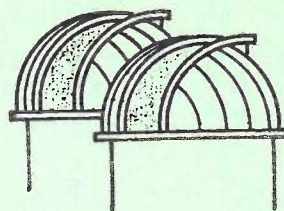


DOUBLE DOME



Issued by the

MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

- : DECEMBER - 1982 : -

DECEMBER PROGRAM-MEETING: Members and guests present will be treated to presentations by several Milwaukee Astronomical Society members. There are many talented people in your Society and you'll be made aware of some of it Friday, December 10, 1982 8 p.m. sharp, at the UWM Physics Bldg., corner of Kenwood & Cramer.

Note that the meeting will be held one week earlier than usual.

CALENDAR:

- Fri., Dec. 10 - December Program-Meeting. See article.
- Fri., Dec. 17 - