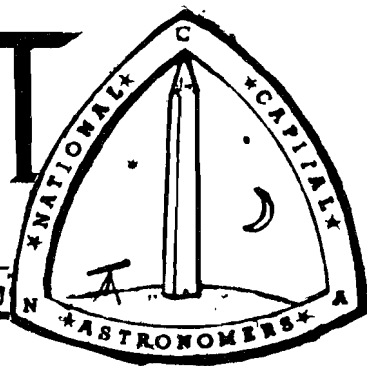
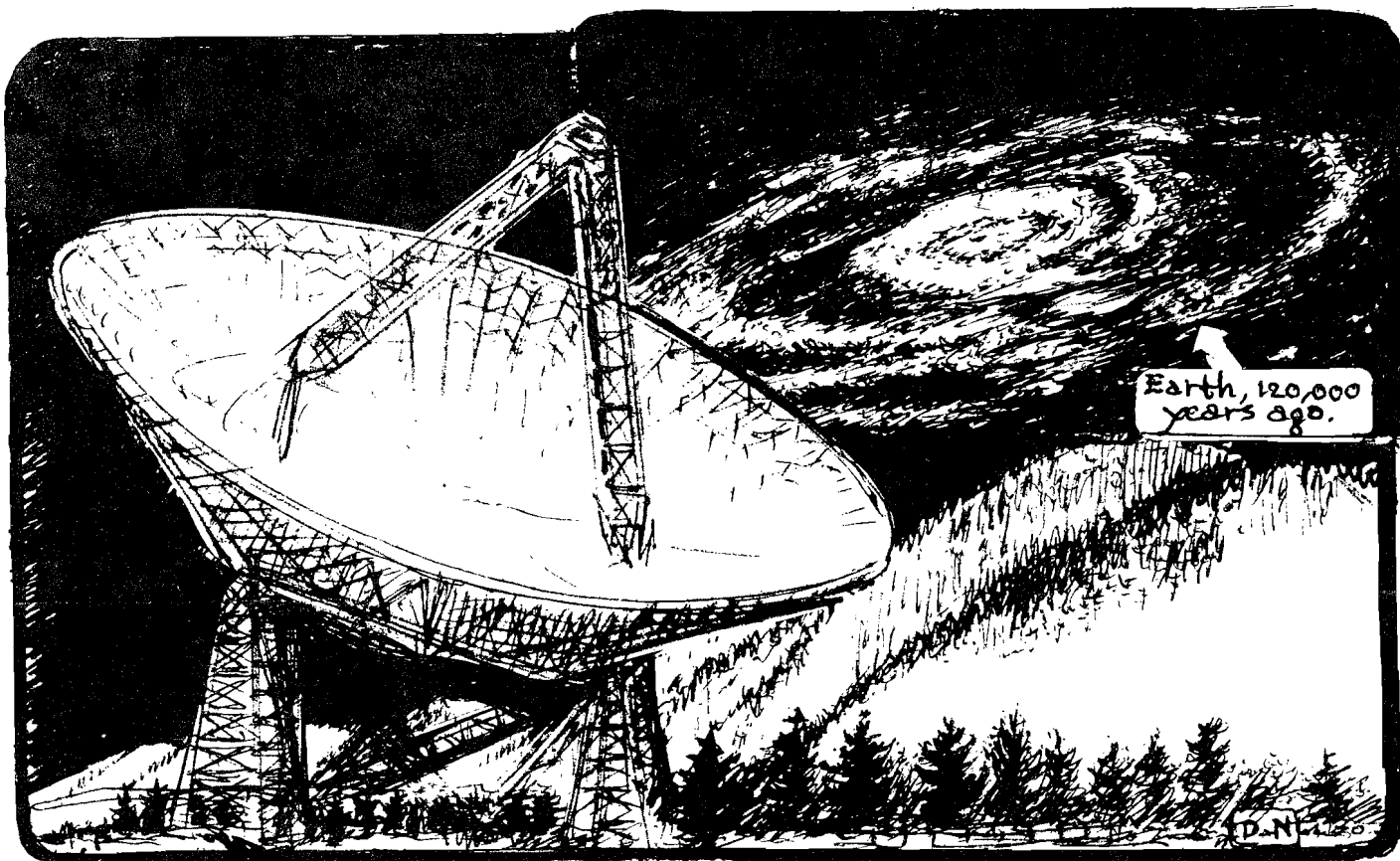


STAR DUST



SPECIAL RECEPTION ISSUE JUNE 21, 1970



The National Radio Astronomy Observatory 300-foot transit telescope. (Top): Our galaxy, from drawing by Palomar staff.

