

Stratford Astronomy Group (SAG)

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, June 2, 2026

Presiding: Patrick Hayes

Number of Attendees: 16

Recorded by: Tom Kimber

Club Business

Star Viewing Party — Update

Patrick Hayes reported that the SAG received \$260.00 from the Stratford-Perth Museum for co-hosting the May 27 Star Party. This money, along with the funds collected this year from attendees and each meeting, covers the club expenses of room rental and WIFI license and leaves the club's books in the black. As of June 2, the club's fiscal balance is \$1525.65

The Star Party attracted 47 attendees, and many stayed for the viewing party following the 3 presentations. See the website for a Review.

Megan at the Stratford-Perth Museum hopes to partner with the club for a presentation at the Museum in the Fall on the Event Horizon global collaboration to take the first picture of a black hole. The next Museum-SAG Star Party would then be in May 2027.

Club Member Doug Fyfe spoke with Stratford Today's journalist, Alex Hunt, who crafted a story published on May 8, 2026. Read it [here](#)

The Stratford Observing Group (SOG) hope to plan a Star Viewing Event this summer. Club members Jim and Mini Koteles have offered to host the event at their property on Line 27 south of Stratford.

A discussion was held on where people gather for night sky viewing. It was pointed out that Mount Forest, Ontario hosts a Star Party each year.

StarFest 2026, Canada's largest annual star party, takes place on **August 13–16, 2026**. Hosted by the North York Astronomical Association, this dark-sky stargazing and camping event is held at The River Place Campground in **Mount Forest, Ontario**— just a short drive north of your location in St. Marys. Click [here](#) for more details.

Presentations

Dr. Michael Burns — Latest Astronomy News

Dr. Michael Burns presented us with a summary of the news in Astronomy.

What's Up in the June Night Sky is contained within the [PDF](#) prepared by Dr. Burns.

What's Up in the May Night Sky is contained within the [PDF](#) prepared by Dr. Burns. I include this link because it also speaks to the Hubble Tension.

Hubble Trouble — Continued (Bruce Simpson)

Bruce Simpson took the floor to conclude his 'Hubble Trouble' presentation, which he began at the February 2026 meeting.

The complete 2026 presentation slides are available on the SAG website: [Hubble Trouble — February 2026 \(PDF\)](#)

These minutes are circulated to SAG members for information.