

5-6970

The May meeting will be held on the 26th, at Nebraska Wesleyan University, in Olim Science Hall, at 7:30 P.M. We will have a discussion of some of the better NGC objects, and the plans for the convention will be discussed and finalized. The regular planetarium show will be given.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Included in this month's newsletter are the final notice and registration blanks for our convention. I urge all club members to register whether you are able to attend or not. One would certainly think that the host club should have a large percentage of it's members registered and in attendance. We also need all the obtainable funds, and the registration fee is all that we have to offset the convention expenses. So fill out the registration blank now and send it, either to Ed Woerner, who is Chairman of the Registration Committee, or to me. You may pay now, or at the convention. In any case, it would be appreciated if you could bring the registration blanks to our meeting.

See you there,  
Earl Moser

\* \* \* \* \*

CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*

The 1970 Midstates Convention has transformed from a not too certain groping in the general direction of providing a place to hold the convention to a well-organized, effective, and successful effort to provide the Mid-States region with an extremely good convention. An especially good job was done by the members of the Geust Speaker Committee, who managed to arrange to get Dr. Peter van de Kamp of Swarthmore College to address us. The other committees have done equally fine work, and the cooperation of the Omaha group has lightened our load considerably. However, the most credit must go to Earl Moser, who organized us, kept us working, and planned out the convention. You have worked to put on this convention. Now come and enjoy it.

A reason has been found for amateurs to spend thousands of man-hours yearly in the observation of grazing occultations. The generally acknowledged purpose for observing grazing occultations is for the construction of more accurate maps and tracing the moon's limb. In the past few months, however, events associated with occultations have occurred which may spark the feeble interest in grazing occultations which exists in our club. Recently, through careful and intensive analysis of occultation reports, a number of previously undetected double stars have been discovered. Some of these should be easy amateur objects, and are therefore well worth the while of amateurs to go to occultations. Observers of double stars should become more common at occultation sites as a result of these discoveries.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### THE SKY THIS MONTH

Mercury- On the 15<sup>th</sup>, RA 4h02m Dec N 18°14' Greatest western elongation is on the 4<sup>th</sup>, but is unfavorable.

Venus- On the 15<sup>th</sup>, RA 8h02m Dec N 22°27' Sets two hours after the sun.

Mars- On the 15<sup>th</sup> RA 6h37m Dec N 24°10' Too close to the horizon to observe.

Jupiter- On the 15<sup>th</sup> RA 13h39m Dec S 8°52' Very good position

Saturn- On the 15<sup>th</sup> RA 3h02m Dec N 14°58' Morning star

Uranus- On the 15<sup>th</sup> RA 12h18m Dec S 1°12M Very good position

Neptune- On the 15<sup>th</sup> Ra 15h48m Dec S 18°13' Very good position

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Planning Session

On Sunday, May 2, Earl Moser, Bob Allen of the Omaha club, Monte Cole and I went to Saint Jo to meet with Russ Maag concerning the plans for the convention. We discussed the program, filled in points of which we weren't sure, and discussed the various awards which will be given. We then had dinner, showed some of Monte's and Earl's eclipse and comet slides, and came on home.

Brian Dodson

Report of the Door Prize Committee

I hereby would like to acknowledge the kind donations of optical manufacturers and distributors who donated door prizes for our convention. I would like to here acknowledge their actions for all to see, and thereby thank them. Here follows a list of the donated items and the donors.

Edmund Scientific	Diffraction jewelry
Max Camera	Fifty feet of 35mm film
Polaris Port Angeles, Wash.	Two 6" by 1½" E-6 mirror blanks
	6" 7.50 8" 24.00 10" 48.00 1
	12 " 73.00 16" 260.00
Unitron	A 6x30 finder
University Optics	A 6mm Kellner eyepiece

These people have been very good to us. Let's buy our supplies from them.

\* \* \* \* \*

The following collumm is yours. Use it for any item

FOR SALE

Jess Williams: An 8x50 Criterion finder with right-angle eyepiece  
 A six inch f/7 mirror, by Crystal optics  
 An Excata 500 with telescope adapter. No lens

Roscoe Dickensen: A six-inch tube assembly (mirror, cell, etc.)

Roger Severns: A six-inch scope, complete with mount

\* \* \* \* \*

SHORTS

Fill out your registration blanks and bring them to the meeting. To reduce confusion, we will hold registration at our meeting. If you cannot come, you may still register at the convention

An old club member, Pete Schultz, will be coming home for the convention. As most of you know, Pete is at the 'of Texas, working in astronomy. Some things you might not know, however, are that he probably will have his PhD in astronomy when he comes, and that he is a member of the Apollo 16 advisory board. He is also a fine talker, and will give a talk on selenology at the convention. Come and hear him, and renew old friendships.

See you at the Meeting

5-69 70

May 26, 1969 70

THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER

488-2112

The May meeting will be held on the 26th, at Nebraska Wesleyan University, in Olim Science Hall, at 7:30 P.M. We will have a discussion of some of the better NGC objects, and the plans for the convention will be discussed and finalized. The regular planetarium show will be given.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Included in this month's newsletter are the final notice and registration blanks for our convention. I urge all club members to register whether you are able to attend or not. One would certainly think that the host club should have a large percentage of it's members registered and in attendance. We also need all the obtainable funds, and the registration fee is all that we have to offset the convention expenses. So fill out the registration blank now and send it, either to Ed Woerner, who is Chairman of the Registration Committee, or to me. You may pay now, or at the convention. In any case, it would be appreciated if you could bring the registration blanks to our meeting.

See you there,  
Earl Moser

\* \* \* \* \*

CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*CONVENTION\*\*

The 1970 Midstates Convention has transformed from a not too certain groping in the general direction of providing a place to hold the convention to a well-organized, effective, and successful effort to provide the Mid-States region with an extremely good convention. An especially good job was done by the members of the Geust Speaker Committee, who managed to arrange to get Dr. Peter van de Kamp of Swarthmore College to address us. The other committees have done equally fine work, and the cooperation of the Omaha group has lightened our load considerably. However, the most credit must go to Earl Moser, who organized us, kept us working, and planned out the convention. You have worked to put on this convention. Now come and enjoy it.