

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 4th, 8:15 PM
 October meeting at the Department of Commerce Auditorium, 14th and E Streets NW. Two major NASA films will be shown.

Saturday, October 18th, 5 PM till midnight.
 Annual Picnic. A picnic grove has been reserved for us at Manassas National Park for a picnic and star party. The picnic will not be cancelled because of poor visibility. In case of rain contact the picnic chairmen - Bob and Alice Frandsen, 565-2435. They will also co-ordinate transportation. Bring food and telescopes. Cook-out facilities including grills and charcoal will be available. Let's have a good turnout. Guests are welcome.

Saturday, October 25th, 8 PM
 Discussion group. Astrophysical Spectroscopy - Bring your July 1969 Sky and Telescope with you. We will meet at J. Legowik's home, 3513 Randolph Road, Wheaton, Md. Projection facilities, blackboard and refreshments will be available. Questions? call 946-8996- just about anytime.

Telescope-Making Classes will be held by Mr. Jerry Schnall at the Palisades Recreation Center, on October 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st. Mr. Schnall can be contacted at: EM:2 8872.

The Prince Georges County telescope making classes will not be held until this year's instructor is appointed by the president and the appointee meets the approval of the county.

Theo. T. Noble

Viewing at the five-inch on the Naval-Observatory grounds will be conducted by Larry White on Thursday, Oct. 9 and by John Alexio on Friday, Oct. 17; both from 8 to 10 p.m.



NATIONAL CAPITAL ASTRONOMERS, INC. OF WASHINGTON, D.C.
 STAR DUST * Editor - John Legowik, 3513 Randolph Road, Wheaton, Md. 20902; Assoc. Editor - David Nordin, 1225 Quincy St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017; President, George E. Gould; Astronomical League of Wash., Inc.

STAR DUST

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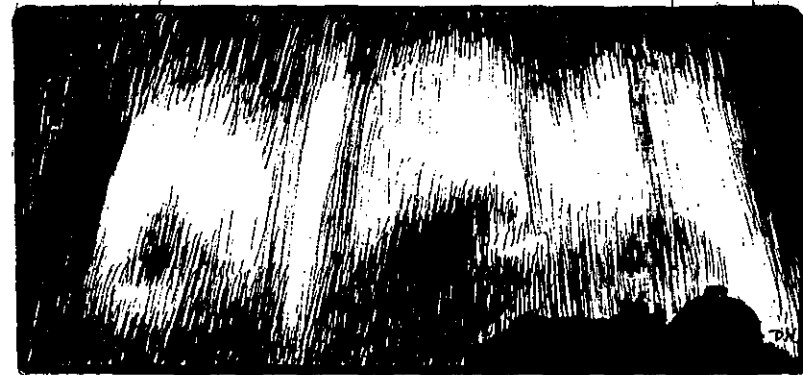
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STAR DUST



October, 1969 ... Vol. XXVII ... No. 2



"Best" Aurora Films To Highlight Program

Two NASA-produced films of particular merit will be shown at the October 4th meeting of the National Capital Astronomers.

"Universe on a Scratchpad" features the work of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City, and discusses how space-craft data is processed to become the foundation for further advances in theoretical physics and astrophysics.

"The Challenge of Unanswered Questions" features the work of the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska at College, from the graduate student's viewpoint. This means experimentation and getting in out of the cold! Result: some of the best aurora borealis motion picture footage since IGY, and a review of recent advances in understanding this most spectacular of solar-terrestrial relationships.

BILL WINKLER, V.P.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Persuant to the petition set forth below, an election is hereby called to be held from October 4, 1969 through October 24, 1969, to determine the question of the adoption of a new constitution and new by-laws for the National Capital Astronomers, Incorporated, in substitution for the present constitution and by-laws. The text of the proposed new constitution and new by-laws, together with formal ballot, is in the course of mailing to all members in good standing and in time to permit discussion at the regular meeting to be held in the Auditorium of the Commerce Department on October 4, 1969 at 8:15 PM.

The text of the petition, including the text of present Article Five of the constitution which pertains to amendments to or changes in both the present constitution and by-laws is as follows:

"Recent changes in the original Certificate of Incorporation create a pressing need for the updating of the constitution and by-laws of the National Capital Astronomers, Incorporated. Therefore, it is hereby proposed that the question of the adoption of a new constitution and new by-laws for the NCA in substantially the form attached hereto be submitted to the membership.

