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**BOB MCCRACKEN**, who begins a three-year term as Trustee, has been an active member of NCA for several years. He is an engineer with the Diamond Ordnance Fuze Laboratories, where he has been since 1954. A wide range of interesting activities keep Bob occupied. He is a ham radio operator W4EFL. Photography, both celestial and terrestrial count for many minutes. It was he, who several years ago, while serving as President, inaugurated the present form of Stardust, to include pictures. He is a pilot, and a former dance band leader.

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA JUNIOR ASTRONOMERS** are very proud of one of their members, Guy Blair, Jr., who was chosen by Father Heyden to be one of his assistants, for the July 20 eclipse, at Ellsworth, Maine. Eleanor Matter was fortunate in observing the eclipse on the central line at Pleasant Pond, Me. The remaining Northern Virginia Juniors viewed the eclipse at Wakefield High School in Arlington. Instruments employed ranged from a 4 1/2 inch to a 10 inch reflector, and a 2.4 inch and 3 inch refractors. A quadr-directional photometer, constructed by Douglas Lind, was used to obtain light readings from different portions of the sky. Excellent photographs were taken of the eclipse, as well as of the observers. Although the partial eclipse was impressive, those who were fortunate enough to observe totality will never forget it. Eleanor Matter, Junior Secretary

**THE MARYLAND-D. C. JUNIORS** enjoyed a discussion by Mr. Holloway, on amateur eclipse observations, at their June 8 meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. About 7 members went into the path of totality, and the remainder observed the partial phases from D.C. Studies conducted included, light curves, coronal changes, shadow bands, crescents, and degrees of totality. Norman Sperling was elected coordinator. \$6.00 of the \$10.75 collected with the ballots was contributed to the church. It was decided to collect dues of 10¢ per month beginning in September. Sale of film, as announced at the June NCA meeting will also add to our treasury. The monthly committee reports system followed by the Va. Juniors was established. It is planned to get speakers from both inside and outside the N. C. A. to attract larger attendance at our meetings. Programs would be tape recorded and sent to Virginia on a reciprocal basis. The division lost one of its most active members, when Tom Archer, a member since 1962, moved to Iowa early in June. Norman Sperling, Md-DC Junior Editor

# ★ STARDUST



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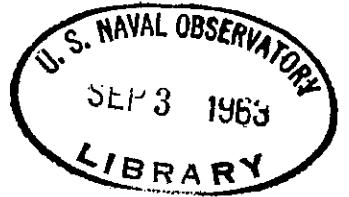
## SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

- 6, 13, 20, 27 **ADVANCED TELESCOPE CLASS;** 7:30 to 10:00P. M.; Chevy Chase Community Center; Hoy Walls, Instructor. (ELEMENTARY TELESCOPE CLASS will start sometime early in the week of Sept. 15 in the same location. Contact Mr. Walls at OL 2-5295 for details)
- 7 **GENERAL MEETING OF JUNIOR DIVISION;** 7:00 P. M.; room 1851 Dept. of Commerce; Leith Holloway, Director.
- 7 **"TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE BY JET PLANE;"** Dr. Jocelyn R. Gill; 8:15 P. M.; Department of Commerce Auditorium.
- 8 **"EXPLORING THE SKY;"** Joint program of N.C.A. & National Capital Parks; 8:00 P. M.; Ft. Reno Park; 40th & Chesapeake Sts., N. W.; bring your telescopes.
- 14 **MD. - D. C. JUNIORS MEETING;** "Life On Other Planets;" Dr. Frederick Sperling; 2:00 P. M.; Cleveland Park Branch, D. C. Public Library; Connecticut Ave. & McComb Sts., N.W. Call Leith Holloway for details 362-1961.
- 21 **DISCUSSION GROUP;** 8:15 P. M.; Room 1851; Commerce Dept. "N.C.A. Views an Eclipse;" Leith Holloway, Moderator. Bring your pictures.
- 28 **"EXPLORING AND PHOTOGRAPHING THE SKY;"** another in the series with the National Capital Parks; 7:30 P. M.; Fort Reno Park; 40th & Chesapeake Sts., N. W. bring telescopes
- 13 **OBSERVING AT THE FIVE INCH;** 8:30 to 10:30 P. M.; Naval Observatory grounds; Larry White, Observational Chairman.



Born in Flagstaff, Arizona on Mars Hill (site of Lowell Observatory,) where her father worked on computations and photographic search for Pluto under Percival Lowell, Dr. Jocelyn R. Gill was born to astronomy. After a rich background in research and teaching she is now with the Manned Space Science Division of NASA. She was one of several scientists aboard a jet plane speeding along the path of the recent solar eclipse. She will tell us of this experience and bring along a movie taken at the time.

**DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER;** all members invited; Occidental Restaurant; 6:30PM  
For reservations call Mrs. Noble, LU 2-6721, before noon Sept. 7.



MRS. CHARLOTTE M. SITTERLY, world renowned authority on the composition of our sun, and other stars was our June speaker. Her lecture entitled "Rare Earths In The Stars," was an erudite review of the methods of detecting these rare elements, and of their importance in increasing our knowledge of the composition and evolution of the stars.

N.C.A. Awards consisting of one year's membership in NCA, a subscription to both Sky & Telescope and Space Science, and a handsome certificate were presented to outstanding area Science Fair astronomy exhibits at the June meeting. The young people brought their exhibits, and each gave a brief explanation of his project. awards were eloquently presented by Bob McCracken and Leith Holloway to: Christopher Elder, whose project was "The Moon;" M. Eleanor Matter, whose project was "Jupiter, Giant of Them All;" Pat Callis for his project, "I Followed the Route of the Sunspots;" Harry Barnes for his project, "Astronomical Spectroscopy;" Bill Ruh, whose project was "Celestial Observations;" Ernest Goodwin, for his project "Jupiter;" and Honorable Mention to John Stott, whose project was "Astro-Photography."

THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE CONVENTION AT ORONO, MAINE attracted over 400 members and their guests, including many N.C.A. members. The convention began July 17, and lasted thru eclipse day, July 20. Many tried to observe from the campus, where a thunderstorm at the last moment, washed out their efforts. Others spread out along the path of totality, and some selected sites which had favorable weather.

The convention was marked by many fine papers, including a discussion by Dr. Peter van de Kamp of the new planet accompanying Barnard's Star B, and a paper on eclipses by Dr. Donald Menzel.

Two long-distance members of N.C.A. were in attendance. Mabel Sterns, now living in California, and U. S. Lyons now living in Florida.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Francis Forti	1448 N. Longfellow St.	Arlington 5, Va.
Barbara J. Prince	3348 Mt. Pleasant St., N. W.	Washington 10, DC
Jane Showacre	1777 Freedom Way, N.	Baltimore, Md.
David C. Wallace	9501 Ocala St.	Silver Spring, Md.

#### NEW ADDRESSES

J. H. Miller	3000 - 39th St., N. W. #514	Washington, D.C.
Bernard Leiking (JR.)	6902 Breezewood Terrace	Rockville, Md.

Many NCA'ers observed or attempted to observe the July Solar Eclipse. DISCUSSION GROUPE, Sept. 21, will bring the experiences and pictures of as many as care to participate to the membership. Leith Holloway will lead what promises to be an interesting session.

OCTOBER 12 is the date for a picnic star-party, to be held at Fort Hunt Park, south of Alexandria. Further details next month.

MRS. ELLEN STOLARIK, busy housewife and mother, has been an active member of N. C. A. for some time now. She has served as Secretary, and last year did such a fine job as President, that she was elected for a second term. She is a physicist and works part-time for Dr. Ernst Opik of University of Maryland. In addition to her duties as President, Ellen edits Stardust. However, this month, due to the death of her new-born child many N. C. A. members have assisted Betty Lipscomb in putting together this issue.



MRS. MARGARET NOBLE, who will serve as Vice President, is Science Consultant and Director of D. C. Public Schools Planetarium, which is located in Cardozo High School. She also lectures at American University and D. C. Teachers College. She has received the Architects and Engineers Teachers Award. Several years ago she received a grant to visit school districts and museums in the United States and Mexico to study the uses of planetariums in secondary education. Aside from N. C. A. her hobbies are china painting and photography.



THEODORE T. NOBLE (popularly called Ted), who will serve as Secretary, is a student at Capitol Radio Engineering Institute. He is a graduate of Sidwell Friends School. He made his 6" reflecting telescope in N. C. A. telescope class, and is now working on a richest field and a 6" Maksutov. Ted has traveled in the United States, Canada, Europe and Mexico. His other hobbies are photography and electronics. Future plans: - to complete a workable photo-electric photometer for the N. C. A.



ARTHUR ETIENNE, who will serve as Treasurer, is a chemist with the Internal Revenue Service, in its Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division. He made his 6" reflector in the N. C. A. telescope class. He has started an 8" reflector, which is "moving slowly." He is a graduate of the University of Maryland. He is married and lives in nearby Virginia. His hobbies, in addition to N. C. A., are fishing and boating, and he is a member of the Potomac River Power Squadron.

