Cape Cod Astronomical Society

Minutes of June 3, 2010 Meeting

Attendance: Total 22 Members 18 Guests 4

President Tom Leach opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M., welcoming CCAS members as well as four guests. Former CCAS member Mike Petrasko attended the meeting and spoke about the planetarium at the Plymouth Community Intermediate School. See www.blakeplanetarium.org for additional information. Tom also spoke about new speakers for the monthly lecture series.

Presentation

The speaker for tonight was former CCAS observatory director Jim Carlson. Jim made a very informative presentation on the subject of variable stars. Jim spoke about the history of variable star observing, giving detailed explanations of the terminology and methods used by both professional and amateur observers. Jim spoke about CCAS's involvement with observing variable stars with the 16 inch Meade telescope including the use of MaxImDL software www.cyanogen.com/maxim_main.php. Information regarding light curves and reporting was given. Please visit www.aavso.org for additional information regarding variable star observing.

Observatory Report

Mike Hunter commented on Summer star parties held at the CCAS observatory that will be open to the public. Two new Nagler eyepieces were recently purchased for use at the observatory. Larry Brookhart reported on the acquisition of a 32 inch telescope at the Harwich school system. Additionally, good progress is being made with the Losmandy mount.

Business meeting

Treasurer Peter Kurtz presented the latest treasury report. The annual cycle for member dues is June 30, 2010 thru July 1, 2011. All members not yet paid for the 2010-11 cycle please bring your check made out to CCAS to the July meeting or mail to A.P. Kurtz at 34 Ridgewood Rd., Orleans, MA, 02653. Thank you.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectively submitted by

Charles Burke