

4-72

## THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER

Due to a shortage of time and inspiration, primarily the latter, this newsletter will be short and sweet. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 25, at 7:30 in the Olin Hall of Science on the Nebraska Wesleyan Campus. The program will consist of a slide presentation by several of our members. Of course any subject a member might wish to bring up can be discussed, and, of course, there will be refreshments.

### The President's Report

I took particular interest in the item on page 95 of the February Sky and Telescope concerning early sightings of the thin crescent moon shortly after new.

The new moon time for May is 4:08 U.T. on the 13th or at 11:08 p.m. C.D.T. on the 12th. The sunset time for the next evening is 8:38 p.m. and the moon sets 1 hour and 14 minutes later at 9:52 p.m. The moon will be only 19 hours and 30 minutes old at sunset, but with the unusually long time until moon set, there may be a chance to see one of these rare thin crescents less than a day after new. The sky will have to be very transparent, and the observer will have to be on a high location with an unobstructed view of the western horizon.

Look for the moon above and a little bit to the right (north) of where the sun will set. If you have a camera--use it! Maybe one of us can set a new record for sighting or photographing a thin lunar crescent.

Earl Moser



| Primary<br>Mirror<br>Size | Protected<br>Aluminum<br>Over 85%<br>Reflectance | DL I<br>Over 90%<br>Reflectance | DL II<br>Over 93%<br>Reflectance | DL III<br>Over 95%<br>Reflectance | DLIV<br>Over 99%<br>Reflectance |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4 inch                    | \$ 6.00  | \$ 7.80                         | \$11.00                          | \$32.00                           | \$128.00                        |
| 6 inch                    | 6.50   | 9.00                            | 12.00                            | 37.00                             | 150.00                          |
| 8 inch                    | 8.50   | 11.00                           | 15.00                            | 45.00                             | 200.00                          |
| 10 inch                   | 12.75  | 16.50                           | 22.50                            | 68.00                             | 280.00                          |
| 12 inch                   | 16.50  | 21.45                           | 29.00                            | 98.00                             | 414.00                          |

Add 10% of the above cost for secondary mirror. Include return shipping and insurance costs.

While I doubt that there will be little interest in the DL IV. The small added cost for the DL II coating should make it almost mandatory for anyone wanting better resolution and contrast.