

Issued by the MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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- FEBRUARY - 1976 -

NOTE CHANGE IN GRAZE DATE:

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FEBRUARY PROGRAM: The amazing Mariner vehicles with their sharp eyes and electronic intelligence have accumulated volumes of information about our neighbor planets and promise to gather more!

We're fortunate to have Dr. Gene Smith with us at the February meeting to tell us about the sum and substance of two of our neighbors - Mercury and Mars. Dr. Smith, husband of Dr. Dian Piper Smith who has spoken at other MAS meetings, is a Prof. of Science at UW-Parkside (Kenosha). He will describe the geology of these planets, sort of complementing Dr. Mursky's talk last month on moon geology.

How do Mars and Mercury compare? What do they have in common with our moon and the earth? How do they differ? Find out

- Friday, 20 Feb., 8 p.m., in the

- Physics Building, Corner of Kenwood and Cramer,

- Room 133

Board members will be on hand to greet members and guests, answer questions, or just chitchat.

ATTENTION - GRAZE OBSERVERS: A special grazing occultation flyer was sent with the January Double-Dome. The graze date, Feb. 9th is correct. However, the Sunday date should have read <u>MONDAY</u>. All other information in the notice is correct.

Again, the graze date is Monday evening, Feb. 9th: Please mark your notice as a reminder.

WATCH FOR COMET WEST: Comet West (1975n), discovered in November by Richard West, should be a bright naked-eye object during the wee hours of the early part of March.

According to information from Smithsonian received by MAS member John Geraci, comet West is still out of sight, but will reach perihelion 25 February while immersed in the sun's glare. Best viewing time will be between 4 and 5 in the morning of 8 March when it appears in the southeastern sky in Aquarius. Calculated magnitudes are: 3 Mar., 1.6; 13 Mar. 4.6; 23 Mar., 6.3; 12 Apr., 8.4.

For more information, see Sky and Telescope, Jan. 1976, p. 26, or call Mr. Gerachi (442-2736) or Director Ed. Halbach (541-1181).

FOR SALE: One of our members has offered to donate to the MAS the proceeds from the sale of a valuable piece of furniture. We must find a buyer for this rare, genuine, antique four-poster bed made between 1790-1820. It is constructed of rosewood, has a pineapple and acanthus leaf design, a rope tied spring, and almost reaches the ceiling!

Please help us locate a buyer. Interested parties should call William Albrecht (464-5085) or Ed. Halbach (541-1181).

<u>CANADIAN (OBSERVER'S) HANDBOOKS</u>: The rest of the shipment has arrived and will be available at the February meeting. If you prefer, you may pick up your copy from Treas. Anne Albrecht by calling 464-5085. The price is \$2.50 per book.

<u>NEW MEMBERS</u> who have recently joined the Milwaukee Astronomical Society are:

MR. WILLIAM FRENCH; photography, general astronomy. MR. MARK GIPP; general astronomy.

MR. HARRY PEASE; general science.

MEETINGS

- Fri., 20 Feb. February program. Members and guests welcome.
- Mon., 23 Feb. Board of Directors, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Murn, 10949 W. Stark (464-1539). Wives are welcome.
- Wed., 3 Mar., Staff cancelled.
- Every Monday night 25" Telescope. All members welcome. 7 p.m. at the home of Dir. Ed. Halbach, 2971 S. 52nd St. Call 541-1181 first.

YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY will be mailed with the March Double Dome. If your present listing is incorrect in any way, please notify the newsletter editor by 1 March.

MEMBERS NIGHT: Keyholders in charge are

7	Feb.	H.	Lindemann	871-5900	6	Mar.	G.	Samolvk	462-1340
14	Feb.	J.	Pfannerstill					Schmidtkunz	
21	Feb.	Τ.	Ross	543-5809					281-6533
28	Feb.	Τ.	Renner	1-392-2799				0	222

Members may use the facilities for any worthwhile project on these nights-no outsiders please, except parents of young members. Call the keyholder the Fri. before the duty night - cancel Sat. if necessary. Keyholders are urged to come out anyway. The keyholder is also responsible for tours during the week preceding his night. Requests should be cleared through James Toeller (352-7144).

- FULL SNOW MOON SUNDAY, 15 FEBRUARY -

LeRoy Simandl, Editor (933-3052) 4201 W. Highland Blvd., Milw., Wis. 53208

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