

SAN JOSE AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

JUNE 1975

BULLETIN  
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Tom Curtis Jim Van Nulan  
A. B. Gregory Jim Vermilion

RECENT ACTIVITIES: On May 2 Frank Holden delivered an enjoyable talk (with slides) on his trip to Cerro Tololo in Chile. As your reporter was not there I am unable to relate any details.

On May 13 the special public star party at Ayer High School in Milpitas was not too successful on account of the weather, though several telescopes showed up.

The May 24th public star party at the K-Mart on the west side was very successful, however, since the club arranged a total eclipse of the moon and perfect weather for the occasion. Tom Mungall reports "wall-to-wall people (about 1000)" who viewed the lunar spectacle until 1 A.M. There were twelve telescopes available, some of which were utilized for photography. Latest reports are that results are good.

The Riverside Telescope Maker's Convention was also a success from the point of view of SJAA members. Of the 76 telescopes entered, seven awards were given, two to members of our organization. Dave Erickson and Don McGlaufflin both took prizes. President Mungall will fill in the club with more details at the next general meeting.

COMING EVENTS: June 6, 1975 at 7:30 P.M. at Olinder Center: General meeting. Joe Gilbert will give a talk The Velocity of Light -- A Constant? In addition there will be nomination and election of five board members. (The general membership elects the board members for two year terms and the board elects the officers of the club. Five board openings are to be filled this year.)

June 7, 1975 at the Mt. Umunhum site -- star party. The site is proving its worth; the only crowds are constituted of amateur astronomers.

June 13 (Friday), 1975: Board meeting at Tom Mungall's. Election of club officers.

June 14, 1975: Second of the back-to-back star parties at Mt. Umunhum.

July 12, 1975 at Levin Park in Milpitas: Combination general meeting, picnic, inauguration and star party. The club will provide the chicken and hot dogs, you provide the cold drinks.

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ADDITIONAL NEWS: John Dobson and the San Francisco Sidewalk Astronomers will have the 24 incher at Fremont Peak on June 13 and 14. Gerry Rattley reports that he has seen Pluto 4 times so far this year. Once in the 24-inch, twice in his 8 inch and once in Don McGlaufflin's 10 inch. Gerry will present the Skalnate Pleso chart IX at the next meeting. Your editor reports seeing the Black-Eye Galaxy (M-64) from his back yard in his new 8 inch 'scope. "What a shiner!!" At the last star party on Mt. Umunhum (in April) Norm Wild forgot the declination axis to his 10" scope so had to use his GMC station wagon as an altazimuth mount similar to that of William Herschel except that the latter's mount was not gasoline driven. Dr. Gregory felt that the moon appeared as a 'Chinese Lantern' hanging in the sky during last week's eclipse.