



General Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2024

Call to Order:

- Meeting called to order by President Art Arnold-Roksandich at 6:03 p.m.
- 61 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).

Upcoming Meetings:

- April 3rd, PAC General Meeting: Dr. Jason Barnes of the University of Idaho, discussing NASA's Rotorcraft Lander Mission to Saturn's Moon Titan.
- September 4th PAC General Meeting: "Dark Skies Over Arizona," Kevin Schindler of the Lowell Observatory.
- May 1st: Jeff Hall on "Our very own star."

Upcoming Star Parties and Events:

- April 8th Solar Eclipse viewing at the Prescott Valley Public Library.

ABSIG (Astronomy Basics Special Interest Group):

- The next ABSIG will be held on Thursday, March 21st, 6:00 p.m., at Art's house. The discussion will center on stellar evolution and, time permitting, will be followed by observing. Note that Art will be out of town on April 16th.
- 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.

APSIG (Astrophotography Special Interest Group):

- March 11th at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30, at The Lookout (1230 Willow Creek Road).

Featured Speaker:

Our speaker this month was Charity Woodrum, a doctoral candidate and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow at the University of Arizona's Steward Observatory. She is a member of NASA's James Webb Space Telescope Near Infrared Camera (NIRCam) science team.

Charity discussed the JWST instrument and mission goals and shared key scientific results. Mission objectives are organized into four major categories: the early universe, star lifecycles, other worlds, and galaxies over time. Charity shared her favorite JWST images in each of these categories. She fielded numerous questions at the conclusion of her excellent presentation.

Club Business:

- **PAC Anniversary:** Art discussed the club's plans to celebrate the PAC 50th Anniversary this September. If you have any suggestions about the 50th anniversary celebration, let Art know.
- **October General Meeting Speaker:** We are looking for a speaker for the October meeting.
- **New View of the Universe:** Marilyn shared an overview of a book dealing with the evolution of a new view of galaxies and the universe: "The Day We Found The Universe." It was 100 years ago (1/1/1925) that new discoveries initiated this new perspective.
- **Reading of the Minutes:** Reading of the minutes of the January PAC General Meeting was waived. Minutes are posted online.
- **Treasurer's Report for January 2024:**
 - Cash flow:
 - Income: \$310.03
 - Expenses: \$506.08
 - Net: (\$196.77)
 - Account balances:
 - Paypal: \$0
 - Checking: \$4,880.92
 - Savings: \$4,064.82
 - Cash: \$131.34
 - TOTAL: \$9,078.11
- **Membership Report:** As of February 29th, PAC memberships totaled 79. At this time last year there were 69 total members.
- **Next PAC Board Meeting:** The next PAC Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19th, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Prescott Valley Public Library, Glassford Hill Room. If you would like to attend, please send a request to p@prescottastronomyclub.org.

Closing:

- The next PAC general meeting will be Wednesday April 3rd , at 6:00 pm at the Prescott Public Library, Founders Suite.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Report submitted by Jack Evans, PAC Secretary