Bob Berta likes astronomy gadgets even more than I do. Luckily for me and everyone else in our club, Bob also loves to help the rest of us learn about astronomy gadgets, how to choose them, how to use them, and how to fix them.

Bob always has time to help anyone at club observing events with astronomy equipment. He has let me try out his telescopes, binoculars, and other astro gizmos. He taught me how to collimate my telescope. When something isn’t working, Bob knows how to fix it. When I was shopping for a new telescope, he introduced me by email to his friend Dean who owns the Starizona store in Tucson, so I could get the best help and service for my telescope purchase.

A couple years ago at a Seven Ponds astronomy club meeting, Bob gave a presentation about how to take apart and re-assemble a Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. He took apart his own SCT in front of us all, let us walk around the table and look at the parts, and then he put it all back together. He said he did this to show us how easy it was. But the most important lesson I learned was that I will NEVER take my SCT apart unless Bob is standing beside me to help.

Bob also always has time to help the public and encourage their interest in astronomy. His current board position is as our club Outreach person, but even in the years when he is not in that specific job, he still frequently does astronomy talks, presentations, and demonstrations, for scouts, school groups, star parties, and anywhere else he can help.

Bob has been our club president and vice president. He has also been vice president of the Oakland club, and he belongs to the Seven Ponds club and the San Francisco Amateur Astronomers. He already has more gadgets than me, and I think he’s trying to join more astronomy clubs than me.

-Jon
The SWAP SHOP

This column is for those interested in buying, trading or selling. Ads run for six months. The month and year the ad will be removed is shown. Submit ads to publications@warrenastro.org.

ETX 90, not used, like brand new. (3-2012)
$350 or Best Offer
Contact Jim Hurley at coachjimjv@yahoo.com

8” Zhummel Dobsonian Telescope for sale I have owned it for a little over 2.5 yrs now and it is in excellent condition, The Optics on it are very clean and the views are beautiful!! Includes:
- Right angle finder scope 8x50mm
- Dual speed crayford that holds both 1.25” EP’s and 2” EP’s
- A cooling fan on the primary end of the scope + battery pack for the fan
- A laser collimator (which has been collimated)
- 3 1.25” EP’s: 4mm, 12.5mm, and 20mm
- A moon filter (also for 1.25”)
I will also throw in an off axis Solar Filter (home made) and a (home made) solar filter for the finder scope. Both were made with Baader solar film (white light)
I’m asking $300 if you have any questions regarding this scope please contact Dale M. at lionsfan0_16@yahoo.com (3-2012)

Celestron CGE-PRO ultra heavy duty tripod with 3” legs. Unused in new condition, It came with the new CGE Pro German mount and 14” SCT telescope that is at the Boy Scout Observatory at DbarA scout camp. The telescope is on a pier so the tripod is not needed. It can be easily modified to handle many different types of scope mounts…not just the CGE PRO. If you have a wobbly 2” leg tripod this is your answer! Help support the Boy Scouts and consider getting this great tripod. Only asking $150 which is a steal! (3-2012)
Contact Bob Berta at biker123@att.net to get more information.

When Karen and I were in Chicago recently at the conclusion of our Great Lakes Cruise, we visited the newly renovated Adler Planetarium. In the gift shop I was smitten by a telescope (no, it didn’t fall on me, but its brass fittings and hardwood tripod found the way to my heart). Then I learned it was on a closeout special and the deed was done.

Now it is looking for a new home. Sale price was $200 plus tax and shipping. I am asking for $150. This is NOT an astronomical telescope – it is called Harbormaster and is intended, I believe, for scanning the horizon for arriving sailboats. Further details are on BrassBinnacle.com.

