

Northern Colorado Astronomical Society Meeting Minutes 11/7/24



President

Andy Caldwell
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Vice President

Greg Marino
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Treasurer

Beth Edens
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Secretary

Rob Sireno
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Agenda

JPL/NASA - The Sky Tonight Presentation

Tonight's presentation

Dr. Amanda Hendrix - Ocean Worlds in the Solar System

Reports

Treasurer- Beth Edens

Outreach Coordinator- Greg Halac

Announcements

Need Social Media volunteer

Dinner at Penrose Tap house and Brewery. Please let Greg Halac know if you are interested so he can include you in the reservation

Treasurer's Report - Beth Edens

Income:

PayPal: \$191.04 – 8 New Members

FNBO Deposits:

Donation \$20 - Cash – Given at an Outreach event

Membership \$25 - Check

Total Income: \$236.04

Expenses:

Refreshments for Club & Astronomy Day \$69.45

Office Supplies \$123.86

Total Expenses: (\$193.31)

Checking Acct Balance: \$2,666.85

PayPal Balance: \$1,400.43

CD: \$2,049.00

Total Income: \$6,352.32

Attendance

42 in person, 14 online, total of 56

Membership

Total # of Members: 124 Members!

Renewing Members: 1 – Thank you!

New Members: 7 – Welcome!

We have had 7 new members join in October!!! Welcome everyone!

Michael Schneider

Cara Van Wormer

Michael Zoccoli

Nicole Schmidt

Jason Monk

Daniel Frazen

Jessica Engels

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Outreach Report - Greg Halac

Date	LAST MONTH EVENTS	Visitors	Hours	Comments
4-Oct	FCNA Bobcat Ridge	28	2	Clear skies, a favorite site
4-Oct	FRCC Observatory	42	2	Clear skies
5-Oct	LCP Carter Lake	33	2.5	Dam construction light dome
7-Oct	Poudre Learning Ctr	12	1.5	Where are the students?
8-Oct	Severance Library	11	2	Glimpses of Moon & Saturn
12-Oct	Lvld Prairie Ridge	42	1.5	OK despite clouds
19-Oct	FCMoD SOLAR	135	2.5	Early clouds, cleared
19-Oct	Stargazer Observatory	16	2	PM clouds - low turnout
26-Oct	LCP Horsetooth Mtn OS	47	2.5	Great event & turnout
1-Nov	FCNA Training	21	1	Mostly cloudy
1-Nov	FRCC Observatory	12	1	Mostly cloudy
2-Nov	Big Thompson ES	55	1.5	Fun event - see Josh's timelapse!

Date	CANCELLATIONS	Visitors	Comments
28-Oct	X Grover, CO: Clouds	0	Reschedule 11/18
6-Nov	X Poudre Learning Ctr: Clouds	0	Winter arrives

Date	UPCOMING EVENTS	Start	Comments
8-Nov	FCNA Fossil Creek Res	7p	Forecast "iffy"
12-Nov	McGraw ES	6p	
18-Nov	Grover, CO	5:30p	Town event
22-Nov	LCP Horsetooth Mtn OS	7p	Winter "monthly" no-Moon event

2025 event planning window starts Thanksgiving weekend. Requested [initial] feedback:

Favored sites [more at Eagles' Nest]

Sites to reduce/drop?

of events - more or less?

Keep a late-summer dark-sky weekend clear for a "road trip" star party

Please email any inputs to Greg H at outreach@NoCoAstro.org.

Announcements

We are looking for someone to manage our social media accounts

Like the outreach and education positions, this would not be an elected position and would be held as long as the volunteer wishes. Mostly Facebook and Instagram.

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Speaker

Dr. Amanda Hendrix - Ocean Worlds in the Solar System

Dr. Amanda Hendrix is a senior scientist at the Planetary Science Institute, based in Boulder, CO. Her research, which focuses on UV-visible spectroscopy of solar system surfaces, includes moon and asteroid composition, space weathering effects and radiation products. She has been a co-investigator on NASA's Cassini, Galileo and Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) missions, is a Principal Investigator on Hubble Space Telescope observing programs and is the Principal Investigator of NASA's Toolbox for Research and Exploration. Amanda also worked for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory for 12 years studying asteroids and icy moons, and was the Deputy Project Scientist for the Cassini Mission at Saturn. She is co-chair of the National Academies Committee on Planetary Protection, chair of NASA's Outer Planets Assessment Group, and served as chair of the American Astronomical Society's Division for Planetary Sciences. She holds a B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering from California Polytechnic State University and a Ph.D in Aerospace Engineering Sciences from the University of Colorado Boulder. She is co-author of *Beyond Earth, Our Path to a New Home in the Planets*, a discussion of the technological, medical and social hurdles to be overcome in considering establishing a human space settlement in the outer solar system, published in 2016 by Penguin Random House. In 2000, she was a NASA astronaut candidate finalist, and she is the namesake of asteroid 6813 Amandahendrix.