

July 30, 1974

Phone 489-1798

**** THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER ****

As usual our meeting will be held at 7:30 pm in the Olin Hall of Science on the Nebraska Wesleyan Campus. This month Jess Williams will present the program, which if I am correct will be a "catch all" discussion on what ever subject someone wants to bring up. There will also be a drawing for a door prize. There will also be refreshments after the meeting, so don't miss this one.

-----THE PRESIDENTS REPORT-----

Our last months newsletter was a bit late for a couple of reasons. First, Our printing machine broke down on the Saturday before the meeting and a replacement was not available until Monday. Otherwise, the newsletters would have been in the mail by Saturday night. Second, when the newsletters were finished and mailed on Monday, the postal service failed to get them delivered until Wednesday.

We hope this does not happen again, but if it does, remember that our meetings are always the last Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm, at Wesleyan. If there are any changes we will let you know, by phone if we have to.

Our family picnic and star party will be held on Saturday, August 10, at the Wagon Train recreation area 3 miles east of Hickman. Come out early Saturday afternoon, and plan to stay late. Bring your parents, brothers, sisters, friends, wife, children or whoever you consider family. Bring along yard games if you have them, boats, swimsuits, and don't forget the telescopes. Bring a picnic basket with a meat dish, salad, desert, and table service for your family. We will have a pot-luck supper at 6:00 pm. The Club will provide cold pop, but you can also bring your own hot or cold drink if desired. We have invited the Omaha Club again this year, and although I appreciate a good turn out from Omaha, I hope that I won't be embarrassed by a larger turn out from Omaha than from Lincoln. If the skies are clear at sundown, I will bring out the Club telescope and hopefully all will get a chance to use it. Remember too that this will be a day before the peak of the Perseid meteor shower, so we should have a few meteors as a bonus.

See you at the meeting! but if not I certainly hope you can make it to the picnic and star party on August 10.

I will be gone on a short vacation August 4-9. If you have any problems concerning Club matters, call our Vice-President, Dr. Manthey at 489-3237.

Earl Moser
President

-----OBSERVING REPORT-----

This month of July was a profitable one when one is trying to write observing reports for the newsletter. Not only did four members of the club flit danger and foul detours in a rendezvous with destiny to see an occultation, but zounds! Brian Rugg has an observing report that isn't a rehash of some previous drivel concerning obscure, semi-imaginary galaxies.

On the morning of July 17th, the "Dauntless Five Minus One" assembled in the darkened streets of northeast Lincoln for an assault upon rationality. Defying logic and principle they set off to view an occultation set to occur 120 miles away at 4:06 am, knowing full well they had dealt themselves a bad hand. The players in this epic drama were: Earl "57's forever" Moser, Club President and experienced veteran of previous occultations; Lee Thomas, driver and trail-breaker in car one; Steve Roper, riding shotgun in car two; Brian Rugg, instigator in car three; and also driver and dome-light operator in car two.

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You got to come to the meeting to hear the rest of this true story. (Just like door prizes.)

As for the deep sky object I mentioned of, I will have several new and unique clusters, (yes clusters) from the summer Milky Way, thanks going to Earl for his help in pointing these out.

Brian Rugg
Observing Chairman

Our next Gateway show will be on Aug 29, hope to see you there.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING
