

Cape Cod Astronomical Society
Minutes of November 5, 2009 Meeting

Attendance: Total 21 Members 20 Guests 1

President Tom Leach opened the meeting at 7:35p.m. He discussed recent star parties and welcomed our guest. Tom next announced the upcoming schedule for CCAS speakers and passed out a flyer with detailed information regarding the speakers. Tom then announced the speaker for the evening, Ryan Mann.

Presentation

Our speaker, Ryan Mann gave a fascinating presentation regarding the science of Dendrochronology, which is the study of annual growth rings in trees. In 2008 Mr. Mann spent several months at sites along Waquoit Bay on Cape Cod. During this time, he collected data from many trees in the area and cataloged the results. A GPS was used for keeping track of their precise location. One of the goals of the project was to try to correlate weather patterns with tree rings found in cedar trees. The presentation included both a slide presentation and a hands on demonstration of the equipment used for the project.

Business Meeting

An update regarding future star parties was given.

Observatory Report

Mike Hunter reported that the concrete pad has been poured and hopes to have the Losmandy mount set up for the 4-inch refractor in about six weeks. Also, the 8 inch dobsonian is available as a loaner scope.

Tom leach shared recent photos from NASA and other sources that included photos from the Galaxy Zoo and photos of the dust ring around Saturn.

Gary Derman talked about iridium flares.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35p.m.

Respectively submitted by Charles Burke