

Any Amateur Astronomers? 8 Nov 54

William Weller, 2548 Gerald Way, thinks there should be an amateur astronomers' club here. With Lick Observatory close at hand, and some fast growing colleges hereabouts, it seems as though there should be plenty of prospective members. Even Old Share It has a six-inch telescope project which is taking longer than the 200-inch at Palomar. Any one interested in forming a club should contact Weller at Cypress 7-1739.

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The above item from the Column "Share It With Barrett" in the San Jose Evening News, 8 November 1954, brought a positive, but limited, response to Mr Weller. He followed up with considerable legwork and personal reconnaissance, and with the aid of Lou Dunton called the first meeting December 6th 1954.

FIRST MEETING

The first meeting of the proposed amateur astronomy club was held at Herbert Hoover Jr. High School, San Jose, 6 December 1954, at 8:00 PM.

William Weller welcomed thesarpivalstand introduced those with whom he was aquainted to each other. A total of 10 persons was present.

Mr Weller then turned the meeting over to Walter Krumm (Also a member of the Peninsula Astronomy Club, Palo Alto), who spoke briefly of astronomy clubs in general, then gave a discussion of the two main typss of astronomical telescopes, listing advantages and disadvantages of each.

Mr Weller then introduced Dr Eggen, Astrophysicist, from Lick Observatory. Dr Eggen addressed the group on the subject, "The Star of Bethlehem", listing various possible astronomical explanations ranging from meteorites through comets to Novae.

Dr Eggen then held a question and answer session on both his subject matter and on general astronomical itemscts.

Dr Eggen was thanked for the club by Mr Weller.

Time and place for the next meeting was decided on and the meeting was adjourned.