JUNTOR NEWS

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At the May general meeting of the Junior Division, Geof Hornseth was elected Vice President and Sheila Duck, Secretary-Treasurer, of the Jr. Division. Our congratulations so to these fine young astronomers. Doug Richstone was nominated for re-election to the office of Junior Division President and Mike Jewell was nominated to oppose him. Only 11 members were present at the May meeting so it was decided to postpone the election for President until a special meeting in June just prior to the adult NCA meeting in the Department of Interior Anditorium. This gives the candidates time to campaign.

At the June 11 Maryland-D. C. meeting of the Junior Division at the Chevy Chase Library (Maryland) I shall present late information on theories and observations of planetary atmospheres. All Juniors are invited to attend.

Bill Bruck is interested in reorganizing the Juniors living in Virginia. Any interested Virginia Juniors should call Bill at: EL 6-3066.

- Leith Holloway



S June 1966 Vol. XXIII. No.10

U. S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY ASTRONOMER SPEAKS ON SIRIUS B

Mr. Irving Lindenblad of the U. S. Naval Observatory will be the guest lecturer at the June meeting. He will relate for us the "Story of Sirius B" a story which began in 1844 when Bessel inferred its existence from irregularities he had observed in the metion of Sirius. It is interesting to nete this "dark companion" of Sirius remained "invisible" until 19 years later when it was observed by Alvan Clark, who made NGA's 5" refractor. Since that time it has been the object of regular study so that today, probably more is known about the physical properties of Sirius B than any other white dwarf. It is an important star in an interesting class of stars --come hear its tale.

Mr. Lindenblad has been a member of the U.S.N.O. staff for 6 years, and is in the Astronometry and Astrophysics Division. His investigations include double stars in general, Sirius in particular, and is engaged in the parallax program at the 61" astrometric reflector at Flagstaff. He has contributed to the literature of photographic double stars. While in the Army, he spent two years at White Sands as an astronomer. Mr.Lindenblad is a member of the American Astronomical Society and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. He is married and the father of two boys.

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CALENDAR

- June h THE STORY OF SIRIUS B. By Irving Lindenblad, Astronomer at the U. S. Naval Observatory, at 8:15 P.M. in the Interior Department Auditorium on D. Street between 18th and 19th Sts. Business meeting and election of officers follows. NGA Science Fair Award Winners to exhibit projects.
 - SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JUNIOR DIVISION at 7:30 P.M. in the Ŀ Interior Dept. Auditorium. Election of Jr. Division President. All Juniors please attend.
 - 11 MD-DC JUNIORS meeting at 2 P.M. in the Chevy Chase Library, 8005 Conn. Ave., Chevy Chase, Md. Leith Holloway will speak on "Atmospheres of the Planets." A group photograph will be taken after the meeting.
 - 12 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY JUNIORS note the change of date Important meeting. Phone Ted Noble for further details.

17-18 MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONVENTION IN HARRISBURG, PERNSYLVANIA

No discussion group meeting will be held in June -- Next discussion group will be in September.

- 8,15,22,29 PLANETARIUM SHOW EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING AT THE NATURE CENTER 8 P.M. Free. All are invited. For additional information.call 381-7367.
- Every Fri. TELESCOPE MAKING CLASS at the Chevy Chase Community Center from 7:30 to 10:00 with Hoy Walls. There will be no more Telescope Making Classes on Tuesday evening during the summer. This class will be combined with the Friday evening class.

June 25. STAR OBSERVING SESSION at Military Road and Glover Rd. N. W.

July 9,23, at 9:00 P.M. (near the Nature Center). Bring your camera and

August 20 own film to photograph the moon through the telescopes. NCA members are asked to bring their telescopes and join in this project which is conducted each year by NCA (Previously held at Fort Reno Park). For more details call Bob McCracken. (The August 20 program will begin at 8:30).

NO QUORUM, NO ELECTION

Please come to June & meeting and make it possible for the NCA to take care of the annual elections. The By-Laws state that it is necessary to have quorum, 25% of the paid members, present to hold elections. Good weather and many other things kept many of the faithful NCA members away from the May meeting. Flease plan to be at the June meeting and help to expedite the business of the society.

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APPLYING FOR MEMORERSHIP

The following person has applied for Regular Membership in NCA:

William R. Winkle 4691 Homer Avenue, S. E. Suitland, Maryland 20023

Please contact an NCA Officer or Trustee if you have any comments about this applicant. The members wote on the acceptance of this applicant for membership at the June meeting.

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGING

With the Judging on May 7 of the Montgomery County Junior Division, the list of Science Fair winners for 1966 is complete. Receiving awards in this fair were:

Kurt Amsler

"Analysis of a Theory on the Formation of the Lunar craters" Belt Junior High

Robert S. Turner (commandation) "Astronomical Calculator -- Stonehenge" Newport Junior High School

These winners together with those announced in the May Stardust will exhibit their projects at the June NCA meeting.

NCA extends congratulations to Mike Jewell, of the Frince George's County Juniors, on his recent award by the D. C. Chapter of the Society of Technical Writers and Publishers. Mike's topic was "A Discussion of Amateur Astrophotography". Mike will also present this same topic at MERAL Convention in Harrisburg, Fm. NCA is very proud of Mike.

NCA COMMUNITY SERVICE

Two NCA'ers, Mr. Hoy Walls and Mr. Bob Wright have given hours of their valuable lives last month to conduct planetarium lessons and observing sessions for school children attending the Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp. Besides the long trip to the camp, which is past Frederick, Maryland, Mr. Walls and Mr. Wright conducted observing sessions and demonstrations on telescope making. The students and teachers were thrilled with the sessions and appreciated the willingness of these NCA'ers to share their knowledge with the children. Mr. Walls and Mr. Wright have gone to the camp in previous years but this year the project included five nights at the camp as well as day classes at the Planetarium. NCA COMMUNITY SERVICE - Cont'd.

An adult class in "Popular Astronomy" was sponsored by G. W. University and conducted by Professor Upgren of the U. S. Naval Observatory. This class was enhanced on various Thursdays by the NCA members opening and operating the 5" Alvan Clark telescope for observation of particular objects. Mr. Larry White, Mr. Bob Wright and Mr. Bob Bolster and Mr. Bob McCracken very willingly offered to aid in this request. Their untiring service is appreciated.

The Suitland Citizens Association requested a telescope demonstration and observing spot at their benefit Carnival, Friday May 13. On a two-day notice the following NCA'ers happily filled this request and demonstrated telescopes to over one hundred young and old, Geoffrey Hornseth, Mike Jewell, Sheila Duck, Sarah Lichtwanger, Victor Westhall, Faul Fowell, John Allen and Ted Noble. Some of the folks expressed great interest in belonging to our society and in the making of telescopes.

These activities and services are an integral part of NCA and the cooperation and enthusiasm of the members is the key to the success of such projects. Thanks very much for such splendid cooperation. - Margaret K. Noble, President

MERAL CONVENTION HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA ... PLAN TO COME

Fifteen NCA members have already sent their dollar for advance registration for the upcoming convention in Harrisburg. If you are going, please give Bob Wright a phone call 384-6748 and get the information you want. Send in your registration now. NCA always has a good representation at the Middle-East Region Astronomical League Convention. If you are a new NCA member this convention will give you a real sense of belonging. Plan to attend.



Jerome Hudson, James Krebs and a visitor from Delaware Astronomical Society, Mr. Pratt, are examining an interesting photometer at the NCA Hobby Fair that will go to the Harrisburg Convention.

(Photo by Geoffrey Hornseth)