

JANUARY WAS ASTRONOMY MONTH FOR THE SCOUTS and the requests for volunteer help began coming in late in the fall and kept on coming till the end of January. A great many of our members gave generously their time and effort to this program. I probably do not have the names of all those who participated as many of the members received individual requests, but here are those on record:

Bob Wright	spoke to	6	groups
Bob Brown	"	"	4
Dana Law	"	"	3
John Lund	"	"	2
Bob Rhynsburger	"	"	2
Sam Field	"	"	1
Bob McCracken	"	"	1
Leo Scott	"	"	1
Hoy Walls	"	"	1
Larry White	"	"	1

The members who participated in this program reflect much credit on the NCA and show fine community spirit.
---Everette Neville

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Crowe, 2013 New Hampshire Ave., N. W., Apt. 302, Washington 9, D. C. HU 3-8248

Clay L. Hillman, Jr., 2107 North Scott Street, Arlington, Virginia. JA 8-6488

*Lewis S. Acker, 5501 Potomac Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. EM 2-2190

*Harold M. Leich, 5606 Vernon Place, Bethesda 14, Md. OL 4-5524

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. Paul R. Høyl, 2912 Leland Street, Chevy Chase 15, Md.

Jewell Boling, Editor, 1717 P Street, N.W. NO 7-7693

STAR DUST
National Capital Astronomers

March 1957 Vol. 14, No. 7

MARCH CALENDAR

March 2 "ATOMIC STRUCTURE, NUCLEAR REACTIONS, AND THE (Sat.) SUN," Dr. George L. Rogosa, Reactor Physicist, Division of Research and Development, Atomic Energy Commission, Department of Commerce Auditorium, 8:15 P.M.

March 9 D. C. and MARYLAND JUNIORS OVER 12 meet with Mr. (Sat.) Leith Holloway at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5600 block of Connecticut Avenue, N. W., from 2 to 4 P. M., for a discussion on telescopes.

March 16 DISCUSSION GROUP with Betty Lipscomb on the (Sat.) "HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY." Department of Commerce Foyer, 8:00 P. M.

TELESCOPE MAKING CLASS with Hoy Walls each Monday evening at 7:30 P. M., Chevy Chase Community Center, 5600 block of Connecticut Avenue. Mr. Walls' phone number is OL 2-5395.

"ATOMIC STRUCTURE, NUCLEAR REACTIONS, AND THE SUN," the March lecture, is to be given by Dr. George L. Rogosa, Reactor Physicist, Division of Research and Development, Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Rogosa, in his illustrated talk will develop information on the personal habits of our friend, the mighty atom, both in his peaceful moods as we know him best and in his violent moods as we know him in the sun and stars. Dr. Rogosa received his Ph. D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1949. From 1949 until 1956 he was professor of physics at Florida State University and was at the same time associated with the Oak Ridge Laboratory of the Atomic Energy Commission.

-- Dana K. Law

DISCUSSION GROUP - There is no place more rich in mystery, adventure, and romance than the heavens above. The ancients, awed by the spectacle of skies overhead, found numerous explanations for the stars and planets. A study of the myths of a people is, for the most part, a study of their religion. It is no wonder that this is so. The skies, without benefit of brightly lighted cities and years of astronomical research, seemed a logical place for the gods to reside and every change was something to notice and interpret. Come along on Saturday, March 16 and let's talk about the skies and myths.

----Betty Lipscomb

DR. B. F. BURKE talked on RADIO SIGNALS FROM OTHER PLANETS at the February 2 NCA meeting. Dr. Burke, of the Carnegie Institution, talked on radio astronomy, pointing out that the radio astronomer deals with the same phenomenon as the optical astronomer, namely, the concentration and focusing of radiation. The chief difference is the much larger wave lengths which radio astronomers detect. Because of the much longer wave lengths the radio astronomer has more of a problem in resolution. Dr. Burke pointed out that you would need an antenna reaching from here to the moon to get good resolution at 20 megacycles.

The strongest galactic radiation comes from the center of the galaxy in the direction of Sagittarius. In addition there are strong discrete sources such as the crab nebulae and of course the sun. There is no radiation detected from comets but thermal radiation is received from the inner planets. The Carnegie Institution antenna at Seneca, Maryland, has detected strong radiation at from 14 to 27 megacycles emanating from Jupiter when the big red and white spots on Jupiter are within 30 degrees of a perpendicular from Jupiter's surface to the earth. It is evidently a point source of radiation associated with the big spots. The radiation is circularly polarized indicating a magnetic field around the source.

---Dana Law

MRS. MARIANNE FELDMANS, whose husband was minister to the U. S. from Lithuania and an NCA member before his death in 1953, is offering his two telescopes for sale:

- a 12-inch Cassegrain reflector
- a 3-inch altazimuth refractor.

Call or write Mrs. Feldmans CO 5-4489, address 2009 Park Road, N. W., D. C.

THE OFFICIAL NCA SATELLITE OBSERVING STATION is near completion at the site near Springfield, Virginia. The meridian mast is in place and most of the telescopes' supports are in position. The pipe material was donated by the Noland Plumbing Supply Company, Washington. A few more week-end's work should complete the job.

There are still a few telescopes available to club members and if you plan to get one, please do so before the price for parts goes up after March 1. We understand that the price of the Ertle eyepiece alone will increase from \$12.50 to \$18.50.

--Bob Dellar

Astronomical Notes

In the field of radio astronomy, the distribution of radio sources suggests that many have their origins in colliding galaxies beyond the range of the 200-inch telescope.

The first world-wide conference on gravitation was held at the University of North Carolina in January. Scientists are just now making a concerted effort to get gravity out of the realm of mystery and understood as well as electromagnetic forces.

A new revised edition of Watson's "Between the Planets" came out a short time ago.