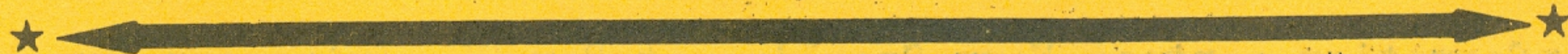


# Sidereal Times



A Publication of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton

December, 1974

The December 10 meeting of the AAAP will be held in room A-07 Jadwin Hall at 8 P.M. The meeting will feature a lecture on "Ancient Astronomical Instruments" to be delivered by Mr. Richard Waldron of the New Jersey State Historical Commission and special lecturer for the New Jersey State Museum Planetarium. Mr. Waldron's expertise on the subject will be familiar to AAAP members from his history oriented articles that have appeared in Cluster as well as his excellent article concerning ancient instruments that appeared in the November 1973 issue of the Griffith Observer. A few of the topics that will be illustrated by slides will include the astrolabe, the four cubit diopter, time sighting, and principles of stereographic projection. All are welcomed to join the guest speaker for dinner at 5:45 P.M. at the Prime Rib located between Princeton and Trenton on Route 1.

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Congratulations are in order to Norman Sperling on his phenomenal acquisition of a 10" Fitz Refractor. The telescope is in an unassembled state on the Floor of the Duncan Planetarium. Mr. Sperling is still undecided as to plans for the telescope but is willing to listen to any reasonable proposition. Also Mr. Sperling has made another fantastic purchase of a 5" Fitz lens-- a story better left to its owner-- which may be purchased at the right offer. For more

*AAAP Newsletter*



information contact Norm Sperling at Box 75, Princeton Day School,  
Princeton, New Jersey.

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Commandor Richey reports that the traffic at the AAAP library situated in his home is negligible and invites all members that desire to borrow books or use the library to do so. Call Commandor Richey at 799-0440.

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The January 14 meeting of the AAAP will feature a joint talk by Richard D. Peery, Assistant Director of the New Jersey State Museum Planetarium and Tom Fottorman of the S\*T\*A\*R Astronomy Society of Shrewsbury. Tentative plans include the presentation of the highly acclaimed NASA film, "Mars: The Search Begins" depending on the availability of the film. The film summarizes the accumulated knowledge of the planet of war to date and discusses the future Viking Project that intends to land a probe to determine the character of the Martian surface. Mr. Fottorman will present useful hints for amateur observation of Mars and summarize the scientific findings of Mariner 6, 7, & 9. A dinner will precede the scheduled program at the Prime Rib.

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The 1975 Canadian Observers Handbook is now available and may be purchased through the club at the price of \$3.00 per copy.