



The Prairie Astronomer

Volume 22, Number 1
January 26, 1982

At Last Month's Meeting...

1-82

President Genzmer opened last month's meeting by presenting club members with a form to fill out and return which indicates member interest in astronomy and weak or strong points in regards to those interests. The forms are hoped to be used as an indicator for future programs and for encouraging members to share their interests with other members. (Please try to remember to bring your completed form to the January meeting.)

The upcoming Astronomy Day festivities were briefly discussed. Russ mentioned that this year he would like to see a more "attractive" display in hopes that more people will stop and enjoy what astronomy offers. It was stressed that only a few more meetings remain before the big day, so everyone should be brainstorming on possible display ideas.

The elusive PAC library was again discussed with the final verdict being that Russ, Ron Veys, and whoever else has pieces of the library get together and determine the actual extent of books and magazines and a possible solution to the library's permanent home.

Walt Baumann gave members and guests a NASA update (things don't look so great!) and Larry Stepp, back to Lincoln for the holidays, urged everyone to attend a May 26-30th meeting at McDonald Observatory. A

mysterious UFO photo was passed around which Dave Knisely *easily* identified as an upside down desk lamp. (Our observing chairman must know every trick in the book.)

Lee Thomas passed out the new RASC Handbooks to those who had requested them, and kept the 1982 calendars that had wrongly been sent by Hansen Planetarium. Lee hopes to yet obtain the proper ones. Our treasurer also announced that the club had received an anonymous \$100 donation to be used by the club for Hyde Observatory.

Door prizes were awarded to four lucky club members and programs included the movie "Hardware Wars", a presentation on "The Christmas Star" by Jack Dunn, and a Rick Johnson videotape showing the intentional vertical wobbling of the space shuttle at lift-off. Refreshments were served following the programs.

January Meeting

The January meeting of the Prairie Astronomy Club will be held January 26th, 7:30 p.m., at Hyde Observatory. This month's program is volunteered by one of the club's newest members, James Reimnitz, who has an interest in rocketry. The program will consist of a his-

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President's Message:

Last week, as I casually went through some notes and what not (is "what not" a word?), I glanced through our membership list. Then glanced through it a little more carefully, then it struck me. We have a number of members who are out state members. And some who are really out state, such as Texas, Massachusetts, Kansas, etc. So this President's Message is dedicated to those members. The members who, because of distance, cannot attend our meetings and usually none of our planned events, but who support us with their dues and often with their letters.

I'm sure I speak on behalf of our local members when I say your continued support is appreciated, and if you are ever travelling through, please stop to attend our meetings if the date works out, or give me a call to share some casual conversation. And, by all means, if you have something interesting happening in your area, please let us know so that we can include it in our newsletter. In line with this, a thanks to Larry Stepp, one of our out state members from Texas who attended our December meeting.

I want to remind our members who were given an "interest card" to fill out at the last meeting, to try and hand it back this next meeting so we can get a clearer picture of the direction the club needs to take to better help its members.

Also, you'll never guess what arrived the Wednesday after last meeting: my 10-inch mirror and diagonal. It seems a little strange, since I was told on the Monday before the meeting that it was in the "post-coating room", and would be shipped in a week! Oh, well. Come on, Leo and Coma Virgo Group! Last but not least we will decide if we have the ambitious support and ideas it will take for observance of Astronomy Day, and what dates to plan on. So bring ideas.

-- RUSS GENZMER

THE PRAIRIE ASTRONOMER is published monthly by the Prairie Astronomy Club, and is free to all club members. Yearly subscription without club membership is \$6.00. Regular membership, \$16.00. Family membership is \$18.00. Memberships include 1-year subscription to SKY & TELESCOPE, the club newsletter, and 4 quarterly issues of THE REFLECTOR, Journal of the Astronomical League. Address correspondence and membership renewals to: PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB, INC., P.O. Box 80553, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report is customarily submitted at the conclusion of that officer's term of office, but since your current Treasurer has been at it so long, one term seems to blend into another to the point where he tends to forget when a report is due.

However, around November 1, I had this nagging feeling that something wasn't getting done. By Christmas, the nagging feeling had turned to mild discomfort (at first dismissed as merely an inconsequential case of Christmas Shopper's Lumbago). Finally, around New Year's, I realized that what I thought was a nasty hangover from the Orange Bowl game was actually a mental vacuum created by the lack of a 1980-81 Fiscal Year Statement for the Prairie Astronomy Club. This triggered the first of my New Year's Resolutions, the results of which follow: a report to the membership on the state of the club treasury. You might also be interested to know, this is the only New Year's Resolution to be fulfilled thus far (and, I fervently hope, it will be the last!)

