

2008-09-02

DMSG meeting

Recent observing:

- Perseids - Some saw them, they were disappointing, but Perseid fireballs were seen days prior to the event's peak.
- Lyle found Pluto by blinking digital photographs taken two hours apart.

Old business

We need to encourage more women to attend meetings. Same old business as we often discuss..

Board has been discussing:

- Outreaches
- Participation in meeting
- Raffles at meetings
- Rewarding volunteers

Outreach at this No Frills star party.

- This time it has been scheduled during the star party on Saturday 27th
- It's a cruise that goes out and a Stargazer or two will present the sky.

There are several outreaches pending but the details of when and where are sketchy.

Treasurer report – new member and star gaze income are the only changes.

We're good for supplies for the star party. Food is covered for each day. 40 people are pre-registered.

Upcoming Leonids:

- Maybe a bit of a bash probably at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center.

Lyle was in Spruce Knob in July where he discovered Pluto.

We agreed to accept the Meade telescope that was up for adoption.

Presentation by Don:

- Capricornus
- Don reminded us that what we think of as the constellation is just an, constellation is the IAU designated area.
- Two history versions, pre-greek seagoat, later Pan. Zeus and the titans – Typhon with a long story but one of zeus's helpers turned into a goat in a stream and turned into both a goat and fish.
- 4 Messier objects, double stars, Saturn nebula (nearby in Aquarius)

- Alpha Cap is an optical double, but each star is a binary system which can be resolved.

Presentation by Tim Milligan:

- Andromeda Galaxy: globular clusters in it. 509 globs have been cataloged, All but one looks stellar. Need good finder charts for the galaxy – 10” or larger telescope to see them. The site nedwww.ipac.caltech.edu/level5/ANDROMEDA_Atlas has a number of charts.
- M31 GC G001 mag 13.8 3-6 arc secs – aka Mayall 2. Rest of the easy GC are about 14 mag.
- Our galaxy has about 150 known GC’s.

Dark matter news:

Hubble and Chandra have detected gas clouds of baryonic matter collapsing while the dark matter continued to pass through, unaffected by each other.

Don: human powered flight:

The rules are that you must take off, fly, and land by human power only. No sling shots, cliff launches. Much of this information was from a book that Don found in a library sale. The major focus was on the famous human powered machines: the *Gossamer Albatross* (1979) piloted by Bryan Allen, and developed by Paul B. MacCready; the *Gossamer Condor* also designed by MacCready. NASA also designed several in the Daedalus project.