

Minutes of the May 2014 Meeting of Charlie Elliott Astronomy

by Marie Lott

The May meeting of Charlie Elliott Astronomy was held on 5/3/14 @ 6 pm in building B of the Charlie Elliott Conference Center. Fifty-one members and friends attended.

Steve Siedentop opened the meeting with a welcome and introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Misty C. Benz from Georgia State. Dr. Benz presented a talk about her research "Measuring the Masses of Monster Black Holes".

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Steve Siedentop, Chapter Director; John Towne, Observing Supervisor; Van Macatee, Secretary. Theo Ramakers stepped down as Outreach Coordinator after four years of incredible service, logging over thirteen hundred hours of outreach. Jack Fitzmier volunteered to take over as Outreach coordinator. Jack will do the calendaring/NSN portion of the job, but will need volunteers from the chapter to head up weekday events.

After announcements and ALPO updates, Jack Fitzmier gave a brief book review of Jim Bell's *The Space Book*. The book was raffled off as a door prize. Jack entertained the group with an "Astronomy Jeopardy" game with the outgoing officers as contestants. John Towne wrapped up the meeting with his always informative "[What's Up](#)", featuring May targets in the constellation Hercules.

A large crowd of over 80 people gathered on Jon Wood Field for observing after the meeting. Twenty-plus scopes were set up on the field.

Since there is a 6-week gap between our May and June meetings, there will be a "bonus" observing night on Jon Wood Astronomy Field on Saturday, May 31st beginning around 8 pm. The next meeting of Charlie Elliott Astronomy is scheduled for June 21, 2014 at 6:30 PM. This will be our quarterly potluck meeting. Rich Jakiel will speak on Lunar Geology. A signup sheet for the potluck is available [online](#). All are welcome!



A large crowd begins to unpack on the Jon Wood Astronomy Field after the meeting. Photo by Steve Siedentop.