

THE DETROIT ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1980

GENERAL INFORMATION

The D.A.S. is a non profit organization with membership open to any individual who is interested in astronomy upon payment of the annual dues. Guests are always welcome without charge or obligation. Our purpose is to encourage and promote the study of astronomy and related sciences.

The D.A.S. meets each Friday evening at the Crowell Recreation Center located at 16630 Lasher Road, Detroit, Michigan. The center is 1/4 mile south of McNichols (Six Mile Road), on the east side of Lasher Road at the traffic signal light. This facility is a modern well-equipped building with ample off street lighted parking. It is operated by the City of Detroit Recreation Department and it is their finest facility serving this side of the city. Since we are their guests it is important to be considerate in the use of the Crowell Recreation Center to insure our continued welcome.

The meetings consist of talks, lectures, films, slides, mirror making, sharing and fellowship with Astronomy as our common denominator. There will generally be someone present to assist those who are grinding and polishing a mirror starting at 7:00 p.m. most members arrive at 7:30 p.m. and when there is a feature presented it will begin promptly at 8:30 p.m. The regular business meeting for the general membership is held on the second Friday of the month and at starts promptly at 8:30 p.m. The officers and Board of Directors meet privately on the first Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the mirror polishing room. In all cases we ask that the last person be out of the building by 10:30 p.m. to accommodate the building custodian.

Annual dues are as follows and most categories include SKY AND TELESCOPE magazine mailed to your home. Regular \$20.00, Junior \$10.00, Family \$25.00, Regular Associate \$13.00, Junior Associate \$3.00. Also included in the membership is "The Reflector", a newsletter of the Astronomical League.

* * * * * CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS * * * * *											
APRIL	4	Crowell Center Closed (Good Friday)	MAY	3	Annual D.A.S. Banquet, 6:30 Walden Wood Club House						
APRIL	11	Regular Business Meetin 8:30 Board Of Directors Meet 7:00	MAY	9	Regular Business Meeting 8:30						
APRIL	13	Lecture at The University Of Detroit, 3:15 p.m. in the Engineering Bldg., Rm 206, Richard Lloyd, Program Chrm.	MAY	16	Lecture by Gary Frey - "Polar Axis Allignment" Method 3, Zenith & Horizon						
APRIL	18	Film - HEAO - "The New Universe"	MAY	18	Lecture at The University Of Detroit, 3:15 p.m., in the Engineering Bldg., Rm 206, Richard Lloyd, Program Chrm. (One week later due to Mother's Day)						
APRIL	25	Lecture by Gary Frey - "Polar Axis Allignment" Method 2, Celestial Transit	MAY	23	Lecture by Gary Frey - "Polar Axis Allignment" Method 4, Star Transit Time						
MAY	2	Board Of Directors Meet 7:00 Film - Mercury, "Exploration Of A Planet"	MAY	30	Film - Mars, "The Search Begins"						
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Note - Film schedule may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

ACTIVITIES -

Mirror Making..... Mike Nanyak, Coordinator

Observing -

Jupiter Opposition Group Gary Frey, Coordinator

Mars Opposition Group Claude McEldery, Coordinator

Lunar Eclipse Group (Aug. 25th) .. Still Open, Need Volunteer

Lunar Occultation Group Ken Eskovitz & Paul Paluzzi
Co-Chairman

ANNOUNCEMENTS -

1. John Hartleib, a long time member of the D.A.S. died Feb. 19, 1980. You will most likely remember him for his craftsmanship in the making of miniature telescope sets; which he proudly displayed in an eye glass case. Mr. Hartleib came to Detroit after W.W. #1, at the age of 27, to work for the Ford Motor Company until he retired at the age of 65. He had been retired for 24 years and would have been 89 years old on April 4th.

2. We need a volunteer to take over the responsibilities of librarian.

MIRROR MAKING - "Scratches & Bubbles" by John Kuzia, Master T.M.

In the making of Pyrex, it is almost impossible to cast a mirror blank with modern production methods without some air holes or other bubbles trapped in the glass. When these bubbles are near the surface they sometimes break through the surface of the mirror.

When this happens some people keep on grinding till no holes appear; however bubbles or holes on the surface can be painted black after aluminizing without affecting performance.

Defects left on the surface depend on the size of blank. For 4¼", the maximum size bubble is 1/8", up to three of these provided they are one inch apart. For 6" or 8" mirror's, three bubbles up to 3/16" in diameter if they are separated by one inch or more. For 10" or 12½" mirrors, a maximum of four bubbles up to 1/4" is acceptable, if they are separated by 1½" or more.

Scratches on the mirror do very little actual harm since they cut off only a small fraction of the light, but they do make the workmanship look poor, and you will be more proud of your mirror if it is free from them.

OBSERVING - Claude McEldery

This Spring there are 4 planets in the sky for our evening viewing pleasure. These include 4 of the 5 bright naked eye planets known since ancient times. They are Venus (diameter 7521 miles), Mars (4222 miles), Jupiter (88,729 miles), and Saturn (74,564 miles). If you have a telescope don't miss this excellent opportunity to get it out and do some fascinating observing.

