

Amarillo Astronomy Club Meeting Minutes 4/22/16

By Jim Fitch

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Terry Zimmerman.

In New Business we discussed Astronomy Day which will be on May 14. It was decided that we would meet at John Stiff Park across from Wal-Mart, where we met last year. Starting at about 1:00 PM we would set up solar scopes for public and club viewing.

We also discussed the Mercury transit of May 9. It was decided that those who could would meet at John Stiff Park across from Wal-Mart at 8:30 or 9:00 AM to observe the event. The transit will last through the lunch hour.

In Old Business we discussed the last observing session that was held at the roadside park. Some of us who stayed later saw a great meteor sail across the sky. Telescope use was cut short by the wind. A short distance away from the roadside park the winds were calm. We discussed the fact that the winds might be a continuing problem at the roadside park and that we might want to try observing from Gillispie's pasture again.

Don gave the Treasurer's Report. We have \$2340 in the bank.

Secretary's Report was given by Gene.

Terry presented the program: Astronomical Imaging with a DSLR.

He demonstrated solar filters, including solar screen and glass filters. Make sure to secure the filter securely to the front of the scope!

He also demonstrated how a camera could be attached to a Paracor or Power Mate so it could be used to take pictures with a Dob.

Pictures can also be done by holding a camera up to an eyepiece, or by using an adapter to hold the camera to the eyepiece. Both of these methods were demonstrated.

Finally he shared photos that had been taken with all three of the methods as well as telephoto shots through a regular camera lens.

Great Program Terry!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 and reconstituted at the Pizza Planet.

A personal thanks to Jim Fitch for taking the meeting minutes for me.