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NEWSLETTER OF THE AMATEUR ASTRONOMER'S ASSOCIATION OF PRINCETON

The next meeting of the Amateur Astronomer's Association of Princeton will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 1972, at 8:00 p.m. in Room A-07 of Princeton University's Jadwin Hall (in the Physics Department). We do not have a speaker, but the program will feature one or two movies on astronomical or other related topics.

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The next meeting of the Study Group is on the Friday after the business meeting, January 14, 1972. The group will meet at 8:00 p.m. in Duncan Planetarium, located in Princeton Day School on the Great Road. The topic will be: Chapter 12 "The Solar System in General" presented by Mr. Barry Hancock.

The next meeting of the Astrophotography/Observation group will be held on the Friday after the Study Group meets, January 21, 1972, at 8:00 p.m. The group meets at Karl Koehler's home observatory located in Bordentown. Let's hope they have a clear night, for they have had very few since the group was formed.

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Peyton Hall is having another public lecture on January 21, 1972, at 8:00 pm. This is a fine chance to meet interesting people and to view through their 9 inch refractor,

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Don't forget the lunar eclipse on January 29-30, 1972. Norm Sperling is having a Star Party that night from 10 till 6 at the field at Princeton Day School.

DUNCAN PLANETARIUM TRIP TO THE LAUNCHING OF APOLLO 16 FROM CAPE KENNEDY, FLORIDA

Arranged through Starr Transit of Trenton, a fully-equipped modern bus will depart Princeton Day School after dismissal Wednesday, 15 March 1972. After an all-night drive to Florida, arrival at our hotel in Daytona Beach should be in the early afternoon of Thursday, 16 March. With time to unwind from the trip, there should still be a few hours of sun and sand available before dinner. On Friday, 17 March, the Apollo launching is scheduled. With liftoff at 1:30 PM, the Space Center and surrounding viewing sites should be heavily populated by early morning. Arrival the previous evening will allow us a choice site. Sperling is trying to arrange an official tour of Kennedy Space Center. On Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19, Walt Disney World at Orlando will be a short bus ride from our hotel. Admission, tour and ride tickets are included in the trip fare, as are all motel rooms and gratuities. After a morning on the beach Monday, 20 March, we will leave for a more leisurely drive north, stopping for the night at South of the Border in Dillon, South Carolina. Return to Princeton the evening of Tuesday, 21 March.

The basic price of \$139.00 includes round trip transportation, all hotel bills, gratuities, and admissions at Disney World. Food is the only necessity not included. It is assumed that most people will stay four to a room. If you prefer two to a room, there will be an additional \$20 charge. Possible discounts include not going to Disney World, \$11; if more than 35 go with us, fare will be \$124 instead of \$139.

Considering the time and money involved in any other means of transportation, this seems to be the best way to witness the Apollo launching and experience a bit of Florida. You should also consider that very few chemical rockets of this huge size are likely to be launched in the future. Those who have witnessed such shots recommend them very highly as experiences not to be missed.

If you are interested in making the trip with us, please fill out the form below and return to Norman Sperling at Duncan Planetarium, no later than 20 January 1972.

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Your name \_\_\_\_\_ % probability of going

Others with you \_\_\_\_\_ % probability of going

Your address and telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Date you could commit yourself to Go or No Go \_\_\_\_\_

Would you prefer to see just the launch, and come right back?

Would you prefer more days in Florida? How Many?

Would you prefer 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, more days at Walt Disney World? (please circle)

Other comments:



