

Cape Cod Astronomical Society

Minutes of the May 1, 2014 meeting

Attendance: Total: 19 Members: 18 Guests 1

President Mike Hunter opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. and welcomed members and guests. Mike brought members up to date regarding upcoming events including speakers and star parties.

The speakers for the evening were CCAS President Mike Hunter and Treasurer Peter Kurtz. Mike and Peter are both accomplished amateur astronomers who keep up with the latest technologies in astronomy. Their presentation was centered on an excellent software product from Southern Stars called Sky Safari. For details regarding this product see the following link

<http://www.southernstars.com/products/skysafari/>

The application is available for both Apple I pads and I phones as well as the Android platform. Prices range from \$2.99 for the basic application up to \$39.99 for the top of the line product, Sky Safari 4 Pro. Even the most basic application can provide the user with a tremendous amount of information. The basic version of Sky Safari 4 features 119,000 stars, plus 220 of the best known star clusters, nebulae, and galaxies in the sky. For many people this basic version will suffice. Mike and Peter provided insight on why a person might want to purchase one of the more advanced versions: these versions not only provide many more celestial objects in the database, but also allow the user to control a telescope via a wire or even wirelessly.

Mike showed us through a slide presentation regarding how to connect and control a telescope. Their efforts and expertise in this area was evident and they were able to provide clear and effective ways to quickly set up a telescope and access celestial objects.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Burke