

December, 1980

SIDEREAL TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS ASSOCIATION OF PRINCETON

Director: Roxanne Peery

Editor: Dick Peery

FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday, December 9: *David Crisp, Princeton University Grad Student, "THE McMATH SOLAR TELESCOPE AT KITT PEAK OBSERVATORY".*

Tuesday, January 13: *Dick Peery, PLANETARIUM SHOW, at the New Jersey State Museum Planetarium, located on West State Street in Trenton.*

Tuesday, February 10: *David Brown, AAAP Program Chairman will speak on "AN AMATEUR ASTRONOMER'S LIBRARY".*

All meetings except the January planetarium show will be held at the Institute for Advanced Study on Olden Lane in Princeton and begin at 8:00 p.m.

Prior to the meeting club members can attend an informal dutch treat dinner beginning at 5:45 p.m. at *Good Time Charley's* on Main Street in Kingston. The January dinner will be held somewhere near the Planetarium, see next month's *Sidereal Times* for the location.

NOVEMBER MEETING

November was members night at the AAAP and among those who presented short talks were Jason Albert who spoke about his research on light pollution, Leith Holloway who showed slides sent to us by observatory designer Karl Koehler, Roxanne Peery gave the Observatory Annual Report. Dick Peery showed a few NASA slides of Saturn taken in mid-October by the Voyager space craft, and Kurt Goepfert mentioned his upcoming trip to Goddard to see some of the Voyager mission in progress. Last of all John Church talked about occultations in preparation for mounting a club expedition to see a grazing occultation in Cream Ridge (*which unfortunately clouded out*).

NOVICE PHOTOGRAPHY NIGHTS

Novice Photography nights are proving difficult to find. It's been cloudy every single scheduled night. This means we are going to have to push back the judging night from February to March and try to schedule as many possible nights as we can. Listed below are all the possible nights photos can be taken. Even if it appears clear please call Roxanne Peery before venturing out to the observatory. Starting time will be around 7:30 p.m. As we mentioned in last month's issue if you do not own photography equipment you are still welcome to come out. Just bring your own roll of film.

At the March meeting prizes will be awarded to the best photos in each category. They will be judged by John Church and Richard Peery. Please submit only one or two photographs per category.

LUNAR NIGHTS

December 13 or 14 (before 10:30 pm)

January 10 or 11

TRIPOD NIGHTS

November 28 and 29
December 13 or 14 (after 10:30. pm)
January 3 or 4
January 30 or 31

METEOR NIGHT

December 13 or 14 will be held after lunar photography. This will be a good night to see the Geminid shower and if you bring a tripod and camera you may even capture a few on film.

TIDBITS

The Board of Directors will hold their next meeting on Monday, January 4, 1981 at the home of Roxanne Peery at 8:00 p.m. Any member may attend the meeting but only Board members may vote.

OBSERVATORY ROSTER

Cold weather will undoubtedly cut down on the Friday nights that the observatory will be open for members but a roster is listed anyway. Please call the persons listed to find out if they plan to venture out to the Park.

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| November 28: Kurt Rahifs | December 26: Leith Holloway |
| December 5: Doug Wurzler | January 2: Holiday, stay home |
| December 12: Bill Phillips | January 9: Roxanne Peery |
| December 19: Pat Kane | |

OBSERVATORY CONSTRUCTION

The plumbing has been drained for the winter and will open up sometime in the spring. The drainage ditches are finally (hopefully) finished and will help the drainage problems, which seem to be worst in the winter. If you find that the observatory door will not open because the floor has heaved please notify Leith Holloway at 924-2480. Other than that everything is ready for the onset of winter.

Have a Happy Holiday!



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