

SAN JOSE AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS, INC.  
MONTHLY BULLETIN  
JUNE, 1971

PRESIDENT: Dave Erickson  
VICE-PRES: Thomas Halliday

SECRETARY: David Ambrose  
TREASURER: J. Emmet Murphy

DUES      DUES      DUES      DUES      DUES      DUES      DUES      DUES

Please send your \$10 (TEN DOLLARS) with Sky & Telescope's Blue Card to J. Emmet Murphy, 65 So. 9th Street, Apt. 3, San Jose 95112. Dues should be in by the June meeting.

The advantages of belonging to the San Jose Amateur Astronomers are many. Your \$10 each year provides for your Sky & Telescope subscription (normally \$7 per year), provides for the SJAA monthly bulletin, allows you the privilege of using the club's library, using the club's observatory (12" reflector and 6" refractor), gives you the opportunity to borrow the club's 6" reflector, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " reflector, 2.4" refractor, or the club's 2 focussalt testers. Starparties, guest speakers, field trips and general social events are special features for your belonging to the San Jose Amateur Astronomers.

MAY 22, FREE PICNIC-STAR PARTY

Our previous overcast, rained-out picnic-starparty will take place this coming Saturday, May 22, at the club's OBSERVATORY SITE. We are due for some better weather, and this Saturday will, by definition, be clear and warm. If, however, doubtful conditions prevail you may phone Dave at 269-4838 for information. Being served will be hotdogs, soft drinks, cookies and cupcakes. Plan to arrive just before dusk.

JUNE MEETING - ELECTIONS

DATE AND TIME: Friday, June 4, 8 p.m.

LOCATION: Community Bank, 111 W. St. John St., 2nd floor Executive Conference Room

If you are going to miss a meeting this year, DON'T miss this one. Election will take place. Also, Dr. Gregory and Dave will be presenting "Concepts in Astronomy", seminars #5 & #6. Dr. Gregory will speak on "The Summer Constellations" and Dave will present a talk on "Telescopes".

EXPLANATION OF ELECTIONS

- 1) Each year, a number of board members have their 2-year terms expire. (Generally, 5 expire on the odd years, 4 on the even years.) Being an odd year (bad weather and all that) of the 9 board members total, the following 5 are finishing their terms and are also nominated for re-election:

Dr. A. B. Gregory  
Thomas Halliday  
Trudy E. Bell

Michael Szudy  
Donald Summers

Nominated at the last planning meeting were:

Ralph Bridge  
Norman Wild  
Greg Nichols  
Dwight Leu

Brian Day  
Dave Ambrose  
Dick Glasspool

Further nominations are accepted at the beginning of June's meeting.

- 2) Five new board members will be elected at June's meeting.
- 3) The 9 board members will meet at the next planning meeting (Dave Ambrose's home) and elect the officers for 1971-1972.
- 4) The officers are installed at July's banquet (to be held at the Observatory Site). The board members will at that time consist of:

1970 - 1972

Dave Erickson  
Clayton Neece  
Bruce Smith  
J. Emmet Murphy

} 1 year yet to go

1971 - 1973

(five new names)

PLANNING MEETING - Friday, June 11, 8 p.m., Election of Officers

Meet at Dave Ambrose's home, 1755 El Codo Way, San Jose. 1971-1972 officers will be elected. All board members should attend this meeting. Also, summer activities on the observatory will be planned, as well as the upcoming public starparty. If lost to Dave's call 269-8262.

JUNE JUNE JUNE -- 3 BIG EVENTS

June 12 - Work party at the observatory site. Meet at noon.

June 19 - PUBLIC STARPARTY - This year's public starparty will be held at the Skyline site. All your friends should be invited and any help will be accepted to help publicize the event, such as,

LEAFLET DISTRIBUTION  
MAP MAKING  
POSTERS

RADIO, TV  
NEWSPAPERS  
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is the one time the club can really show off.

