



the DOUBLE DOME



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Anyone reading Sky & Telescope regularly soon becomes aware of the fact that the science of astronomy is a vibrant, fast moving field of study. Each issue brings to light new discoveries, new ideas, and new methods of studying the skies. Along with these new methods of observation, new instruments are constantly being designed and developed to aid astronomers in their search through space. New observatories are going into operation all over the world as evidenced by the Cerro-Tololo observatory in Chile, and the Milwaukee Astronomical Society's current construction of the largest amateur telescope in the State of Wisconsin-the Thurner 20" reflector. To supply the needs of the astronomer, optical and instrument manufacturers have arisen to the challenge in all areas of the country and the Milwaukee area is no exception. Mr. James Stienke, Chief Design Engineer-Astronomical Instrumentation representing Optics for Industry will be on hand for our February meeting. Mr. Stienke's topic will be "Activities in a Professional Optical Shop" and will be concerned with details of some of the new telescopes Optics for Industry has worked on with special emphasis on spectrographs. Members and guests may hear Mr. Stienke by attending the business meeting Friday, February 16, at 8:00 P.M. in our regular place-Room 137 in the U.W.M. Physics and Eng. Bldg. at the corner of E. Kenwood Blvd. and N. Cramer Ave.

The February Board Meeting will be held Feb. 23 at 7:30 P.M. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Zinn. Wives are also invited to attend.

We are pleased to add the following new members to our roster-Mrs. Norma Cofta, Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Soliwoda, Thomas F. Sheahan III, Joseph A. Obenberger and son Joe, and Mr. Ray Brouillete. Welcome!

Mr. Ben Macek, a member since 1954, passed away last month. Ben was a carpenter and often helped out at the observatory and was usually present to assist at our open houses. Those present at the January meeting rose and paid their respects with a moment of silence. Messrs. Klamm, Uporsky, McLaughlin and their wives attended his funeral in Racine to represent the entire Society.

Key holders in charge of the JOMAS Observatory Activity on Saturday nights for the coming month are Don Ramthun - Feb. 10, Ronald Dentinger - Feb. 17, Norman Duecker - Feb. 24, Richard Fink - Mar. 2, Alvin Gillard - Mar. 9. JOMAS members to contact about the observing program or weather are Tim O'Dell (786-6929) or Thomas Schwartz (781-5625).

The training program for the observation of the minor planet Icarus will continue Sundays at 2:00 P.M. on Feb. 11, 25, March 10, & 24 at Ed. Halbach's home, 2971 South 52 Street. The scope of this program was detailed in the Jan. 1968 Double Dome.

Ray Brouillete

Double Dome Editor