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We have a card from MRS. NORRIS. She has been with her sister in Knoxville, Tennessee, for a month and will probably be there for some time. Her address is 1810 Melrose Avenue. She says she has been doing considerable observing. She sends her best wishes to NCA. NCA hopes her sister will soon be better.

1952 SCIENCE FORUM of Unitarian Layman's League will resume its program of scientific lectures in the fall.

Changes of Address

Norma Leinhard, 3801 Connecticut Ave., N.W. WO 2498
David Minton, 4809 Carlton Ave., Temple Hills, Md.

Change of Telephone Number

Bob and Janet Wright --- Everglade 4-6748

APRIL WEATHER AND SKIES should prove more favorable for observing. NCA members group observing for this month will move to Rock Creek Park, Glover Road, south of Military Road and Oregon Avenue. This location can be reached by Capital Transit Military Road crosstown bus. The night will be 15, 16, or 17, whichever is the first clear night. Come and bring your telescope if you have one.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AT THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE CONVENTION. It is hoped to have several excellent papers from professional and amateur astronomers, and also from junior amateurs. Anyone wishing to present a paper should write to Mr. James H. Karle, 10925 S. W. 49th Avenue, Portland 19, Oregon. Mr. Karle is Secretary of the Astronomical League and also program chairman of the convention.

Jewell Boling, Editor, 1717 P St., N. W. NOrth 9621

STAR DUST
National Capital Astronomers
Washington, D. C.

April 1952

Vol. 9, No. 8

APRIL CALENDAR

- | Date | |
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| 3 (Thurs.) | "THE SUN, THE MOON, AND THE TIDES," the Nineteenth James Arthur Lecture on the Sun, Rear Admiral L. O. Colbert. 8:15 p. m. at the auditorium of the United States National Museum. |
| 5 (Sat.) | "SORTING STARS," Charlotte Moore Sitterly, physicist in the Spectroscopy Section of the National Bureau of Standards. Commerce Auditorium, 8:15 p. m. |
| 6 (Sun.) | "EXPLORING THE SKY," National Capital Parks-NCA joint program. Fort Reno Park, 40th and Chesapeake Sts., N. W., 8-10 p. m. |
| 15, 16, or 17 | GROUP OBSERVING for NCA members, Glover Road, South of Military Road and Oregon Avenue in Rock Creek Park, 7:30 p. m. First of these dates on which skies are clear. Ned Johnston, Chairman. |
| 18 (Fri.) | "METEORS AND METEORITES," talk to the Philosophical Society meeting at the Cosmos Club. Dr. Sidney Chapman of Oxford University. 8:15 p. m. |

23,28 SIXTH ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR, Gymnasium of Catholic University. The Awards Program will be given April 25, 8 p.m. at Departmental Auditorium. For further information write Mr. Keith C. Johnson, West School, 14th & Farragut Sts., N. W.

Tuesday and Friday, 7-10 p. m. Telescope Making Class, Roosevelt High School, Room 319, 13th and Upshur, N. W. Miss Irene Warthen, Instructor. Telephone L0ckwood 5-1237. Note: There will be no telescope making classes held during the period April 11-21.

"Twinkle, twinkle little star.
Now we know just what you are,
When unto the midnight sky
We the spectroscopes apply. . "

This is what astronomers began singing after the sorting of stars led to an understanding of their characteristics. We shall hear about this work from Charlotte Moore Sitterly, physicist in the Spectroscopy Section of the National Bureau of Standards.

The lecture might well be entitled "Stars and Atoms" or "The Physical Properties of Stars as Revealed by their Spectra". The spectroscope, so aptly called the master key of the universe, is one of the most powerful tools used in the process of sorting stars. Astronomers have found that the stars can be classed according to their spectra in an orderly array ranging from bright hot blue stars to faint cool red "dwarf" stars on the main sequence, and from massive blue to massive red stars called "giants".

Mrs. Sitterly will discuss different types of spectra, the chemical composition of stars of different spectral type, the changing physical conditions along the array, and the present interpretation of reasons behind such an orderly arrangement.

Mrs. Sitterly is no stranger to the National Capital Astronomers; she has presented several very interesting lectures to us during the last few years. Probably no one is more qualified to speak on the subject of stellar spectra. Her work on the analysis of atomic spectra from the laboratory and the stars is world-famous.

--Harriet Malitson

"EXPLORING THE SKY" - These programs, held jointly with the National Capital Parks, will again this year be held at Fort Reno Park, 40th and Chesapeake Streets, N. W. The first one for this season will be held the evening following our next regular meeting, Sunday, April 6, 8-10 p. m. Mr. William Isherwood has agreed to be in charge of the NCA responsibility for this program. Please cooperate with him and the NCA by bringing yourself and your telescope on April 6. The National Capital Parks are providing a projector, screen, and public address system, so that we can take care of the persons who always attend when skies are doubtful. The newspaper announcement for this program will carry an invitation for all telescope owners to bring their instruments to this program. Such requests made in other towns have brought out several persons not associated with the local astronomy group. We are hoping the same thing will happen here.

--Janet Wright

NEW MEMBERS

Graham, Kenneth James, 1310 Bayliss Rd., Alexandria, Va.
KI 8-7933
Kolodny, Samuel, 1434 Kanahwa St., Hyattsville, Md.
JU 8-5041
*Kolodny, Michael A., Same address as above.