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Northern Colorado Astronomical Society – Meeting Minutes 3/5/2026

Agenda

1. Reports:

Treasurer –Charlie Davis
 New Members –Greg Marino
 Outreach –Greg Halac

2. Night Sky Network –Greg Halac

3. Announcements

4. Tonight's Speaker:

Dr. Sara Webb – Exploring the Fast Transient
 Universe

Attendance

In person = 42 Online = 12 Total = 54

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Charlie Davis

Since Last Report		
	Income	Expenses
Memberships	\$420.00	\$0.00
PayPal Fees	\$0.00	\$21.59
Astronomical League		\$0.00
Outreach Supplies		\$336.01 club logo stickers
Meetings		\$9.43
Business Cards		\$0.00
Insurance		\$0.00
DarkSky Membership		\$0.00
T-Shirts	\$20.00	\$0.00
Donations	\$70.00	\$0.00
Total	\$510.00	\$367.03

Checking	\$ 1,125.68	2-Mar-2026
PayPal	\$ 2,140.28	2-Mar-2026
CD	\$ 2,122.99	4-Oct-2025
Checks On Hand	\$ -	-
Value of unsold shirts	\$ 80.00	2-Mar-2026
Total Assets	\$ 5,468.95	2-Mar-2026

2026 Northern Astronomical Society Budget - March 2026							
Income		2026 Budget			2026 Actual		
	Each	No.	Amount	No.	Amount		
Paid Memberships*	\$ 30.00	167	\$ 5,010.00	83	\$ 2,075.00		
Paid Memberships*	\$ 25.00		\$ -	6	\$ 150.00		
Total Memberships		167	\$ 5,010.00	100	\$ 2,225.00		
Donations			\$ 250.00		\$ 72.54		
Equipment Sales							
T-Shirts in inventory @ \$20/shirt	\$ 20.00	5	\$ 100.00	4	\$ 80.00		
Total Income			\$ 5,360.00		\$ 2,377.54		
Expenses		Due	Each	2026 Budget		2026 Actual	
				No.	Amount	Paid	Amount
FoCo Museum of Discovery donation	Feb	\$800.00		1	\$ 800.00		\$ -
Insurance	Jan	\$315.00		1	\$ 315.00	Y	\$ 315.00
Member Meetings		\$ 40.00		12	\$ 480.00		\$ 104.30
DarkSky International membership	Jan	\$100.00		1	\$ 100.00	Y	\$ 100.00
State of Colorado filing fee	Jun	\$ 25.00		1	\$ 25.00		\$ -
Astronomical League dues (per member, + \$10)	Jun	\$ 6.00	167		\$ 1,012.00		\$ -
PayPal fees (from memberships and misc.)		\$ 1.54	150		\$ 231.00		\$ 129.24
Outreach Supplies		\$ 55.00	12		\$ 660.00		\$ 336.01
Scope Loan Program		\$200.00			\$ 200.00		
Printing		Varies	Multiple		\$ 800.00		\$ -
Special Events		\$125.00	2		\$ 250.00		\$ -
Total Expenses					\$ 4,873.00		\$ 984.55
Net					\$ 487.00		\$ 1,392.99

Membership and New Members – Greg Marino

As of March 2: We have 200 members on the books
 100 members have paid dues for 2026

By the end of April, there will be a purge of any members still listed on the books without paying for their membership renewal for 2026. Members are urged to renew their membership before that happens.

NCAS welcomes new members joining since our February meeting:

- Dale Pfaff
- Melanie Balderas
- Kelly Sticca
- Jeff Grazier
- Jeff Stegeman

COMPLETED EVENTS						
Date	Start	Site	Duration	Guests	Scopes	Notes
2/6/26	18:30	LCP Devil's Backbone	2	26	10	
2/6/26	19:00	FRCC Observatory	2	55	1	
2/14/26	19:00	Impromptu	1	5	3	HTMOS
2/23/26	10:00	Sylvan Dale	2	17	4	Heart-J Youth
2/25/26	10:00	Sylvan Dale	2	25	5	Heart-J Youth
2/26/26	19:00	Poudre Learning Ctr	1.5	16	2	
2/27/26	10:00	Sylvan Dale	2	23	4	Heart-J Youth
2/27/26	18:00	Rice ES	2.5	225	4	STEM Night
3/3/26	3:30	LCP Horsetooth Mtn	2.5	27	5	Lunar Eclipse

CANCELED EVENTS			
Date	Start	Site	Cause
2/20/26	13:00	Irish ES	Clouds
2/21/26	19:00	FCNA Fossil Creek Res	Staffing
2/23/26	19:00	Poudre Learning Ctr	Clouds

UPCOMING EVENTS				
Date	Start	Site	Event	Duration
3/6/26	19:00	FRCC Observatory		2
3/11/26	20:00	FCNA Primrose	Meetup	1.5
3/13/26	20:00	LCP Horsetooth Mtn		2
3/20/26	19:30	FCMoD	Private	1.5
3/21/26	19:30	FCNA Fossil Creek Res		2
3/24/26	20:00	Poudre Learning Ctr		1.5
3/28/26	12:00	Lvld Library	Solar	2

Night Sky Network Tour and information – Greg Halac

Greg reminded members that the dues they pay for NCAS membership includes membership in the Night Sky Network and in the Astronomical League. He then gave members a quick tour to remind us of the many valuable resources available to us on the Night Sky Network.

To visit the public pages of the Night Sky Network go to: <https://science.nasa.gov/skywatching/night-sky-network/faq/>

Once you have setup your account as a member of NCAS at NSN, you will go to the member login page at <https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/login/>



Announcements -

In reference to the online tour of NSN that Greg Halac presented,

Kathy Lowry added that our members have the opportunity to add introductory information about themselves and their interests into a profile on the Night Sky Network. She encouraged members to share some information about themselves along with a photo in order to help members get to know each other better.

Tonight's Guest Speaker was introduced by Greg Marino – **Dr. Sara Webb** addressed our members online from Australia

Exploring the Fast Transient Universe Dr. Sara Webb



Dr Sara Webb is an Australian astrophysicist, science communicator, and space educator. She is Course Director for Swinburne Astronomy Online and leads Swinburne's microgravity education platform, sending student-designed experiments to the International Space Station. Sara's research spans fast transient astronomy, AI in astrophysics, and space-based experimentation, and she is known for translating complex space science for global audiences across traditional and digital media.