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the DOUBLE DOME

Issued by the MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



## JANUARY 1968

A new year means new ideas - new directions - new programs. The field of astronomy changes so rapidly that a person must constantly strive to be well informed, and a society must keep watch to stay in the mainstream of events. Become an "in" member by attending this year's kickoff meeting - "Astronomy '68".

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: -Due to mid-term exams at UWM, the January meeting will not be held at our usual room in the Physics & Eng. Bldg. It will be held at 8:00 P.M., Friday, January 19, in the small auditorium on the second floor of the Electric Co. Stores and Headquarters Bldg. located at 620 South 76th Street (76th & Main) in West Allis near the Fair Grounds, a short distance south of I-94. If approaching on I-94, exit at 68th St. or 84th St. and take frontage road to 76th St. If traveling by bus, take Route 10 (Wells-Wisconsin) or Route 76 (60th St.), transfer to Route 82 westbound at 68th and Stephenson. Exit at 76th Street and walk 3 blocks south. The area is well lighted. This meeting place is for the January meeting only!

The January Board Meeting will be held January 26 at 7:30 P.M. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ray Ball. Wives are invited.

It was very thoughtful of Mrs. Dianne Nelson to enhance the holiday mood by printing the December, 1967 Double Dome in green.

Canadian Handbooks are being held for Boettcher, Dentinger, Duecker, James, Osburn, and Stencel. Unless arrangements are made to pick them up by the January meeting, they can be held no longer.

Members not paying 1967-1968 dues before February 1 will be dropped from the membership list.

C.P.R. Seminar - at the observatory - Sat. Feb. 3 at 7:00 P.M. snow or shine.

A five part "Moon-Pak" is being offered to members of Astronomical Associations at a specially reduced rate by the Herbert S. Ross concern. Members interested can obtain more information at the January meeting.

(OVER PLEASE)

Following is a special notice by our MAS Director, Mr. Ed. Halbach!-

Ejnar Hertzsprung, famous for his color-magnitude diagram for stars, once gave the following policy summary: "It is of importance that each student shall have the opportunity to get acquainted with as many different methods of observing as is possible with the means at his disposal, before choosing a particular branch of astronomy for his future specialty."

We can say with certainty that as amateurs we too are students of the stars and should become acquainted with as many different methods of observing within or beyond the present facilities at the MAS Observatory. May we suggest a singular method new to most of you - a photographic program with a long range training significance, yet with an immediate goal?

First, read "Minor Planet Icarus in 1968" in Sky & Telescope, January 1968, page 21.

We have a telescope we believe large enough to carry out this singular project during about a week when the asteroid is at its brightest. Simultaneously, you could be learning much about many associated subjects, such as:

Polar axis adjustment of scope
Alignment of optics
Telescope drive, sidereal &
slow motion
Double slide plate holder
Choice of photo. emulsion
Films vs. plates
Prefogging & magnitude limits
Cooled emulsion & mag. limits

Icarus ephemeris with short
time intervals
Plan for photographic coverage
Film or plate development
Search for Icarus on negatives
Reduction for positional data
Reduction for magnitude data
Publication of results
Etc., etc.

"New" observers: This will be a fine training ground to prepare

you for setting up and using the Thurner 20".

"Old" observers: Applies to you as well and furthermore we are

in need of your help and advice.

Can you set aside two Sunday afternoons each month until June? Even this class schedule if far too short to fully accomplish the goal but let's try! Suggest we gather the second and fourth Sundays at 2:00 P.M., starting with January 14 in my recreation room at 2971 S. 52 Street. Later gatherings will be at the observatory.