Fred Gluckson, 248-788-8066 or fgluckson@cs.com
It does look nice in one’s living room. In fact I have had more fun looking AT it than THROUGH it. (3-2012)

Meade #775 Hard Carrying Case for ETX-125.
Brand new, never been used. Received as a gift but not for the right telescope. Cost $200 new asking $75. Would like it to find a good home where it would be useful. (2-2013)
Dick Gala (248) 549-5238. e-mail: rrgala@med.wayne.edu
For the October 1st talk at Cranbrook, Dale Partin will be our featured speaker. His talk, Ultraviolet Light and You, promises to be a follow-up to Dale’s earlier forays into the invisible side of astronomy. We can’t promise any pretty pictures, but we can promise you’ll come away with a new appreciation for the 10-400 nanometer range. Sunscreen will not be provided.

Dale Partin is the current treasurer of the W.A.S. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics and a PhD in electrical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. He has worked in applied science and engineering at GM Research Labs and at the Delphi Corporation for over 31 years. He has had an interest in astronomy for a very long time, and began doing astronomy with a telescope about 12 years ago. Dale’s past presentations have included “The Drake Equation” and “The Hubble Constant”.

We also have a short talk that night, Chuck Dezelah’s presentation, A Fall Tour: Observing the Hubble Sequence. This timely discussion should of interest to history buffs, visual observers, astro-imagers, and amateur cosmologists. That should cover everyone, right?

Chuck Dezelah joined the Warren Astronomical Society in 2011. He grew up in rural mid-Michigan, where he developed a strong interest in astronomy from a young age. He is an alumnus of Western Michigan University (B.S., 1998) and Wayne State University (Ph.D., 2004) and was a post-doctoral researcher at Helsinki University of Technology (2004-2007). He now helps manage a nanotechnology company in metro Detroit.

The Stargate open house on Saturday, September 15, was full of activities with roughly 50 people attending including a few members. We used the 12.5” Cass, 22” Dob, and the 10” Dob to observe many objects including Jupiter by 1:00 am. The sky was clear and relatively dark.

Next open house is on Saturday, October 20. Dress warmly and hope to see you then.

- Riyad I. Matti

WAS members are invited to The Seven Ponds Astronomy Club monthly meetings. More information about upcoming meetings, maps to Seven Ponds Nature Center, etc. is available at http://bhmich.com/sevenpondsac/. Please let me know if you might attend so that appropriate plans can be made. Any questions, please contact me.

- John Lines
Speaker's Corner - October 18, Macomb

Mike Simonsen will be presenting Variable Stars, the AAVSO and You. Mike will explain what variable stars are, why scientists are interested in them and how the American Association of Variable Star Observers can help you as citizen scientists. Consider it a call to arms for the amateur astronomer.

Mike Simonsen is one of the world’s leading variable star observers and advocates. Since 1998 he has submitted over 80,000 variable star observations to the AAVSO International Database. Mike is currently employed by the AAVSO as Membership Director and Development Officer. Among the many hats Mike wears, he is in charge of all variable star chart production for the AAVSO, as well as coordinator of the AAVSO Mentor Program, Speakers Bureau, Writers Bureau and the AAVSO Cataclysmic Variable Section. His current area of research is cataclysmic variable stars, Z Cam dwarf novae specifically, and he is the author or co-author of more than twenty peer-reviewed papers on cataclysmic variables.

In 2005, Simonsen received the AAVSO’s highest honor, the AAVSO Director’s Award. In October 2011, Mike became only the third recipient of the Charles Butterworth Award, the British Astronomical Association Variable Star Section’s highest honor. This year, he was awarded the Astronomical League’s Leslie C. Peltier Award for his lasting contributions to science as both an observer and researcher.

An animated and enthusiastic speaker, Mike gives talks on stellar astronomy and variable star science to astronomy clubs, organizations, conferences and university groups throughout the United States each year.

Mike’s observatory, named after legendary AAVSO observer and chart maker, Charles E. Scovil, houses two 12” LX200 telescopes, one for visual use and one for CCD observations, or as Mike likes to joke, “One for each eye!” He is now amassing both visual and CCD observations from home and remote robotic telescopes.

