

5-72

THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER

May 30, 1972

477-3668

Our meeting this month will be held in our usual place, Olin Hall of science at Nebr. Wesleyan University, Tuesday, May 30th at 7:30 p.m. The evening's activities promise to be most interesting commencing with a planetarium show by Prof. Moore, so be on time.

The program, as of this writing, will feature two lecturers and a discussion of the upcoming mid-states regional convention. Afterwards refreshments will be served. Come support your club and hob-nob with some nice folks who share a common interest in astronomy.

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--The President's Report--

On May 1st, a powerful gust of wind uprooted the club observatory in Hickman and rolled it over on its side. The telescope escaped without any damage, but the building suffered some bends and dents.

On Saturday, May 6th, a rebuilding session was set up and five members were on hand to help with the work. Several side panels and a roof section were straightened. The base framework which failed was also straightened and reinforced. The building is much more stable now and the two pivot posts which are the main support of the building are automobile rear axle shafts buried in three feet of concrete. This replaces the former half inch pipe which was driven into the ground.

Many thanks to those members who came out and helped with the work.

I hope that most of you plan to attend the Mid-states Convention this year. Brian Rugg is transportation chairman for this event, so if you need a ride or might offer to drive, let him know so that transportation arrangements can be made early and in an orderly manner.

----Earl Moser

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GATEWAY SHOW

The Gateway Show this month will be held on the mall June 15th. Bring your telescope and set up with some of the other members and acquaint the public with our hobby, our science, and our club. Mark your calendar and come on out!

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--The Skies for June--

- Mercury--Will become visible after sunset by midmonth and will reach its most favorable position for viewing in the early evening for the rest of this year by the end of June.
- Venus----This brilliant object will leave the western sky in the coming month, becoming a morning star by the end of June.
- Earth----Reaches the summer solstice the 21st.
- Mars-----A faint object in the western sky after sunset all month.
- Jupiter--Rising in the southwest about 11:00 CDT at the beginning of the month, this bright planet dominates the late night sky. By the end of the month it will culminate a half hour after midnight.
- Saturn---Lost in the glare of the sun, this planet will be visible just before sunrise by the end of the month.

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