OUR NEXT MEETING will be on Saturday, December 15, 8:00 PM at the home of Jerry Goffe (1002 El Alhambra Circle NE, 345-3100; see map below). We will have as our speaker Don Carson of Carson Astronomical Instruments. He will discuss solar observing and the distinctions between professional and amateur telescopes. Anyone interested in astronomical equipment is urged to attend. If it is clear, we will have a star party afterwards (arrive at 7:30 if you wish to set up your telescope). See you there!

AT OUR LAST MEETING, Bill Wampler showed us some very interesting and beautiful slides and a movie of Jupiter—its spots, zones, and belts—as seen by the Voyager 1 spacecraft earlier this year. He described the probe and gave a recitation of Jovian facts. The multicolored atmospheric features of the biggest planet in our locale were seen to change within a day’s observation. The darkest areas are generally the warmest and deepest in the atmosphere and conversely, the lightest clouds are the coldest and highest. The Great Red Spot is an anomaly; though dark it is the coldest feature on the Jovian disk. These spots are persistent. The Earth-sized Great Red Spot is over three centuries old, and its light-colored southern hemisphere companions are decades in existence. The zones and belts alternate motions east and west with jet winds of up to 150 miles per second—over 300 miles per hour. Many details are still vague but it is clear that Voyagers 1 and 2 have told us more about this grandest of our planetary neighbors than the telescope observations over the past 350 years. We thank Bill for sharing these fascinating, dramatically visual results with us.

At the business meeting, Bill called for nominations of or by persons interested in holding club office. Elections will be held at the January meeting, and the present officers would very much like to have a slate of nominees announce at the December meeting. If you would like more field trips or a different kind of club activity, then perhaps you should be an officer. Please contact either the president, vice-president, or secretary-treasurer if you now or are a candidate.

Several guests and new members were introduced to the club.

NASA films catalog was passed around; films that our members have shown an interest in seeing will be presented during 1980. Derek Wallentinsen brought attention to the handy pseudoscience debunker’s bibliography recently compiled by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. Refutations of everything from astrology to Uri Geller’s deceptions are listed; a copy will be placed in the club library or it can be obtained for $3.50 from ASP, 1290 24th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122. An issue of the astrophotographic magazine, The Astrophotographer, was displayed. Bill noted an excellent article on supernovae that appeared in a recent number of the British magazine, New Scientist. Supernova triggering, the spiral wave in galaxies, and star formation have now been theoretically linked. Jerry Goffe asked members to think of questions about telescopes for the December meeting, where he promised that the white Celestron “mystery” will be explained.

FOR SALE: 4½” J.C. Penney equatorial reflector telescope. Excellent condition; aluminum tube and wooden tripod. See at Optical Instruments, 1020 San Pedro NE or call Paul Sealey at 298-4497.


(over)
NEW MEMBER: Jesse Levy, 9807 Arvilla Aye. NE, 87111, 296-0164. Welcome!
Address changes: Sam Myers, 6133 Del Campo NE, 87109, 883-1675. Michael L.
Stevens, 9271 Menaul NE, 87112, 296-3315 (congratulations to Mike on his
recent marriage!). Paul Sealey, 3526 Wyoming NE, 87111, 296-4497.

CUR LIBRARIAN, Eddie Zellers, asks that people with library materials please
return them to him in a timely fashion. He is located at 1017 Walker NE;
please call him at 293-7986. Thank you.

MAILBAG MISCELLANY: The James-Mims Observatory has four publications currently
available in its Contributions series:
No. 1. A Catalog of Meteor Radiants/Sam S. Mims $1.00
No. 2. Occultations by Minor Planets. 1979-1982/Derek Wallentinsern $3.00
No. 3. Phase Minima of Fourteen Minor Planets/Derek Wallentinsern $0.40
No. 4. The Possibility of a Strong Draconid (Giacobinid) Meteor
Display in 1979/Sam S. Mims $0.60
Orders may be placed with the James-Mims Observatory, P.O. Box 16854, Baton
Rouge, LA 70895. // J.E. Gort, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, is offering a 19"x25"
lithographed celestial map of an original chart circa 1687, that shows both
stellar hemispheres to the 6th magnitude, the planets known at the time, the
Moon and the Sun. It will be available through a special offer made to the
club for $10 each. I will have further information at the next meeting. // Ed-
mund Scientific Co. (7082 Edscorp Bldg., Barrington, IL 60010) has two new
accessories: a two-inch star diagonal for use with catadioptric and Cassegrain
telescopes, providing an unvignetted view when using wide-field eyepieces
($125); and a variable polarizing eyepiece filter permitting adjustment of polari-
ty with or without removal of your eyepiece ($29.95). // National Space Films
Library (495 South Arroyo Parkway, Pasadena CA 91105), who supplied the mar-
velous slides and film seen at our last meeting, are offering numerous slide
sets and films of Jupiter, Jovian satellites, Saturn and its rings and moons,
Mars, and Venus, all as seen by NASA probes. Discounts are available on slide
orders over $40. Some truly beautiful photographs! // Telescope News, a monthly
telescope classified advertising publication, is available for $5 (or $5/yr. from
Telescope News, P.O. Box 22486, Minneapolis, MN 55422. // Science 80 is a general
science magazine published six times a year by the prestigious American Asso-
ciation for the Advancement of the Sciences. It will carry feature articles
and news of late-breaking developments in astronomy as well as other fields.
It is available for $12 a year from Science 80, Subscription Dept., P.O. Box
10778, Des Moines, Iowa 50349.

ERIC PEARCE writes that he is tentatively planning to go see the June 11, 1983
total solar eclipse in New Guinea and Java. "Indeed, five minutes of totality
seem to be too good to pass up." Farsighted members should begin to organize
soon!