The WAS Discussion Group meetings take place at the home of Gary and Patty Gathen from 8 to 11 PM on the fourth Thursday of the month from January through October. Different dates are scheduled for November and December due to Thanksgiving and the holidays. The Gathens live at 21 Elm Park Blvd in Pleasant Ridge, which is three blocks south of I-696 and about a half block west of Woodward Ave. A map can be found at http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result.php?q1=21+E lm+Park+Blvd.%2C+Pleasent+Ridge%2C+MI.

The agenda is centered around discussing one science topic at a time by all. Soft drinks are furnished while snacks are contributed by attendees. We usually have from 4 to 16 members and guests, so come on over (and bring some snacks for the group). Gary can be reached at 248.543.5400 and at gary@gathen.net.
Member Photos Showcase

Left: Mike with people lined up for a view
Below: Lee, Bob, Steve and others on the beach

Jonathan and Diane with astronaut Drew Feustal

Above: Jon and Bill with base of club Dob
Left: Connie, Bob, Diane at WAS table

All photos courtesy Jon Blum
Object of the Month - NGC7510:

NGC 7510 is a little known open cluster in the constellation Cepheus. It resides very near the border with Cassiopeia, which is better known for its large number of open clusters. This object has a striking appearance at the eyepiece due to its small size, fascinating shape, and high concentration of stars that stand out well against the background field of the Milky Way. It is about 4’ in size, has an integrated magnitude of 7.9, and a Trumpler class of II 2 m n.

NGC 7510 sits in a position that is about 3 degrees southwest from the midpoint between iota Cephei and beta Cassiopeiae. It is quite close to another outstanding open cluster, the Messier object M52, which is less than 2 degrees away. The two clusters form an interesting contrast, as M52 is larger, with more separated member stars, whereas our object of the month leaves a much different impression. At the eyepiece under low magnification, NGC 7510 vaguely resembles a tiny partially resolved globular cluster with individual stars winking into and out of visibility. The most brilliant members of the cluster form a v-shaped wedge that is at once both conspicuous and attractive. At higher magnifications, it becomes much more obviously an open cluster with several dozen stars discernible within a haze of fainter constituent stars. Unlike many open clusters NGC 7510 is beautiful at a wide range of magnifications, with a variety of notable features each coming to prominence as power is increased. All of this makes for an object that is well worth visiting during October viewing sessions.

This column is a recently added feature written with the intention of introducing a new object each month that is visible from Stargate Observatory using a moderate-sized telescope typical of beginner and intermediate level amateur astronomers. In particular, special focus will be given to objects that are not among the common objects with which most observers are already familiar, but instead articles will mainly give attention to “hidden gems” or under-appreciated attributes of the night sky.

- Chuck Dezelah

Members are encouraged to join the Warren Astronomical Society Yahoo Group for messages, photo posting and more.

Special Notice: Annual WAS Banquet

The Warren Astronomical Society Annual Banquet will be on Saturday, Dec. 8th this year, at DeCarlos Banquet and Conference Center in Warren, MI. It is at the NE corner of 10 Mile Road and Mound Road in Warren, MI. Note that it is not on the third Thursday of the month, and there will be no WAS meeting on the third Thursday of December. We are having the banquet on a Saturday in the hope that more people and their spouses will be able to attend. The dinner will be buffet style, and there will be a bar, but alcoholic drinks will be paid for individually. The open bar was eliminated to help keep the cost of the banquet down.

The event begins at 6:30 pm and dinner will be served at 7:30 pm. The cost is $35.00 per person. However, there is a discount of $5.00 (or a total of $30.00 per person) if paid by December 3rd at the Cranbrook meeting. The treasurer will accept your payment and reservation at any meeting, beginning immediately. You may pay in cash or by check. If you are bringing a spouse or other guest, please submit their name with your name when you pay.
Our annual election for officers of the Warren Astronomical Society will be at our Cranbrook meeting on Monday, November 5.