SEE P. 2

"The proposed new constitution and new by-laws would be substituted for the present constitution and by-laws. Accordingly it is suggested that the procedure ascribed under Article Five of the present constitution be followed. Such Article V provides as follows: 'Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Board of Trustees or by written petition, signed by not less than ten full members in good standing and delivered to the Secretary. The text of any proposed amendment and the initiating petition, if any shall be mailed to each member, together with a copy of this Article V accompanied by any explanatory matter deemed advisable by the Board of Trustees, and a ballot form. Voting shall be by mail. The proposed amendment will be discussed at the first regular meeting following the mailing to the membership. All ballots signed by the members in good standing and received by the Secretary within twenty days after the date of the regular meeting in which the amendment was discussed as above provided, shall be verified and counted by three tellers appointed by the President and two-thirds majority of such ballots shall determine the adoption of the proposed amendment.'"

In the event any member fails to receive a ballot form, please telephone Mr. Morton Shiff, Secretary, 462-3576, and a copy of the proposed new constitution and new by-laws will be mailed to the member.

This September 22nd, 1969

George E. Gould, President
National Capital Astronomers, Inc.

Regular Membership;

Ted L. Meyerson; 8805 Copenhagen Drive, Potomac, Md. 20854, 762-2221

Junior Membership:

Donald McMichael, 5109 Just Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20019, 396-2682

NEW MEMBERS

Income	Outgo
Dues.....\$1521.05	Sky and Telescope.....\$743.37
Obs. Handbooks.....64.15	Star Dust.....195.07
Time tables.....11.90	Postage - Star Dust.....129.00
Book Sales.....74.50	Publicity.....14.55
Junior Bus Trip.....263.50	Supplies-President.....16.65
Total Income.....1935.10	Postage - Treasurer.....18.00
Less Outgo.....1658.81	Speakers... (Dinners).....34.17
Net Income.....\$276.29	Speakers ... (Honorarium).....25.00
Balance July 1, 1969 \$ 271.53	Obs. Handbook.....53.05
	Timetables.....37.50
	Astronomical League Dues.....44.23
Income - Telescope Making Class	Observing Committee.....55.70
Kits-Palisades ...\$144.00	Books (to be sold).....84.05
Bladensburg...80.00	Junior's Trip.....177.40
Total.....\$224.00	Special Bulletin.....3.77
	Recording Fee.....12.00
Outgo	Bad Check.....7.50
Abrasives.....81.60	Miscellaneous.....7.80
Garage Rent.....120.00	Total.....\$1658.81
Buckets.....1.29	
Keys and Locks.....2.90	
Total Outgo.....\$205.79	
Net Income.....18.21	
Prev. Balance.....\$533.85 (Hoy Walls)	
Balance, Sept. 1, 1969\$552.06	

Treasurer's Report

JERRY SCHNALL

Eclipse Meeting Planned

It is hoped that a special meeting can be called during the last part of October. This will occur if arrangements can be made to have a discussion with Russell C. Maag, the chairman of the National Committee for Coordination of Solar Eclipse Plans for the Astronomical League. Further news on this item will appear in the next STAR DUST, which will be out in time so that, if it is possible, you will be able to attend.

SPACE corner

A New Feeling About The Old Moon

We urge all of you who haven't bothered to stand in line to view the lunar sample, at the Smithsonian Institution. Arts and Industries Building, to venture down there, especially if you've never been there before. One reason is that there are many other points of interest, some of which you see as you pass through the line. Among these are photographs of other moon samples, much enlarged and some in color. If you happen to be an aircraft buff, there are some early specimens worthy of a second look and some recent ones which include a space vehicle or two. Photographs taken of the earth and moon from space are quite beautiful and interesting. There is also a room of space art, for those of you who have wider interests; also exhibits of black art in D.C., British crafts designers and a show on the Battle of Britain of WW II, featuring a Hurricane fighter plane. The line is getting shorter all the time. Hours: 10 AM to 5:30 PM, seven days a week.

For those of you who just can't make the trip, we'll say that the specimen is volcanic-looking, medium to dark grey in color, and the small imbedded glassy beads sparkle clearly as the rock turns slowly under the brilliant illumination. You'll have a new feeling about the old moon, even if you can't examine the specimen as you might like. It makes it all more real than the photos and descriptions. D.N.

A.I. Meeting & UFOs.

