

Sidereal Times



December 1976

EDITOR: Jack Power

NEXT AAAP MEETING

The December meeting of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton will be held Tuesday, December 14 in Jadwin Hall in Room A-07 at 8:00 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., there will be an informal get together for slide showing and discussion.

Our Program Chairman, John Church, will introduce, as our speaker for the evening, Dr. Martin Schwarzschild, Professor of Astronomy, Princeton University. Dr. Schwarzschild will speak on Stellar Evolution. He is the foremost authority on the subject and his talk should be most enlightening and informative.

The informal pre-meeting "meet-the-speaker" dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Coach Room of the Nassau Inn in Palmer Square, Princeton, N. J.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY OBSERVATORY OPEN HOUSE

The Princeton University Observatory will be open to the public on Wednesday, February 23, Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, April 26, 1977. The time will be from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. On clear nights the 4½ and 9 inch Clarke refractors will be used to observe. If the sky is not suitable for observing, an illustrated, non-technical lecture will be given at 8 p.m. Observing will depend on the status of the sky following the lecture.

EDITORIAL

The Editor would like to make the Sidereal Times an interesting and informative newsletter about the doings of our members. This can only happen if he has the cooperation of the members. The hobby of Astronomy is fascinating with many side-road projects available other than just looking. What interesting projects have our members embarked upon? Please drop me a note with a tidbit of information so it can be shared by others. The address is 102 Upper Ferry Road, Trenton, New Jersey, 08628 and the phone number is (609) 882-8811.

AAAP Newsletter

AAAP PROJECTS GET TOGETHER

There have been several meetings of a group, headed by Steve Shutt, for the purpose of getting to know new members and, for that matter, old members. The discussions have been on what projects would be interesting, who can help with knowledge and who has what facilities available such as a darkroom and/or shop facilities. Please give Steve a call at (215) 736-1983 or drop him a note at 24 Keystone Avenue, Morrisville, Pa., 19067. If you would like to enjoy the group discussions and the fellowship of your fellow members, give Steve a call. Help to make the club an interesting experience.

MORE SUNSPOT INFORMATION

Since Ye Editor's project is Sun Observation and its effects on radio propagation, maybe the predictions of a few learned individuals in the field for the next solar cycle maxima might be of interest. McNish and Lincoln predict that the main Maximum of cycle 21 will occur in the first quarter of 1981 with a smoothed sunspot number of 119; Sutorik predicts the fourth quarter of 1979 with a number of 152; McIntosh predicts the first quarter of 1981 with a number of 120; Hill says the fourth quarter of 1981 with a number of 198; and Cohen and Lintz say 1982 with a number of 50. It is very obvious that this is not an exact science.

SIDELIGHT

Roxanne Tobin and Dick Peery have been busy with astrophotography and have produced some extremely fine slides and prints. They have spent many nights at the telescope. However, the other evening they were out on Dick's farm attempting triumphs with the telescope pointed skyward when a neighboring farmer happened by. Just as Dick snapped the shutter of his camera, making a click in the still air, a meteor flashed through the sky. The farmer turned to Roxanne and Dick and said, "My goodness, you two sure are good shots."

Season's Greetings to all from your Officers and Editor.