June 26 - OVERNIGHT STAR PARTY - The first excursion to Fremont Peak this year will be on June 26. Plan to bring your sleeping bag and/or tent and telescope. Last year two excellent evenings were encountered at Fremont Peak State Park which is located a half dozen or so miles from San Juan Batista. Bring your friends!

UPCOMING CONVENTION:

The WAA convention will be August 24, 25 and 26 in Honolulu, Hawaii at the Princess Kaiulani Hotel. The group will plan to arrive approximately five days prior to that. See Dave Erickson if you are interested in participating.

LIBRARY

Due to Bruce Smith's leaving town temporarily (he's probably knowledgeable of a pending earthquake in S.F.), the club's library will be temporarily managed by Mike Szudy, 19960 Merribrook Dr, Saratoga 95070, phone 867-4068. The dates are approximately June 5th to July 16th.

GREG NICHOLS is avidly seeking Sky & Telescope's copies as follows:

Vol. 33 No. 1, January 1967  
Vol. 33 No. 3, March 1967  
Vol. 37 No. 6, June 1969

Please contact him at 264-7724 if you can help him out.

"WHY A CALENDAR? HOW? WHEN?" - An editorial

Circa 10,000 years ago, man found that if he put the seed of a plant in the ground, that seed took root and grew into a plant like the one the seed came from. This plant then produced its own seed of which man intended to eat.

He probably got the idea from animals such as the squirrel or chipmunk who put nuts or seeds in the ground for future eating; the animals were storing by natural urge. Man may have put his food, gathering harvest of seeds in the ground for storage, and then the seeds sprouted after a rainstorm, purely by accident. He could have gradually learned from both sources.

When man put the seeds into the ground by plan, the seeds took root, ----- 'sometimes'. He wanted to know just ----"WHEN" to put the seeds in the ground so that there would be a better chance of them taking root. He wanted to improve his ----"PLAN".

Man gradually learned there was a right time of the year to put seeds into the ground for maximum chance of the seeds taking root, growing into a mature plant, and bearing seeds and fruit. Gradually man learned to associate the right time of the year to plant his seeds with the appearance of certain stars in that right time of year; he learned that the appearance of these stars was the best way to ascertain that it was the right time to plant seeds. He also watched the rising altitude of the sun as spring and summer approached, and learned to plant seeds when the sun was at just the right altitude.

When man first counted the days between two successive reappearances of a star, or between two certain approach altitudes of the sun, and predicted the reappearance of that star, or of that approach sun altitude would be in 365 days, he had a ----"CALENDAR"; he had ----"AGRICULTURE"; he had ----"ASTRONOMY".

...contributed by Ralph Bridge

SUMMER 1971 CALENDAR  
(PLEASE SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE)

- MAY 22 - Free picnic-starparty, SJAA Observatory site, hot dogs, soft drinks, cookies and cupcakes.
- JUNE 4 - Regular meeting at Community Bank, Election of Board members, dues due, "Concepts in Astronomy" seminars #5 & #6.
- JUNE 11 - Planning meeting at Dave Ambrose's home, 1755 El Codo Way, San Jose, Call 269-8262 for directions.
- JUNE 12 - Work party at Observatory Site, meet at noon.
- JUNE 19 - Public starparty at the Skyline Site.
- JUNE 26 - Overnight starparty at Fremont Peak State Park.
- JULY regular meeting postponed until July 17 for Banquet.
- JULY 9 - Planning meeting, to be held at Dave Erickson's. Call 269-4838 for directions.
- JULY 17 - Yearly Banquet, installation of officers AND starparty will be held at the Observatory Site one hour before dusk.
- JULY 24 - Overnight starparty at Henry Coe State Park, east of Morgan Hill.
- JULY 31 - Overnight starparty at Observatory Site.
- AUGUST 6 - Regular meeting at Community Bank.
- AUGUST 13 - Planning meeting at Tom Halliday's.
- AUGUST 24-26 - WAA convention in Hawaii
- SEPTEMBER 3 - Regular meeting at Community Bank

HELP MAKE THIS SUMMER SJAA'S BEST ONE YET!!