The club's financial situation is not as hideous as the bottom line might make it appear, although the net loss of \$372.76 is real on a cash basis. For example, when the books were closed on November 1, we had ordered (and paid for) the RASC Handbooks, but only part of the payments had been received from members. Offsetting this, we had received some payments for Hansen Planetarium calendars, but the order for those was sent on account. We were (and are) continuing to carry a considerable unsold inventory of maps and posters for Hyde Observatory. As revenue from sales trickles in during 1982, the apparent deficit will decrease. It will not entirely disappear, because we will have to restock inventory out of cash.

By simplifying the financial statement, removing the considerable volume of dollars passing through our bank account for Hyde Observatory, and for pass-through sales of handbooks, maps and atlases to members, on which the club makes no profit, we have the following:

<u>Income</u> (Dues less Sky & Tel, Club share of Hyde Sales and Donations).....	\$642.92
<u>Expenses</u> (Newsletter production and postage, and other normal operating expenses).....	\$391.63
<u>Net Income</u>	\$251.29

Thus, we are solvent, with no major expenses outstanding against the November 1 bank balance.

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PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB, INC. -- MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

As of January 1, 1982

Name	Address	City-State-Zip	Class	Exp.	Telephone
1. Donn Baker	2616 No 59th	Lincoln, NE 68507	R	3/82	466-4309
2. Walter Baumann	2305 Marilynn Ave	Lincoln, NE 68502	R	4/82	423-5740
3. Michael Benes	722 Hill St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R	12/82	432-9179
4. Roger Besch	1030 No 78th St	Lincoln, NE 68505	R	5/82	467-1532
5. Felix Cavosie	911 Division St	Hurley, WI 54534	R	2/83	-----
6. Marc Cherry	654 E 2nd St	Hickman, NE 68372	R	3/82	792-2906
7. Kathleen E. Connett	902 C St. Apt.#1	Lincoln, NE 68502	R	9/82	435-1404
8. Dr. John Clothier	355 So Cotner Blvd	Lincoln, NE 68510	R	9/82	488-5608
9. Russell Copple	Rt. #1	Alvo, NE 68304	NL	6/82	781-2253
10. Andy Corkill	2220 So 49th St	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	3/83	488-1096
11. Norma Coufal	1921 Beatrice St	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	6/82	483-5685
12. Jack Dunn	1326 D St Apt #2	Lincoln, NE 68502	NL	3/82	475-9975
13. Harlan Franey	1734 So Cotner Blvd	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	1/83	483-0035
14. Norman Frerichs	623 No 9th St	Beatrice, NE 68310	F	8/82	-----
15. Marvin Garber	2569 40th Ave #11	Columbus, NE 68601	R	10/82	-----
16. Russ Genzmer*	5230 Cooper Ave	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	1/83	483-4232
17. Dave Gerber	3720 Cooper Pt	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	6/82	483-2110
18. Roger Grant	3333 So 44th	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	10/82	-----
19. Bruce Gregg	Rt #1 Box #139	Hickman, NE 68372	R	7/82	788-2563
20. Quentin Hansen	1008 15th St	Onawa, IA 51040	NL	3/82	-----
21. Dick Hartley	320 Medgewood Dr	Lincoln, NE 68510	R	10/82	489-4105
22. Bev Hetzel	1413 G St	Lincoln, NE 68503	R	12/82	435-7881
23. Duane Hutchinson	3445 Touzalin Ave	Lincoln, NE 68507	R	1/83	466-4988
24. David A. John	2311 So 37th St	Lincoln, NE 68506	R	9/82	489-4281
25. Richard Johnson	1860 Pawnee St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R	9/82	423-6726
26. Junior League of Lincoln c/o Diane Johnston-No. 17 Bishop Sq		Lincoln, NE 68502	R	4/82	423-8787
27. Steve Kell	2709 Arlington St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R	8/82	476-7816
28. Ann Kelley	3614 J St	Lincoln, NE 68510	R	3/82	435-5033
29. Werner Klammer	1648 No Columbia St	Seward, NE 68434	R	9/82	-----
30. David Knisely	1616 No 14th St	Beatrice, NE 68310	R	12/82	472-0424

