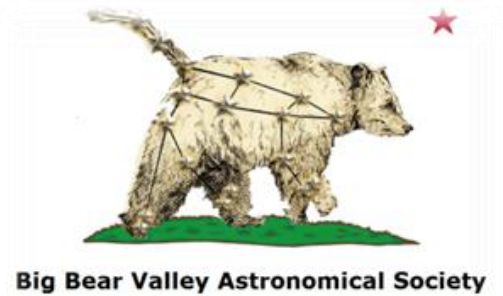


Big Bear Valley Astronomical Society



May 2016 Agenda and Minutes

- ✓ Welcome:
 - New members or 1st time visitors? Jane Doose, Diana
 - Attendance: Claude & Teresa Plymate, John Varsik, Paul Palmquist, Bill Young, Bill Hornaday, Byron Groves, Jane Doose, John Day, Vatch Arouchian, Wes Krause, Lydia Adams, Randy Fear, Deanna Poulsen, Christine Jacobs, Tom Stall.

- ✓ Announcements :

- ✓ Treasurer/Membership Report:
 - 3 renewed members. 3 new members. 41 paid members. Treasury: \$698.50

- ✓ Comments, reports, discussions, reviews:
 - April Lecture: William Welsh from SDSU talking about KOI-54.
 - Technical, perhaps too technical.
 - Jay Pasachoff lecture in July.
 - BBMS STEM night and solar viewing.
 - Solar viewing when kids were in class then clouds rolled in.
 - Nighttime viewing, quite a few kids. They didn't stay all that long.
 - First BBSO Tour of 2016 April 28th.
 - No one from the tour in attendance.
 - Tues, May 10 – Goldstone Tour.
 - Thumbs up!!! We'll do it again next year. Better than the tour 10 years ago.
 - Teresa wants everyone to put their photos on jump drives so that she can put them all together. And then copy all the photos for everyone.
 - May 9 - Mercury Transit
 - Several programs run at BBSO. Attempting measure exosphere of Mercury in the Na D-lines. Also made a broadband movie. AO worked very well, seeing good. Worked well.
 - Take a look at the movie made by John of the planet moving across the sun on BBSO Facebook page.
 - Wes saw it with his ETX with a white light filter.

- ✓ Activities
 - May 7 Star Party at High Chaparral weathered out. Next SP Sat June 4th – New Moon!
 - June star party at the Windmill location. Ponderosa Ranch Rd., the vertical windmill off Baldwin Lake Rd.
 - Saturday, May 14, Star Party and Telescope clinic at Erwin Lake Park on Hatchery Road.
 - 7pm. Announcement in this week's Grizzly. KBHR also has the PSA.
 - Byron suggested that people bring decent eyepieces for people to try in their telescopes.
 - Thursday, May 26 – Dr John Varsik speaking at the Discovery Center, 4pm, "Evolution of Big Bear Solar Observatory".
 - May 26-30 RTMC Astronomy Expo at Camp Oakes! Need Volunteers!
 - 48th annual. Lots of vendors this year!

- 100+ Boy Scouts getting their astronomy badges. Badge requirements: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/boy-scouts/meritbadges/astronomy-merit-badge.asp>
 - BBVAS will staff the observatory. Volunteers get in free.
 - Need to “tune up” the telescopes.
 - Members who bring telescopes for the Scout star party on Saturday night get in free after 6pm.
 - Discovery Center Campfire Talk June 24th – Need Speaker.
 - Vatch volunteered to give a talk about planets.
 - May 15 SunDay – Need a place! Still working on permissions.
 - Need for permission also applies to our Urban Assault Astronomy Nights...
 - Will start setting up at the Farmers Market again.
 - Teresa will follow up on trying to get permission to continue to use “our” corner.
- ✓ Chief observer report.
- What’s up this month?
 - Nothing going on!
 - Mars opposition coming up.
- ✓ Scheduling:
- Next beginner talk?
 - Bill Young will talk about astrophotography.
 - It’s dark at RTMC. Need path lights...
 - Next Discovery Center Dates 7/9, 8/26
- ✓ General Discussion.
- Vatch wants astrophoto demonstration talks. Teresa replied that a course is available at RTMC.
 - Wes asked about experience with “first contact” lens cleaner.
 - John Day points out that VERY few people have EVER seen a solar prominence. We should make up an award to give to document people who look through our solar telescopes and actually see a prominence. Decided business card size.
 - Claude moved that BBVAS authorize someone to be authorized to spend up to \$50 on producing such an award. Teresa will contact Katy Henry to see if she might be willing to do a design.
 - Dick’s new dome is VERY nice!
 - Deanna demo’d her Ipad and Android app SkyGuide.
 - Time to end the meeting as my laptop batteries are almost shot...