

Fairfield County Astronomical Society



STAMFORD MUSEUM AND NATURE CENTER • 39 SCOFIELDTOWN ROAD • STAMFORD, CONN. 06903

www.Stamford-Observatory.com

MEETING NOTICE

The public is invited to attend.

Date: Tuesday April 13, 2010
Time: 8:00 pm

Place: Stamford Observatory

8:00 pm Brief business meeting. It is time for annual elections again. Consider who you would like to see as officers for next year. The vote will be at the May meeting. Current plans are to re-elect the current slate.

8:15 pm From Nova, a program on the development of the telescope from the time of Galileo to the present, and on to plans for future telescopes. This includes the 20th anniversary of the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope, and some spectacular space views as well as some photos of existing telescopes most of us will never get to see.

Refreshments will be available.

If the weather is clear we may get in some observing after the meeting. Saturn has re-entered the evening sky, with the rings nearly edge on.

URGENT NOTICE!!! Someone in the FCAS borrowed our program "The Sky" which we use to operate the telescope. We need it back in order to install it on the new laptop computer as a backup.

Minutes of the FCAS Meeting March 9, 2010

Six members were present.

The meeting was opened at about 8:05 with a demonstration of the newly installed LCD projector. The installation is not yet complete.

I reported on the Museum's recent big event of the season, Maple Sugar Sunday, which brought in about 3100 people, with cars everywhere in the neighborhood. The income was larger than expected. This was good news in view of the City's cutting their contribution to the Museum by 25%, or about \$340,000. This will mean increases in gate fees and Museum memberships. Current fees for Observatory admission will remain unchanged for now.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$1903.00. There being no further business we got right to John Grese's presentation.

John gave us a run-down on his PhD thesis project which has to do with the rise of modern astrophysics from work with large refractors in the late 1800's. He was working on putting together his PowerPoint program to give at a seminar in Australia in about two weeks.

**Charles Scovil
for the Secretary**