



Los Angeles Astronomical Society

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Submit BULLETIN inquiries, articles and ads to Lewis Chilton, BULLETIN editor, 1951 So. Shenandoah Street, Apt. #10, Los Angeles, CA 90034.

All other correspondence should be directed to the Los Angeles Astronomical Society, 2800 E. Observatory Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90027. Please indicate on envelope the general nature of correspondence or to whom it is being directed.

Society Receives Gift

Past president and Life member Les Mawhinney donated his prized 4-inch refractor to the Society last month.

Mr. Mawhinney, a pioneer in Los Angeles radio news broadcasting, expressed his desire to see his telescope come out of retirement, put to good use and appreciated for the fine instrument it is.

Built for Mr. Mawhinney in the early fifties by noted instrument maker and LAAS'er George Carroll, the telescope was later tested by several expert observers, among them Messrs. Cave and Cragg. All agreed, this is one of the finest 4-inch refractors ever used by them, adding that it rivals any Alvan Clark refractor of equal aperture. Mr. Mawhinney good humoredly recalled that noted solar astronomer Robert S. Richardson once had occasion to borrow his telescope, but after using it was reluctant to return it.

On May 8th, Mike Simmons, Mike O'Neal and Lew Chilton, on behalf of the Society, took possession of the telescope from Mr. Mawhinney at his home in Tujunga (see photo). We are grateful to him for this exceedingly fine gift. Its new home will be the LAAS's Lockwood Valley Observatory. It will be much used and greatly appreciated.



Accepting the Carroll telescope from its owner Les Mawhinney (center) is Lew Chilton (left), Mike Simmons (right) and Mike O'Neal (behind the camera).

New Mailing Address for LAAS

For many years this Society has used Griffith Observatory's mailing address as its own, and it continues to do so. Recently, however, Griffith changed its mailing address from a post office box to a street address. Effective immediately, please use the new address for any correspondence with the LAAS or Griffith Observatory. The new address is:

2800 E. Observatory Road
Los Angeles, California 90027

Astrophoto Clinic to Meet

Have you admired other people's astrophotographs and wished you could do the same? Or have you tried but only succeeded in producing funny streaks and an occasional flashlight image? Well, friend, help is on the way!

A two session astrophotography clinic will be conducted this month for all interested LAAS members. Several experienced astrophotographers, headed by Mike O'Neal, will be on hand to help you solve those problems this specialized field presents.

The first session will take place at an, as yet, unannounced member's home on the evening of Saturday, June 19th, for the purpose of acquainting participants with their equipment and the best techniques. A few exposures will be attempted for practice.

The second session will be held at the star party slated for June 26th. Later that evening, the knowledge and experience gained from these sessions will be given the acid test. Time will be set aside at the July meeting for you to show your astrophotos, if you wish.

It should be pointed out that good astrophotos are also the result of good darkroom practices and technique and a knowledge of emulsions and filters. Time and lack of facilities prevents this aspect of astrophotography from being discussed other than in a cursory manner.

If you wish to take part in these sessions, call Mike Simmons at (213) 884-7156 before June 19th. You will receive details about the location and time of the first session. Hope to see you there.

June Meeting at Griffith Observatory: A Night to Remember?

This month LAAS members and guests will be taken on Cragg's Telescopic Tour of the Summer Sky, a perennially popular event made possible by the good folks at Griffith Observatory.

Unlike other meetings, this one will combine the knowledge and speaking ability of member Thomas Cragg with the Zeiss planetarium projector's ability to faithfully reproduce the night sky. Dozens of prominent and not so prominent celestial objects will be pointed out and discussed; all will whet the astro-appetites of summer star party-goers.

As discussed last month, Cragg and his wife Mary will soon move to Australia's Anglo-Australian Observatory at Siding Spring. It seems apparent that this will be Cragg's last Tour--in the northern hemisphere, at any rate. For this reason, the June meeting should be particularly memorable.

[Continued on reverse side]

Also on tap for June are illustrated reports of the well-attended Riverside Telescope Makers Convention and the LAAS star party, both held on the Memorial Day weekend. Plan to attend!

Monday, June 14th, 7:30 p.m.

Other Meetings...

- STAR MEMBER MEETING - Monday, June 21st, 7:30 p.m.
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Monday, June 28th, 7:30 p.m.

Both meetings will convene at the Palms Recreational Center, located on Overland Avenue, just north of the Santa Monica Fwy., behind the Rancho Park Library.

- STAR PARTY - Saturday, June 26th, dusk till dawn.

classified

FOR SALE: 5-inch F/8.8 mirror and cell, 1-1/4-inch elliptical diagonal and 3-vane spider. Fresh coatings. \$20. David Sovereign, [213] 247-1205.

FOR SALE: German-type equatorial mount for 6-, 8- or small 10-inch telescope. Very sturdy and portable with smooth roller bearings. Comes with clock drive, manual declination correction, converter-frequency oscillator, 4- and 8-inch tubes. \$125. Ron McKnight, [213] 667-2602.

FOR SALE: Cave Astrola Deluxe 10-inch F/8 refl. Transportable equatorial mount w/ clock drive and setting circles, also slow motion declination. 6x50 finder, 2.4-inch F/15 finder, 4 eyepieces and more. \$600. Contact A. Palmer, P.O. Box 472, Bellflower, CA 90706, or call [213] 925-1305.



STAR MEMBERS --- STAR dues were due MAY 1st.

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