



Los Angeles Astronomical Society, Inc.

NEWS BULLETIN FOR FEBRUARY 1973

Volume 3, number 2

A Letter from the President

Dear fellow member,

Please take note of the fact that our general meeting this coming Monday will not be held at the Griffith Observatory as it usually is, but instead on the campus of the University of Southern California. This is necessitated by the fact the Planetarium will be open on Monday for Lincoln's birthday. See the note below for the exact location; also note the campus map reproduced on the other side of this bulletin. My special thanks to Gordon Mitchell, Tom Cragg, and Dr. Gibson Reaves of U.S.C. for their help in finding us a meeting place in these unusual circumstances.

Our speaker at the meeting will be Clint Ford of the A.A.V.S.O., and his talk promises to be most informative and entertaining. I hope to see all of you at the meeting. There I will have information sheets on the upcoming Riverside Telescope Makers' Conference, which were kindly furnished by Mr. Clifford Holmes of the Riverside Astronomical Society. More on this in next month's bulletin.

Finally, may I draw your attention to the fact that one of our neighboring societies, the Excelsior Telescope Club of Long Beach, is holding its annual banquet on Friday, February 16th at Alfred's Restaurant, 700 E. 45th, Long Beach. Their banquet speaker will be Dr. Halton Arp of Hale Observatories. Mr. Tom Cave of the Excelsior group says that any L.A.A.S. member is welcome to attend this banquet. If interested, please call him at the Cave Optical Company (434-2613) at least a day or two in advance so that reservations may be made. The total cost per person is \$8.

—Art Johnson

Star Member Report

The Star Members' star party on January 6 was attended by four thick-skinned souls who observed with the Grow 14½ inch telescope as the temperature dropped to zero. The February Star party will be held before this bulletin goes to press. The March star party is tentatively scheduled for March 3. Again, a reminder that, although these are unofficial star parties informally planned by Star Members who wish to observe as a group during the winter months when regular star parties are not held, general members are invited to attend as the guest of any Star Member who is present at the star party.

The Star Member meeting of January 22 produced fifteen participants who made some important decisions concerning observatory construction. It was decided to hire carpenters to build our roof. This will give us a chance to complete our observatory this summer, one year before the Society hosts the WAA convention in August 1974. Whether we finish this year or not depends on the amount of support we have from Star Members and general members. Both physical and financial assistance are needed, particularly the latter.

Two appointments were made at the meeting. Norm Muir was appointed to supervise star parties in conjunction with the Star Party Chairman appointed from the general membership by the Society President. Lew Chilton agreed to lend his green thumb and know-how for the task of landscaping the observing site.

Anyone who can offer assistance in cleaning and repairing the Society telescope in preparation for its mounting in the observatory should contact Mike Simmons. Anyone with mechanical know-how can help. Dave Sovereign has offered to design and build the electronics for the scope.

Finally, a note of appreciation to Ted Sobelman, Society Treasurer in 1971 and 1972. Ted refused the customary salary of \$15 per month for his work as treasurer during his tenure, and, at Ted's suggestion, the Board has transferred the \$360 accrued in the last two years to the Observatory Fund. This has enabled us to consider hiring some work out in order to complete the observatory this year. The Star Members are grateful to Ted for this helping hand (*as are all the members of L.A.A.S.* —Ed.)

—Mike Simmons

February Meeting set for the 12th at U.S.C.

Our general meeting will be held this coming Monday evening the 12th in room 102 of the Stauffer Lecture Hall on the campus of the University of Southern California. The time is 7:45 p.m., and our featured speaker will be Mr. Clinton B. Ford of the A.A.V.S.O. His topic will be, "Updating the Work of the A.A.V.S.O."

On the back page of this bulletin you'll find a campus map showing how to get to the Stauffer Lecture Hall. Street parking will likely be available on Exposition Boulevard. However, I'd recommend that you pay the 75 cents it costs to park on campus. If you do that, use the "University Main Entrance 1" and tell the attendant you're going to a meeting in the Stauffer Lecture Hall; he'll then direct you to the most convenient parking lot.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

—AWJ

Dates on the L.A.A.S. Calendar

General Meeting, Monday, February 12, 1973, in Room 102, Stauffer Lecture Hall, U.S.C. (see map) 7:45 p.m.