We have seven officers that comprise the board of the society. Each officer is elected for a one-year term, and can stay in that office for a maximum of two consecutive terms. At present, all seven of our officers are in their first year in their current position. All seven of them are running for re-election. They are:

President - Jon Blum
First Vice President (programming) - Diane Hall
Second Vice President (observatory) - Riyad Matti
Treasurer - Dale Partin
Secretary - Dale Thieme
Publications (newsletter) - Debra Chaffins
Outreach - Bob Berta

Any club member can run for any office. If you would like to run, it would be helpful if you would submit your name and the office you would like to run for, to the board in advance, by sending an email to board@warrenastro.org. However, that advance notice is not required, and any member can be nominated at the election meeting on November 5, to run against any of the above listed current officers running for re-election.

Board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings from 6:30 to 7:30 PM on the first Monday of every month at Cranbrook, the hour before our regular Cranbrook general meetings. Board members also need to keep up with board business frequently discussed by emails. For the specific duties of each officer, see our bylaws on our website, or email any questions to board@warrenastro.org.

Only paid-up members of the society are allowed to vote at the election.

The strongest affection and utmost zeal should, I think, promote the studies concerned with the most beautiful objects. This is the discipline that deals with the universe’s divine revolutions, the stars’ motions, sizes, distances, risings and settings . . . for what is more beautiful than heaven?

— Nicolaus Copernicus, *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* (On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres), 1543.
29th of August
16" Borr Telescope @ 240X

GAn 3 Monocerotis -- Depicted as double on SKY ATLAS 2000, triple on ATLAS OF THE HEAVENS, quadruple on ATLAS ECLIPTICALIS. Embedded in N.G.C. 2244. The constellation was low but transparency initially excellent. I saw three components: a very bright A star ~ 7th mag. and two very close companions about 90 degrees apart in position angle. Becvar’s ATLAS CATALOGUE has no entry for GAn 3, because too faint. Hirshfeld and Sinnott enumerate AB as 6.8/12.7 @ 3 arc-sec. (1916) a separation which widened since the 1860s. The C companion is 11.8 @ 7 arc-sec. D star is 12.3 @ 13 arc-sec. and the E companion is 9.6 magnitude at 13 arc-sec. What to make of this? Interestingly enough, the B and D companions are at the same position angle! What I observed is challenging to work out, not the 9.6 mag. E component, not recognised as part of the system. I probably observed the 11.8 and 12.3 mags. C and D, although the former is half the distance from the primary. That is not my observation. The magnitudes are essentially are equivalent, however, which is my call. Given altitude of Mon there was no chance to see B only 3" off. This is a fascinating system also, by the way, in the diffuse nebula, which requires another study when higher in the sky without morning twilight.

Bail 2666 Monocerotis -- A very close neighbour of the above. I observe a bright matched pair widely split at 240X, but H & S say otherwise: 8.3/9.7 @ 10 arc-sec. The B companion so bright would be hard to miss even in twilight. Did clouds intervene? Another return. This field is fascinating with the two multiple systems so proximate.

10th Of September
Transparency was Standard Clear or possibly better. 50mm refractor, 30 and 45X, Royal Oak

SIGMA 2908 Lacertae -- Could not split. This would be a definitive test for good optics and a skilled observer at 4 arc-seconds (1924) per Becvar’s ATLAS CATALOGUE, but the B star is only 11th magnitude.

