



Leith Holloway

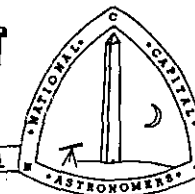
Leith Holloway has been the Director of the NCA Junior Division since the Fall of 1956. He first joined the NCA in 1946 as a Junior and rejoined in 1955 after returning to Washington from MIT where he obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees in meteorology. Leith does research in numerical weather forecasting using the world's fastest computers at the Environmental Science Services Administration. In addition to astronomy his hobbies include high fidelity, photography, and swimming. Leith has written the summaries of the NCA lectures published in Star Dust for the last four years.

Mark Goldberg was elected Coordinator of the Maryland-D.C. Juniors at their June meeting. He is 16 and a Junior at Albert Einstein High School in Kensington where he is on the math and debating teams and plays the trumpet in the school band. Mark loves science, math, and Gilbert and Sullivan music. He has been an NCA member since Oct. 1964 and has owned an Edmunds 4½-inch reflector for 3 years. Mark learned about NCA at one of the National Capital Parks observing sessions at Port Reno Park.

579 ★ STAR DUST

September 1966

Vol. XXIV, No. 1



CONVENTION SPEAKER TO ADDRESS NCA

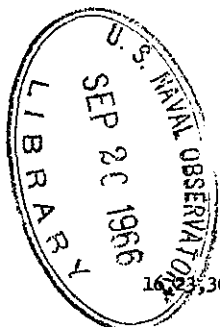
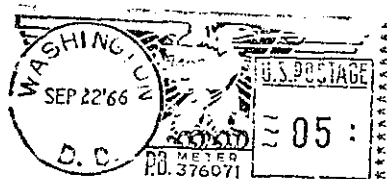
Dr. H. McClure Johnson, who gave the opening address at the National Astronomical League Convention in Miami this summer, will speak to NCA on Saturday evening, September 10, on the topic "Cyclones and Other Weather Systems of Earth's Atmosphere as Observed from Satellites."

The observations of atmospheric motions, systems, and phenomena obtained by earth-orbiting satellites during the past five years have revealed much that is new to Man and Science. These observations have also shed much light on atmospheric conditions which have been only partly understood previously. A selection of unusually significant satellite pictures of atmospheric conditions will be shown by Dr. Johnson and will be discussed to illustrate some of the new findings, and to suggest what might be observed from a spacecraft approaching another comparable planet.

Dr. Johnson has received degrees from MIT and from Cornell University. He is at present doing satellite meteorology research at the National Environmental Satellite Center of the Environmental Sciences Service Administration.

CALENDAR

- SEPTEMBER 9 OBSERVING NIGHT at the NCA Five Inch Telescope on the grounds of U. S. Naval Observatory, with Larry White from 8:30 to 10:30 P.M.
- 10 CYCLONES AND OTHER WEATHER SYSTEMS OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE AS OBSERVED FROM SATELLITES by Dr. H. M. Johnson in the Interior Department Auditorium at 8:15 P.M. (The Interior Department is located on D Street between 18th and 19th Streets). Very important business meeting after the lecture.
- DINNER WITH THE SPEAKER at 6:15 P.M. For further information and reservations, please call Bob Bolster 765-1921.
- GENERAL MEETING OF THE JUNIOR DIVISION at 7:00 P.M. in the Interior Department Auditorium. All juniors please attend.
- TELESCOPE MAKING CLASS at the Chevy Chase Community Center from 7:30 to 10:00 P.M. with Hoy Walls.
- 17 MD-DC JUNIORS MEETING at 2:00 P.M. in the new Chevy Chase Library at 8005 Connecticut Avenue. Topic to be announced. For further information, call Leith Holloway 362-1961.
- 17 DISCUSSION GROUP at 8:15 in room 2062 of the Commerce Department. Topic to be announced.
- 24 EXPLORING THE SKY. Program at 8:00 P.M. near Rock Creek Nature Center. For more information, call Bob McGrachen at OL 4-3321.



Library,
Naval Observatory
Washington 25, D.C.

Page 2

AVE ATQUE VALE ...

Hank Hudson, our newly elected president, has returned to his Alma Mater, "Georgia Tech", to do research in aeronautics in the Guggenheim School of Aeronautics. He will also teach astronomy. This move has necessitated his resignation as president which he did regretfully. We are sorry to see him leave and hope to see him from time to time when he is in town -- Best of luck and success in your new position, Hank.

The resignation of Mr. Hudson leaves us short one officer. John Stolarik, who was elected Vice President last spring, has tried to cover both positions until the September meeting at which time we must elect another officer. If you would like to volunteer for this job or have a name to suggest please contact one of the Trustees.

