

Rappahannock Astronomy Club

Minutes, August 7, 2010, Meeting

In attendance:

- Barton & Linda Billard
- Scott Busby & Debbie Sandler
- Brenda Conway
- Glenn & Colleen Faini
- Joe & Sherry Francis
- Robert Friedel
- Leigh Gettier
- Glenn Holliday
- Scott Lansdale
- Dan Lien
- Mike & Susan Masters
- Tim Plunkett
- A “gaggle” of children

President Mike Masters conducted a brief meeting as part of the Club picnic. Tim gave the Treasurer’s report. The Club has 27 paid members as of the end of July. Scott Busby conducted the prize drawing for the 50-50 raffle. Two first prizes were awarded: a Thunder Bay Press Astro Pack and a large frameable print of the Milky Way. The two second prizes were a hardbound double-book illustrated version of Stephen Hawkings’ *A Brief History of Time* and *The Universe in a Nutshell* and a large softbound book, *The Illustrated Atlas of the Universe* by Mark A. Garlick and Wil Tirion. The two third prizes were *The Stargazer’s Handbook* by Giles Sparrow and Peterson’s Field Guide, *Stars and Planets*. Fourth prize was a large laminated *Sky and Telescope Night Sky Guide*. Four consolation prizes were awarded—two soft-cover Peterson First Guides, *Astronomy*, *The Concise Field Guide to the Stars*, and two copies of Timothy Ferris’s *Seeing in the Dark*.

The Club’s Personal Solar Telescope was set up during the picnic for views of the Sun with prominences and a sunspot. After the picnic, a number of members stayed to set up telescopes for the star party. The weather was very cooperative.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is September 8, 2010, 7:00 p.m., at the Central Rappahannock Regional Library Headquarters, 1201 Caroline St., in Fredericksburg. Introductions will begin at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Bart Billard, Secretary