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The Prairie Astronomy Club, Inc is a Member of the MID-States
region (Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Eastern Nebraska.)
one of nine regions of the Astronomical League.

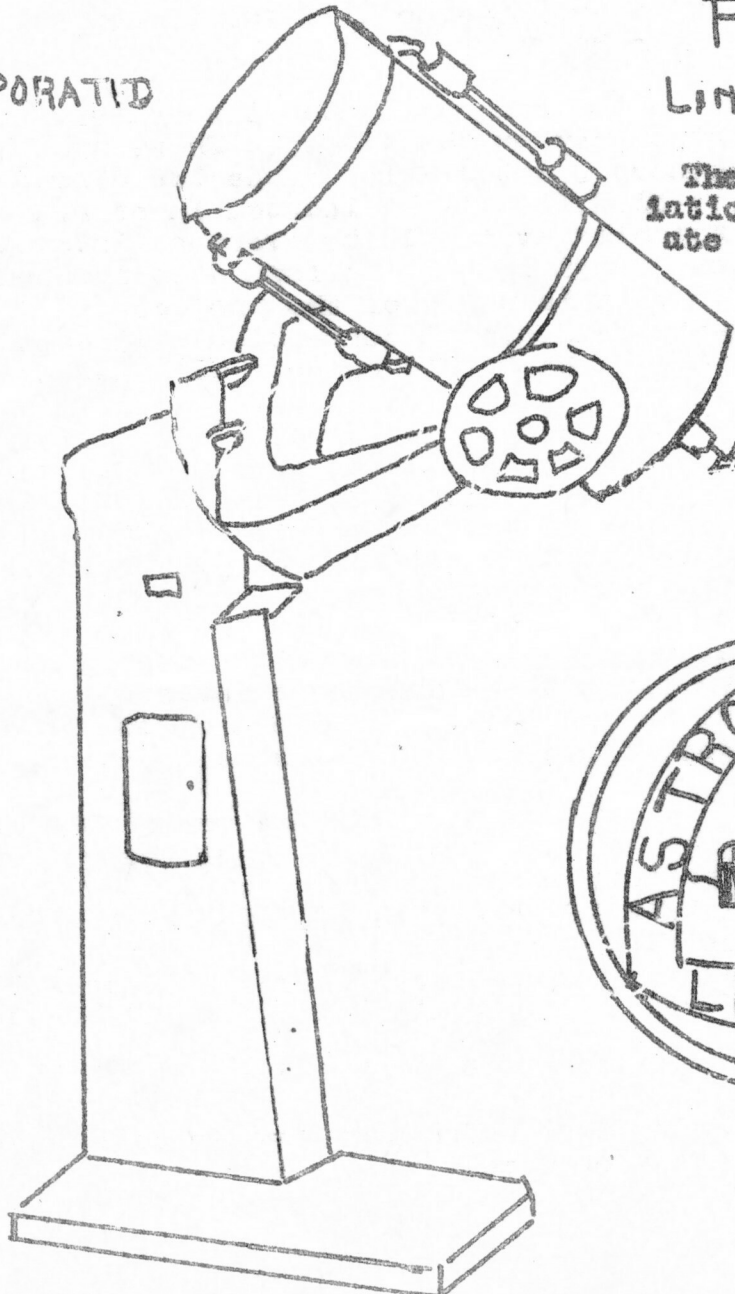
'THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER

FEBR-69-

INCORPORATED

Lincoln Nebr

The purpose of the association shall be to participate in and encourage the study of Astronomy and related subjects for the benefit of its members and of the general public.



The Presidents Report.

We had a very fine meeting in January. We had a good attendance and an excellent program. Jess Williams gave the club some -- good suggestions on viewing and photographing the Sun. We were -- privileged to have Pete Schultz as a special guest speaker. Pete told of his work with the 36 and 82 inch telescopes he had -- worked with at McDonald observatory in Texas. Pete also showed Slides of the construction of the new 107 inch telescope at the McDonald site. It is a real treat to have a former member of our Club working in the BIG observatory. A special thanks to Pete -- for taking time out of his busy schedule while in Lincoln to take part in our program.

The Telescope, which belongs to the Club is now paid for. I want to thank everyone who helped relieve the club of that financial -- burden.

The next step in the program is the observatory. There has -- been a lot of controversy on the subject. There are the in-towners and the out-of towners. After a lot of heated discussion the issue has finely been settled. It will be located in or near Lincoln where it will be more readily available to everyone interested in Astronomy. An observatory committee will be formed to proceed with the -- plans and location of this phase of the project.

The 1969 Mid-States Regional convention will be held in Fayette Missouri on June 6-7-8. Mark this on your calendar now and plan to attend

The St Joseph and Kansas City clubs are planning to observe a Moon and Pleiades Grazing near Sparks Kans on Sat Eve March 22nd. Im sure our club would be welcome to join in if some of you would like to make the trip. I plan to go and will take passengers.

How many of our club have seen Mercury? For those who havn,t seen it there will be a good eastern elongation in early May. I think we can soon have a star party for the Club. Lets plan on friday eve 9th at my place. If the weather is bad we will have it the next night May 10th. Mark these dates on your calendar too. I will have my 8inch and the Clubs 12inch up on the hill. This -- also will be a good chance to view Mars as it nears its Bi-annual opposition.

See you at the Meeting
Earl Moser Pres.

Our meeting will be held Febr 25th. 7.30 PM at the Near Wesleyan Uni. Old science Bldg.
Our program arrange by Prof. Carrol Moore will be a ~~MEMPHIS~~ Big surprise SURPRISE. Dont miss it. You will be surprised.

Dont forget to bring that which you have to sell. Someone may need just what you dont need.

We want to welcome the new members, and also those who have shown a desire to join us.

Ralph Fernal 1836 Burningside Dr, Mrs R.M. Hillier 3315 so 44st
Leighton wessel 7121 Eastborough, C.C. F L Ashler APA Colo Sprs Col

Glad to see old Pete Schultz: Back in Lincoln, even tho for just a few days .

* The Prairie Astronomer letter is published each month and
 * mailed one week before next meeting, for Club members as a
 * source of information.
 * Subscription rate is \$2.00 per year per person or family to
 * one address. No cost for sale, or want adds.
 * Editor: Jess L Williams 7812 So Sycamore Dr (Sec'y) 488-2112.
 * Regular Meeting. Last Tuesday in Month.

Our constitution.

I-We the undersigned hereby associate ourselves together in the following manner

II-The purpose of the association shall be to participate in and encourage the study of astronomy and related subjects--

for the benefit of its members and of the general public

III- The name of the association shall be PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB of Lincoln Neb

IV- There shall be two types of members: Regular and junior. All members who have passed their 18th birthday shall be regular members: All members who have not passed their 18th birthday shall have the option of being regular members or junior members.

V- There shall be elected from the regular members the following officers, each to serve for a term of one year or until his successor is elected and qualified: President, vice President, Secretary, treasurer, and program chairman. The five officers sitting together shall constitute the Executive Committee which shall be the governing body of the association and any three shall constitute a Quorum. All acts of individual officers and/or the executive committee which shall seek to bind or commit the association in any way shall be submitted for the approval or disapproval at the next meeting of members; provided, however, no act of any officer, or of the executive committee can bind the association in any monetary amount exceeding the amount then in the treasury of the association, except upon two thirds vote of the regular members present at any regular meeting; further no individual member shall have any liability for debts of the association

VI- The executive committee shall adopt rules for the conduct of all of the affairs of the association, changing them from time to time as they see fit.

