

The October meeting will be held on the 28th, at Nebraska Wesleyan University, Olin Science Hall, at 7:30 P.M. There will be a special film on communication satellites shown, in addition to the regular planetarium show.

* * * * *

President's Report

The 1970 MidStates Regional Convention will be held on June 5-6-7, on the campus of Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska. The convention will be co-hosted by the Prairie Astronomy Club of Lincoln and the Omaha Astronomical Society. I will be serving as chairman, and vice-chairman is Robert Allen of Omaha, president of the Omaha Club.

A convention-planning session will be held in the Kansas City Museum Annex, 3218 Gladstone Blvd., Kansas City, Missouri, at 2 P.M. on November 22. I hope that as many clubs as possible in the region will have representatives on hand at this meeting. We not only want past chairmen on hand for the benefit of their experience, but also a general representation of the region to express their wishes as to what should be included in the convention program. The outcome of this meeting will determine the program of the convention.

Here is a list of questions which will be discussed at our next meeting to give me an idea of what our club wants for the program.

Hope to see you there,
Earl Moser

- 1.) What do you want included in the papers session?
- 2.) Who would you like for a guest speaker?
- 3.) What kind of field trips, and how far away?
- 4.) What kind of seminar sessions would you like?
- 5.) Where would you like the 1971 convention to be held?
- 6.) Who do you think is eligible for Amateur of the Year?

* * * * *

Many members of this club are, have been, or will be making a telescope. Not all of these members, however, have access to the various construction machinery that is of great use if one is to construct a useful telescope. Therefore, I would like to make a list of the equipment owned by the club members that is out of the ordinary, such as drill presses, lathes, bench grinders, solder pots (for babbitted bearings) etc. Also, sources for materials will be included in the list, which will be published in a later newsletter. Those members with equipment such as was described above can get in touch with me at the meeting, or by calling 488-1250 between 5 and 9 pm.

Brian Dodsan

The annual election of officers was held at the September meeting and the officers for the coming year are: President, Earl Moser; Vice-President, Ed Woerner; Secretary, Jess Williams; Treasurer, Rick Johnson; Program Chairman, Monte Cole; Recording Secretary, Roger Severns; Publications Chairman, Larry Stepp.

* * * * *

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

In reply to a question posed by Monte, "What really is the purpose of grazing occultations?" at the national convention this year, David Dunham replied, "Well, they sure keep a lot of amateurs busy."

* * * * *

The Sky This Month

There will be two meteor showers this month, the Taurids on Nov. 5, and the Leonids on November 17. At maximum the Taurids average 15 per hour, and the Leonids 25 per hour.

On November 3, Venus passes 0.5 degrees north of Juniter, and later that night comes within a few degrees of the first-magnitude star, Spica. The three will provide quite a sight about an hour before sunrise, on the morning of the fourth.

Mercury- On the 15th, it is R.A. 15h 17m, Decl. 18° 6' South. Superior conjunction on the 16th. Too close to the sun for general observation this month.

Venus- On the 15th, it is R.A. 14h 14m, Decl. 12° 01' South. At magnitude -3.4, it rises about an hour before the sun, and will be 14° above the horizon at sunrise on the 15th.

Mars- On the 15th it is R.A. 20h 41m, Decl. 20° 6' South. At magnitude 0.6, it moves from Sagittarius into Capricornus, setting about 5 hours after sunset.

Jupiter- On the 15th it is R.A. 13h 31m, Decl. 8° 19' South. In virgo, it passes 3° north of Spica on November 5. At magnitude -1.3, it rises more than 3 hours before sunrise.

Saturn- On the 15th it is R.A. 2h 11m, Decl. 10° 21' North. At magnitude 0.1, it is well up at sunset.

Uranus- On the 15th it is R.A. 12h 28m, Decl. 2° 14' South. It will be 2° north of the moon on the 6th.

Neptune- On the 15th it is R.A. 15h 45m, Decl. 18° 10' South. It is in conjunction with the sun on the 20th.

* * * * *

Photograph Of The Month

There will be an excellent chance for a good astro-photo on the morning of the 4th, if you have a telescope. A conjunction of Venus and Jupiter, within 0.5°, and Spica, about 3° away, will be visible in the eastern sky. It is suggested that a power of about 80x be used for the two planets, or 20x for all three, with an exposure of ½ to 2 seconds at f/8, on high speed Extachrome.