



Los Angeles Astronomical Society, Inc.

MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR APRIL 1973

Volume 3, No. 4

GREETINGS

from your 1973 News Bulletin staff, including Norm Muir, Art Johnson, and especially my wife, who does everything I don't get around to. In the future, we will try to get the Bulletin out as early as possible and include everything of interest to our members. Any articles, interesting news tidbits, or classified ads should be sent to News Bulletin Editor, L.A.A.S., Box 27787, Los Feliz Station, Los Angeles, Calif. 90027.

Mike Simmons
Editor

GENERAL MEETING

Our next general meeting will be April 9 at 7:45 P.M. at the Griffith Observatory. Our featured speaker will be Ed Krupp of the Griffith Observatory staff. His topic will be "Clusters of Galaxies". Also, we will hold a special election to fill a vacant Alternate Board Member position. Nominations will be accepted before the voting. Those nominated at the March meeting are Norm James, Ed Johnston, Bob Jones, and Ephraim Merritt.

AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS CONVENTION

The annual Riverside Telescope Makers Conference will be held April 28 and 29. The new location will be the University of Southern California Music and Craft Conference Center, located in Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. This conference has always been interesting and informative, and this year's new dark sky location should add to the enjoyment. If you have any equipment you would like to display or discuss, the Riverside A.S. invites you to bring it. Accommodations at the Conference Center range from camping to motel rooms, with or without meals. Reservations must be made by April 14, and a \$5.00 deposit is required. For information contact the Riverside Astronomical Society, c/o Clifford Holmes, 8642 Wells Ave., Riverside, Calif. 92503, or get the details at our April meeting. This is a worthwhile weekend for novices and experts, so be sure not to miss it.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The 1973 L.A.A.S. Membership Roster will again be available to members at the April meeting. Any mistakes should be brought to the attention of Wanda Giblin, L.A.A.S. Secretary.

NAME BADGES

L.A.A.S. name badges are now purchased for new members with their initiation fees. Those who are already members can order them through Mike Simmons at the general meeting. The cost is two dollars. These badges have white cut letters with a blue background. They include the Society name, member's name, and the drawing of Newton's telescope from the center of our logo. You can see them at the meeting.

RETIRED MEMBERS

The Board of Directors decided at the March meeting to reduce the dues for members who are 65 years old and retired, to six dollars per year. Those who are eligible for this reduction should contact Wanda Giblin or Walt Deutsch to change their dues status.

LATE DUES

The L.A.A.S. can no longer carry members on the rolls for more than 60 days after notification that dues are due. Let's not put any more of a burden than necessary on our poor, over-worked Secretary.

L.A.A.S. OPTICAL EQUIPMENT

The L.A.A.S. has some optical shop equipment, such as grinding and polishing machines, in storage. Any member who has a large project in mind may apply to the Board for permission to use this equipment. Lew Chilton has a list of available equipment.

STAR MEMBER REPORT

During March the Star Members moved the road that cuts through our property to the edge of our land, and built a fence at the north boundary. After several disappointing star parties, the Star Members finally had some good weather for the March 31 get-together, at least for the first half of the evening. Rich Lanker, our newest star member, brought his new 12 1/2 inch telescope to Lockwood Valley for its first dark sky test. The panel of experts there rated it as "WOW!". Most of us will be in Idyllwild for the conference during the next new moon.

Our next work party will be the weekend of April 21. We will be preparing the observatory for the carpenters who will build our roof. The moon will not be up during the early evening, so we will do some observing then. We would like to see as many Star Members there as possible to help out with the work.

Star Member dues are due in May. New Star Members are always welcome. L.A.A.S. members interested in the many advantages of Star Membership should contact Mike Simmons or any other Star Member for information.

The next Star Member meeting will be Monday, April 16 at 7:30 P.M. at the Palms Recreation Center, at National and Overland in West Los Angeles.

DATES ON THE L.A.A.S. CALENDAR

General Meeting-Monday, April 9, 7:45 P.M. Griffith Observatory

Star Member Meeting- Monday, April 16, 7:30 P.M., Palms Recreation Center, National and Overland, West L.A.

Star Member Work Party- April 21 and 22, Lockwood Valley.

Board of Directors Meeting- Monday, April 13~~Q~~ 7:30 P.M., Griffith Observatory.

Riverside Telescope Maker's Conference- April 28 and 29, USC Music and Craft Conference Center, Idyllwild (Make reservations before April 14).

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