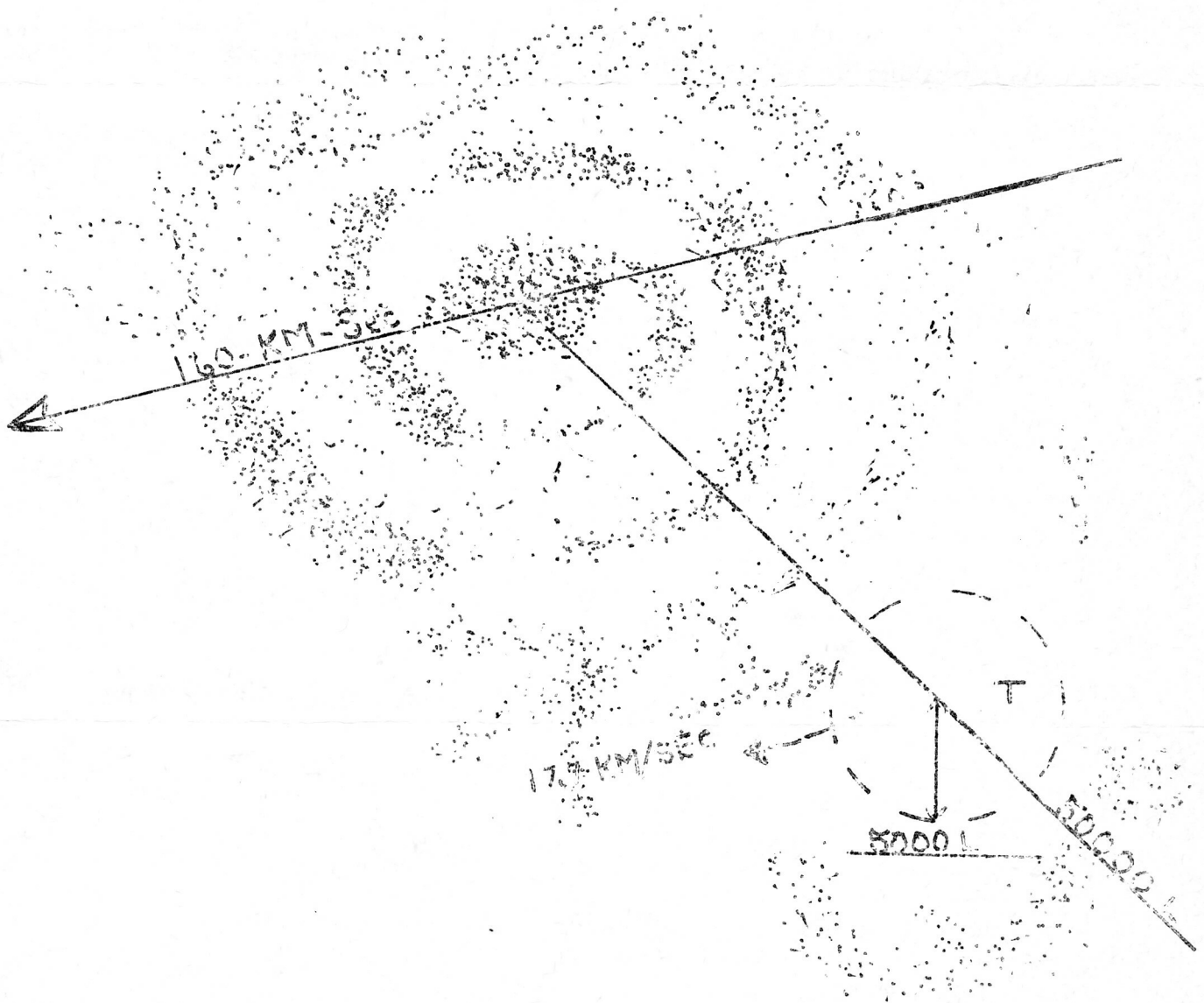
VII- The association may be dissolved at any time by written, secret vote of two-thirds of all REGULAR MEMBERS. In event of dissolution, all property of the association shall be donated to the (Lincoln Foundation,

Subscribed by the following charter members this 19th day of April, 1961, Lancaster county, Nebraska.

This months Special.

The GALAXY, Mans home in the Universe.
"Tollus", the earth, exists as a member of the solar system supposedly 35,000 light years from center of a spiral of 200,000,000 stars. Presumably the solar system travels around the center of the galaxy at somewhat less than 20 Km/sec. The circle around Tollus (with a radius of 5000 light years) defines the area of the Milky Way which is explorable with our present instruments.

Everything outside this circle is--- with few exceptions---still unexplored, presently unexplorable and all--- our conclusions are more or less hypothetical.



The Moon

Page Four.

First Quarter Febr 24th

Full Moon March 1st

Mercury Not favorable

Venus, Very good at this time

Mars in Libra 26th Approx

Jupiter in Virgo Very Good

Saturn in Pisces West Good

Uranus in Virgo, West of Jupiter

The Moon passes south of Uranus on March 6th

Your President would like to have the following members serve on a committee. The Observatory site Committee. DICK HARTLEY, FARLAN FRANEY, PROF CARROL MOORE, RICK JOHNSON and JESS WILLIAMS. Please advise if O.K.

For the information of those who dont know, we the Prairie Astronomy Club own a 12 1/2 inch telescope, A good one which is paid for, and which we will be needing a observatory for. First we need a location, hence the above location committee.

How about some help in getting out the News letter each month. At least send in some articles of interest, not too long, but send them in to me anytime.

Again; The meeting will have a nice surprise for you so come and enjoy it. We will as usual have REFRESHMENTS..

Monte Cole says we will have a good 4 1/2 inch reflector for sale in a few days. \$45.00 will buy it, its good. As your pres, has said its about time for some get together viewing. This bad weather cant last forever so lets begin to think about viewing.

So, Meeting Febr 25th, Near Wesleyan Uni, Old Science Bldg Same place, Same Time 7.30 PM

See You J.L.W