BBAA Minutes (December 2025 Monthly Meeting)

Date: 12/04/2025 @TCC VA Beach Science Building

In attendance: Gabriel Dandrade, Eddie Parris, Eric Fadely, Will Kiff, Kent Blackwell, George Reynolds, Matt McLaughlin, Sylvio Canu, Ed Marciano, Barry Bryant, Dennis Rowley, Joseph Brown, Michael Hall, Shawn Loescher, Jeff Thornton, Jeff Goldstein, Jeremy Mitchell, Jonathan Scheetz. **On Zoom:** Rich Roberts, Bruce Powers, Roland Downing, M.C.

7:31 pm: The BBAA November 2025 meeting was called to order by Jeremy Mitchell.

Coffee and refreshments are available anytime during the meeting.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report (Rich Roberts): 7:34 pm

-Big purchase item in a SeeStar for the Georgie June Raffle Prizes. Scholarships are fully funded for next year.

-Three new members joined, current member total is 206.

-Membership dues are happening soon.

-Treasurer's Report was accepted at 7:38 pm.

VP Report (Jeff Goldstein): 7:38 pm.

Calendar of events for December:

-KVRC Astro 101 (Dec 3rd @7:00 pm).

-Club Meeting (Dec 4th @7:30 pm).

-Saturday Sun Day (Dec 6th @10:00 pm).

-PPS Steam Night (Dec 10th @5:30 pm).

-Muse in Ghent (Dec 12th @5:00 pm).

-Cornwatch (Dec 12th, Dec 19th, and Dec 27th @sunset).

-Skywatch (Dec 13th @5:00 pm).

-Nightwatch (Dec 20th @6:00 pm).

-BBAA Holiday Luncheon (Dec 20th @12:00 pm).

Calendar of events for January:

Club Meeting (Jan 8th @7:30 pm).

Crestwood Elementary Science Night (Jan 22nd @5:00 pm).

January's calendar has not been finalized, so more will be added later on.

Secretary's Report (Gabriel Dandrade): 7:42 pm

-Jeff Goldstein did a great job with his presentation on Cepheid variables. In addition, both Jeff and Rich were reelected

-Minutes were accepted at 7:44 pm.

ALCOR Report and East Coast Star Party (Bruce Powers): 7:44 pm.

-No one in the club received an observing award in the September issue of Reflector. There are plenty of observing challenges available; definitely make a point to observe where possible.

-The dates for ECSP have been finalized: April 16th-19th and November 5th-8th, for the spring and fall star parties respectively. These dates do not conflict with other Chippokes State Park events or with Staunton River Star Party.

Scholarship Committee (Ben Loyola): Nothing to report right now.

Nominating Committee (Jeremy Mitchell): 7:49 pm

-Still looking for another chairman for the committee.

Refreshments Committee (George Reynolds): 7:49 pm

-Refreshments are available as always.

Observing Reports: 7:46 pm.

-Jeff has been observing tons of carbon stars for an observing award using his SeeStar.

-Kent went hunting for comets, specifically Comet Swann and Comet C-2025T1. He also got to show a friend Arcturus in the middle of the daytime along with Venus.

-Tom did some Thanksgiving observing and saw some of the scarps on the Moon, Saturn, and the Pleiades.

-Jeff Thornton saw the aurora borealis from Oceanview in Virginia Beach.

-George gave a great presentation at the Kempsville Rec Center last night. About 20 people attended and there were four telescopes waiting to allow people to observe the different constellations in the night sky.

Old Business: 8:04 pm.

-Tickets for the Georgie June raffle are now available, $5 each. The drawing will be at the April meeting. There are two prizes available, one of which is the SeeStar, but to win both two tickets must be purchased.

New Business: 8:08 pm.

-We're looking into a library telescope fund to help assist some of the local Hampton Roads libraries into funding their program.

Special Program: Star Hopping (Gabriel Dandrade): 8:26 pm.

-Tonight's presentation was on star hopping, told by known planetarian Gabriel Dandrade. Gabriel discussed the ins and outs of star hopping, including why it is important, and the benefits it gives you as an astronomer. He discussed tips and tricks that one can use to better learn how to utilize star patterns, items that are essential for star hopping, and some of the many ways one uses it to find fainter celestial targets in the night sky. It was short, but simple.

Next meeting is on January 8th, 2025.

Meeting was adjourned at **9:03 pm.**