

FBAC Meeting
3-20-2009
34 in attendance

- Meeting started at 7:01 p.m.
- Novice Presentation – “Ideas for Future Novice Presentations” by Dennis Borgman
 - Discussion of potential topics
 - Ideas included: Observing satellite passes, how to log observations, astronomy software tutorials, introduction to observing
 - Handout passed out to collect ideas
- Presentation – “Deep Sky Objects of the Month” by Keith Rivich
 - Answers to riddles posted on Netslyder e-mail list: NGC 2903 and Frosty Leo
 - Profile: NGC 2903
 - Object information, location
 - History and discovery
 - Observations
 - Profile: Frosty Leo
 - Object information, location
 - History and discovery
 - Observations
 - Handout of finder charts for objects
- 15 minute break
- Main Program – “Lunar Observing” by Dennis Borgman
 - “The Rabbit in the Moon”
 - Overview:
 - A review of easy-to-see lunar features
 - Lunar topography
 - Lunar libration

- Observing interesting and more challenging features
- Large lunar features:
 - Lunar maria
 - Mountain ranges
 - Craters
- Lunar topography:
 - Highest and lowest elevations
 - Mons Hadley
 - Mons Huygens
 - Mons Piton
- Lunar libration
 - Allows observers to see about 59% of the Moon's surface
 - 3 Types: parallactic, longitude, latitude
- Observing interesting and more challenging features
 - Lunar domes
 - Rilles (Rima)
 - Wrinkle ridges
 - Faults (Rupes)
- Interesting books and charts
- 5 minute break
- Business Meeting
- Reports and Announcements:
 - East Dome Committee Report: Dennis Borgman
 - ED training day scheduled
 - New LCD monitors installed in ED
 - Bought red lexan filters for monitors
 - Asteroid Search Team (A-Team) Report: Joe Dellinger
 - 5 discoveries this year; 2 were known objects
 - 6th discovery pending?
 - AOW Report: Leonard Pattillo
 - 1 star party tentatively scheduled for April 2nd at 7 Lakes High School

- Received Certificate of Appreciation from Macario Garcia Middle School
- Treasury Report: Steve Clayworth
 - Club expenditures
 - Total account balance: \$5,220.00
- Committee Reports:
 - Promotions Committee: Patty Tristan
 - Working on distributing flyers
 - No new postings in local papers
- FBAC Observing Clubs reminder
- The Texas Star Party (TSP): Steve Goldberg
 - TSP 2009 will be held from Apr. 19th – 26th at the Prude Ranch in Fort Davis, TX
 - Lodging space still available
- Next FBAC Meeting date
 - Next meeting would fall on Apr. 17th, the day before the first weekend of TSP
 - Should meeting date remain on that day?
 - Motion made by Leonard Pattillo to not hold an April meeting
 - Seconded by Treasurer, Steve Clayworth
 - Club vote taken
 - Motion carried; majority in favor
- Astronomical League Service Awards
 - Secretary, Alicia Tristan, was nominated for The Jack Horkheimer Award for Exceptional Service by a Young Astronomer by the members of FBAC
- Reminder – FBAC Tuesday Night Get-together
 - Location: The Avalon Diner in the Fountains Shopping Center
 - Time: ~6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- Club Benefits
 - Observing Programs
 - Loaner Scopes

- Club Library
 - Access to 18" East Dome telescope
 - Membership in the Astronomical League
 - Discounts on subscriptions to Sky & Telescope and Astronomy Magazine
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- Reminder – Get-together at the 59 Diner after the meeting
 - Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.