# PERIODICALS RECEIVED AT DUNCAN PLANETARIUM

A great number of magazines and other periodicals are received, which may be read by AAAP members.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>earliest issue</u>
American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac	annual	1967
Baltimore Astronomical Society Newsletter	monthly	1968
Mid Atlantic Pltm Soc Newsletter <u>Constellation</u>	quarterly	1968
Edmund Scientific Catalog	annual	1957
The Fireball (Lansing Ast Soc)	monthly	1968
Great Lakes Pltm Assn Newsletter	quarterly	1969
Griffith Observer	monthly	1937
Harford Co (Md) Ast Soc Newsletter	monthly	1970
Inside Orbit, Grand Rapids Am Ast Assn	bi-monthly	1967
Journal for the History of Astronomy	irregular	1970
Maryland Academy of Sciences Newsletter	monthly	1969
A A A P Newsletter	monthly	1970
Observer's Handbook, Royal Ast Soc of Canada	annual	1965
Optical Spectra	monthly	1969
Physics Today	monthly	1972
Reflector, Astronomical League	quarterly	1962
The Sciences, N Y Acad Sci	bi-monthly	1961
Scientific American	monthly	1960
Sky and Telescope	monthly	1947
Smithsonian	monthly	1970
Star Dust, National Capital Astronomers	monthly	1957
Underground Observer, Detroit Obs & Astrophoto Asn)	irregular	1967
Astronomy and Space	quarterly	1971
Meteor News	5/year	1970
The Observer, Lehigh Valley Am Ast Soc	monthly	1969
Giornale dell'Assn Astrofili Bolognesi (Italy)	quarterly	1969
Planetarium Journal of Canada	quarterly	1969
Star Dust (Harrisburg, Pa)	monthly	1969
Planetarium Director's Handbook (Spitz Labs)	monthly	1970
The Star Gazer's Journal (Willingboro Ast Soc)	monthly	1970
The Observer's Journal of Amateur Astronomy	bimonthly	1970
The Amateur Astronomer (Buffalo)	monthly	1972
Review of Popular Astronomy (defunct)	bimonthly	1962-69
Astronomy Today (defunct)	quarterly	1968-70
Strasensburgh Planetarium Observer (Rochester)	monthly	1970
M E R A L Bulletin	quarterly	1970
I U A A Circulars, various commissions	irregular	1971
Detroit Ast Soc Newsletter	monthly	1971
The Amateur Astronomer (Dayton, Ohio)	monthly	1970
The Sperry Observer, Cranford, NJ	irregular	1971
Smithsonian Short-Lived Phenomenon Cards	irregular	1971
N A S A Publications	irregular	1965
American Astronomical Society Bulletin	monthly	1971

Duncan Planetarium also maintains a large file of products and services offered to astronomers; a growing library of books; and a few tape recordings pertaining to astronomy. AAAP members are encouraged to use the planetarium library by arrangement with Norman Sperling, Planetarium Director. It should be noted that almost all publications are not complete from earliest date to the present. Donations of anything amateur astronomers might want to read will be accepted at any time. A bibliography is in preparation.

## ITEMS FOR SALE

A 6" f/12 Newtonian with fibreboard tube, equatorial pipe mount, and two eyepieces is offered for sale by Mr. Anthony T. Schiller, 716 Hobart Avenue, Trenton. Mr. Schiller's phone number is 609-587-5701. The telescope was hand-made from an Edmunds kit in 1965 and has lain idle for several years. Cobwebs line the tube but do not appear to have damaged the surface of the mirror. In testing on land objects Sperling was unable to bring the telescope to a sharp focus with either eyepiece, though a "soft" usable image was formed. Perhaps the mirror (or diagonal) may need some refinishing; Schiller disagrees. He is selling this one because his more convenient 3" suits his needs better than the 6"-long one. If you are interested in buying such a telescope, and perhaps doing some optical work on it, contact Mr. Schiller and mention either Mr. Sperling or Mr. Rick Miller as reference.

