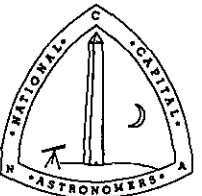


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★ STAR DUST



September 1965

Vol. XXIII No. 1

THE EXPLORATION OF INTERPLANETARY AND INTERSTELLAR SPACE



Mr. Oran W. Nicks

To open the fall lecture series, the NCA will present Oran W. Nicks, Director of Lunar and Planetary Programs, Office of Space Science and Applications, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as the September guest lecturer on Saturday evening, September 11.

The challenges of exploring the Solar System will be discussed, including a review of the "targets" of interest and the engineering difficulties involved. Some of the progress made to date with the Mariner Program will be offered to illustrate the problems.

Possible extensions of these capabilities will be outlined, and comments will be made on some interesting aspects of longer range efforts which may ultimately lead to exploring beyond our Solar System. The impact of such evolving capability and the motives for continuing these developments will be discussed.

Mr. Nicks has been Director of Lunar and Planetary Programs, Office of Space Science and Applications, NASA, since November, 1961. He came to NASA in March 1960 from Vought-Astronautics, Dallas, Texas, where he had served as Project Engineer for Advanced Space Systems.

Continued on Page 2

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 11 THE EXPLORATION OF INTERPLANETARY AND INTERSTELLAR SPACE by Oran W. Nicks, Director of Lunar and Planetary Programs for NASA. 8:15 P.M. in the Department of Commerce Auditorium. Business Meeting follows.

Anyone interested in having dinner with the Speaker please phone Mr. Hank Hudson, Vice President at 534-8378 before noon on September 11.

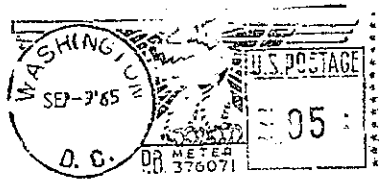
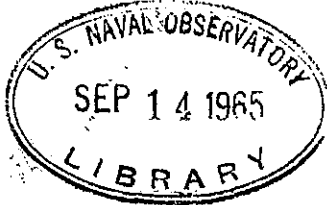
11 JUNIOR DIVISION GENERAL MEETING at 7:00 P.M. in Room 2062 at the Department of Commerce.

17 OBSERVING AT THE FIVE INCH on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Observatory with Larry White from 8:00 to 11:00 P.M.

18 DISCUSSION GROUP at 8:15 P.M. in Room 2062 at the Department of Commerce. Topic to be announced.

19 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY JUNIORS meeting at home of Ted Noble at 2:00 P.M. Phone LU 2-6721 for further details.

TELESCOPE MAKING CLASSES at the Chevy Chase Community Center. Phone Hoy Walls at OL 2-5395 for starting date.



Library,
Naval Observatory
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★ S T A R D U S T
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Continued from Page 1

In 1964, Mr. Nicks received the NASA Exceptional Service Award for directing the Ranger efforts which led to the first high-resolution photographs of the Moon. In 1965, he received the NASA Leadership Award for his direction of the Mariner Program.

From 1948 to 1958, he was with North American Aviation where he was engaged in structures, aerodynamics, thermodynamics, and project management activities.

He received an A.A. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Spartan College in 1943, and a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering (Aeronautical Option) from the University of Oklahoma in 1948. He continued graduate studies at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, from 1949 through 1957.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

If you have not already paid your dues for the coming year, please do so at once. Make your check or money order payable to the National Capital Astronomers and send to:

Mr. Frederick D. Cornelius
3101 Chichester Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

- Joint membership, with Sky and Telescope.....\$9.50
- Regular membership, with Sky and Telescope.....\$7.50
- Junior membership, with Sky and Telescope.....\$5.75
- Junior membership, without Sky and Telescope.....\$1.75

NCA OFFICERS FOR 1965-66

Officers serving the NCA in the coming year will be:

- President.....Mrs. Margaret Noble
- Vice President.....Mr. Hank Hudson
- Secretary.....Mrs. Gertrude Dellar
- Treasurer.....Mr. Frederick Cornelius
- Trustees.....Dr. James Krebs
-Mr. Robert McCracken
-Mrs. Ellen Stolarik
-Mr. Hoy Walls

Committees are being formed and volunteers are needed. If you can give a few hours of your time to help the NCA please phone Mrs. Noble, Lu 2-6721 and volunteer your services.

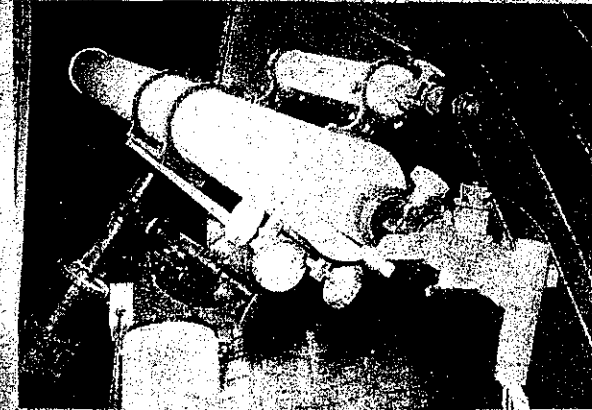
STAR PARTY AND PICNIC

Plans are now being made for a star party and picnic to be held about the time the new moon in October. Further information will be published in the October Stardust.

COLOR ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY

On Saturday, October 2, the NCA will present a lecture on Color Astrophotography by George T. Keene, Photographic Engineer for the Eastman Kodak Company. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar now and invite your camera friends to come with you.

TELESCOPES SEEN AT BALTIMORE MIDDLE EAST REGION CONVENTION

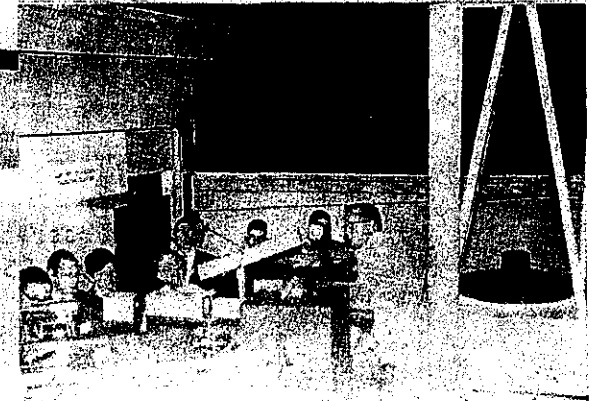


Photometer Experiment on Six-inch refractor, Goucher College Observatory



Ten-inch Newtonian, Paul S. Watson's Observatory

Laser Beam Experiment on Twenty-inch Broken Cassegrain, University of Maryland Observatory



Photographs by William P. Palay, Jr.