ARMAND SPITZ III

We regret to inform our membership that Dr. Armand Spitz sustained a cerebral thrombosis about one month ago. He is making progress in his recovery but requires a great deal of rest. He may not be reached by telephone and currently visitors are somewhat restricted.

NEW MEMBER..

At the June meeting, an application for Junior membership was received from Peter Trass
5652 Alice Avenue
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20021

DUES!

Remember to pay your dues at the September meeting or send it to the treasurer, Robert Bolster, 6007 Ridgeway Drive, Alexandria, Virginia.

BOB BOLSTER WINS AWARD AT STELLAFANE

Bob Bolster, with his 6-inch Maksutov, was awarded a second place for mechanical excellency in the catadioptric class at Stellafane on Saturday, August 15. There were about 60 to 75 telescopes at Stellafane, the meeting place of telescope makers and the birthplace of the amateur telescope making. This was established by Russel Porter back in the twenties.

About 400 persons were in attendance and as is traditional about 250 slept in the pasture on Friday night and again Saturday night (that is when they were not observing or "hashing" over astronomical problems.) The skies were beautiful, the weather perfect.

In attendance from the NCA were Mr. & Mrs. Emil Volcheck, Bob Bolster (who is very glad that he made the trip), and Mr. & Mrs. Bob Wright and daughter Susan.

Next year's Stellafane date is Saturday August 5, 1967.

WANTED!

Due to frequent out of town commitments, Mr. Isherwood would very much appreciate an assistant for the Bladensburg telescope making class. Interested members should contact Mr. Isherwood, AP 7-9419 or Mr. Walls, OL 2-5395.

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONVENTION

The MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONVENTION was held at Harrisburg on Friday June 25 and Saturday June 26. The scene of the Convention was at Ranchland a noted catering place outside of Harrisburg. The Friday evening program consisted of an open air bus trip into Harrisburg to see the Planetarium and new Science Building. From there they drove to Carlisle, Pa. to visit the Planetarium and Observatory of Dickinson College. They were entertained with a very interesting planetarium show by Donald Weidig of the Harrisburg society. There was also a visit and observing at the college's observatory. This observatory is unique in that they have a row of 6 and 8-inch reflecting telescopes so that a group can observe at the same time rather than take turns at a single larger telescope. This seems to work out very well. We understand that a number of schools and colleges are adopting this method for instruction purposes. Saturday's session started with registration, a paper session in the morning, a buffet lunch under the trees, another paper session in the afternoon, a banquet followed by a talk on astronomy by Dr. Yeagley of Dickenson College concluded the Convention.

Those in attendance from the NCA were: Mr. and Mrs. Hank Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Noble, Ted Noble and Mrs. Noble's mother, Jerry Hudson, Bob Bolster, Irene Warthen, Thelma Cressy, Fred Cornelius, Hoy Walls, Bob Wright, Mr. & Mrs. Emil Volcheck, Jeff Hornseth, Shelia Duck, Henry Wilson, S. R. Anderson, and Mabel Sterns. NCA exhibitors were: Mrs. Noble, Prince George's Juniors and Bob Wright. Mrs. Noble, Ted Noble and Jeff Hornseth were on the program.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The General (National) Convention of the Astronomical League was held at Miami, Florida over the 4th of July weekend and was enjoyed by the 260 registrants. The paper sessions were exceptionally good. The Saturday trip to the Seaquarium, the New Planetarium and the outdoor barbecue was the highlight of the Convention proper. We also visited the observatory of the Southern Cross Astronomical Society. They have, and put to very good use, a total of six 5-inch Alvan Clark refracting telescopes that were given to the society many years ago.

The Banquet with Dr. Fred Singer as the speaker was enjoyed by over 300 persons. We were advised at the time of registration that the proposed, after convention, trip through Cape Kennedy was cancelled due to the scheduled "shoot" of the Saturn. This was a disappointment to many. However, the chance to see the "shoot" from outside the Cape attracted over 200 of the Convention-ers. No observing sight was chosen for the group and after a two hour delay the firing took place. Some of the group watched it from as close as 5 miles others watched from 10 miles away. No matter the place it was a beautiful thing to watch for those all too few seconds.

NCA members in attendance were: Dr. and Mrs. Armand Spitz, Mr. & Mrs. Hank Hudson, Mr. & Mrs. U. S. Lyons, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wright and Susan. As you should all know by this time next year's Convention will be here in Washington, D.C. and the National Capital Astronomers will be the host Society.

JUNIOR BIOGRAPHIES



Bill Bruck, the newly-elected Coordinator of the reorganized Virginia Juniors joined the NCA in September 1964. He is 15 and a sophomore at McLean High School where he is a member of the astronomy club. Bill has a Tasco 4 1/2-inch reflecting telescope. Besides astronomy he is interested in chemistry and electronics. He plays the piano, and his favorite sports are table tennis, sailing, swimming, and horseback riding.