

# Sidereal Times

Newsletter of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton, Inc.

March 1983

Editor: Dave Brown

Director: Kurt Goepfert

## AAAP MARCH/APRIL CALENDAR

- 1) 3/4 (Friday) - 8:00 p.m. AAAP Observatory officially reopens for member observing. See duty roster on reverse side for more details.
- 2) 3/8 (Tuesday) - 7:30 p.m. "NOVA" session co-hosted by Kurt Goepfert and Dave Brown.  
Topic: "Galaxies - An Overview". We will set the mood for our main speaker by reviewing galaxy types and discussing computer simulations of galaxies.  
8:00 p.m. Princeton University Graduate Student, Gary Mamon, will preview his research on the nature of "Interacting Galaxies". Premeeting dinner at the Foolish Fox in Rocky Hill at 5:45 p.m.
- 3) 4/8 (Friday) - 8:00 p.m. Public observing at the AAAP Observatory begins and will continue each Friday through April 29.
- 4) 4/12 (Tuesday) - 7:30 p.m. "NOVA" Session conducted by Dick and Roxanne Peery. (Rescheduled from March meeting.)  
Topic: "Astrophotography - Equipment and Techniques".  
8:00 p.m. Dr. B. Paczynski will report on "Cataclysmic Binaries."

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

As promised in last month's Sidereal Times, we have attached the "official" AAAP Membership Survey. Some considerable thought and effort has gone into the construction of this information trap. Now it's up to all of you to make it work by providing the requested data.

We ask that you carefully complete this survey and return it to the AAAP P.O. Box listed on page 1. If you prefer, bring it along to either the March or April Club meetings. In any case, please respond by April 15, 1983.

Club novices should view this survey as a golden opportunity to tell us what comprises your informational needs. Veteran AAAP'ers can equally benefit from a timely response. You just may find out something interesting about your fellow members.

Future issues of Sidereal Times will spotlight various AAAP statistical summaries, which we expect will interest all of you. In the interim, any contributor to this survey may tap the AAAP Data Bank by mailing specific information requests to our Club Data "Banker", Kurt Rahlfs.

"NOVA" Reminder: If any Club member would like to conduct a "NOVA" session, please contact Director, Kurt Goepfert, at (201) 584-3882. This pre-meeting lecture can accommodate just about any type of presentation that is astronomy-related and which lasts no longer than one-half hour.

Observatory Duty Reinstated: To celebrate the emergence from winter, we are officially reopening the AAAP Observatory for all club members on Friday nights.

A Keyholder will be assigned the responsibility to open the Observatory for interested Club members each Friday night beginning around 8:00 p.m. Interested observers should call the assignee to verify actual plans to open the building, particularly in the event of questionable weather.

If you need directions to the Observatory, you may call any Keyholder listed below. A map will be included with next month's Sidereal Times.

MAR/APR DUTY ROSTER (Observatory Phone 737-2575)

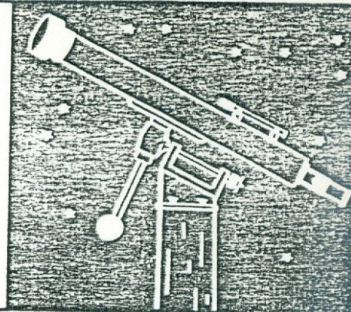
<u>Friday</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Phone</u>
3/4	K. Goepfert	201-584-3882	4/1	J. Church	799-0723
3/11	M. Halfon	443-5866	4/8*	A. Esposito	396-3630
3/18	H. Johnson	882-2680	4/15*	L. Holloway	924-2480
3/25	- P. Kane	882-1275	4/22*	K. Rahlfs	215-493-0561
			4/29*	D. Wurzler	737-9353

\*Public Observing Session



Amateur Astronomers Association  
of Princeton, Incorporated

P. O. Box 2017 Princeton, New Jersey 08540



AAAP MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

MARCH 1983

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (CIRCLE RESPONSE): 1) Regular 2) Student 3) Family 4) Senior

