



General Meeting Minutes for July 6, 2022

Call to Order:

- Meeting called to order by President Art Arnold-Roksandich at 6:30 PM
- 13 in-person attendees at the Prescott Library and 5 online attendees at peak

Welcome new members and guests:

- New members: Darren Brooks and James Haley

Business Topics:

- Last month's general meeting minutes are posted on the website
 - [Decision: Reading of the previous meeting minutes waived](#)
- Treasurer's Report for June 2022:
 - Cash flow:
 - Income: \$340.00
 - Expenses: \$480.08
 - Net: -\$140.08
 - Account balances:
 - Beginning: \$1,933.54 in checking and \$4,038.48 in savings
 - Ending: \$1,856.92 in checking and \$4,039.51 in savings
 - We also have \$83.00 in cash for refreshments
- Membership Report:
 - The 2 new members listed above joined the club this month
 - The club now has 60 members!
- Volunteer Requests:
 - We still need an editor for our newsletter, the Ephemeris. If interested, please contact Art.
- Outreach Report:
 - We held a successful outreach event on June 2nd at the Eagle Ridge Camp at Lynx Lake
 - The June 3rd and 7th events at Camp Wamatochick were canceled due to weather
 - We have no other outreach events scheduled until our Starry Nights Star Party on September 24th
- Upcoming Business:
 - Nominations:
 - For next year, Susanne will be moving from Treasurer to a Director-at-Large, and Dave will be stepping down as a Director-at-Large. This means we have a need for a new Treasurer and one Director-at-Large for next year.
 - We could use help from the membership forming a nomination committee for these two open positions. The committee needs 3 members.
 - Nominations are due by the October meeting. Elections will be held at the November meeting.
 - Budget:
 - Art solicited ideas for new expenditures.
 - Awards:
 - The club's annual awards will be presented at this year's Christmas party. The party will be on December 7th at the Hassayampa Inn, featuring a dinner with a cash bar.

- Annual Picnic:
 - Our annual picnic will be on August 27th at the large ramada in Watson Lake Park. The time has not been set but is likely to be around noon to 3:00 PM.

Announcements:

- Upcoming board meeting:
 - Our next board meeting is on Tuesday, July 19th, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at Art Arnold-Roksandich's house. This will be an in-person meeting with no Zoom connection.
 - If you would like to attend, please send a request to p@prescottastronomyclub.org so Art can send you the agenda and directions.

Featured speakers:

- The future of the club:
 - Meeting Changes:
 - We will continue to meet at library, but we are looking for a place with longer hours.
 - We will be consolidating our Third Thursday Talks into our general meeting. This means we will have only one guest speaker at a club meeting per month. July 21st will be our last Third Thursday Talk.
 - Members-only star parties:
 - We'd like to resume holding occasional members-only star parties as a chance for members to get together for observing and astrophotography.
 - We expect to hold our first members-only star party of the year shortly after monsoon season. We will send out club emails and notices on groups.io. We may advertise it on our website also as a way to attract new members.
 - METASIG:
 - John Dawn has volunteered to coordinate the club's METASIGs (Meet, Eat and Talk Astronomy SIG meetings)
 - Field Trips:
 - Art checked on possible field trips to the University of Arizona Mirror Lab and observatories, Green Mountain, Kitt Peak, and Lowell Observatory. Only Lowell is currently open for public events. There was definite interest by the meeting attendees in a Lowell field trip.
 - Susanne proposed a trip to Monument Valley to observe the annular eclipse in October of 2023. We need to start planning soon.
 - Equipment Plans:
 - Roland gave an update on the equipment we own. Our equipment falls into several categories: Meeting equipment, Outreach equipment, Loaner Program equipment, and Other.
 - For meetings, we currently own tables and chairs, cordless microphones, a projector screen, a coffee maker and urn, name tags, and raffle tickets. We aren't using all this equipment right now but may need it if we change our meeting location.
 - For outreach, we currently own a canopy, event signs, and a Lunt solar telescope with motorized mount. Given enough funds, it would be desirable to add a Unistellar eVscope.
 - For our loaner program, we currently own 9x63 binoculars with a stand, two manual Dobsonian telescopes, two SCT OTAs in need of new mounts, and a large collection of eyepieces. Roland proposed purchasing cases for the eyepieces and accessories, an 8-inch push-to Dobsonian, and a go-to alt-az mount for the SCT OTAs.
 - Our other equipment includes many items we would like to sell or give away. This includes some small Newtonian telescopes, a 150mm refractor, a MallinCam camera, Estes rocket kits, and a box of astronomy books.

- In addition to all the above, the club owns 25 laser pointers we purchased in the past to sell to club members. We will bring them to our next meeting to sell for \$10 each.
- Agenda for next meeting:
 - Our August 3rd general meeting will be a showcase for members, such as new equipment show and tell presentations. Even a 5-minute presentation is welcome.
 - The meeting will also include a swap meet.
- Youtube and Astronomy:
 - We had to skip this topic due to time limitations. Brian will present this at the start of our next meeting.
- Open items:
 - A meeting attendee mentioned that mentors at a club star party would be helpful for our beginner members.
 - Similarly, a telescope tune-up event would be welcome.
 - A Mt. Wilson field trip would be worth investigating.
 - We had a request for help selling gear from a past member of the club. Roger Jefferson passed away last year, and his partner could use a club volunteer to help her sell his equipment. Brian will send out an email to the club via groups.io requesting help.
 - Paulden library runs a monthly star party using department store telescopes they own. The events are intended for children. Ken will be attending one to see if our club could help in any way.

Closing:

- Our next general meeting will be on August 3, 2022, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Founder's Suite of the Prescott Public Library. Members and guests can attend in-person or via Zoom.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM

Report submitted by Roland Albers, PAC Secretary