

LOS ANGELES ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWSBULLETIN FOR MAY 1979

SURPRISE!!!

After the combined April/May newsbulletin you recieved last month, most of you were not expecting to here from us this month. It was decided, however, to get a "quickie" bulletin out for a few important announcements. So here they are.....

GENERAL MEETING

You have probably all heard by now radio or television reports of a strange new object found by a group of UCLA astronomers. It appears to be a star with a gas envelope which is rotating at such a high rate that the material seems to be moving at speeds of up to 25% of the speed of light (or about 40,000 miles/sec!). This object is now the center of a great delay of study and debate.

Our speaker for the May meeting is the discoverer of this strange object, Dr. Bruce Margon. Dr. Margon is an associate professor of astronomy at UCLA. He will be taking time from a busy schedule of giving technical colloquia on this subject to present a toned-down version for general understanding. There will be a question and answer period.

GENERAL MEETING
WHAT: "Something New in the Universe: The Strange Star SS433".
WHO: Dr. Bruce Margon of UCLA.
WHERE: Griffith Oservatory.
WHEN: Monday, May 14, 7:45 P.M.

STAR MEMBER AND BOARD MEETINGS

Because of the Riverside Telescope Makers Conference on Memorial Day weekend, the Star Member and Board of Directors meetings for May are being combined. This joint meeting will take place on Monday, May 21 at 7:30 P.M. The location is the Palms Recreation Center at National and Overland in West L.A.

STAR PARTIES

Also because of the Memorial Day weekend, an extra star party has been scheduled to start off the summer observing season. In addition to the star party already slated for Saturday, May 26, there will be a star party on Saturday, May 19. Both observing sessions will take place at the LAAS Observatory in Lockwood Valley. Only Star members may be at the observing site on the nights before or after the star parties.

Guests may attend only when accompanied by their LAAS member hosts. For details or directions, contact any officer or board member.

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FIELD TRIPS
A tour of Mt. Wilson Observatory has been arranged for July 14. Details will be announced next month.
A tour of the former Lockheed Solar Observatory now run by California State University at Northridge is being arranged for the near future.
HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!
Once again, the Star Members are in need of experts. Construction is being planned at the Lockwood Valley Observatory site. Improved sanitary facilities and a lodge are being considered. There is a need for people in the construction business (or anyone with considerable knowledge in the field) to help make decisions and get things started. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Star Member chairman, Tom Wallace.