The Astronomical League Convention was held at the University of Denver, Denver, Colorado on August 20th through 23rd. Bob and Janet Wright and daughter Susan were in attendance. Besides four days of worthwhile astronomical papers, several worthwhile side-trips were taken. These included trips to: NORAD, a picnic at Elk Falls ranch ESSA solar, time and communication facilities at Boulder and NCAR at Boulder. Friday evening there was a UFO symposium attended by six outstanding scientists. These included: Dr. Allen Hyneck, Dr. James A. Harder, Dr. James E. Mc Donald, Dr. David Saunders, Dr. Frank Salisbury and Dr. R. Leo Sprinkel. Principally they attacked the Condon Report on UFO's and stated that they would favor continued research on the UFO's. At the Saturday-night banquet, Mr. Leonard G. Pardue of the Southern Cross Astronomical Society of Miami, Florida, was presented the Astronomical League Award for outstanding service. About 250 persons were in attendance at the meeting. **BOB WRIGHT**

In July 1969 Sky and Telescope, Lawrence H. Aller of UCLA has given by far the most lucid, concise and yet comprehensive discussion of astrophysical spectroscopy I have ever seen. So good an opportunity is offered for all NCA members to become familiar with this basic tool that informal discussion of the article is a must, I believe. The more diverse the background and interests of the participants, the more valuable the discussion will be. By all means, put October 18th on your astronomical calendar: Planetary Nebulae - III, Astrophysical Spectroscopy discussion at NCA. **J.L.**

FOR SALE: Eight Inch, f 6.45 mirror mounted in an aluminum cell in a Parks fiberglass tube, 1/20 wave diagonal and spider, rack and pinion with screw-verner lens holder and Jaeger portable polar mount with clock drive. All it requires are oculars and a finding scope. Asking price, \$200.00. May be seen by appointment, phone 360-7381. Walter T. Babington 8205 Mc Clelland Place, Alexandria, Va.

FOR SALE: A Four-Inch refracting telescope. For information call Mr. Stockvis at 493-9052.

using member, firstly, may properly be furnished with a subscription, and secondly, that such a course is otherwise equitable. The corporation cannot and does not guarantee the continued receipt of the publication subscribed to on behalf of a member. A subscription to a national periodical is not a privilege of either a life or an honorary member.

(k) All annual dues shall be payable on or before Sept. 1 of each fiscal year. However, a member shall be regarded in good standing through the month of September of the fiscal year. If the dues are not paid before Oct. 1, the member shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

(l) Each member, except junior members and family group members having the status of a junior member, shall have one vote and count as one in determining a quorum. Each junior member and each family member (group member) having the status of a junior member shall have one-half vote and count as one-half of one in determining a quorum. An honorary member shall not have a vote unless such member also be a member of some other class.

ARTICLE II — GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. The affairs of this corporation shall be governed or directed by a board of trustees of five members. Four of the trustees shall be elected by the members. The president shall serve, ex-officio, as the fifth member and also as chairman of the board. The board of trustees shall have all power expressly vested in them by the constitution and these by-laws, including those powers necessarily implied from its existence as a governing group, having the duty to further the aims and objects of this corporation.

Section 2. One trustee shall be elected at the annual meeting in May of each year, in addition to the president, or elected at an adjourned meeting of the annual meeting, and by secret ballot. Each trustee shall be elected for a term of four years, commencing July 1, following his or her election. No trustee shall be elected to serve more than one full term in succession. In the event a vacancy occurs, the president shall call a special election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term; provided, that if the unexpired term of the vacant position is less than nine months, the board of trustees may elect a trustee for the unexpired term.

Section 3. The board of trustees shall prescribe rules for the conduct of its business; provided that the board shall meet in regular meeting at least once each year. At least three members of the five shall constitute a quorum; and a majority of those present shall determine all questions before the board except where a larger vote is required by these by-laws.

Section 4. Trustees to be elected by the members shall be nominated and elected in the same manner as applies to the officers of the corporation.

ARTICLE III — OFFICERS — DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of this corporation shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer and a sergeant-at-arms. Each officer, respectively, shall have the powers and duties customarily vested in officers with these prescribed titles, including the following:

(a) The president shall serve as the chief executive officer and shall carry out the decisions of the board of trustees or, where pertinent, the resolutions of the membership. He shall serve ex-officio, as a member and chairman of the board of trustees. He shall appoint all standing and special committees and designate their chairman; and he shall otherwise promote the aims and objects of the corporation.

(b) The vice-president shall preside at all meetings of the members during the absence of the president and shall be available to perform services on behalf of the president, including committee work and services.

(c) The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings, maintain the membership records, and serve as the custodian of the books and records and shall be the custodian of the official seal. The secretary shall also serve ex-officio as secretary of board of trustees.

(d) The treasurer shall serve as custodian of the funds of the corporation and as its chief financial officer. He shall also serve as the budget officer.

(e) The sergeant-at-arms shall assist the president in maintaining order at all meetings of the membership and shall assist the president in making arrangements for meetings.

Section 2. The terms of office for all officers shall be for one year and until their successor is elected and assumes the duties of office. Each term shall begin July 1 following the annual meeting. Neither the president, the vice-president nor the sergeant-at-arms shall be elected to serve more than two full terms in succession. The board of trustees shall have power to fill all vacancies in office for the unexpired term.

