

JULY
21-30

ASTRONOMY WEST '78

Joint Conference on Astronomy

Western Amateur Astronomers
Astronomical Association of Northern California
Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers
Astronomical Society of the Pacific

REGISTRATION: You may register in advance (\$9.00 ea) or at the door (\$10.00 ea). Pre-registration is encouraged, as it minimizes check-in time when you arrive and assists your conference committee in planning. Please do not pre-register after 20 July 1978.

CONFIRMATION OF YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION: Those pre-registering will receive confirmation of their registration, verification of the Vandenberg field trip participation (or if you are too late the bad news about that trip being filled), parking passes, instructions for campus housing check-in, and a map of the campus showing where the various activities are located, and if requested motel and/or trailer/camper information. Pre-registration being received after the 20th of July will not receive confirmation.

TRANSPORTATION TO SAN LUIS OBISPO: For those who will not be traveling via auto, San Luis Obispo is serviced by Amtrak, Greyhound Bus Lines, and Swift Airlines. In each case, the terminals of these carriers are located a few minutes taxi ride to the convention site.

HOUSING: Clean modern, resident halls are located in close proximity to the convention site. The registration form must be forwarded directly to the address indicated on the form. These accommodations have been inspected by the conference committee and were found to be not only convenient, but quite nice. Accommodations are available for any and all dates between Wednesday 26th and Sunday 30th July. For those wishing to stay off campus, a list of motels in the San Luis Obispo and surrounding area will be provided upon request. Anyone staying off campus should make their reservations well in advance.

CAMPER AND HOUSE TRAILER PARKING: Overnight parking of campers and house trailers on the campus is prohibited. There are public and private sites available. If you wish information, indicate so when your pre-register. We have been advised that reservations for camping should be made in advance, as quite often during the summer camp-sites are booked solid.

PARKING: Parking lots are in close proximity to the convention site. Thursday and Friday are regular school days and a parking permit is required. Parking permits are not required on Saturday or Sunday. Please indicate in the space provided on the registration form if you will require a permit.

FIELD TRIPS: There will be two parallel field trips Friday afternoon, July 28th. The primary field trip will be to Vandenberg Air Force Base. A secondary field trip will be to the Hearst Castle, a unique and beautiful experience.

VANDEBERG: This field trip will be via chartered Greyhound buses. Our group will utilize all of the Vandenberg Visitor facilities and staff. There is no way that individuals or private cars can be accommodated. The program tentatively scheduled is as follows: A facilities briefing then a visit to underground storage areas for Thor Missiles, a Minuteman Silo Launch Complex and Launch Complex #6 - The West Coast launch site for Space Shuttle.

This field trip will be approximately 6 hours in duration. Travel time for the buses from the convention site to Vandenberg is approximately one hour and approximately four hours will be spent at the site. A WORD OF CAUTION! This field trip is limited in attendance with participation offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please pre-register for this field trip early.

HEARST CASTLE: Hearst Castle-San Simeon, California is a must for anyone who has never been there before. San Simeon is less than an hour's drive from the convention site. No public or mass transportation is available. Individuals must provide their own autos or arrange to car-pool with others attending the convention.

There are three tours of various parts of the Hearst Estate. They are: TOUR #1 - The visitor is shown the Gardens, the Neptune and Roman Pools, one of the Three Guest Houses, and Lower Level of the Castle itself including the Assembly Hall, Refectory and Movie Theatre. TOUR #2 - Covers the Upper Levels of the Castle, Pools and Gardens. The visitor is given an intimate view of the Hearst's Personal Gothic Suite, the Celestial Suite, the Libraries and Lobbies, a Duplex and their priceless furnishings. Also included on this tour is the Kitchen. TOUR #3 - Covers a Guest Wing of the Castle, Pools, Gardenings, and one Guest House. This tour includes some 36 rooms, consisting of Bedrooms, Sitting Rooms and Bathrooms and features elaborate works of Art and Furnishings.

Price for any one of the three tours is: Adults \$5.00, Child (6-17) \$2.00, Under 6, Free. For reservations or information you must deal directly with Ticketron. If you are not directly serviced by Ticketron in your area, you may write to them at: TICKETRON

Attention: Tickets
P.O. Box 26430
San Francisco, CA 94126

(Mail your check or money order directly to the above address, including an \$.80 service charge for each ticket ordered.) Be sure to specify which tour you want, number 1, 2, or 3, and the time (1:00 PM or later) and the date 28 July 1978. To avoid disappointment, be sure to register early.

