

July 1977

EDITOR: Jack Powell

### MEETING NOTICE

The July meeting of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton will be held on July 12, Tuesday evening, at 8:00 p.m. in Jadwin Hall, Room A-07, Princeton University.

Our speaker for the evening will be Dr. Tom Graedel from Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J. Dr. Graedel holds a PhD. in solar astronomy and currently is studying particulate matter in the Earth's atmosphere. He will speak on Atmospheric Pollution, a most immediate concern of the amateur astronomer.

The Meet-the-Speaker dinner will be held at the Foolish Fox restaurant at the intersection of Routes 518 and 206 in Rocky Hill, New Jersey. Dinner begins at 5:45 p.m.

### JUNE MEETING

Kay Sears and Tom Fetterman of the S\*T\*A\*R Astronomy Society, Inc., Keyport, New Jersey gave a very interesting presentation. Tom discussed star magnitudes, detailing the history of how the magnitude of a star has been determined. Kay discussed the theory of the photometer, how it is used and then described and showed his home-constructed unit, used to trace the light curve of Nova Vulpeculae. Record-keeping procedures and the results of their photometry were highlighted as well.

### OBSERVATORY NEWS

The observatory is progressing on schedule as shown by a fine group of slides presented by Dick Peery. The foundation is in, the preliminary sanitary facilities installed and the pier foundations poured. The Saturday, 9 to 3 work sessions have been fairly well attended. I reiterate, labor or monetary contributions will be gratefully accepted by the Observatory Committee.

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Association's picnic will be held on August 20, (rain date the 21st) at the Washington Crossing State Park. It is hoped we'll be able to hold it at the Observatory site, but more on that later.

Stellafane will be held August 5 and 6. See Dick Peery if interested.

The National Astronomers Convention will be held August 10 to 13 in Boulder, Colorado. See the Reflector for details.

At the last Board of Directors meeting of the AAAP, Association dues were discussed. The cost of operating the AAAP per member was reported to have been \$15 for the year ending June 1977. It is recommended that a dues increase to \$18 per member be made. A discussion of the all important question will be held at the July meeting, so please attend. It was also recommended that a Student Membership be instituted within the Association.



AAAP PICNIC POSTPONED

Due to the fact that so many AAAP members are going to be out of town the weekend of August 20, it has been decided to postpone the club picnic to 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 the Park via the main entrance but via the back entrance to the Nature Center and the Observatory site. Take Route 29 North to the first stoplight beyond intersection of 29 and Route 546. Turn right onto Church Road. Follow Church Road for about a mile and turn right onto Brickyard Road. Park cars at the Nature Center Observatory site and walk to Knox Grove about 10 minutes away. A map of the Park is enclosed for your convenience.

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. (The picnic will give you a chance to view the progress on the Observatory.) New Moon occurs on September 13, so the 10th will be a good night for Milky Way observation.

JUNE MEETING

Dr. Tom Graedel of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J. presented an interesting discussion on the chemistry of Atmospheric Pollution. He discussed ozone measurements in the upper and lower atmosphere using Princeton University's OAO-3 satellite. He showed a time lapse film of ozone concentrations developing in the early morning in the New York City area, increasing during the day and moving N.E. into the Connecticut area and dissipating during the late evening. This all caused by the traffic build-up. (Members not attending our meetings are missing some interesting talks!)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

As discussed in the July Sidereal Times, the Board of Directors has recommended an increase in the Association dues. These recommendations were brought to a vote at the July meeting. Starting with the dues coming due in September 1977 and forward, the dues of the Association will be \$18 per year. A full-time student will be assessed \$12 per year.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

The September meeting programs will feature Mr. Casper Hassfield. Mr. Hassfield is the chairman of the Solar Division of the AAVSO.

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



## ITEMS AVAILABLE

1. Coulter optics F-20 (160 m EFL) 8 inch Dahl-Kirkham type Cassegrain, 40 inch aluminum tube. Novak mirror cell and secondary. Edmund's 6 inch equatorial mount with clock drive. 4 foot 3 inch O.D. pedestal with feet.

Price: \$300.00

Contact: John C. Kanavel, phone during weekdays 609-883-5030, after 5:00 p.m. and weekends 215-493-4365.

2. 5 inch Celestron telescope in carrying case with visual back, 25 mm and 12 mm eyepiece, Star diagonal, equatorial wedge, porro-errecting prism, 2x Barlowe lens and Tuthill 5 inch Solar Skreen in wooden case. Electric cord for clock drive, a set of Allen wrenches and a set of Allen cap screws included.

Price: \$525.00

Contact: John B. Power, 102 Upper Ferry Road, Trenton, N.J. (Ewing Twp.)  
Phone anytime 609-882-8811.

For members' information, the following is a tabulation of Cost per Member and Income per Member.

<u>Cost/Member</u>		<u>Income/Member</u>	
Sky & Telescope	\$6.00	Dues	\$12.00
Publication & Postage	3.19	Picnic	.57
Stationery	2.38	Handbooks	.22
Insurance	.97	Interest	<u>.09</u>
Astronomical League	.72		\$12.88
Scopes - Expenses	.56		
P. O. Box	.27		
Speakers	.94		
Fees	<u>.05</u>		
	\$15.08		

This breakdown, supplied by Treasurer Leith Holloway, illustrates well the need for a dues increase as the AAAP is losing over \$2 per year per member.