Greetings...



Greetings from NCA to our guests and to the members of the Washington Academy of Sciences and the Junior Board of Science.

The National Capital Astronomers, Inc., organized 1937, has consistently encouraged the education and the mutual improvement of its members in the science of astronomy, and the encouragement of an interest in all related sciences.

As the President of NCA, I would like to express a warm thank-you for the encouragement and help our organization has received from the many members and officers of the Academy and its member societies, in seeking affiliation with the Academy.



THE GREAT NEBULA OF ANDROMEDA : M 31 : NGC 224

Father Heyden and his Junior Board of Science should be encouraged to keep a constant pull on the interests of our High School students to start them on a theme or life goal of science and engineering. NCA pledges its facilities and its know-how in optics (telescope making), field trips, star parties, lectures and other interesting activities towards this goal.

We want to attract the many educators and professional people in our community to join with us not only financially by purchasing a membership in NCA, but by participating in our activities. In the thirty three years of our activities, we have never had a problem with the "generation gap". This is because our junior members have been encouraged to make things, do things, and like Thomas Edison, after many experiments they have learned the technical words, and the operations, and the equipment, and at the tender ages of upward of 12 years old, have become knowledgeable amateur astronomers.

We have never learned to talk down to our junior members. They keep suprising us with fantastic projects beyond the scope of adult expectations. Only this spring, our Debby Malone won a number of science prizes with her honest to goodness radio telescope. Other equally marvelous projects by our juniors tempt our adult members to forget that "Old dogs can't be taught new tricks". A little competition in star gazing, telescope making, discussion groups makes everybody young again.

We want to promote among the other member societies, the same type of junior activities that will interest the young school student. If we wait until they finish high school to start them in a science field, it's usually too late. Our programs are simple and they work! For thirty three years they have worked. Join us and have fun working with youngsters.

George E. Gould, President, NCA

The National Capital Astronomers are a non-profit corporation which, for the past half century, has helped serve the avocational needs of metropolitan Washington, D.C., through the popularization of astronomy and allied sciences. Its membership includes the novice, amateurs of various degrees of accomplishment, and the professional astronomer, who find a common interest in the nature of the universe and in methods of discovering and exploring its many facets.

We wish to extend a warm invitation to you and your family and friends to join us in the pursuit of that most fascinating and enriching pastime, amateur astronomy..

Some of our objectives and our many activities, in the interest of the membership and of the general public, are outlined below for your consideration.

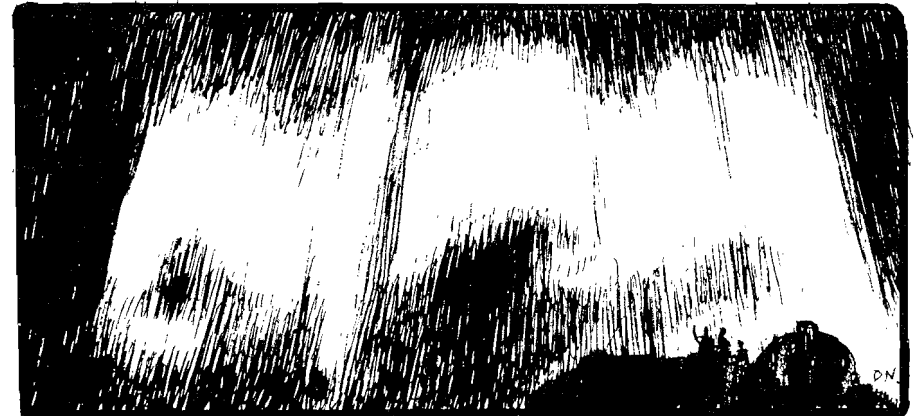
TO KEEP UP WITH PROGRESS IN ASTRONOMY.....

Each year, from September through June, the N.C.A. sponsors a series of monthly, public lectures, given by prominent astronomers or by experts in related scientific fields. This enlightening series of talks, designed to stimulate and inform the intelligent layman, is presented by the N.C.A. as a public service. Each talk, followed by a question-and-answer period, begins at 8:15 P.M. on the first Saturday of each month, throughout the season, in the Department of Commerce auditorium, 14th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, NW, Washington, D.C. You are cordially invited to attend.

