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ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual Business meeting of the Twin City Amateur Astronomers, Inc., was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Dan Miller. Twenty-six members and guests were in attendance – including the keynote speaker. Dan gave a series of brief updates, including the fact that the TCAA will be hosting the NCRAL meeting on the 50th year of the TCAA (in 2010), that the next NCRAL meeting will be held in North Dakota and that Lee, Duane, and he are interested in attending, and that TCAA attire is now available for ordering. Secretary Carl Wening, standing in for Treasurer Duane Yockey who was not able to attend, noted that the TCAA is in good financial standing with \$2,377 in operating funds, \$1,036 in observatory funds, and total funds of \$3,413. Dan noted that the TCAA has been welcomed to build a second observatory at SGNC if interested. Dan then pointed out that Sharon MacDonald will no longer be serving as the Official Registered Agent of the TCAA, and asked for

nominations to fill this position. It was motioned, seconded, and carried that Duane should fill this position. Dan then called for nominations to the Board of Directors. He noted that Carl and Duane do not aspire to the Board, but would be happy to retain their positions as Secretary/Historian and Treasurer respectively under the new administration. Dan then nominated Lee Green, John Werner, and William Carney who indicated a willingness to serve on the Board. At about 6:20 p.m., Jean Memken noted that the meal was getting cold, and that we should hold the banquet first and then continue afterward with the business meeting. Everyone agreed, and the business meeting was temporarily adjourned.

The banquet featured seasoned roasted chicken breasts and vegetarian lasagna as entrees, and noodle salad and green bean almandine as side dishes. Cake, nuts, and punch were served as dessert. The business meeting resumed at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Nominations continued with Dan explaining the duties and rewards of the position,

and some possible goals for the coming year to get members to self nominate. Dave Osenga agreed to run for a Board position. Dan then nominated Duane and noted that Duane would prefer not to be on the Board but would serve if elected. Mike Rogers then threw his hat into the ring. With six nominees and only five positions, an election by ballot was held with the following being elected to serve on the Board for 2007-2008:

- Lee Green
- John Werner
- William Carney
- Dave Osenga
- Mike Rogers

At the conclusion of the meeting, Peoria Astronomical Society's Rich Tennis invited the TCAA to join the PAS for the fifth annual all-night observing session at Mackinaw Valley Vineyard on Saturday, May 19th. He noted that there would be no rain date, and no cost. Paul Hahn, owner of the Vineyard, will be serving samples in the wine tasting room during the early part of the evening. He also noted that TCAAers are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting of the PAS on September 29th, and that Doug Zubenel, noted astrophotographer and neighbor

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The Observer is a monthly publication of the Twin City Amateur Astronomers, Inc., a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit educational organization of amateur astronomers interested in studying astronomy and sharing their hobby with the public.

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Submission deadline is the first of each month.

Membership Dues

Individual Adult/Family \$40
Full-time Student/Senior \$25
Electronic Newsletter \$25

To join the TCAA, send your name, contact info and dues payment to

Duane Yockey
508 Normal Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

to Leslie Peltier, will be the keynote speaker. Dan then sent around a sign-up sheet for the MOOS and POS scheduled during 2007. He also pointed out that the club had received information about the Nebraska Star Party, and distributed brochures to those who were interested. The catering staff was then pre-

sented. Everyone noted the excellent quality of the food and setting, and heartily congratulated and thanked the ISU Catering Club along with the faculty advisor. The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

At this time members moved to room 201 to hear the keynote speaker for the evening, Millikin University's Dr. Casey Watson. Twenty-two adults were in attendance, including

one member of the general public. Dr. Watson spoke about the pillars of modern cosmology, with the presentation running from 7:30 to 8:35 p.m. He was heartily applauded for making a complex topic comprehensible. Questions continued until nearly 8:50 p.m. Following that, many members remained to converse with one another until after 9:00 p.m.



