

Los Angeles Astronomical Society

LAAS MEETINGS

There will be no general meeting in July or August. The board meeting will be Monday, July 16th and the Star Members will meet Monday, July 23rd. Both meetings will convene at 7:30 p.m. at the Palms Recreational Center, located on Overland Avenue, just north of the Santa Monica Freeway. All members are welcome.

AUGUST PICNIC

In lieu of the July and August general meetings, the society has planned a family style picnic for August. The picnic will be Saturday, August 4th at Fern Dell park. The park is on Los Feliz Boulevard near Western, just south of Griffith Observatory. The club will provide soft drinks and chips. Everyone is asked to bring their own lunches. We will meet in area 4 of the park at 2:00 p.m. Some signs should be posted to help people find the right location. The park has picnic tables and drinking fountains. Family and friends are welcome.

SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS

The LAAS library, located in the dome of Griffith Observatory, is normally open after general meetings. Since there are no general meetings scheduled for July and August, Librarian Lou Rarogiewicz has decided to make special trips to Griffith and open the library from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the evenings of July 3rd, July 24th, and August 14th. These are all Tuesday nights and there is no program at the Greek Theatre on these nights, so traffic should be light. This is a good chance for members to browse through the library in unrushed and uncrowded circumstances. Lou is to be complimented on the excellent job he has done since he took over as club librarian a little over two years ago. Many new titles have been added, books not available in the public libraries. Access to this library is one of your benefits as a Club Member and any member who can read is sure to enjoy looking through the collection.

FOR SALE

4½ inch Tasco f/8 reflector. Manual drives, two eyepieces and a barlow. \$90. Mark Jacobs (213) 703-8248 or (213) 888-5336.

BOOK REVIEW

by Ed Ehrhart

The Sun and the Amateur Astronomer by W. M. Baxter is a recent book written by and for an amateur astronomer. It is an excellent work on our nearest star. Subjects discussed include physical details, visible appearance, radiation, outer layers, telescopes for amateurs, observing and recording information, solar photography, and other topics of interest. One word of caution: read the entire book before you look at the sun. Page 98 contradicts advise given on page 38. Remember that the sun is very bright and direct viewing can cause permanent damage to your eye.

Ideal for the casual reader as well as the serious student, this book deals with the sun in terms understandable to the knowledgeable layman. This book is available to members through your LAAS library.

STAR PARTY

The July Star party will be Saturday, July 21st up at Lockwood Valley. Other Star parties for 1979: August 18th, September 22nd, and October 20th.

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Over 50 Years
of Amateur Astronomy
in Los Angeles
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