32.	John Lamborn	3910 No 62nd St	Lincoln, NE 68507	R 2/83	466-2878
33.	Brad Leseberg	824 I St	Fairbury, NE 68352	R 11/82	-----
34.	Allan Logan	5577 Rice Dr Bx 98007	--The Colony, TX 75056	R 6/82	-----
35.	John B. Lortz*	4850 Garland No. 4	Lincoln, NE 68504	F 4/83	464-2987
36.	Dick McCann	2425 Sewell St	Lincoln, NE 68502	F 4/82	477-4947
37.	Dr. R. A. Manthey	61st & O St-Montgomery Wards			
38.	Kris Miller	1149 So 17th St	Lincoln, NE 68505	R 9/82	489-3237
39.	C. L. Moore	1140 No 79th St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R 5/82	435-4051
40.	Earl Moser	-----	Lincoln, NE 68505	R 9/82	466-1886
41.	John Motsinger	4741 Southwood Dr	Hickman, NE 68372	R 9/82	792-2260
42.	Steve Nyatt	3243 Vandenberg Ave	Lincoln, NE 68512	R 2/82	423-5959
			Omaha, NE 68123	NL 4/82	-----
43.	Daniel Neville	410 So 28th St	Lincoln, NE 68510	R 11/82	432-7772
44.	William F. Norris	2832 Manse Ave	Lincoln, NE 68502	R 1/82	435-0267
45.	Philo Prell	4425 Randolph St	Lincoln, NE 68510	NL 2/83	488-3457
46.	James Reimnitz	4305 Sumner St	Lincoln, NE 68506	R 11/82	488-6046
47.	Carroll Reinert	3895 Sheridan Blvd.	Lincoln, NE 68506	R 1/82	483-1093
48.	Curtis W. Roelle	64 W Deer Park Rd	Gaithersburg, MD 20760	NL 11/82	-----
49.	Rev. Zygmund S. Rydz	1625 Adams St	Ashland, NE 68003	R 9/82	944-3554
50.	Bryan Schaaf	1228 E St #4	Lincoln, NE 68508	R 2/83	475-3217
51.	Ed Schmidt	2710 Ryons St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R 9/82	435-8676
52.	Teresa K. Schmidt	3727 Stockwell	Lincoln, NE 68506	NL 1/83	489-3671
53.	Craig Sosin	3401 Hillside St	Lincoln, NE 68506	R 11/82	488-0737
54.	Steve Spearman	4010 Fran Ave	Lincoln, NE 68516	R 6/82	489-4588
55.	Merton Sprengel*	4522 Hillside St	Lincoln, NE 68506	F 9/82	489-3177
56.	Larry Stepp	3122 Oak Hill Rd	Carrollton, TX 75007	R 5/82	245-7647
57.	L. Lee Thomas*	5827 LaSalle St	Lincoln, NE 68516	R 9/82	483-5639
58.	Steve Traudt	2726 Washington St	Lincoln, NE 68502	R 2/83	435-7617
59.	Ronald B. Veys*	940 Colony Ln	Lincoln, NE 68505	R 1/83	464-1449
60.	Scott Wareham	639 Mulder Dr	Lincoln, NE 68510	R 1/82	483-5548

Key: R = Regular Member; F = Family Member; NL = Newsletter Subscriber; Expiration Date = Month/Year current membership term expires. * = Club Officer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, November 1, 1981

Beginning bank balance, November 2, 1980.....\$701.24
 Ending bank balance, November 1, 1981.....\$361.82

Income:

Membership dues.....\$855.00
 Direct Merchandise Sales..... 571.45
 Sales Through Hyde Observatory..... 444.17
 Sales Tax Collected..... 18.46
 Donations..... 21.00
 Observatory Fund Collections..... 275.29
 Total Income.....\$2,185.37

Expenses:

Astronomical League Dues.....\$ 68.93
 Observatory Fund Payments..... 740.29
 Post Office Box Rental..... 28.00
 Postage..... 158.92
 Posters & Publications purchased for resale..... 848.87
 Printing (Newsletter)..... 80.47
 Programs..... 20.54
 Sky & Telescope Subscriptions..... 544.00
 Sales Taxes Paid..... 11.80
 Miscellaneous Expenses..... 22.97
 Total Expenses.....(\$2,524.79)

Reserve:

Observatory Fund Collections (October)..... 10.82
 Trust Fund Sales Share (October)..... 19.37
 Sales Tax (October)..... 2.65
 Total Reserve..... (\$33.34)

Net Income (Loss)(\$372.76)

November 1, 1981
 Lee Thomas, Treasurer