

# CHARLIE ELLIOTT CHAPTER OF THE ATLANTA ASTRONOMY CLUB

## MEETING MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 14, 2015

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The November monthly meeting for the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club was held in the Dining Hall Facility at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Management property in Mansfield, Georgia. There were twenty members and guests in attendance.

Jack Fitzmier, Chapter Director, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He presented one Astronomical League program pin and certificate for completion of the Messier program to Valorie Whalen. Jack also mentioned that the meeting dates for the 2016 will be placed on the website soon, and that our next meeting will be held in the Campbell Aquatic Building. The December meeting will also be a quarterly potluck meeting.

Daniel Herron, Observing Director of the AAC, presented a plaque to Theo Ramakers in recognition of his continued involvement of outreach to schools and other groups. Van Macatee, Co-Chair for the Astrophotography Committee, gave a summary of the photography workshop that will begin after the meeting. He will be hosting a series of photography workshops each meeting on the Jon Wood Observing Field.

Marie Lott, Program Chair, introduced our featured speaker, Daniel Herron, who gave a wonderful talk on the International Space Station. His talk included information about the history and construction of the Space Station, the cooperation and contributions of several different nations toward the completion of the facility, and several statistics and facts about cost and future of the station. We were treated to a video of Chris Hadfield, Canadian Astronaut and former ISS Mission Commander. He conducted "outreach" from space by taking questions from school children and filming the answers. This particular video included how water behaves in a low-gravity environment, by wringing out a soaked hand-towel.

David Whalen, Observing Director, treated us to another energetic "All of the Above", which gives a run-down of what you can expect to see in the sky in the coming weeks. It included 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 11/14/15. Also discussed were several deep-sky targets in the categories of "Relaxing", "Intriguing", "Taxing" and a Challenge Object. The full list of targets for the month of November is available on the website.

After the meeting, we were joined on the observing field by several members of the Atlanta Astronomy Club for their monthly dark-sky observing session. Van Macatee also gave the first in his series of photography workshops. Attendance on the observing field was approximately 49 members and guests.

**Upcoming Events:**

**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.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valorie Whalen

Recording Secretary, Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Club