

July 31, 1973

Phone 489-1798

\*\*\*\* THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER \*\*\*\*

This month our meeting will be held as usual at the Clin Hall of Science on the Nebraska Wesleyan campus at the regular time of 7:30 p.m. Prof. Garret Moore will tell us of his trip to the total eclipse of the sun and if possible will show the slides he took of the eclipse. There will be a drawing for a door prize. You must be present to win so don't miss it!

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--The President's Report--

Due to a lack of communications I received no report from Earl this month so I will attempt to read his mind. On Aug. 1-2-3-4-5-the Nat'l Astronomical League Convention will be held in Omaha at Creighton University. Here is a schedule from the Omaha club's newsletter. Aug 1---Open for registration wednesday afternoon, arrival of many delegates, setting up exhibits, etc.

Aug 2---Convention officially opens at 9:00 a.m., W.A.S.A. guest speaker, special session on 1973 solar eclipse and general papers.

Aug 3---Main programs today given by A.I.P.O., special lecture by Dr. Zoller, evening field trips.

Aug 4---A.A.V.S.O. papers, sessions on optics, telescope making and general papers, Evening banquet with amateur of the year award and speech by Dr. Karel Pfajfer.

Aug 5---Business meeting of Astronomical League, final papers and adjourn at noon

The fee for registration is \$5.00 at the door. One of the two field trips is to the Behlen Obs. the telescope will be available for observing.

John Bruce  
Editor

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50 times as bright as Halley's

From the information I received comet 1973-f will probably be the greatest comet witnessed by modern man, and certainly the best afforded for telescopic and photographic research. Estimated to be as much as 50 times as bright as the great Halley's comet, this object will be visible to the naked eye during the latter part of 1973 until late Jan 1974. I will supply you with the positions at the meeting, the following is a list of the magnitude on the given date.  
Sept 5 9.2mag, Nov 4 6.5mag, Dec 14 -1.0mag, Dec 25 -10.0mag

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GATEWAY SHOW

our next gateway show is on Aug 9 if the weather permits alternate date is Aug 10.

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CLUB PICNIC

Our annual family picnic is on Aug 25 at wagon train lake approx. 3 miles

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John Bruce