

5-66  
Prairie Astronomy Assn  
Lincoln-Nebr May 1966

A non-profit corporation, whose purpose is to further the study of Astronomy for ourselves, and the general public.

Our next meeting will be held at the Union Loan and savings Co building, 56th and C st, May 31st (Tuesday) 7.30 P.M.

Now, before our next meeting we are going to have a STAR Party at Gateway Shopping Center, May 26th. (Thursday Night) 7.30 P.M. Come out and bring your scope. We need all SCOPES, All sizes. COME COME COME COME. You will enjoy this Sky party as it gives us a chance to show what we are doing as a Club here in Lincoln. BRING YOUR TELESCOPE AND COME EARLY as we have things to talk about.

Your Presidents Letter.

We had a good star party on Friday the 13th. The sky was much better than it had been for a long time. There were a few high thin clouds, but they didnt bother much. Rick had his 10in scope out. There were also two six inch Dynascopes and three small refractors. Rick found nine galaxies in a 1 degree field in coma berenece. He tried a couple photos in the area. We will see how they came out. We looked for Omega centauri-- R.A 13' 33' Dec -47' 03. We didnt see it. You may think that trying to look at a deep sky object that is only 2 Degrees above the horizon is foolish, but this is more of a test of seeing conditions than a grand view of a globular. If we can find it at all, then seeing is very good. I saw it Sunday night in binoculars. That night was one of the best so far this year.

One of the discouraging things Friday night was the chilly raw wind, no matter how much warm clothing you wore, the wind got to you. After the party was over I took a final look at the Sky from my back yard. The Stars seemed more bright than upon the hill and there was no wind. The trees around my house are good for something after all. It may be a good idea to consider a clearing in a grove of trees, rather than a hilltop for our -- observatory site. We can discuss this at our next meeting.

We also plan to have two Star parties in JUNE. The first on Friday June 10th and the next week on June 17th.

Earl Moser.

Earl Moser and Rick Johnson went out to Pioneers park last week to look over the grounds, to spot a possible location for our future observatory. They will report on this also meeting night.

Earl Moser, Rick Johnson And I (Jess) had a visit with our past President and one of the founders of our Astronomy-- Club, Tom Fansing. He gave us some good advice and Ideas on how to proceed with our observatory and related Questions.

Our next meeting will be devoted to the care and operation of your telescope, together with cleaning your objective or mirror. Also Alignment and Culmination. If you want your objective or mirror cleaned bring your -- telescope or mirror with you to the meeting.

Uranus is a 6<sup>th</sup> Mag object in Leo, well placed for observation with binoculars in the western sky during evening hours. On May 24<sup>th</sup> the planet becomes stationary in right ascension, then resumes slow eastward (Direct) motion among the Stars.

An event that last happened in 1882 and will not occur again until 2054 is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>, when Uranus-- passes through the perihelion point of its orbit.----- 1,699,700,000 Miles from the Sun. Amateurs wanting to see the planet on that date should look at R.A. 11<sup>h</sup> 07<sup>m</sup> 00<sup>s</sup>----- Dec, X6' 32' (1950 coordinates) about 1'.5 southeast of chi (λ) Leonis, Magnitude 4.7

Mercury rises less than an hour before the Sun.  
Venus. Rises about two hrs before the Sun.  
Mars. In morning sky. to near the sun.  
Jupiter. In Gemini. Visible about three hrs, before Sunset.  
Saturn. In Pisces. Rises before morning twilight Begins.  
Ring System nearly edgewise. (inclined 2')  
Uranus. In Leo (Refer to above About Uranus)  
Neptune. In Libra. Rises at Sunset. Large Scope Needed.

Moon .New Moon May 20<sup>th</sup>.  
First Q, May 27<sup>th</sup>  
Full, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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In case we get clouded or rained out at our Star Party Out at Gateway Shopping Center, we will use the Next Night Which is Friday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

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As usual, we will have some refreshments.

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Steve Munkee is building a Grinding Machine.  
Ed Woerner is grinding a Mirror.  
Would like to know what Y O U are doing so we can report it and benefit from your experience. Let your Sec, y Know.

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Woerner Klammer at Seward, we have been thinking about you?  
Gene Robertson, Philo Prell, Franey and all you Guys, Lets have a confab.