START DATE OF YOUR AAAP MEMBERSHIP: Month \_\_\_\_\_, Year \_\_\_\_\_

START DATE (APPROXIMATE) OF YOUR AMATEUR ASTRONOMER STATUS: Mo. \_\_\_\_\_, Yr. \_\_\_\_\_

I. YOUR EQUIPMENT

CIRCLE THE TYPES OF ASTRONOMY EQUIPMENT YOU OWN/HAVE ACCESS TO AND DESCRIBE AS APPROPRIATE. (OMIT AAAP-OWNED OBSERVATORY ITEMS)

1) Telescope(s):  
Objective Diam: SCOPE I SCOPE II SCOPE III  
Style: Refrct/Rflct Refrct/Rflct Refrct/Rflct  
Make/Model: \_\_\_\_\_  
Focal Length: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Eyepieces: I II III IV V  
Make: \_\_\_\_\_  
Focal Length: mm mm mm mm mm

3) Filters: Solar? (Yes/No) If "Yes", describe \_\_\_\_\_  
Nebular? (Yes/No) Describe \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunar? (Yes/No) Describe \_\_\_\_\_

4) Astrocamera: Describe \_\_\_\_\_

5) Binoculars: I II III  
Make: \_\_\_\_\_  
Size/Power: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Other Astro-Related Equipment (e.g. Computers, Radio Telescopes, etc.):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED FOR ANY RESPONSE, PLEASE USE REVERSE SIDE.

## II. YOUR INTERESTS &amp; EXPERIENCE

A.1.OBSERVATIONAL INTERESTS - CIRCLE THE TYPES OF OBSERVING WHICH INTEREST YOU: a)Solar; b)Lunar; c)Planets; d)Asteroids; e)Comets; f)Deep Sky; g)Multiple Stars; h)Var. Stars; i)Occultations; j)Radio Astronomy.

2.DESCRIBE YOUR FAVORITE ITEM: \_\_\_\_\_

B.1.OBSERVATIONAL EXPERIENCE - CHARACTERIZE THE TYPE(S) OF OBSERVING YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR "SPECIALTIES": \_\_\_\_\_

2.WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE WITH OTHER MEMBERS? (YES/NO) \_\_\_\_\_

C. ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY - ANY EXPERIENCE? (YES/NO)

IF "YES":When did you start? \_\_\_\_\_ (Provide year). Process own film?(Y/N)  
List your favorite astro-subjects: \_\_\_\_\_

IF "NO":Would you like to learn? (YES/NO) \_\_\_\_\_

D. TELESCOPE-MAKING - ANY EXPERIENCE? (YES/NO)

IF "YES":Describe your "successes": \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize any current projects: \_\_\_\_\_

IF "NO":Would you like to learn? (YES/NO) \_\_\_\_\_

## III. YOUR AAAP PARTICIPATION

A. CHARACTERIZE YOUR CLUB ACTIVITIES:

- 1)Monthly Meetings - a)Regular Attendee; b)Sometimes Attend; c)Never
- 2)Use of AAAP Observatory - a)Frequent; b)Infrequent; c)Where is it?
- 3)Are you a AAAP Keyholder? (YES/NO)
- 4)Would you like to be, if "NO" to #3? (YES/NO)
- 5)Would you like to participate in any AAAP field trips? (YES/NO)
- 6)If "YES" to #5, where would you like to go/what would you like to do?
- 7)Would you like to become part of an AAAP "Hotline Network" to pick up news of sudden astro-events? (YES/NO)

B. PLEASE INDICATE YOUR "LIKES" CONCERNING THE CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

C. LIST YOUR DISLIKES (IF ANY): \_\_\_\_\_

D. PLEASE PROVIDE ONE SUGGESTION FOR IMPROVING THE AAAP: \_\_\_\_\_

E. WE WILL COMPILE DETAILED CLUB STATISTICS ON THE BASIS OF DATA COLLECTED HERE. WHAT INFORMATION WOULD YOU BE MOST INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FROM THIS SURVEY? \_\_\_\_\_

F. ANY OTHER COMMENTS? \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE!