

NOVEMBER

BULLETIN 1981

LOS ANGELES ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Editor.....Derek Reynolds	Submit BULLETIN inquiries, articles and ads to Derek Reynolds, BULLETIN editor, 1008 Groton Dr., Burbank, Ca. 91504
Circulation...Joe Addison	All other correspondence should be sent to the Los Angeles Astronomical Society, 2900 E. Observatory Bl., Los Angeles, Ca. 90027. Please indicate on the envelope the nature of the correspondence or to whom it is being directed.



ANNUAL DUES

Yes, it's that time of year again, LAAS dues are due NOW!! Please examine the label on your Bulletin. If there is a number printed in the upper right-hand corner, that is the amount our records show you owe to continue your present LAAS membership. If the amount does not agree with your records, or if you wish to change your membership status, please enclose the proper amount, with a note explaining the difference. Please pay immediately to prevent cancellation of your membership. Of course if you have already paid, please ignore this notice. Note: An * in front of the amount shown indicates that our records show you are a junior member who now qualifies as a senior member.

A reminder, General dues are:

Family.....	24.00
Senior.....	18.00
Junior.....	9.00
Retired Sr.....	9.00

Star Dues (paid in addition to regular dues)

Charter.....	30.00
Regular.....	50.00

GENERAL MEETING

The speaker at our November meeting will be Dr. Bill Romanischn from the UCLA astronomy dept. Dr. Romanischn will discuss his research into the nature of quasars. (as many of you know there is considerable debate in the astronomy community concerning the true size and distance of these objects).

MONDAY NOVEMBER

7:45 pm

at GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY

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EDITORS NOTE: Details for the annual LAAS banquet in January are now being set. Tentative plans are: 7:00pm Friday January 15. at Pikes Verdugo Oaks Restaurant in Glendale. Complete Details in the December Bulletin.

Derek Reynolds
Editor

President's Column

Bulletin Editor Leaving

Bad news!! Our previous Bulletin Editor, Tom Hocking, has left to take a position in Michigan. Thanks Tom for taking on this time consuming job for the LAAS. Thanks also for providing outstanding assistance as our Griffith Liaison during joint LAAS-Griffith Observatory activities and meetings,

Derek Reynolds, our former editor, has agreed to serve once again in this important position. But, he needs your help. Derek is a full time student at U.C.L.A. and cannot do the job alone. Please help him by contributing articles and news items on astronomy in general, or your own activities. Please volunteer. The Bulletin holds the whole LAAS together and is vitally important if we are to continue as a dynamic society.

Membership Directory

A directory of LAAS members will be distributed shortly. If you do not want your address or phone number to be distributed to other LAAS members, please let me know by letter or at the November Meeting. There will be a sign up sheet on the coffee table for your convenience. This directory will be available to members only, and will assist members in forming car pools to society activities. It will not be made available to anyone outside the society for any purpose.

Annual Elections

Remember, the annual LAAS elections will be held at the December Meeting. Nominations for office will be accepted at the November and December meetings. I urge all to attend this important meeting. I also encourage those of you who wish to run for office, to do so. Either nominate yourself, or contact the nominating committee. (Joe Addison, Derek Reynolds, Dave Sovereign).

Awards

If you have any suggestions for LAAS achievement awards, please notify the awards committee (Joe Addison, Mike Simmons, Tom Wallace). Achievement awards are presented at the annual banquet for achievement in many categories, including telescope construction, service to the society, photography, etc.

Tour of the Milky Way

The October meeting speaker was Reverend Ronald E. Royer, outstanding astrophotographer. His pictures of the Milky Way, many taken with his home made astrophotograph, are among the best amateur astrophotos ever taken.

As most of you know, Father Royer has done much original work with tri-color astrophotography, and his slides certainly demonstrated the excellent results attainable with this method (some of the photos Father Royer presented at the meeting can be seen in the October 1981 issue of Astronomy Magazine). For those of you not at the meeting, or who are unfamiliar with the tri-color technique, I give a brief description below. (I apologize for any errors in it-- I'm certainly no expert in the subject).

Father Royer takes three separate photos of an object through the same lens system. Each photo is taken through a different color filter onto a glass photographic plate with a black and white emulsion. The developed plates are then printed one by one through corresponding color filters onto a single piece of color print paper.

