

Issued by the

MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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- SEPTEMBER 1980 -

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM-MEETING: The Milwaukee Astronomical Society will begin its new year with an up-to-date talk about NASA'S new space telescope. Right now a 2.4 meter $(94\frac{1}{2}")$ $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton mirror blank is being worked into a primary mirror for the most powerful telescope ever built. The nearly 8 foot mirror will become part of a telescope that will be shuttled far beyond the earth's atmosphere where it will demonstrate unprecedented capabilities.

Dr. Dennis Ebbets, project associate at UW-Madison is doing work on this unique instrument and will tell us the latest information in

his talk "SPACE TELESCOPE."

WHEN: Friday, Sep. 19, 1980, 8 p.m.
WHERE: UWM Physics-Olsen Planetarium Bldg.,
corner of Kenwood and Cramer, room 133.

"COSMOS," perhaps the most ambitious television series to be presented to date, will be aired in thirteen one-hour weekly segments by Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) starting Sunday, Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. on Channel 10. There will be a repeat Thurs., Oct. 2 at 10:30 p.m.

Dr. Carl Sagan, distinguished Cornell Univ. astronomer and Pulitzer prize-winning author, is the principal writer and host of COSMOS. Dr. Sagan also played a leading part in the Mariner, Viking,

and Voyager missions to the planets.

Anyone even casually interested or curious about astronomy or science will be enthralled not only by the content but by the lavish special effects, many of which will surpass those seen in "Star Wars!" Not only will you journey on a spaceship that speeds from deep space, plunges into galaxy clusters, quasars, and pulsars, winds through Saturn's rings, soft-lands on Mars, Venus, and Titan, and finally disembarks its mind-boggled passengers on a tiny speck called Earth, but you will get acquainted with time travel, black holes, the human brain, and communication among whales.

This article gives only a smattering of what COSMOS will present.

You must see it:

26" (66cm) TELESCOPE NEWS: The new observatory walls are up, and heavy I-beam supports have been placed at each corner near the top. The second floor must now be installed, and preparatory work prior to pouring the first floor will start. Mirror grinding and work on the mount and mechanism is moving along. The project is very much alive:

The Fund has over 55000, but the appeal for honoring pledges has left something to be desired. Progress on the 26" 'scope is proportional to the size of the fund and the amount of helpers. Everything could be finished by 1982, the MAS golden anniversary year. Remember, a task begun is half done!

Pledgers, please remit what you can, when you can. To those who've contributed, well, maybe you can send a bit more with your

dues.

On a related note, Mr. Carl Newton, Founder and Director of the Southwest Washington (State) Astronomical Society has made a sizeable contribution to the Fund.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed. If you want to help in

construction, please call president Frank Roldan.

IGNORE THIS ITEM if you've paid your dues. If you haven't, please remit at your earliest convenience. Treas. James Toeller must have a list of paid up members to send to Sky & Telescope. Failure to pay in time might result in missed issues. Please send the tear-off at the end of this newsletter with your remittance to Jim soon!

NEW MEMBERS: Our excellent facilities, hospitality, and the fine job of work done by the Open House people must have been most

inspiring judging from the large number of new members!

New stars in the MAS galaxy include Anthony Baures, Waukesha; M/M Robert Bennett, Milwaukee; M/M Brian Cieslak, Muskego; William Hanson, Waukesha; M/M Gene Kelber, Joshua, Micah, & Tammy, Shorewood; Elizabeth Stanko, Brookfield; Scott Taylor, Port Washington; Victor Trapp, West Allis; William Tuerck, Jr., Brookfield; Brent Wilson, New Berlin; R. A. Winrich, Milwaukee.

THE TELESCOPE COMMITTEE will meet Sunday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. at 411 S. 61st St.

STAFF MEETING: All members are invited to come out to the Observatory Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. You may bring a guest. Here's a good time and place to ask questions or exchange ideas. New members should attend to get acquainted with observatory equipment and facilities.

BOARD MEETING: The time and location for the September Board of Directors meeting will be announced.

METEOR SHOWERS:

SHOWER MAXIMUM PEAK RATE/HR COMET SOURCE

Draconids Thu., Oct. 9 10 Giacobini-Zinner Best viewing between midnight and dawn. Peak may occur a day or two before or after maximum date.

MEMBER'S NIGHT KEYHOLDERS:

Sep. 13	T.Renner	1-392-2799	Oct. 4	V. Tangney	327-7976
	G.Samolyk	258-5626	11	R.Zit	342-4037
27	T.Schmidtkunz	774-9590	18	J. Asztalos	258-5626

Only members and parents of young members working on worthwhile projects may attend on the above nights. Call the keyholder the Fri. before his night - cancel Sat. if necessary. Keyholder should report anyway. He will also oversee tours during the week ending with his assigned night. Mr. J. Toeller (352-7144) will act on requests.

- FULL HARVEST MOON WED., SEPT. 24 -

LeRoy Simandl, Editor (933-3052) 4201 W. Highland Blvd., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Please mark this tear-off and include it with your remittance made payable to Mr. James Toeller, 407 W. Mall Rd., Milw., Wis. 53217 (352-7144). General Membership @ \$20.00 Family Membership @ \$20.00 plus \$1.00 for each additional family member. Non-Resident @ \$15.00 Junior Member (under 16) @ \$12.50 Founder Member @ \$7.50 Donation to 26" (66cm) Telescope Fund.
NAME
ADDRESS, ZIP, & PHONE

Thank you for supporting the Milwaukee Astronomical Society.