11th of September
50 mm. refractor, 30X and 22X, respectively

G An 4 Monocerotis -- Depicted as double on SKY ATLAS 2000, triple on ATLAS OF THE HEAVENS, quadruple on ATLAS ECLIPTICALIS. Embedded in N.G.C. 2244. The constellation was low but transparency initially excellent. I saw three components: a very bright A star ~ 7th mag. and two very close companions about 90 degrees apart in position angle. Becvar’s ATLAS CATALOGUE has no entry for GAn 3, because too faint. Hirshfeld and Sinnott enumerate AB as 6.8/12.7 @ 3 arc-sec. (1916) a separation which widened since the 1860s. The C companion is 11.8 @ 7 arc-sec. D star is 12.3 @ 13 arc-sec. and the E companion is 9.6 magnitude at 13 arc-sec. What to make of this? Interestingly enough, the B and D companions are at the same position angle! What I observed is challenging to work out, not the 9.6 mag. E component, not recognised as part of the system. I probably observed the 11.8 and 12.3 mags. C and D, although the former is half the distance from the primary. That is not my observation. The magnitudes are essentially are equivalent, however, which is my call. Given altitude of Mon there was no chance to see B only 3" off. This is a fascinating system also, by the way, in the diffuse nebula, which requires another study when higher in the sky without morning twilight.

11th of September
50 mm. refractor, 30X and 22X, respectively

SIGMA 2894 Lacertae -- In spite of the Moon in the opposite celestial hemisphere, successful. I determined it P.A. 180 degrees from R.A. drift using the alt-azimuth mount. Becvar lists 193 degrees at 16 arc-seconds. 6.1/9 mags. By crude measure the B star establishes what is easy to discern in an urban sky with more-or-less quarter Moon, employing a glass of said aperture. Also, Lacerta was at approx. 45 degrees up at that hour.

10th Of September
Transparency was Standard Clear or possibly better. 50mm refractor, 30 and 45X, Royal Oak

SIGMA 2894 Lacertae -- In spite of the Moon in the opposite celestial hemisphere, successful. I determined it P.A. 180 degrees from R.A. drift using the alt-azimuth mount. Becvar lists 193 degrees at 16 arc-seconds. 6.1/9 mags. By crude measure the B star establishes what is easy to discern in an urban sky with more-or-less quarter Moon, employing a glass of said aperture. Also, Lacerta was at approx. 45 degrees up at that hour.

11th of September
50 mm. refractor, 30X and 22X, respectively

THE SUN -- Yester-day there were four widely scattered spot groups, but all were small and one of them had only one spot. Total spot taxonomy ranged from small to mere "pores," only one spot attaining a real penumbra with two umbrae therein. This indifferent activity is to consider given a supposed near maximum.

e ERIDANI -- Initial cloudiness gave way to Standard Clear or better in the pre-dawn. At 4th magnitude was strikingly bright as was the isosceles triangle of 6th magnitude stars immediately to the east. This observation marks the farthest penetration of southern Eridanus from the Deep Range site in Royal Oak. Dew prevented an observation of neighbouring Theta Eri or the 6th magnitude double south-east of Iota.

15th of September
Excellent transparency @ Royal Oak
I observed in Horologium, easily picking up Alpha and Delta, the former at approx. - 42 deg. S. It was also possible to see Alpha Caeli.

Solar obs’ns, week of 9th of September: Two days, both showed only three spot groups with de minimis spots under 30X. Only two spots were big enough to have even small penumbræ. “Predictions are that the peak amplitude of the new cycle will be significantly lower than that of recent cycles.”

- G. M. Ross
Diane Worth, dianewsky-night@yahoo.com or 248-980-7832 sells club logo clothing (hats, shirts, sweatshirts, jackets). Stephen Uitti brings the catalog to meetings.