Section 3. The members shall have power to recall an officer or trustee and to declare the position of the incumbent vacated, under voting procedure as prescribed for the adoption of amendments to these by-laws.

Section 4. The fiscal affairs of this corporation shall be conducted on a fiscal year basis commencing Sept. 1 and ending on the following Aug. 31. Not later than June 1, in each year, the board of trustees shall adopt a budget for the following fiscal year, which budget may be amended by the board of trustees as necessary during the fiscal year and shall constitute the basic control of the fiscal affairs of this corporation.

Section 5. All payments or contributions made by sustaining members or continuing members, or donated to the corporation expressly for the purposes of producing investment income, shall be deposited in an investment fund and kept invested under the direction of the board of trustees. Excepting the authorized refund in case of expulsion of the agency sponsoring a continuing member, the principal amount of the investment fund shall not be expended without the consent of the members under voting procedure as prescribed for the adoption of amendments to these by-laws.

Section 6. In the event of the voluntary dissolution of this corporation, the board of trustees shall donate its assets to a non-profit corporation or association having as its principle aim and object the promotion of amateur astronomy. In the event of the involuntary dissolution of this corporation, its assets shall be disposed of in accord with the dissolution proceedings.

Section 7. The president may appoint a historian; director, Junior Division; director, National Parks Program; technical advisor; and parliamentarian.

ARTICLE IV — COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be standing committees, each of odd numbers, on membership; and on education, together with such additional standing committees as shall be established by the board of trustees.

Section 2. The president shall have the power to establish special committees to serve a special purpose, including, but not limited to, an audit committee, observatory site committee and a nominating committee.

ARTICLE V — MISCELLANEOUS

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National Capital Astronomers of
Washington, DC, George E. Gould, Pres.
5308 29th Place, Hillcrest Heights, Md 20091

NATIONAL CAPITAL ASTRONOMERS, INC., OFFICIAL BALLOT

Question: Shall the new constitution and by-laws in text mailed herewith, and filed with the secretary, be adopted?

YES NO

--- (Fold outward, so that signature below is exposed) ---

Mark your ballot X in space indicated above and deliver or mail to:

Mr. Morton Schiff, secretary, NCA
2901 18th St., N.W. (apt. 308)
Washington, D.C. 20009

Mail in time to permit receipt before Oct. 25, 1969.

Instruction to tellers: Do not expose this ballot. Cut off signatures below, after right of voter to vote is verified, then put in ballot box for counting. Cut on line below.

Signature of voter _____

Signature John Doe

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paper, or house organ, and prescribe its policies. Such publication shall be furnished each member, except that only one copy of each issue shall be furnished a family group. The president shall appoint the editor and the staff of such publication. All notices to members shall be published in the official publication and shall constitute the legal notices of the corporation to its members.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees is authorized to contract with the publishers of a national periodical primarily concerned with astronomy whereby members of this corporation, as a membership privilege, may obtain a group subscription to such publication.

Section 3. The board of trustees shall have the power to adopt an official corporate seal.

Section 4. The officers and trustees shall serve without remuneration.

ARTICLE VI -- QUORUM -- MEETINGS

Section 1. Twenty percent of the membership in terms of voting power shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the members, including elections and voting on amendments to the constitution or by-laws; and, excepting a proposition to amend the constitution or these by-laws, or to expel a member or a sponsoring agency (which shall require a two-thirds vote), a majority vote shall control.

Section 2. The annual meeting shall be held on the first Saturday in May of each year and regular meeting shall be held on the first Saturday of each month, excepting May, July and August. The president may call special member-meetings; they may also be called at the request of three members of the board of trustees. Only business specified in the notice of special meeting shall be transacted at such a meeting. The annual meeting and regular meetings shall be held at such hour and place as shall be prescribed by resolution of the board of trustee. Special meetings shall be held on such a date and at such hour and place as shall be specified in the notice of special meeting.

Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not covered by these by-laws.

ARTICLE VII -- ELECTIONS

Section 1. On a date not later than March 1 in each year, the president shall appoint a nominating committee charged with nominating candidates for office and trustee. The nominating committee should submit its report not later than the April regular meeting.

In the event that there is no contest for any office or that of trustee, those nominated by the committee may be elected by voice vote or a show of hands without the formality of balloting.

Section 2. Candidates for office or trustee may be nominated by petition signed by not less than ten members in terms of voting power. There shall be no nomination from the floor; provided, however, upon a show of at least five hands indicating that they wish to nominate a person or persons for office or trustee, the president shall recess the annual meeting for 15 minutes to give these members time to present to the presiding officer a nominating petition signed by at least ten members in terms of voting power.

END OF BY-LAWS