TO ASSIST THE LEARNING OF ASTRONOMY THROUGH OBSERVATION.....

The N.C.A. maintains, for the use of its membership, a fine five-inch refracting telescope on the grounds of the U. S. Naval Observatory in NW Washington. This instrument, suited to a wide variety of observing projects, is available for the use of qualified members and their guests.

In addition to observing projects conducted by individuals, this facility is also utilized for group observing sessions conducted by the chairman of the Observation Committee. This affords the novice an opportunity to learn visual astronomy thru practice, a significantly more rewarding approach than learning through textbooks alone. Qualification instruction in the proper use of the instrument is also available at these gatherings.



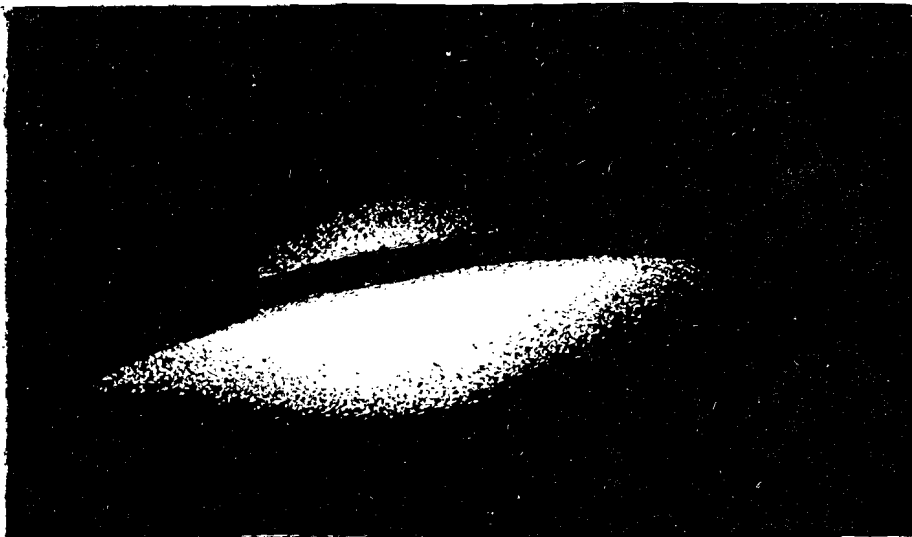
TO INTEREST AND ENCOURAGE THE JUNIOR.....

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The Junior Division of the N.C.A. was created to meet the very special needs of youngsters under sixteen years of age. Junior members hold an additional and separate monthly meeting under the guidance of one or more adult members. Perhaps the most active of any segment of the membership, the Juniors engage in a wide variety of activities including, among other projects, their own lecture series and extensive observing programs and field trips.

Many Junior Division members, often as a direct result of interests aroused through affiliation with N.C.A., have been local Science-Fair winners and in the Westinghouse Science-Talent Search. Others through the years have matured to pursue a higher education in astronomy or other fields of science, and to become respected members of the professional scientific community.

Astronomy is a stimulating hobby for youngsters, and can instill, in a pleasant and unobtrusive way, a pattern of mental development leading toward greater maturity of judgement and action.



THE SOMBRERO NEBULA... M104

DN

TO ASSIST THE AMATEUR TELESCOPE MAKER.....

The N.C.A. conducts telescope-making classes in the metropolitan area. One is presently located at the Palisades community center in Washington, D.C. All materials necessary for making a telescope mirror (or objective lenses for the more advanced amateurs) are available through these classes at a modest cost. Each student works at his own pace under the expert guidance and tutoring of an experienced instructor from the membership. No telescope-making background is required of the student; all necessary theory and technique is taught at the class. The ever-popular six-inch Newtonian reflector, hundreds of which have been constructed in N.C.A. classes over the years, can be completed by the novice amateur for as little as fifty dollars.

OTHER OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL ASTRONOMERS.....

Other activities include: Advisory assistance to local school authorities; regular public observing sessions, conducted in cooperation with the National Capital Parks, entitled, "Exploring the Sky"; group field trips to points of astronomical interest such as the multitude of observatories and planetaria in the Eastern states; and - perhaps the most enjoyable of all - outdoor parties and picnics where members can get together to observe the wonders of the universe just for the the sheer fun of it.