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WAS Club logo wear

(Photos and modeling by Jon Blum)

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2012 Stargate Observatory Open House
October 20, November 20, December 17

2012 WAS Meetings
Cranbrook Meetings: 1st Mondays
October 1, November 5, December 3

Macomb Meetings: 3rd Thursdays
October 18, November 15
No December Macomb Meeting

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Astronomical Phenomena
October 2012

d h
1 12 Mercury 1.6N of Spica
3 7 Venus 0.1S of Regulus
4 13 Jupiter stationary
4 23 Moon at apogee
5 8 Aldebaran 4.3S of Moon
5 10 Mercury 3.2S of Saturn
5 21 Jupiter 0.9N of Moon Occn
6 1 Moon furthest North (21.1)
8 7 LAST QUARTER
11 19 Regulus 5.6N of Moon
12 14 Venus 5.9N of Moon
15 11 NEW MOON
15 14 Spica 0.7N of Moon Occn
16 2 Saturn 4.5N of Moon
17 1 Moon at perigee
17 2 Mercury 1.2S of Moon Occn
18 13 Mars 1.9S of Moon
18 16 Antares 5.7S of Moon
19 6 Moon furthest South (-21.1)
20 13 Pluto 0.2N of Moon Occn
21 0 Mars 3.6N of Antares
22 3 FIRST QUARTER
24 11 Neptune 5.8S of Moon
25 8 Saturn at conjunction
26 15 Mercury greatest elong E(24)
27 6 Uranus 4.8S of Moon
29 19 FULL MOON

All times are in UTC

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Observatory Rules

1. Closing time depends on weather, etc.
2. May be closed one hour after opening time if no members arrive within the first hour.
3. Contact the 2nd VP for other arrangements, such as late arrival time. Call 586-992-0498.
4. An alternate person may be appointed to open.
5. Members may arrive before or stay after the scheduled open house time.
6. Dates are subject to change or cancellation depending on weather or staff availability.
7. Postings to the Yahoo Group and/or email no later than 2 hours before starting time in case of date change or cancellation.
8. It is best to call or email the 2nd VP at least 2 hours before the posted opening with any questions. Later emails may not be receivable.
9. Generally, only strong rain or snow will prevent the open house... the plan is to be there even if it is clouded over. Often, the weather is cloudy, but it clears up as the evening progresses.

- Riyad Matti, 2nd VP
Oct 1975

Oct 1976
This issue is dominated by an imported article: “Science and the Parascience Cults” by Kendrick Frazier. The struggle against bad research continues. The imports continue with articles from Sky & Telescope, one on M1, the other, M101.

Oct 1980
Cover note: The telescope points left in this version of the WAS logo.


Oct 1984
This issue features a couple charts, Messier Objects and Guide Stars, by Ken Kelly and Richard Hill does some product testing in “A Comparison of Three Solar Filters”.

In Other News...
The Larry Kalinowski Collection continues to grow: The WAS has received two boxes of 3.5” disks consisting of DOS, Win 3.1 and Win 95 programs, shareware and homebrewed (several by Larry Kalinowski) alike. The plan is to put these on a CD for the WAS library. The History SIG will keep an archival collection.

Reminder to all members:
We need your help to continue having snacks at the meetings. For full details on how to volunteer, what we need, or compensation, please email Sheila at scrapsalotsmb@yahoo.com or use the signup form on our website. Napkins and cups are now provided by the club.

Suggested snacks:
Two to three packs of cookies or similar sweet snacks
One to two packs of salty snacks (pretzels or chips)
Optionally, one pack of small candies
Two to three 2-liter bottles of pop, juice, etc.
One bottle of water
Treasurer’s Report

August 31, 2012

MEMBERSHIP
We currently have 110 members (27 of which are family memberships).

INCOME AND EXPENDITURES (SUMMARY)
We took in $369.31 and spent $812.46. We have $9721.08 in the bank and $196.94 in cash, totaling $9918.02.

COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS
$13.85 snack reimbursements
$17.00 reimburse for member overpayments
$535.00 Stargate building supplies
$120.68 50 planispheres
$33.93 WAS banner
$20.00 annual renewal of WAS as a Michigan corporation
$72.00 six month meetup renewal

INCOME
$176.00 new memberships and renewals
$54.62 donations for snacks
$14.00 subscription for Astronomy Technology Today
$80.50 donations for Stargate
$32.95 S&T Magazine reimbursement of subscription billed to the WAS debit card erroneously
$11.24 credit from Amazon
$4276.00 Total donated to date for new telescope and mount

- Dale Partin

Photo and Article Submissions
We at your WASP want to include your photos and articles. After all, this is YOUR publication!

