

LOS ANGELES ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



Bulletin

August 1980

General Meeting

The August 11th general meeting will be held at the California Federal Plaza, in the third floor auditorium. Our speaker is going to be Steven Grandi, an assistant professor of astronomy at UCLA. His talk will be on quasars. This is one of the most controversial subjects in astronomy. There are many things not understood about quasars. So, if you would like to find out about them, be at the meeting by 7:45 p.m., on Monday, August 11th.

The California Federal Plaza is located at 5670 Wilshire Blvd., between Labrea and Fairfax, on the corner of Wilshire and Hauser. Parking is available in the parking lot for 50¢ for each half hour or on the street for free.

OTHER LAAS MEETINGS

Board Meeting- Monday, August 18th, at 7:30 P.M.

Star Members- Monday, August 25th, at 7:30 P.M.

Star and Board Meetings convene at the Palms Recreational Center located on Overland Avenue, just north of the Santa Monica Freeway, behind the Rancho Park Library. All members are Welcome.

President's Column

Space Week Recap (July 14-20). As mentioned in the July bulletin, the California Museum of Science and Industry had a "Space Week" commemorating the first lunar landing. Our society was invited to participate. I showed the "LAAS Story" slide show on Tuesday and Thursday in the Hall of Health Theatre. Our club display was set up in the space building all week. Saturday, Glen Wheeler and I set up our telescope at the museum and let the public look at sun spots and prominences (Glen has a Daystar filter). On Sunday, Bob Kendall and Howard Packer took their telescopes for the public to view through. Events like this give our society an excellent opportunity for increasing public awareness of astronomy, especially if more of us participate.

(Continued on page 2)

President's Column (Continued from page 1)

"Eclipse Party" Sunday, August 10, from 10 A.M. to dusk. The next joint LAAS - Griffith Star Party will be held during the day, believe it or not. It is actually an Eclipse Party for the partial solar eclipse on Sunday, Aug. 10th. Like at the April Star Party, Griffith will have tours of their solar telescope. I encourage all of you to participate. Bring your telescopes with solar filters, or just come to help man the display or slide show. We will have our club display in front of Griffith, as we did at the April Star Party. Because no planets are visible, this star party will end at dusk.

Tom Wallace
LAAS President

Bulletin Editor Change by Mark Jacobs

This Bulletin is the last Bulletin that I will be writing. I am going off to school this month to the University of Arizona in Tucson. I have always enjoyed putting together the Bulletin. I would like to thank Derek Reynolds (your next editor) for helping put out this issue. I would also like to thank Mike Simmons, Tom Wallace, and the others that have helped out and contributed to the Bulletin. If anyone would like to write an article for the Bulletin, please do so. The article can be on almost anything relating to astronomy. I'm sure Derek would be glad to print any articles. Finally, I wish Derek and Joe the best of luck putting out the Bulletins to come.

Astronomy 80 Conference

The Astronomy 80 Conference was a conference to remember. It was held at the University of Arizona's campus, in Tucson. About two hundred people attended. Many famous astronomers were at the conference. I was able to meet Clyde Tomball, the discoverer of pluto. Also, I met Bart Bok, from the Harvard Observatories, Nick Mayall, the man that built the Mayall 4-meter telescope, and many other astronomers from all over the world. Many interesting talks were given about the evolution of stars, black holes, and many other recent developments. The tours to Kitt Peak and Mount Hopkins were fantastic. They let us practically operate the 4-meter Mayall telescope! I highly recommend going to future conferences. For the six LAAS members that went, it was a wonderful experience.

Treasurer's Report

As reported by LAAS treasurer, Steve Kufeld, at the July 21st Board of Directors meeting, the general treasury has \$675.99 and the Observatory fund has \$1674.65.

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662 - LAAS

NEWS NOTES

Next month's general meeting will be on a Wednesday, September 17th. It will be in the third floor auditorium in the California Federal Plaza.

I would like to thank Orien Ernest for donating his excellent 11" x 14" astro prints to the LAAS display. They are what makes the display so attractive. I would also like to thank Tom Wallace for his solar eclipse print in the display.

There will be a special election at the August general meeting. Three positions on the Board of Directors will need to be filled. Derek Reynolds, Bob Kendall, and Joe Addison have been nominated, and additional nominations will be taken before the election at the general meeting.

Dr. David Stevenson gave an interesting talk about the planets and how they relate to each other.

The car pooling plan is starting to work. About fifteen people have filled out the cards. However, more people are needed. So, sign up if you need or would like to give a ride to any of the meetings. Look for the car pool board at the next general meeting.

August Star Party

One of the perfect months for a star party is here. The Perseids meteor shower will almost be at its peak. The August star party will be on the 9th of this month, a Saturday. If you have not had a chance to go up to the Lockwood site, try to go now while the weather is good. The sky was beautiful last month, and seeing conditions were superb.

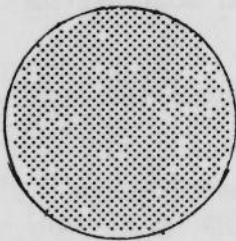
Bob Kendall, Howard Packer, and Dave Sovereign are planning to have a telescope operating class during the day on Saturday. It will be for people that are not familiar with some of the operating aspects of telescopes. They will also show people the best and easiest way to line up the optics in telescopes. They will also answer any other questions about the Society you might have.

If anyone is interested in becoming a star member, contact Dave Sovereign at the star party. Star membership opens up a totally different aspect of the society. If you are interested in taking astrophotos or viewing without anyone bothering you, it is will worth the investment.

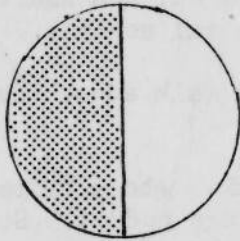


**1980 Star Party Season
at Lockwood Valley**

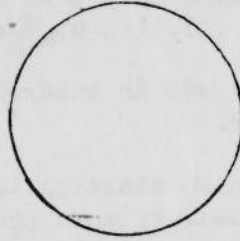
May 17	August 9
June 14	September 6
July 12	October 11



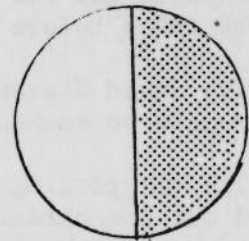
NEW MOON
August 10



FIRST QUARTER
August 18



FULL MOON
August 26



LAST QUARTER
September 1

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LOS ANGELES
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

first class mail



50 Years
of Amateur Astronomy
in Los Angeles