



DESERT SKY

Presidents Message - June, 2007

There are two dwarf peach trees in our yard. They are only about five feet tall and are not impressive to look at, however they blossom every Spring in a beautiful display of pink flowers. They tend to blossom too early, in the warm days of our "false springs". Then we get a late freeze and the flowers die, and we get no peaches.

We have lived in this house eight years now and I always watch those little trees bravely announce the arrival of Spring, then fail to produce fruit. People have given me lots of advice about different methods I could use to save the blossoms, but I have a feeling that the noble struggle the trees engage in should not be interfered with.

Five years ago one of the trees gave us one single peach, just one. To this date, it is the only peach we've harvested. That single peach was a victory. It proclaimed that Nature's best stories are sometimes little events that demonstrate the beauty of persistence. We get baskets of apricots and cherries from our other trees, but don't compare to that one peach. I was the best peach I've ever eaten.

Enjoy the little things, for they enrich our lives in so many ways. Mike Thomas

May 15th Minutes

Mike Thomas called the May 15th WNAS general membership meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Brian Guerin gave a treasury report (approximately \$2500.00) at the present time. There were about 26 members at the meeting, all thanked our new president for all his efforts in improving the turnout with interesting speakers and a new newsletter format!

At the May 19th meeting the President reminded the membership that the Saturday night star parties at the Jack C. Davis Observatory are our opportunity to become mentors to the visitors. It was mentioned that we should go out of our way to greet visitors and show them around the observatory. Many families visit us on Saturday evenings and we can positively impact people, providing some motivation towards the sciences.

The light blocking wall project was discussed with an update by Robert Collier. The JCDO could have the wall in place by the end of summer.

A resource list was initiated by having members present write down any topics they were confident to talk about in a lecture format.

Dr. Steve Gillet gave an interesting lecture and powerpoint presentation on "Lunar Geology".

Next WNAS General Membership Meeting - June 19th

WNAS Officers

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June WNAS Membership Meeting GUEST SPEAKER

Western Nevada Astronomical Society member Harold Mason will present a talk on "Variable Stars". Harold has given the membership lectures on other topics and this should be very interesting.

Events Calendar

Day	June	July
Sunday	17	1
Monday	18	2
Tuesday	19 WNAS Meeting	3
Wednesday	20	4
Thursday	21 WNAS Ops Meeting	5
Friday	22 First Qtr Moon	6
Saturday	23 Star Party	7 Star Party, Last Qtr Moon
	24	8
	25	9
	26	10
	27	11
	28	12 Venus at Max Brightness
	29	13
	30 Star Party, Full Moon	14 Star Party, Dark Skies, New Moon
		15
		16
		17 WNAS Meeting
		18
		19
		20
		21 Star Party, First Qtr Moon



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