DINING FACILITIES: We are exceptionally fortunate in that the dining facilities are not only within a block of the convention site, but the quality and quantity of food is exceptionally good. The on-campus facilities include a cafeteria, a restaurant, and snack facilities. Additionally, you will be provided with a guide to restaurants in the area.

For those planning to attend the complete conference, a packaged meal program has been arranged. This program would include dinner Thursday evening, 27 July, and breakfast, lunch and dinner on Friday and Saturday, 28 & 29 July. This total of 7 meals, including the Luncheon Banquet, is priced at a total cost of \$30.00 per person.

Coffee and/or punch breaks are complementary.

BANQUET: All are invited to attend the W.A.A. Annual Banquet. To best fit the program, and in effort to minimize cost, the banquet will be a luncheon banquet. The key note speaker will be Mr. Ashley McDermott. Highlights of this event will include presentation of the G. Bruce Blair Gold Medal and the AANC awards.

Cost of the banquet is included in the package food price. If you are not participating in the packaged food program, tickets to the banquet may be purchased with your pre-registration or during the first day of the conference.

The entree will be a beef dish. Anyone having a special dietary requirement, should so advise the conference committee when pre-registering, so that special accommodations can be made.

STAR PARTY: San Luis Peak (Madonna Mountain) rises 1400 feet above the convention site and the city of San Luis Obispo. A private road winds up the side of the mountain to the top where the Friday night Star Party will take place. The owner of the property is Mr. Alex Madonna of the Madonna Inn. The Madonna Inn, located in San Luis Obispo is unequalled in its unique charm and beauty. Everyone is invited to the Star Party, with or without equipment.

TELESCOPE EXHIBIT AND COMPETITION: Those wishing to exhibit and/or enter telescopes or related equipment are invited to do so. The AANC will be hosting, judging, and making awards for this portion of the program as part of their traditional annual conference.

ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS: There will be astrophotography exhibits in the lobby of the auditorium. John Sanford and Charles Townsend have organized, and will be in charge of this portion of the program so we know it will be done extremely well. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome and encouraged. To do so please contact your Society President for information or write to:

Mr. John Sanford 2215 Martha Ave. Orange, Ca. 92667	or	Mr. Charles Townsend 3521 San Jaun Avenue Oxnard, Ca. 93030
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GROUP PHOTO: On Thursday afternoon, July 27th, a group photograph will be taken. Copies of this photo may be ordered at the registration desk during the convention.

PROCEEDINGS: The proceedings from "ASTRONOMY WEST '78" will be published. All papers submitted in an acceptable camera ready format will be included. Copies of the proceedings may be ordered at the registration desk. After printing and binding, proceedings will be mailed directly to you.

SOCIETY WORKSHOP: An experimental workshop session has been scheduled to encourage a free interchange of information regarding organization, programs, membership, legal, liabilities, and any and all questions faced by officers, directors, and interested members of the organized amateur astronomical community may benefit by mutually facing and addressing various problems that confront some organizations and already have been solved by other organizations. All interested parties are invited to intend.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: Recreational facilities, such as tennis courts and bowling alleys, are located on the campus. Morro Bay and Avila Beach are a 20 to 30 minute drive from the campus.

COLLEGE CREDIT: Through the Physics Department of Cal Poly we have arranged to offer a special 600 Series course for those who wish college credit for attending the conference. There will be a nominal registration fee. The credit is not applicable towards graduation from college, but is recognized for educational professional purposes. Those wishing to participate in this program will be required to enroll no later than 2 PM, Thursday, 27 July.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Anyone interested in presenting a paper or giving a talk is invited to participate in the Program. In order for your paper to be in the Proceedings and Program it must be received in the approved format on/or before the 20th of July. If you have a subject which you have found interesting, please participate and share your experience or information with others at this meeting. For instructions and forms please contact the President of your local society or write to:

PAPERS CHAIRMAN
c/o 1110 Petaluma Hill Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

SCHEDULE: The program will start Thursday morning, 27 July, at 9 AM, with check-in at 8 AM. The conference will run for approximately 35 hours through noon Sunday, 30 July.

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California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo, California - July 27-30

May 20, 1978

Dear Fellow Astronomers:

It is with pleasure that we extend an invitation to you to attend ASTRONOMY WEST '78. ASTRONOMY WEST '78 will be the major West Coast Astronomical Conference this year. A full program of scientific and social activities lies in store for all members of the astronomical community.

