

# THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER

Volume 20, Number 12

November 25, 1980

## Elections Held; New Officers Take Over

Election of officers for the 1980-81 term was held by the Prairie Astronomy Club at its October meeting. Your new club officers are:

PRESIDENT -- Ron Veys

VICE PRESIDENT -- John Lammers

SECRETARY -- Merton Sprengel

TREASURER -- Lee Thomas

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON-- Jeanne  
Miller

Officers assumed their duties November 1, and will serve through the end of October, 1981.

## Last Call For Club Logo Entries

As reported last month, the club is sponsoring a contest to find a design or logo which we can use on our stationery, new club shirts, advertising, etc. Remember, designs must be easily recognized, have the name PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB spelled out and obviously displayed, and must be easily reproducible, i.e., not too complex.

Club members will vote on the winning design at this month's meeting. Entries will be accepted up until voting time, but entries must be in displayable form--not just a word description or idea. Names of sub-

## NOVEMBER MEETING IS PLANNED

The November meeting of the Prairie Astronomy Club will be held at Hyde Observatory on Tuesday evening, November 25 at 7:30 p.m.

True to her political promises, Prg. Chairperson Jeanne Miller has arranged the program and announced it in plenty of time for inclusion in this newsletter. Jack Dunn will bring an edited version of the NASA coverage of Voyager 1's Saturn encounter with all the best pictures. (This will not include most of the computer-enhanced images that have been released since the flyby.) The tape includes some fascinating speculations by the imaging team on what they're seeing. It should be interesting to compare those first, spur-of-the-moment impressions with later, more reflective interpretations that are now coming out of NASA and JPL.

## Club Will Order New Shirts

Yes, now you can proudly display your membership in the Prairie Astronomers will not be revealed until after the voting takes place. The winner will receive a free club shirt. We already have about 8 submitted, so get those ideas down on paper and get them to Ron Veys at the meeting, or before it.

(Continued on Page 4)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

As is customary at the conclusion of the Treasurer's term of office, a state-of-the-treasury report is issued, and herewith presented to the club membership.

Several features of this report are noteworthy.

First, it is complicated by the sales of posters and handling of donations for Hyde Observatory, all of which monies pass through the club's treasury and bank account. On the income side, three categories reflect this activity: "DIRECT MERCHANDISE SALES" involves only those poster, chart and booklet sales made directly to club members or the public without the Observatory taking its 30% cut. "SALES THROUGH HYDE OBSERVATORY", of course, is the total of all sales of charts and posters made at the observatory on public nights. It should be noted that the club retains 70% of "SALES THROUGH HYDE OBSERVATORY" after sales tax has been removed. "OBSERVATORY FUND COLLECTIONS" are those monies collected from the donations box, and are passed directly to the Hyde Observatory Trust Fund--your club retains no part of these donations.

Second, on the Expense side, "OBSERVATORY FUND" represents all payments made to the Hyde Observatory Trust Fund during the period: 30% of "SALES THROUGH HYDE OBSERVATORY" after Sales Tax + "OBSERVATORY FUND COLLECTIONS". However, at the time of closing, donations box and sales receipts for October had not actually been paid to the Hyde Trust Fund, and so are listed in the "Reserve" account. Similarly, donations from March, April and May have not been remitted to the fund by previous agreement, and have been retained in the club's treasury to help maintain our bank balance. This total is also listed in reserve. Finally, a gift by the Junior League of Lincoln to aid in purchasing replacement for the stolen slide synchronizer is being held in reserve until the unit is purchased. All of these reserve items must be deducted from total income to arrive at our true net income for 1980. It must also be deducted from the closing bank balance to determine actual club funds in the account at time of closing.

THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER is published monthly by the Prairie Astronomy Club, and is free to club members. Yearly subscription without club membership is \$5.00. Regular membership (includes one-year subscription to SKY & TELESCOPE, club newsletter, and four quarterly issues of the Astronomical League newsletter), is \$14.00. Family membership (includes all regular privileges, plus one additional vote in club elections) is \$16.00. Newsletter editor, Lee Thomas, 489-3855. Address all correspondence to PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB, INC., P.O. Box 80553, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

Beginning bank balance, November 2, 1979.....	\$195.07
Ending bank balance, November 1, 1980.....	\$701.24
<u>Income:</u>	
Membership dues.....	\$836.00
Direct merchandise sales.....	276.01
Sales Through Hyde Observatory.....	245.31
Donations.....	264.00
Observatory Fund Collections.....	<u>208.79</u>
Total Income.....	\$1,830.11
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Astronomical League Dues.....	\$ 50.38
Astronomy Day.....	8.60
Observatory Fund.....	173.65
Post Office Box Rental.....	28.00
Postage.....	134.90
Posters & Publications purchased for resale.....	318.50
Printing (newsletter).....	45.90
Sky & Telescope Subscriptions.....	494.00
Star Party Expenses.....	14.97
Sales Taxes.....	7.00
Telescope Repair.....	34.04
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	<u>14.00</u>
Total Expenses.....	(\$1,323.94)
<u>Reserve (held for Hyde Observatory, but not paid as of 11/1/80):</u>	
Junior League of Lincoln gift.....	250.00
Donations (March-April-May).....	63.53
Donations (October).....	28.95
Trust Fund Sales share (October).....	13.03
Sales Tax-October (payable to Nebr. Rev. Dept)....	<u>1.81</u>
Total Reserve.....	( \$357.32)
<u>Net Income.....</u>	<u>\$148.85</u>

November 1, 1980  
Lee Thomas, Treasurer

Shirt Order, from Page 1:

onomy Club, Nebraska's foremost amateur astronomer's organization! Club members may now order an official club shirt. It is a nicely-styled knit sport shirt, deep blue in color, with a collar and a white club logo on the left breast. Jeanne Miller will be taking orders for the shirts at this month's meeting, and for about three weeks afterwards. Price will be about \$10, and delivery is expected in time for Christmas. The larger our order, the lower the per-shirt price.

After this first order, we must wait for enough additional orders to get a reasonably-large "run", which may be another year. Shirts will be

available only to club members, who are urged to wear them at all official activities, including next year's MidStates Convention.

To place your order, call Jeanne Miller at 470-2091.

Convention Plans Begin To Jell

Earl Moser, who is representing PAC in the planning for the MidStates Regional Astronomical League Convention in Lincoln next year announced that it will be held at Nebraska Wesleyan University June 5-6-7.

Dormitory space will be at Colonial Inn. Business meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, June 6, and Earl wants everyone to mark calendars now to attend.

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