

DelmarvaStagazer meeting

March 1, 2011

Meeting started by Jerry Truitt.

There is an invitation to watch the Mirror Making Seminar this month.

The upcoming star party will be attended by a meteorite collector – John Holden.

Presentation: Ed Reznac of the NASA Hubble Telescope Team:

- Hubble – repairs.
- Goddard Space Flight Center has tours.
- Designed to be serviced – why – launched in 90 and technology keeps moving forward.
- Runs on 486 computer which needed replacing.
- Replace worn out components.
- Correct failing hardware.
- First images were blurry because of the optical error a fiftieth of the diameter of a human hair was present on the surface. An optical device called Corrective Optics Space Telescope Axial Replacement (COSTAR) fixed some of the problems. The Wide Field and Planetary Camera was also replaced during Servicing mission 1.
- Over all there were 5 servicing missions.

- Mr. Reznac went on with his slides and movies describing his time working with and training astronauts with good humor and hard work.
- Of several questions about the servicing missions Ed was asked why the new gyroscopes couldn't be installed and why they used the refurbished ones. Ed explained that the manufacturer placed seals on the mount points. If you've ever torn the seal off a food container this will sound familiar – part of the seal remained stuck on the gyroscope and made it too large to fit.
- The talk was fascinating so no notes were taken – you should have been here.