To share your photos for submission in the WASP, please email them to publications@warrenastro.org

Please include some captions for your photos along with your name and dates taken.

Newsletter Topics

We know that not everyone likes to talk in public, but we also know that our members have a lot of things they want to say. Please consider writing an article to share with your fellow astronomers!

Need a topic? Here are some suggestions:

- Gadgets
- Techniques.
- Talk about your photos
- Tell us about your experiences
- Technical discussion for beginners or advanced readers.

If you have an idea for an article that isn’t one I have listed, please submit that at any time and we’ll make room for it.
13

WAS Board meeting, September 10, 2012

Jon Blum called the meeting to order at 6:33

**Board members present** were: Jon Blum, Diane Hall, Dale Partin, Dale Thieme, Bob Berta, Debra Chaffins

**Visitors:** Jason Daniels, Brian Klaus, Ken Bertin, Dave Bailey, Marty Kunz, Gary Gathen

Reports:

**1VP:** We have Dr. Claude Pruneau confirmed to speak at the Awards Banquet.

**Treasurer:** 110 members, $9900 (see Treasurer’s report in WASP).

**Outreach:** Great Lake Gaze this week and the AATB coming up at Kensington. We’ll pass around the signup sheet for participation. We have upcoming scout opportunities at Cranbrook this fall. Bob has a tentative Star Tour for a school on the 19th. On Sep 28, Lutheran Church star party, 14 and Mound area.

**Publications:** WASP is out.

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Old Business:

Conflict of Interest Policy: Jon Blum moved we adopt the IRS provided version sans sections 6 and 7, Bob Berta seconded, motion passed.

New Stickers: Tabled until samples are brought in.

Concerning 501c3 status, Diane reported that further fine tuning of our application is needed before presenting to the lawyer. The board worked through the remaining issues. Once the new version of the application is done, we’ll submit it to the lawyer for review.

Telescope and mount funding: Jon Blum moved that we have recognition for all donors, with a special recognition for donations of $1000.00 or more, Diane Hall seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

Following Bob Trembley’s proposal, the board decided that the Oct 20th open house at Stargate will be declared Astronomy Day.

End time: 7:29

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**Upcoming Talks**

- **Nov 5**  
  C  David DeBruyn  
  *Astronomy’s 1st Golden Age of Discovery - 1890-1930*

- **Nov 15**  
  M  Larry Phipps  
  *Astronomical Space Observatories II*

- **Dec 3**  
  C  Michael Foerster  
  *To Be Announced*

- **Dec 8**  
  Annual WAS Banquet  
  No Macomb Meeting in December
WAS General Meeting, Cranbrook

Time: 7:31, 40 present

Officer Reports:

President: Our next Macomb meeting September 20 will be back in our UPSTAIRS meeting room Room 221 -- Come in the main upper front entrance. Great Lakes Star Gaze in Gladwin September 13-16, Astronomy At The Beach at Kensington Metropark September 21 and 22.

Please sign up for outreach for this year’s AatB! Telescopes and table volunteers wanted. The W.A.S. table will again be presenting prizes to children who complete the scavenger hunts. A special talk for club members will be given by Astronaut Drew Feustel at the Nature Center there at Kensington at 1 PM Saturday, followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

• Banquet will be December 8.
• No Macomb meeting in December

1VP: Macomb Meeting September 20: A Celebration of Neil Armstrong- presented by Jonathan Kade

Cranbrook Meeting, October 1, Dale Partin -- Ultraviolet Light and You.

Treasurer: 110 members, $9918, 4276 designated towards the telescope.

Secretary: Dale reported that we are building a list of award recipients, we need to know who got an award in 2008, 2009.