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Single copies of the following back-issues of Sky and Telescope magazine, all in very good condition (except for brittleness in older issues) are available for \$1 each from Norm Sperling at Duncan Planetarium:

1970: June, Sept

1965: Jan, Feb, April, May, July, Dec

1958: Jan, Feb, Mar, April, May, June

1957: Feb, April, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

1956: Mar, May, June, July, Aug, Nov, Dec

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## UPCOMING OUTINGS AT DUNCAN PLANETARIUM

29-30 January 1972: an all-night (10PM-6 AM) star party with PDS astronomy students, several telescopes and a full night of observing assignments. Not only will the moon be totally eclipsed toward the end of the evening, but observations of the moon, some planets, some of the brighter deep-sky objects, and a lot of constellation work will also be done. During part of the dimming-of-the-moon phases, meteor counts will be taken. This is a Saturday night/Sunday morning, so very few of you have work commitments to miss. The observing will start late enough to allow you to catch some sleep before coming. The building will be open for warmth, light, (hot) refreshments and plumbing facilities. Students who participated in a similar all-nighter proclaimed it one of the most valuable experiences of the year. ABAP members and friends are invited to participate with the students (and, especially, to bring telescopes). Please contact Sperling for further details.

15 March 1972, for about a week: launching of Apollo XVI from Cape Kennedy. This corresponds with Spring Recess at PDS. Sperling and a group of 15-30 students and relatives plan to go down to watch the launching. Travel will be either by charter bus or the car-train. Walt Disney World is close to Cape Kennedy. Various astronomical institutions on the route back may be visited if we travel by bus. All costs to be group-rate; estimates range from \$100 to \$250 for a week (that last sounds high to Sperling).

10 July 1972: total solar eclipse. Expedition of PDS students and selected others to observe and conduct scientific observations from prime site of Manicouagan, Quebec or other site recommended by expedition meteorologists. Expenses to be kept to a minimum. All members must train on their observation projects in advance. 60 sec unassigned time during totality. If all goes as planned, probability of this group seeing eclipse is almost 80% (no one else has more than 45%).



month	lecture program business meeting A-07 Jadwin Hall Princeton University	study group Princeton Day School	Observing Group Karl Koehler's Bordentown	AAAP Special Shows: Duncan Planetarium, P. D. S.	Star Parties Athletic Fields Princeton Day School	University Observatory Open House Peyton Hall
January	11 Tue	14 Fri	21 Fri	26 Wed	6, 29 Thu, Sat	21 Fri
February	8 Tue	11 Fri	18 Fri	15 Tue	6, 21 Sun, Mon	--
March	14 Tue	17 Fri	24 Fri	2 Thu	6 Mon	--
April	11 Tue	14 Fri	21 Fri	29 Sat	6, 24 Thu, Mon	20 Thu
May	9 Tue	12 Fri	19 Fri	25 Thu	3, 14 Wed, Sun	22 Mon
June	13 Tue	16 Fri	23 Fri	5 Mon	1 Thu	--

AAAP regular monthly meetings are held in the Princeton University Physics Department. Jadwin hall is located between Palmer Stadium and Washington Road, just south of the Mathematics Tower. Enter the ground-level door on the Washington Road side, sign in at the desk, turn right, follow the corridor to the display area, turn left, just past the large glass case turn right again. A-07 is the second room on the left. The regular meeting starts at 8:00 PM. It is customary to join the guest speaker of the evening and a group of club members at dinner, at 6:15 PM at the Holiday Inn of Princeton on U.S. 1. Reservations should be made with the program chairman the day before.

Observatory Open Houses are held in the lecture hall and twin roof-top observatories at Peyton Hall, on Ivy Lane between the Mathematics Tower and the north end of Palmer Stadium. In good weather the telescopes are open from 7:30 to 9:30. Regardless of weather, a non-technical talk is given at 8:00 PM.

Duncan Planetarium at Princeton Day school is the headquarters for the AAAP. Study Group, Planetarium Show and Star Party events all start at 8:00 PM. The Study group is a self-teaching class, where members take turns covering chapters in Exploration of the Universe, 2d Ed., by George O. Abell. Planetarium shows are mostly non-technical, and are open to members and their families and friends, to the seating capacity of 43. Star parties are held on the athletic fields behind the school twice monthly. PDS astronomy students come in large numbers, bringing whatever telescopes they have, and refreshments. AAAP members also come, with telescopes, and help point out various objects in the sky.

Monthly observing and astrophotography sessions are held in Bordentown at the home of Karl Koehler.