

Lincoln Nebr.

Sec,y Jess Williams

Pres, Earl Moser

Your Presidents News Letter

Seven of our club members witnessed the grazing occultation of the Eta Leonis on Dec 31st at 3.45 A.M.

A chilly wind made viewing difficult. The wind also shook my scope a bit so I could not time it, the disappearance and re-appearance. Rick saw the star disappear then a heavy fog rolled in and ended the whole thing. These grazing occultations are new to our club and quite interesting. I look forward to doing it again, only in warmer weather.

The Club treasury was upped by some sixteen dollars from the auction of lens last meeting. There are a lot of lenses left and we will have more auctions.

The letter requesting funds for our observatory is nearly ready. It will be read at the meeting and any changes needed will be made. Next step will be to make a list of Names of prospective donors.

The daylight savings thing has come to life again. It looks like our futile efforts to halt it will be in vain. It burns me up to think that we will have to give up an hour of darkness just so others can have an extra hour of daylight. If any one of you have any ideas or comments on this, please let me know.

-----Earl Moser Pres.

Our Meeting will be Tuesday Night Jan, 31st At Nebr Wesleyan Uni. Science Bldg, 7.30 P.M. Refreshments.
The program Comm has a real good program, also a Film.

Ed, note. Heard on T.V. A Calif scientist has Discovered Chlorophyll in outer space and said this proves beyond a doubt, that life exists out there.

1959 Sky and Tel.

To an Amateur Astronomers Wife.

Come on now old Dear, Lets cheer up and smile,
You,ve married a man who is well worth the while
His eye,s may be glued to a beautiful star---
But its nicer than sitting blear eyed at a bar
In front yard or back yard, or mountain or knoll
An astronomer is quite an inquiring soul.
He,s happy at his telescope whenever he sees,
The dazzling diamonds of bright pleades.
Or a galaxy millions of light years away
Or a star that exploded one prehistoric day
Or Jupitos moons, or Saturns broad rings,
To Astronomers these are all challenging things
No wife will be lonely, unhappy, forlorn
If she.ll join with her spouse in the wee hours of morn
In the science that calls to the greatest of men
And how proud she will be---out there freezing with him.
Mrs Mary H Gancer Bloomfield, N.J

Note- On page 27 Sky and Telescope, (Color Events on the Moon) by Patrick Moore.

Now why dont some of us rig up a Moon Blink devise and see we can come up with. The directions for making a Moon Blink devise sounds quite simple. If you havn,t read this article be sure and do so.

Also page 31 under news notes. Two Biggy Stars.

I am looking forward to read about the discovery of the new Moon of Saturnus

A total of 14 supernovae in our Galaxy have been recorded in the last 2000 years. Making a plausible allowance for objects missed because of interstellar absorption, an estimate that the average rate of occurrence is one supernova per 50 years in the milky way.

Supernova-- A temporary much brighter than the usual Nova. Supernova are variable stars which increase enormously untill they are from 10 million to several billion times brighter than the Sun. The light is produced by an explosion in which the material inside the star is thrown outward with velocities up to 6,000 miles per second. These velocities are measured by the Doppler effect.

Binary Star. Two stars revolving around a common center.

Nebula. A mass of gas and dust in space. Bright and Dark.

Nova. Literally a new Star

Galaxy. A large system of Stars. The milky way is a Projection on the sky of the central plane of the system to which the Sun belongs. The Sun is some 30,000 light years from the center. Our Galaxy has one of perhaps One Billion systems in the universe

Eclipsing Binary. A binary system that has an orbit nearly edgewise to the Earths so that the revolving stars under go mutual eclipses.

Dark Nebula. A dark mass of gas and dust in the spiral arms of a galaxy, not illuminated by a Star. It is the same as a bright Nebula except that it is not luminous and can be observed only because it blocks out the light of stars behind it. Horse's head nebula in Orion is a Good Example.

Once Again. Meeting Jan 31st. 7.30 P.M. Uni- Wesleyan Science Bldg. Extra special programme.

Moon- Last Quarter Feb 1st-23:03. Venus sets 1 1/2 hr after Sundown. Mars rises about midnight. Jupiter rises at Sun down. Saturn, evening, Rings still tipped less than 2Deg to our line of sight.