2007 POS AND MOOS COORDINATORS

Coordinators are needed still for several of the 2007 Public and Members Only Observing Sessions at Sugar Grove Nature Center. Additional POS coordinators are needed; two per session are preferred. Please sign up by contacting one of the Board members if you are willing to host or co-host one of these sessions.

2007 Date	POS Topic(s)	POS Coordinator(s)
March 24	Great Nebula of Orion	1. Lee Green 2.
April 21	Ring World Saturn	1. Mike Rogers 2. Dan Miller
May 19	Galaxies of Leo, Coma, and Virgo	1. Mike Rogers 2.
June 16	Globular Clusters M3 and M13	1. Dave Osenga 2.
July 21	First Quarter Moon and Jupiter	1. John Werner 2.
August 18	Planetary Nebulas M27 and M57	1. Carl Wenning 2.
September 15	The Milky Way Galaxy	1. Carl Wenning 2. Dave Osenga
October 13	Double Cluster in Perseus	1. 2.

Members Only Observing Sessions occur one week earlier than the above POS. Coordinators (who should be SGNC key holders unless they have their own telescope) are still needed for nearly all of these sessions. Please sign up by contacting one of the Board members if you are willing to coordinate one of these events.

MOOS 2007 Date	MOOS Coordinator(s)
March 17	1. Lee Green 2.
April 14	1. 2.
May 12	1. 2.
June 9	1. 2.
July 14	1. Brian Barling 2.
August 11	1. 2.
September 8	1. 2.
October 6	1. 2.

SKY GUIDE

01 The Moon passes 1.1° north of Saturn, 8 P.M.



02 The Moon passes 1.1° north of Regulus, 3 P.M.



03 Total lunar eclipse, 5 P.M.



05 Uranus is in conjunction with the Sun, 10 A.M.

11 The Moon passes 0.7° south of Antares, midnight



The Moon passes 6° south of Jupiter, 7 P.M.



15 The Moon passes 1.9° south of Mars, 8 P.M.



16 The Moon passes 2° south of Neptune, 8 A.M.



The Moon passes 1.4° south of Mercury, 10 P.M.



18 Partial solar eclipse, 10 P.M.



20 Equinox (spring begins), 7 P.M.



21 The Moon passes 4° north of Venus, 10 A.M.



Mercury is at greatest western elongation (28°), 9 P.M.



25 Mars passes 1.0° south of Neptune, 2 A.M.



28 The Moon passes 1.2° north of Saturn, 11 P.M.



29 The Moon passes 1.1° north of Regulus, 10 P.M.



ADDITIONAL ADULT EDUCATION COURSE DETAILS & THOUGHTS

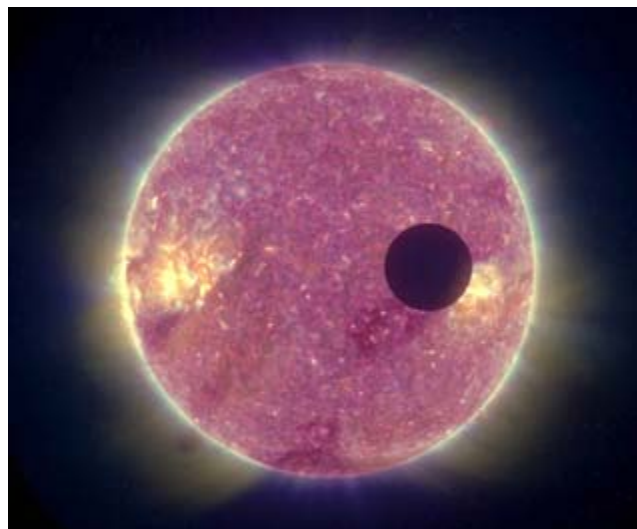
In the February issue of *The OBSERVER* we provided basic information about the 2007 adult education course presented by the TCAA and hosted at SGNC. Because the final class had yet to be held before the February issue went to press, some details were missing. Here is a round up of information:

- Five individuals were at the last of the three meetings.
- Duane Yockey and Lee Green assisted with this year's course; Carl Wenning was lead instructor.
- The following individuals signed up and attended various parts of the course: Lois Jazo of Pawnee, IL; Ginnie Underwood of Hudson, IL; Gale Nelsen of Danvers, IL; Chad and Tricia Buckley of Bloomington, IL; Nancy and Jay Corwin of Bloomington, IL; and Dave Priest of Bloomington, IL. Ginnie and Gale are TCAA members.