Regardless of whether you are new to astronomy, a devoted astronomy buff for many decades, a para-professional, or educator, you have the opportunity to expand your knowledge and enjoyment of astronomy by attending this Conference.

The program will be centered around invited and contributed papers, invited professional speakers, field trips, the WAA annual Banquet, slide shows, films, workshops, exhibits, a Star Party and best of all meeting old friends and making new.

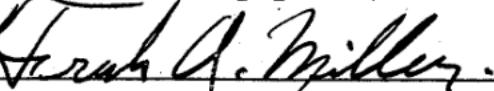
This unique and first time ever Joint Conference of the WAA, AANC, ALPO, and ASP promises to be an event that should not be missed.

The meeting place, Cal Poly, at San Luis Obispo, is geographically located near the coast approximately half-way between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The enclosed brochures provide details about this important event.

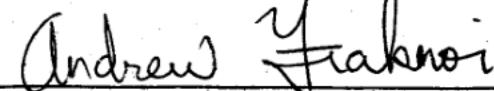
As an expedient to your check-in, and to minimize work for your Conference Committee, please PRE-REGISTER.

Looking forward to seeing you there, we remain

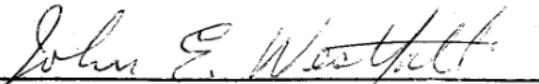
Astronomically yours,

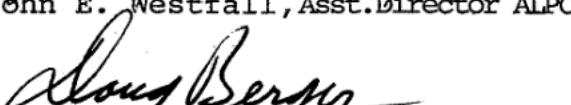


Frank Miller, President - WAA



Andrew Fraknoi, Executive Officer ASP


John E. Westfall, Asst. Director ALPO


Doug Berger, President AANC

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WESTERN AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

AN AFFILIATION OF AMATEUR SOCIETIES

Serving Western Astronomers through Unity for over a Quarter Century

MAIL TO: WAA REGISTRATION, c/o 1110 Petaluma Hill Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

NAME(S) 1 _____ 2 _____

3 4

ADDRESS _____ street _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

PRE-REGISTRATION FEE: \$ 9.00 each x ____ = \$ ____
(NOTE: \$10.00 at the door)

UNIVERSITY MEAL PACKAGE (including Banquet): \$30.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

LUNCHEON BANQUET ONLY: \$ 5.00 each x ____ = \$ _____

(MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: WAA) TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THE MOTEL GUIDE

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON TRAILER/CAMPER/CAMPGROUNDS

I WILL REQUIRE PARKING PASSES FOR: THURSDAY 27th FRIDAY 28th BOTH DAYS

THE NAME OF MY SOCIETY IS:

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES) WAA AANC ALPO ASP NON AFFILIATED

Do Not Write Below This Line:

DR. _____ CK _____ PRO _____ A _____

_____ \$ _____ PHOTO _____ B _____

Cut and Mail Reservation Form,
with Check payable to:

CAMPUS HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Please reserve the following accommodations:

Single Occupancy at \$10.00/night Double occupancy at \$7.00/night
 Couple at \$14.00/night Children at \$7.00/night (Ages: _____)

Arriving: _____ Departing: _____

Joint Conference on Astronomy

POSSIBLE COMET DISCOVERED
BY DON MACHHOLZ OF LOS GATOS
SEPT. 12 5:15 AM.
UNCONFIRMED AS OF THIS
PRINTING - NO ORBIT YET

LOMA PRIETA SITE
SEPT. 12, 5:15 AM

11 Mag.
6h 39.3 m -18° 24'

DIFFUSED CONDENSED NO TAIL FUZZY
MOVING SOUTH 52'/DAY 2.0' ACROSS
WEST 6/10°/DAY
LONG PERIOD ??

AFTER 1700 HOURS OF HUNTING

* * * * *

SEPT. 13, 4:30 AM

6h 38.7 m -19° 14'
Mag. 10.7

INFO:

DON MACHHOLZ
34-B FILLMER AVE
LOS GATOS, CA 95030
(408) 356-7727

CONFIRMATION EXPECTED SEPT. 14, AM

MAILED BY SAN JOSE ASTRONOMICAL ASSOC.
SUPPORTED BY WAKANTA LONGHORN BREEDERS ASSOC.