

# CHARLIE ELLIOTT CHAPTER OF THE ATLANTA ASTRONOMY CLUB

## MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

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The quarterly potluck dinner meeting was held on September 19, 2015 in the Campbell Aquatic Center Building at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Management property in Mansfield, Georgia. There were twenty-two members and guests in attendance.

Marie Lott, Interim Co-Director of the club, called the meeting to order. After the dinner, she chaired the business discussion of the meeting which included the formal election of the new officers/board members for the club. The slate of officers put forward for the remainder of the 2015/2016 year are: Jack Fitzmier, Club Director; David Whalen, Observing Supervisor; and Valorie Whalen, Recording Secretary. Marie called for a vote for the new slate of officers. All members present voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes. The new officers/board members shall hold these positions until May 31, 2015.

Also discussed was the appointment of chairpersons to various committee posts. The following list shows the club members who have volunteered to assist by leading these committees:

- Outreach Coordinators: Theo Ramakers and Dan Thoman
- Facilities Manager: Dan Thoman
- Programming Coordinator: Marie Lott
- Astronomical League Coordinator: Jack Fitzmier
- Astrophotography Picture of the Month Coordinators: Van Macatee and Rich Jakiel
- Potluck & Hospitality Coordinator: **POSITION OPEN\***

\*If you are interested in helping out with a position, please contact any of the officers to volunteer. Any and all help is appreciated!

Marie also noted the following upcoming events:

**CE Meeting: October 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** in the Campbell Aquatic Building. The Speaker will be David Yenerall regarding the The Gemini Observatory in Chile.

**Peach State Star Gaze: October 11<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>**

**CE Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.** in the Shepherd Conference Room. The Speaker will be Daniel Herron regarding The International Space Station.

**CE Meeting: December 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.** in the Campbell Aquatic Building. This will be our quarterly potluck dinner and holiday gathering.

There were 2 Astronomical League Program Awards given out. The first one was for the Sunspotter Program and was presented to Theo Ramakers. The second was for the Constellation Hunter Northern Skies Program, and was presented to David Whalen. Dan Thoman also was due to be presented with a Sunspotter Certificate and Pin, but could not be present for the meeting.

Our new Observing Supervisor, David Whalen, gave a presentation on what we can expect to see in the sky over the coming weeks. His talk, aptly named "All of the Above" included the Fall Equinox, current weather conditions for the Jon Wood Astronomy Field, relative location of each of the planets, along with the sun and moon, and each of their respective rise and set times. He included H-alpha photos of the Sun as of 9/19/15, and two days earlier with the massive prominence that has been dubbed as "Solarsaurus". He also highlighted several spots of interest in connection with the International Observe the Moon Night for 2015. Also of note is the upcoming September 27<sup>th</sup> total eclipse of the moon. Also discussed were several deep-sky targets in the categories of "Relaxing", "Intriguing", "Taxing" and a Challenge Object.

After the meeting, we were joined on the observing field by approximately 50 students and parents from the East Newton Elementary School to observe the moon for the International Observe the Moon Night.

Respectfully submitted,

Valorie Whalen