

# Sidereal Times

OCT 1981

Newsletter of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton, Inc.

Editor: Kathy Yaros 924-5473

Director: Roxanne Peery

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

The summer is finally over and it's time to get back to work! We are indebted to Freeman Dyson and the Institute for Advanced Study for the meeting room used last year. Our new Program Chairman, Kurt Rahlfs, has lined up an interesting group of guest speakers which we hope will draw many of you to the meetings. There are some people on the membership list who haven't been to a meeting in years. Come on out -- we'd like to meet you. This September, AAAP began teaching a community education class at the West Windsor-Plainsboro Community Education Center. Kurt Goepfert, Doug Wurzler, Kurt Rahlfs, Jay Albert, Dave Brown, and myself will participate in teaching a six week introductory astronomy course. The club stands to make approximately \$100 plus new members. If you'd like to help us in a similar venture this Spring, let me know. (cont. on reverse)

## BACK AT PEYTON HALL

October 2 - November 20, Fridays, 7:30 pm

Public observing sessions begin on Friday evenings at the planetarium in Trenton.

(See the duty roster below.)

October 13, Tuesday, 8 pm

Dr. John Lowrance of Princeton University will talk about Electro Optic Sensors.

October 24, Saturday, 7:30 pm

Questar Challenge

(see reverse side)

November 10, Tuesday, 8 pm

Dr. Ed Guinan will speak on Star Spots and Sun Spots.

December 8, Tuesday, 8 pm

Leith Holloway will conduct his talk about basic meteorology based on questions from the audience.

Before regular Tuesday evening meetings, members may want to relax and enjoy dinner with the guest speaker at the Foolish Fox restaurant located at the junction of Routes 206 & 518 in Rocky Hill, NJ; 5:45 pm.

## Observatory Duty Roster

<u>Fri</u>	<u>Moon</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Phone</u>
10/02	4 day	R. Peery	397-3140
10/09		K. Rahlfs	(215)493-0561
10/16	full	L. Holloway	924-2480
10/23		J. Church	799-0723
10/30	new	K. Goepfert	(201)584-3882
11/06		<del>D. Wurzler</del>	799-0250
11/13	full	D. Brown	466-2696
11/20		R. Peery	397-3140

A Public Relations Committee has been formed to publicize upcoming activities and club accomplishments. Call Kurt Rahlfs, (215)493-0561, if you wish to volunteer.

Please give all materials for next issue to Editor by October 20th.



## DIRECTOR cont.

Also beginning this Spring are the "revised" Public Observing Sessions. The planetarium has been hosting these sessions since 1973 and during that time modifications in the staff have left only ONE qualified person to run the sessions -- Dick Peery.

After much thought we have come up with a revised schedule which takes some of the load off Dick without reducing the number of nights we are open. The planetarium will host four sessions in the Spring and four next Fall, with the public meeting at the planetarium only. Eight summer sessions will be handled by qualified observers on Friday evenings in July and August at the observatory.

On a more current note, the Fall sessions begin on October 2nd at the planetarium and afterwards proceed to the observatory. The September 12th Star Wash grossed \$174.

Roxanne Peery

## QUESTAR CHALLENGE -- FIELD TRIP

Ever observe through a Questar telescope? Here's your chance! On Saturday night, October 24th, AAAP will sponsor a field trip to the Questar plant/showroom/observatory on Rt. 202, 2.8 miles south of New Hope and 4.3 miles from the signal in the Village of Buckingham, PA (see map). The Questar people have invited us to bring along our own telescopes for purposes of comparison. So far, club members have volunteered to bring Celestron telescopes of various sizes, plus a Dynamic 8" and a Quantum 4". You are invited to join us at the Questar facility by 7:30 pm -- with or without a telescope. There is no admission fee. Questar phone: (215)862-2000.

An optional dinner will be held at 5:15 pm at Mother's restaurant located on Main Street in New Hope.

In case of clouds or rain, our alternate night is November 28th.

To guarantee appropriate arrangements, please let us know us soon as possible (by October 23rd), if you plan to:

1. join us at Questar on October 24th,
2. meet us for the pre-observation dinner,
3. bring a telescope, and if so, what kind.

Please call Jay Albert at (609)443-6191 after 7 pm or (212)764-6341 during business hours, Roxanne Peery at 397-3140, or Kurt Rahlfs at (215)493-0561.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be an unusual and exciting evening.

## QUESTAR