The incoming officers of N.C.A. are as follows:

- President - William Winkler, 1001 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, Phone 762-5135
- Vice President - John Eisele 5513 Wolf Street, Oxon Hill, Maryland, 20022, Phone 248-3698
- Secretary - Sheila Duck, 5617 Seminole Street, Berwyn Hts., Maryland, 20740., Phone 474-5617
- Treasurer - John Legowik, 3513 Randolph Road, Wheaton, Maryland, 20902, Phone 9468996
- Sergeant-at-Arms - John Korintus, 3416 Anderson Road, Kensington, Maryland, 20795, Phone 946-6807.
- Past President - George Gould, 881-4579 (as of July 1, 1970)
- Past Vice President - William Winkler
- Past Treasurer - Jerry Schnall
- Past Secretary - Morton Schiff
- Trustees: James Sharp, Bob Bolster, Alexander White, Sterling Anderson, Margaret Noble.

MEMBERSHIP.....

Regular membership in the N.C.A. is for those over sixteen years of age. Junior membership is for those under this age. Regular membership dues are ten dollars per year and include a subscription to "Sky and Telescope", an authoritative monthly magazine published by Harvard College Observatory. Junior membership dues are two dollars and seventy-five cents. All of the members receive the monthly "Star Dust". Junior members may not hold office but have one-half vote in all N.C.A. elections. The Junior members may also elect to receive "Sky and Telescope" for approximately half the regular subscription price. Those between sixteen and eighteen may elect to be either a Junior or Senior member. A membership application is attached to this letter.

- () Regular Member [18 and over]- \$10.00
- () Junior Member \$2.75 Age.....
- () Family Membership \$12.00..(Please list members of family below)
- () Sustaining Member \$150.00 (one-time payment in lieu of annual dues)
- () Continuous Member \$500.00 (Corporation, Public or Private agency, Special one-time payment, will be listed as patron in Star Dust.)

Date:

Name:.....Title.....

Address:.....

.....City.....State.....Zip.....

Firm/Agency.....

Home Phone.....Bus. Phone.....

I subscribe to the objectives and purposes of the National Capital Astronomers, Inc., in promoting education of its members in Astronomy and related sciences.

**DELEGATES TO THE WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,
REPRESENTING THE LOCAL AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**



Philosophical Society of Washington	John O'Keefe
Anthropological Society of Washington	Jean K. Boek
Biological Society of Washington	Delegate not appointed
Chemical Society of Washington	Joseph C. Dacons
Entomological Society of Washington	Reece I. Sailer
National Geographic Society	Alexander Wetmore
Geological Society of Washington	Ralph L. Miller
Medical Society of the District of Columbia	Delegate not appointed
Columbia Historical Society	Delegate not appointed
Botanical Society of Washington	Peter H. Heinze
Society of American Foresters	Harry A. Fowells
Washington Society of Engineers	George Abraham
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	Leland D. Whitelock
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	William G. Allen
Helminthological Society of Washington	Aurel O. Foster
American Society for Microbiology	Elizabeth J. Oswald
Society of American Military Engineers	H.P. Demuth
American Society of Civil Engineers	Cyril J. Galvin, Jr.
Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine	Carlton Treadwell
American Society for Metals	Melvin R. Meyerson
International Association for Dental Research	N.W. Rupp
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	Robert C. Smith, Jr.
American Meteorological Society	Harold A. Steiner
Insecticide Society of Washington	H. Ivan Rainwater
Acoustical Society of America	Alfred Weissler
American Nuclear Society	Oscar M. Bizzell
Institute of Food Technologists	George K. Parman
American Ceramic Society	J.J. Diamond
Electrochemical Society	Kurt H. Stern
Washington History of Science Club	Morris Leikind
American Association of Physics Teachers	Bernard B. Watson
Optical Society of America	David L. Ederer
American Society of Plant Physiologists	Walter Shropshire
Washington Operations Research Council	John G. Honig
Instrument Society of America	Alfred M. Pommer
American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers	Bernardo F. Grossling
National Capitol Astronomers	Delegate not appointed

The National Capital Astronomers would like to offer their thanks to all who made this reception possible. Col. Sidney Opie, as General Chairman of the Reception Committee and all those who contributed, including: The Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, The Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Canada Dry Corporation, R.C. Cola, Saga Foods and the Marriott Corporation. We would also like to express our thanks to the Administration of Georgetown University and especially Father Heyden for allowing us to use their facilities. President Elect, Bill Winkler is also responsible for chairing the Exhibit Committee.