

# Rappahannock Astronomy Club 2008 Year End Report

## 2008 Officers and Other Duties

President: Scott Busby  
Vice-President: Michael Masters  
Treasurer: Tim Plunkett  
Secretary: Glenn Holliday

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Web Site Editor: James Bingham  
Scouting Merit Badge Programs: Glenn Holliday  
International Year of Astronomy 2009 Coordinator: Mark DeVito  
Westmoreland Park Coordinator: Bart Billard

## Monthly Meetings, Business & Programs

Monthly business meetings held at CRRL Headquarters Branch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
Treasurer's Report

- Beginning Balance, 1 January \$1425.77
- Ending Balance, 31 December \$1440.25

Raclub.org web site maintained

Yahoo rac\_group maintained

50-50 Raffle drawing instituted

Programs and Presentations

- Astrophotography by Scott Busby, February
- Accessory Night by club membership, March
- Accessory Night by Michael Masters, April
- How to use a German Equatorial Mount by Scott Busby, May
- How to Collimate a Newtonian by Michael Masters, Collimation Demonstration by Joseph Francis and How to Clean a Mirror by Joseph Francis, June
- Observing in Alaska by Mark DeVito, July
- Prime Focus Astrophotography by Glenn Holliday, August
- Using The Sky v6 by Tom Harmon and Using Megastar by Michael Masters, October

Star Party dates set for 2009 at October meeting

2009 club officer elections held during November meeting at Pizza Hut

## Star Parties and Events

Caledon State Park: March 1 (Messier Marathon), March 29, June 7, July 26, August 23,  
October 4, November 1

Westmoreland State Park, 2 August

Club Picnic and 50-50 Raffle drawing at Caledon, 30 August

## RAC 2008 Year End Report

Cancelled due to weather: January 5, January 12 (backup), February 9 (public outreach at Motts Run), March 8 (backup), April 5 (backup), May 31 (Big Meadows), June 28, September 26-28 (BMSG), October 25, November 22, November 29 (backup), December 20  
Star Party dates, outcome unrecorded: February 2, April 26, May 3

### Public Outreach and Resources

Scout Night, Caledon, 29 March  
Conway Elementary School, Falmouth, 2 May  
Fredericksburg Parks and Recreation, Motts Run, 9 February  
Fredericksburg Parks and Recreation, Old Mill Park, 15 March (cancelled)  
Borders book stor, Central Park, 10 May  
Scope Day for public, Caledon, 7 June  
Family Nature Adventure, Nokesville Park, 26 July  
Home School Day, Caledon State Park, 3 October  
Collegiate School, Richmond area, 4 October  
Hartwood Elementary School, Hartwood, 24 October  
“Resource Guide for Telescope Buyers” writeup developed and available  
“How to Collimate a Newtonian Telescope” presentation developed and available

### Club Assets

Purchased Coronado Personal Solar Telescope

- Purchased by Mark Slade
- Loaned to Myron Wasiuta, Bart Billard, Scott Busby, Michael Masters
- Currently on loan to Leigh Gettier

Club 8” Dob on loan to Vernice Gilkey  
Club 6” Newtonian/GEM on loan to Tim Plunkett  
Club digital camera on loan to Bart Billard  
Club library assets located at Tim Plunkett’s home

### Proposed Activities for 2009

Star Party dates set for 2009; locations include

- Caledon
- Motts Run Reservoir
- Westmoreland
- Skyline Drive

Organize, index and set up lending procedures and policy for club book library  
“How to use Your Telescope Day” for public  
Support IYA2009

- Galileoscope purchase
- Increased public outreach
- Star Count (light pollution)