Outreach: Bob Berta passed around sign up sheets for Kensington AATB, Cranbrook Outreach with the scouts. On Sep.16th, a Star Tour at a school. 28 Sep, Lutheran Church Star Party.

Publications: Debra reported the WASP is out on our website, we’ve been adding photos and articles of extra-curricular member activities, we would also like AATB photos from this year’s event.

September 10, 2012

SIG Reports:

Discussion Group: Meets every fourth Thursday at Gary Gathen’s home. Details in elsewhere in the WASP.

Solar Group: Solar activity is a bit slow, group may be starting up soon as the scope in Cranbrook becomes operational.

Astronomical League: Chuck Dezelah reminded the members to take advantage of the Astronomical League’s observing programs.

Astrophotography: Phil Martin is ready to add to his equipment collection.

GLAAC: Telescopes and table volunteers wanted at the Kensington Astronomy at the Beach. The W.A.S. table will again be presenting prizes to children who complete the scavenger hunts. A special talk for club members will be given by Astronaut Drew Feustel at the Nature Center there at Kensington at 1 PM Saturday, followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

In The News

• Neil Armstrong: First moonwalker and cool-headed nerd 8/5/1930-8/25/2012
• Highlights of moon landing
• Voyager 1: reports of my exit are greatly exaggerated
• Hot DOG surprise reveals new stage in galaxy evolution
• Two dead stars provide low-tech way to test Einstein
• Moon’s magnetic umbrellas may shield future spaceships
• Lithium mystery deepened by galaxy gas probe
• Not so moist Mars: Clays may come from lava, not lakes

Presentation: “Houston, We Had A Problem.” by Jim Shedlowsky

End time: 10:07
The meeting began at 7:30

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Greets the attendees. Mentioned the private session with Drew Feustel. Dec 8 is the awards banquet.

1VP:
- October 1          Dale Partin -- Ultraviolet Light and You
- October 18        Mike Simonsen
- November 5        David DeBruyn -- Astronomy Discoveries 1890-1930

We are now accepting long and short presentation requests for 2013.

Please come to Astronomy at the Beach.

2VP: The Stargate open house on Saturday, September 15, was full of activities with roughly 50 people attending including a few members. We used the 12.5” Cass, 22” Dob, and the 10” Dob to observe many objects including Jupiter by 1:00 am. The sky was clear and relatively dark. Next open house is on Saturday, October 20. Dress warmly and hope to see you then.

**Treasurer:** We currently have 110 members. We have $9918, of which $4276 is donations for new telescope and mount

**Secretary:** We are attempting to record past award recipients. The past decade is nearly complete except for 2008 and 2009. If anyone received an award at the award banquet in years past, please let Dale Thieme know (year and what the award was).

**Outreach:** Astronomy At The Beach tomorrow and Saturday. We need volunteers to help with scouts at Cranbrook. See Bob Berta for the dates.

**Publications:** This month’s WASP is on our club website. Contact Debra to write an article or submit photos for future issues.

**SIG Reports:**

**Discussion Group:** This month’s topic will be Gary’s new mount and setting it up with the software

Bob Trembley presented an outreach opportunity for the club at a January Science Fiction convention in Dearborn. He will post more details in the Yahoo group.

In The News:
- Video of a coronal mass ejection
- Magnificent CME Erupts on the Sun
- Fresh Jupiter impact may aid solar system census
- Heavy photons are too light to be behind dark matter
- Sizing up a new measuring ruler for the solar system
- Orbital Sciences set to launch from private spaceport

**Observing reports:**
Ken Bertin watched the ISS fly over with his wife. Over and over and over...

Bob Berta, did a star walk with a school group, learning constellations

Jon Blum saw green in a big Dob: The Cat’s eye Nebula.

Jonathan Kade reported that we had a great night at Stargate for last , Diane said there were some good meteors.

**Presentation:** Movie Night! A Neil Armstrong Tribute presented by Jonathan Kade

End time: 9:38