Last year's class was filled to overflowing (capped at 24) and about 10 people had to be turned away. This year only eight individuals took advantage of the course. This year's course had only 3 sessions; last year's course consisted of 5 sessions including a trip to the ISU Planetarium. Perhaps next year the organizers should make this a 4 session course, including a trip to the ISU Planetarium which was especially popular last year.

NEBRASKA STAR PARTY

The 14th annual Nebraska Star Party will be held July 15-20, 2007. If you are interested in finding out more, visit <http://www.NebraskaStarParty.com/>. (This appears to be a poorly organized web site, and the information one seeks in relation to this event is not at all evident. Good luck searching for details.)



Eclipse of the Moon when it crossed the face of the Sun—only visible from the STEREO-B spacecraft in its orbit about the sun, trailing the Earth

Courtesy NASA.gov

TCAA Treasurer's Report – February 2007

OPERATING FUND BALANCE – January 31, 2006 - \$ 2,377.08

Income

Dan Miller (Dues Renewal) - \$ 40.00
William Carney (Dues Renewal) - \$ 40.00
Allan Timke (Dues Renewal) - \$ 40.00
Martin Morris (Dues, PayPal) - \$ 40.00
Astronomy Class - \$ 113.00
Annual Meeting receipts - \$ 345.00

Expenses

LYB Inc. (February Observer) - \$ 16.77
Erin Estabrook (mailing labels) - \$ 21.49
Casey Watson (honorarium) - \$ 100.00

OPERATING FUND BALANCE – February 28, 2007 - \$ 2,856.82

OBSERVATORY FUND BALANCE – January 31, 2006- \$ 1,036.11

Income

Dan Miller (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00
Carl Wenning (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00
Brian Barling (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00
William Carney (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00
Andrew Morrison (Keyholder fee) - \$ 10.00
Duane Yockey (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00
Dave Osenga (Keyholder renewal) - \$ 5.00

Expenses

None - \$ 0.00

OBSERVATORY FUND BALANCE – February 28, 2007 - \$ 1,076.11

TOTAL TCAA FUNDS – February 28, 2007 - \$ 3,932.93

Respectfully submitted,
L. Duane Yockey, Treasurer

Sugar Grove Observatory

Listing of Official Keyholders (Paid \$10 deposit/\$5 renewal)

Duane Yockey (renewed through 2007)
Michael Rogers (renewed through 2006)
William Carney (renewed through 2007)
Carl Wenning (renewed through 2007)
Brian Barling (renewed through 2007)
Kevin Brown (renewed through 2006)
Christopher Franklin (renewed through 2006)
David Osenga (renewed through 2007)
Gerry Schroeder (renewed through 2007)
Karen & Ed Duran (renewed through 2006)
Josh Lindsey (August 2006)
Andrew Morrison (February 2007)
Dan Miller (renewed through 2007)



Welcome to New Members

Martin Morris



The OBSERVER

Newletter of the TCAA, Inc.

Erin Estabrook, Editor
314 Covey Court
Normal, IL 61761

Are your dues due?

The Dues Blues?

If you see a check in the box above,
it means your dues are due. To re-
tain membership, please send your
dues renewal to our esteemed
Treasurer:

Duane Yockey
508 Normal Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

Visit the Twin City Amateur Astronomers
on the web at
www.twincityamateurastronomers.org/