The Sidereal Times

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ASTRONOMERS

PRESIDENT: BOB BRITTON  FEBRUARY 1977  EDITOR: WINNIE WOOD

THE FEBRUARY MEETING will be held on Friday the eleventh at 7:30 PM at the home of Wilfred Pedroncelli, 11800 Lexington Avenue, NE. Our guest speaker will be Jere Abernathy of the Public Service Company who will speak on street lighting. Derek Wollente will give a presentation on how to find objects in the night sky. Derek has been appointed Program Chairman by Bob Britton, and will locate speakers of interest to come and talk at all or most of our future meetings.

MEETING SUMMARY FROM JANUARY The following slate of officers was elected to serve the 1977 term: President—Bob Britton; Vice-President—Bob Darby, and Secretary-Treasurer—Wynne Wood.

We voted to purchase a 25mm and a 40mm eyepiece for the club telescope. With the purchase of two eyepieces from Meade Instruments we were entitled to get a free filter, and we decided to order a green one which should be particularly useful for planetary observation.

Bob Darby said he would like to see the club order a subscription to a new magazine advertised in Sky and Telescope called Telescope Making Techniques. It will be published quarterly. Many members of the club expressed their desire for such a magazine as well, and we unanimously voted to order a subscription for one year.

Bob Darby announced he is going to hold a telescope making class at his house. He will limit the class to five people, and still has two openings. A price of approximately five or six dollars will be charged each participant to cover the cost of materials for a mirror grinding stand. Each member will order his own mirror kit; University Optics kits with a pyrex mirror are recommended. Call Bob Darby 861-4764 to register. He hopes to get the class underway right after the February meeting. The days of the week and time it will be held will be set up to suit the schedules of those who attend.

Bill Wood gave a report on his meeting with Jere Abernathy of Public Service Company. He suggested we wait until after the Public Service Commission approves the adjusted electric rate when the city is expected to buy new street lights before we give our director of anti-light pollution stand to the city council.

TELESCOPE SCHEDULE  January 28-February 11  Calen Ellefson  February 11- February 25  Merv Scay

GOOD REFERENCE SOURCE  We received in the mail a complimentary new booklet Index of Astronomy and Telescope Making 1950-1975 for our club library. It is an index of all Scientific American and Sky & Telescope astronomy articles for the years 1950 to 1975. It is well cross-referenced, and an excellent booklet to have if you keep back issues of these magazines. Copies sell for $2 each if we order 1-3 or $1.50 for 10 or more. Call Wynne if you'd like to order one. If you wish to see the library copy before you order, it will be at the February meeting.