Obviously, this technique requires a lot of patience, both in shooting the three plates and achieving the exact alignment of all three required for printing. However, this method allows the selection of emulsions with optimal sensitivities in each of the three color regions, and also permits the color balance to be adjusted by varying the relative print times of each plate.

662-LAAS

for current club events

continued on pg. 3

President's Column cont

For those of you interested in trying this technique, Father Royer recommends the use of glass photographic plates only. He feels that film does not have dimensional stability (precise and reproduceable flat surface) required for making the three superimposed prints.

Renaming of LAAS observatory

A show of Hands at the October meeting indicates that the membership is unanimously in favor of renaming the LAAS Observatory in honor of Gordon R. Mitchell, long time member of the LAAS, who recently passed away. Gordon worked at Griffith Observatory for many years, during which he constantly supported the LAAS, participating in many of our activities, and promoting the LAAS to the general public.

--Tom Wallace
LAAS President

NEW MEMBERS

Since August, 13 new members have joined the LAAS. These new members are:

Babara Addison
Ericka Addison
Mike Behrens
Mike Carter
Paul Culotta
Micheal Fecko
Victor Feijoo
Paul Gordon
Bonny Lee Michaelson
Eugene Riedel
Fay Riedel
Max riedel
Fred Vogel

This brings the total LAAS membership up to 301. We would like to officially welcome these people to the LAAS and hope to see them as active members in the future.

SHUTTLE TOUR

A tour of the Space Shuttle facility in Palmdale has been arranged for the LAAS. The date is set for Thursday, December 10. It will be an all-day affair with transportation by charter bus.

The bus will leave town at 8:00 am and will arrive in Palmdale at 9:30. The Shuttle Challenger will be viewed under construction. The tour will be conducted by a technical level person from the facility. The presentation will take 2 hours.

We will then board the bus again for a 40 minute ride to the Dryden facility at Edwards AFB. There we will have lunch. Then we will have a second tour of the Shuttle Enterprise and other NASA hardware. If the

While final details are still being worked out, the cost will be 12.00 per person, paid in advance. Participants will be sent a letter giving complete details. The limit is 40 people, and so far approx 15 have signed up. To sign up contact Dave Sovereign at 794-0646

ASTROMART

For sale: 6v Dc power inverter with 110v, 60Hz, 40w output. \$5.00 call Dave Sovereign at 794-0646

Wanted: Celestron 8 with tripod, wedge, and accessories. contact: John Dunbar at 770-0674

NOMINATIONS

The LAAS nominating committee has nominated the following people for office:

President: Tom Wallace

Vice President: Dave Sovereign

Secretary: Glenn Wheeler

Treasurer: Steve Kufeld

Board of Directors: Eugene Mezereny

Derek Reynolds

Joe Addison

Bob Kendall

Howard Packer

Bob Gardner

Herman Meyerdierks

Mike Simmons

Gary

Lu

STAR PARTY

October 24

Despite it's light attendance, the September 26 Star Party was a good one. There were a few new faces and many telescopes ranging from 2.4" to a pair of 17.5" scopes. The temperature was fairly cool and the seeing was quite steady. All in all it was a very enjoyable evening.

The Star Members present remounted the Observatory's 16" scope on a permanent base. This new steel plate, made by Star Member Steve Kufeld, is bolted to a concrete pier in the observatory. Thanks are due to Steve Kufeld, Howard Packer, Dave Sovereign, Derek Reynolds, Joe Addison, Eugene Mezereny, and Dennis Grantham for risking fingers, toes, and backs in this endeavor. Also, the cardboard 16" now has a 2" i.d. helical focuser.

Another Star party season has come to a close with the Oct 24 Star Party. The evening began with a cloudy sky, but as the evening progressed the sky cleared, so by midnight the sky was clear. Due to the first cold breaths of winter, the turnout was low. Those that stayed caught views of Orion and Gemini rising in the east.

There was also a work Party to complete a few things before the snows. Two of the observing pads were repaired (we finally did it, Mike). Also the east fence was restrung. We were helped by some young non-star members. This brings up a Star Member policy which gives one night of Star privileges to regular members that help at a work party. Our thanks to these three junior members.

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LOS ANGELES
ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY

Over 50 Years
of Amateur Astronomy
in Los Angeles