all parties and is effective for 20 years. Theo expects construction of the telescope shed on Jon Wood Field to start very soon. The state's new gate at the entrance of Charlie Elliott Trail has been installed and we will ask for clarification of how it will be used. *Note added 12/1/13: We have learned that the gate will be left open during the day but will close at 10 PM. Be aware that no entry will be possible by car after that time without the gate code. When exiting the property at night, use caution and wait for the gate to open.*

Congratulations to Jim Lancaster for winning the door prize drawing.



Despite the frigid temperatures, a large group gathered for observing on Jon Wood Field after the meeting. There were 19-20 telescopes on the field. We had many guests from the local area as well as several families who were participating in Charlie Elliott's "Hunt and Learn" program.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday December 7, 2013 at 3:30 PM. This will be our quarterly potluck with public observing after

the meeting, weather permitting. All are welcome. If possible, let us know what you're bringing at <http://www.perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=MSOU5308>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Lott