

# Rappahannock Astronomy Club

Minutes, August 17, 2022, Online Meeting

In attendance:

Bart Billard, Secretary  
Linda Billard, *StarGazer* Editor  
Scott Busby, Equipment Manager

Don Clark  
Glenn Faini, President  
Matthew Scott, Treasurer

The meeting began at about 8:06 p.m. Six members attended.

## Old Business

- President's Report—Glenn Faini said so far 12 people were planning to attend the picnic on September 3. Matt Scott said that he and Jean Benson would also go. Glenn F. said he had just a few items he needed volunteers to take to the picnic. Plastic utensils, cold drink cups, and handwipes were all he still needed volunteers for. (He would be picking up the food once we knew the picnic was a go.) He also reported that with 21 new members so far, the club now had 56 members for this year.
- Treasurer's Report—Matt said that in July he received \$87.50 for four membership dues payments and one Astronomical League dues payment. There were no expenditures. Matt mentioned that he had just found he could log in to his [treasurer@raclub.org](mailto:treasurer@raclub.org) Gmail account, and although it says the account is suspended, he could click the nine dots on the upper right of the screen to get a link that says contacts and lets him print his contacts. Glenn F. said that because his regular email account is also with Google, he can only access his ordinary email contacts and is not able to log in to the [president@raclub.org](mailto:president@raclub.org) account.
- Vice President's Report—Glenn F. reported that the star party on July 30 was successful. He referred everyone to his star party report on groups.io. He also reported that the August 6 star party was cancelled. He said the next star party date was September 3, the day of the picnic.
- Secretary's Report—Bart Billard said he wound up posting the July minutes before getting an answer from Glenn F. to his question about how to include officer titles in the minutes and would try doing it next time.
- *StarGazer* Report—Linda said she did not have anything to report. (The next issue is due out at the end of October.)
- Communications Committee Report—Glenn F. said John Maynard was not present to give a Webmaster report and that the groups.io list was working fine. He said the issue is our Google Workspace account with our email addresses for [president@raclub.org](mailto:president@raclub.org), etc. was suspended, and he was not sure why. Don sent him a link that appears to indicate Google is now charging for the service. We must have to have our admin log in to do whatever is necessary to lift the suspension but do not know what that is. He wondered whether we were suspended for some transgression, and why we were not notified. Don Clark asked who had the admin information. Glenn said John would, but he doubted whether he would have changed any of it, so Glenn thought whatever Don gave him would still work. Don said he looked at it a while back but could not remember what he found out, and he would try again and let Glenn know if he found out anything useful. Glenn suggested Don should send him and John any information he had for trying to access the admin account so they could try figuring it out as well. Don suggested having a single email address if we have to pay for each one, but Glenn said we need to find a different affordable service that lets us have dedicated addresses for each of the officers. Matt said he definitely needed a dedicated address to handle PayPal and was not getting PayPal messages because they go to the [treasurer@raclub.org](mailto:treasurer@raclub.org) address. He could work around that more or less by logging in to the PayPal account, but he did not get the verifications that way. Glenn concluded we should hold off on making any changes until we know whether we can get access to our old stuff again. He hoped to find a way to preserve old emails if we get access to the accounts again. He had been in the middle of a number of email conversations that he had lost access to.
- Equipment Inventory Report—Scott reported no changes in the equipment other than that Bart had checked out the Brandon Scope and a couple of eyepieces and we should get a report from him after his vacation how successful he was using it with his interferometer.

## **New Business**

- Other Items—Don Clark said he saw some news about data from the James Webb Space telescope that raised questions about our understanding of the Big Bang. Glenn F. said he did not think anyone expected such ground-breaking stuff from Webb so soon.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. It is planned as an online meeting.