

SEPTEMBER, 1977

EDITOR: Jack Power

AAAP PICNIC

The club picnic will be held Saturday, September 10 with a rain date of Sunday the 11th. (If the rain date is necessary, announcements will be made over radio stations WHWH or WTTM). The picnic will start at 4:00 p.m. and will be held in Knox Grove at N.J.'s Washington Crossing State Park. Do not enter Park via the main entrance or you will be charged. Enter via the back entrance on Brickyard Road to the Nature Center and Observatory site. Those coming from Trenton follow Route 29 North to the first light beyond the intersection of 29 and Route 546 (Washington Crossing-Pennington Road). Turn right at light onto Church Road. Follow Church Road for about 1 mile and turn right into Brickyard Road. For those coming from the Princeton area, take Route 546 (which intersects with Route 1 at the Howard Johnson's and Route 206 at the South end of Lawrenceville). Follow Route 546 to the Pennington Circle. Go around the circle and take the third right turn, still 546. Follow 546 to the second light and make a left onto Route 579, Bear Tavern Road. Follow this for approximately 3/4 mile to the first left, Church Road. Follow Church Road about 1 mile and take first left, Brickyard Road, which leads to the Nature Center. Park cars there and walk to Knox Grove about 10 minutes away down Brickyard Road.

The picnic fee will be \$3.00 per person. Food contributions of salads, cakes or what have you will be appreciated. Hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, buns, and soft drinks will be provided. Kielbasa will be there for your eating pleasure too.

An observing session will follow the picnic at the observatory site. New Moon occurs on September 13, so the 10th will be a good night for Milky Way observation.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting will be on September 13 in Jadwin Hall, Room A-07, Princeton University, at 8:00 p.m. Our speaker for the evening will be Mr. Casper Hossfield, Chairman of the Solar Division of the AAVSO. Mr. Hossfield says that there are a great many objects that can be observed in the Universe. Some are more important than others. Therefore, Mr. Hossfield will discuss "Things that Need to be Observed and Others that Don't."

The Meet-the-Speaker dinner will be at the Prime Rib, Route 1 South, south of the Princeton Circle, at 5:45 p.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The October meeting will feature Dr. Erik Zimmermann, Director of the Robert J. Novins Planetarium, Ocean County College, Toms River. He will discuss the late stages of the sun's evolution.

STELLAFANE REPORT

AAAP members Dick Peery, Steve Shutt, Roxanne Tobin, Kurt Goepfert, and Mike Clark all were present at Stellafane on August 5 and 6. For the second year in a row clouds and rain prevailed although there were some partly clear skies on Friday evening. AAAP Director Dick Peery presented a progress report on the observatory at the Saturday afternoon talks which was well received.

STAR PARTIES

Star parties at the Nature Center observatory site will begin on Friday, October 7. The sessions will begin at the State Museum Planetarium at 7:30 p.m. for a short introduction to the current night sky. The Phillips farm gate to the Park will be open by 8:00 p.m. for those desiring to come to just the sessions themselves. The reason the AAAP has been allowed to build an observatory in the Park is the offering of these public programs. Club members should make it a point to attend them.

OBSERVATORY UPDATE

Four courses of cement block have now been laid at the observatory. It is really beginning to look like a building. Work sessions continue every Saturday beginning @ 9:30 a.m. If you have not been able to help out previously why not do so now.