I consider solar system astronomy one of the most rewarding fields for amateur activity. It's only been since the time of Galileo (1564-1642) and the invention of the first crude telescopes that man has been able to view the true nature of these celestial bodies. So don't be left out, be one of the select few (comparatively speaking) who have studied these amazing objects.

STELLAFANE AND THE DETROIT ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY -

For the first time the Detroit Astronomical Society is planning to be represented at the Stellafane Astronomical Convention in Springfield, Vermont on August 8 & 9, 1980. This convention will be a time to show what the Detroit Astronomical Society has done to further astronomy in this area of

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STELLAFANE & THE D.A.S. (Continued)

the country, and an all out effort should be made to present ourselves as a well organized involved club, not just a "bunch" of people with telescopes. Springfield, Vermont is approximately 800 miles or 16 hours drive time from Detroit. If there are enough people interested in going, a caravan will be formed.

Each person who has a paid up membership at the D.A.S. and attends the convention will be reimbursed \$10.00 from the Treasury to help defer the cost of gas and lodging. Each person taking a telescope will be given an identification card to display with the scope to tell others about it. When all our scopes are together we hope to make an impressive showing.

Hotel rooms are still available and can be obtained for you. Lodging averages \$8.00 per night per person, based upon 4 persons per room. Based upon 5 people per vehicle and two nights lodging, total expenses (lodging and gas) will be about \$40.00. If you are planning on attending the convention, please sign up and pay \$10.00 deposit by April 13, 1980 to Gary Frey. This deposit cannot be refunded if you must change your plans, and the spot cannot be filled.

Since prices are going up, this may be the first and only time we will be going to Stellafane.

For further information or questions, call 363-9926 after 6:00 p.m. or contact me at the Friday night meetings.

Gary Frey - Stellafane Coordinator

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR BANQUET
INFORMATION — MAY 3, 1980 —

ANNUAL D.A.S. BANQUET

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR
YOURSELVES AND FRIENDS

FOR SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1980 - 6:30 P.M.

Walden Wood Club House - 10 Mile Road
.2 Mile East of Telegraph Road

M E N U

SOUP - Salad - Relishes - Potato - Hot Vegetable
Choice of Entree: 1. Tenderloin, broiled

2. Boneless Chicken Breast,
baked

3. White Fish, baked

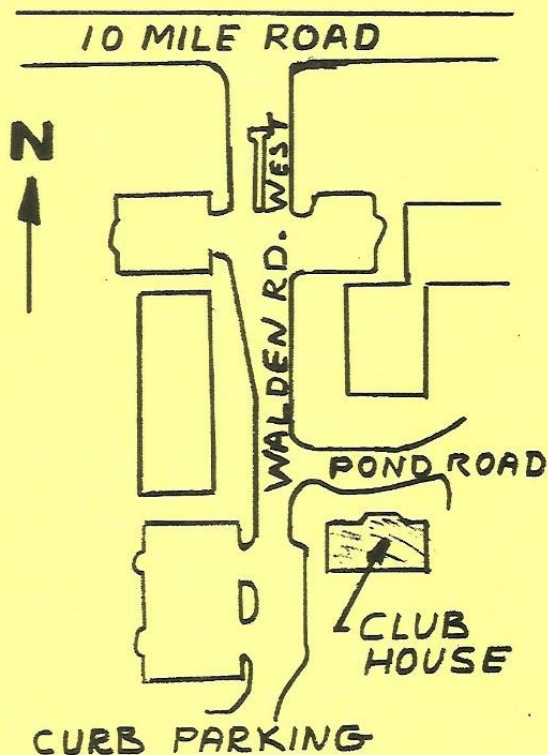
Dessert - Beverage

Cost - ONLY \$12.00 PER PERSON

ENTERTAINMENT - MAGICIAN

B.Y.O.B., SET-UPS PROVIDED

IT'S VERY EASY - JUST FILL IN THIS FORM AND MAIL TODAY



SEND YOUR CHECK AND THIS FORM TO:

Larry Applebaum
23747 Walden Ct.
Southfield, MI 48034

Make your check payable to:
The Detroit Astronomical Society

NO. OF EACH ENTREE

___ TENDERLOIN

___ BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST

___ WHITE FISH

Enclosed is a check: ___ X \$12.00 for ___ (NO.) dinners.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

NOTE - RESERVATION DEAD LINE IS APRIL 23, 1980.

STELLEFANE AND THE DETROIT ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

WHAT: EASTERN NATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL CONVENTION

WHEN: AUGUST 8, 9, 1980

WHERE: SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT (BREEZE HILL)

* LECTURES

* TELESCOPES

* STAR PARTY

* FLEA MARKET

* JUST FUN

M DAS SECTION

1- MOTEL RESERVATION & DEPOSIT BY 4/13

2- CAR POOLS

3- TELESCOPE IDENTIFICATION CARDS

4- TRIP PLANNING MEETINGS - 4/10, 5/15, 6/13, 7/11

5- DAS BANNER

6- CAMPING

7- \$\$\$-REBATE - \$10⁰⁰ / membership attending

8- MISC.

Larry Fung
Co-ORDINATOR
363-9926