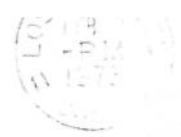
Star Member Meeting, Monday, February 19, at Palms Recreation Center, National & Overland, W. Los Angeles.
7:30 p.m.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Monday, February 26, at Griffith Observatory, 7:30 p.m.

Star Party (Star Members and Guests) Saturday, March 3, Lockwood Valley

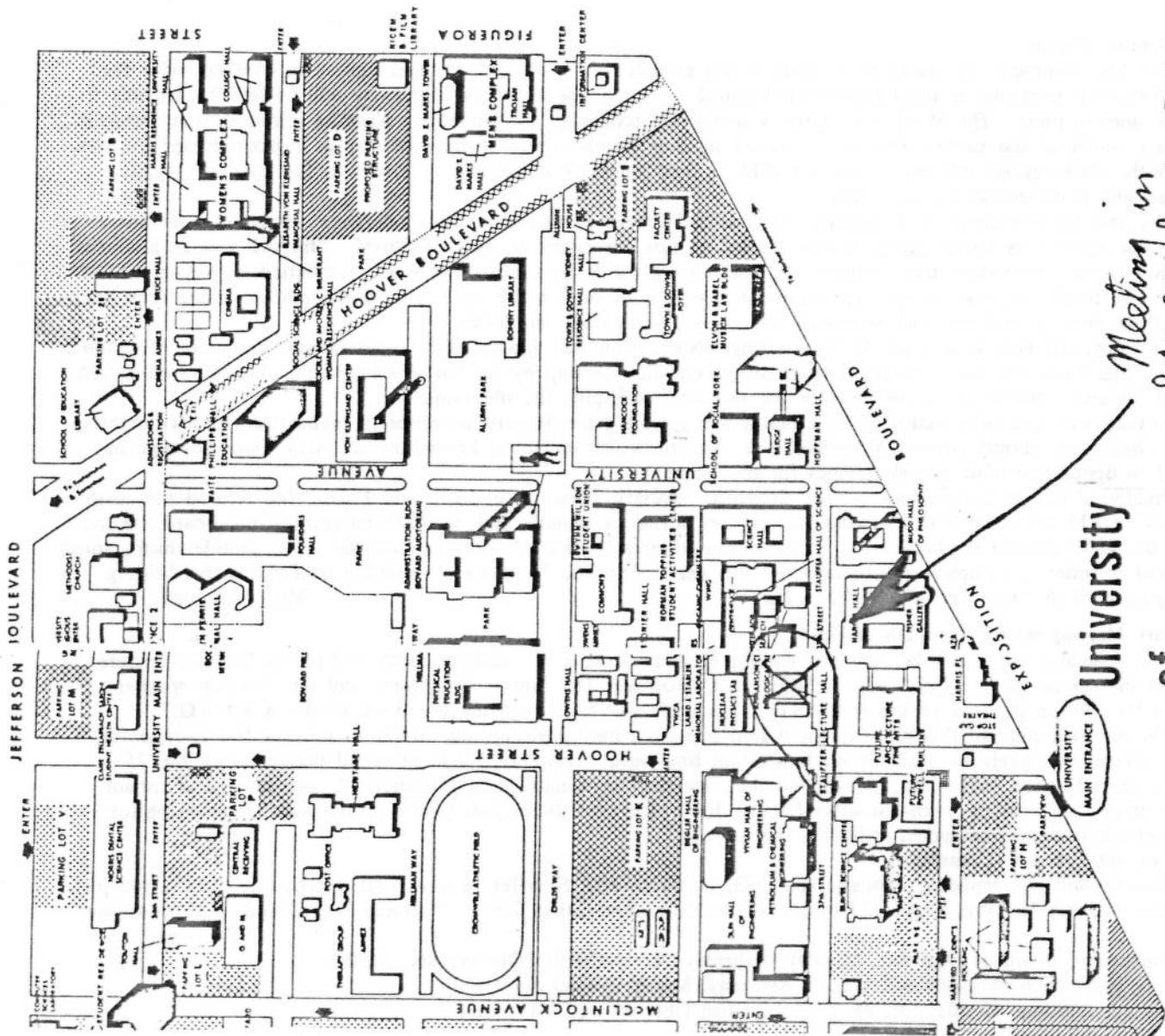
General Meeting, Monday, March 12, at Griffith Observatory, 7:45 p.m.

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first class mail

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*Meeting in
Stauffer Lecture Hall
Room 102.*

**University
of
Southern
California**