



General Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2023

Call to Order:

- Meeting called to order by President Art Arnold-Roksandich at 6:00 p.m.
- 53 in-person attendees at the Prescott Library

Announcements:

- Signup sheets: Art reminded everyone to sign in at the entrance table and pointed out that there are several different signup sheets:
 - Guests
 - Those wishing to volunteer with the club.
 - Nonmembers expressing an interest in the club.
 - Beginner Sessions (ABSIG).
 - There are still a couple of slots for the Lowell field trip.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Nov 1st: Board Elections and Budget approval
- Dec 6th: Christmas Party (replaces the general meeting). Sign up and pay online and select an entrée online.

Upcoming Star Parties and Events:

- Oct 14th: Partial Annular Eclipse Viewing at the Scenic Overlook on Eastbound Pioneer Parkway – starting at 8 a.m.
- Oct 17th: Member-only event at Talking Rock. A collaboration with residents and PAC members. This is a dual event comprising a cultural presentation and stargazing. Just prior to dark, the director of the Museum

of Indigenous People will tell native American stories for an hour. This will be followed by a star party. Instructions are coming to members in an email.

- Oct 20th: Star Party at The Highlands Center. The event begins at dusk with telescopes positioned at multiple locations along the center's concrete walkways.
- November 10th: Starry Nights star party: Orme School outreach event.

ABSIG (Astronomy Basics Special Interest Group):

- Art hosted the ABSIG on Tuesday, September 19th with 9 folks in attendance. The next ABSIG will be held on Thursday October 19th. Bring your equipment.
- The location is 2675 W. Rainmaker off Williamson Valley Road – (Art's house).
- These meetings are designed for beginners and for those wanting to know more.

Featured Speaker:

Our speaker this month was Dr. Lawrence Wasserman -- formerly of the Lowell Observatory, presenting "Things that Go Bump in the Night: Transits, Eclipses and Occultations."

Dr. Wasserman detailed the characteristics of conjunctions, transits, eclipses and occultations, and how these astronomical events are useful to astronomers determining the characteristics and properties of distant objects. Dr. Wasserman shared his long and rich history working with these events all over the world.

Note that the upcoming Annular Eclipse of the sun is not really an eclipse but rather the moon transiting the sun. Similarly, a total eclipse of the sun is actually an occultation of the sun by the moon.

Club Business:

- **Guests:** Art welcomed new members and guests.
- **Reading of the Minutes:** Reading of the minutes of the September PAC General Meeting was waived. Moved, seconded, approved.
- **Treasurer's Report for September 2023:**
 - Cash flow:
 - Income \$331.75
 - Expenses: \$427.27
 - Net: (\$95.52)
 - Account balances:
 - Paypal: \$0.00
 - Checking: \$3,801.29
 - Savings: \$4,059.17
 - Cash: \$114.00
 - TOTAL: \$7,974.46
- **Membership Report:** As of September 30th, PAC memberships totaled 90. New and returning members included Robert & Debbie Davis, Heather Athan-Pechous & family, Dale Erickson & Paige Augustine, Michel Lacasse & family. At this point last year, the club totaled 69 members.
- **Board Nominations:** Art reviewed the slate of nominations for board positions that will be voted on by the membership at next month's general meeting:
 - Art Arnold-Roksandich would serve another year as president.
 - Brian Blau would serve another year as vice-president.
 - Roland Albers would serve another year as treasurer.
 - Jack Evans would serve another year as secretary.

- Ken Olson would serve another 2-year term as director at large.
- Lisa Anderson would replace EJ Van Horne as director at large.
- Doug Tilley would serve the second year of his 2-year term as director at large and does not need to be re-elected this year.
- Susanne Vaughan would serve the second year of her 2-year term as director at large and does not need to be re-elected this year.

This slate will be voted on with nominations open from the floor. Also at the November General Meeting, the membership will review and approve the proposed 2024 budget.

- **Next PAC Board Meeting:** The next PAC Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Prescott Valley Public Library, PC Lab on second floor. If you would like to attend, please send a request to p@prescottastronomyclub.org.

Closing:

- The next PAC general meeting will be Wednesday November 1, at 6:00 pm at the Prescott Public Library, Founders Suite. In addition to the club budget approval and election of club officers, there will be a special presentation (to-be-announced).
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:25p.m.

Report submitted by Jack Evans, PAC Secretary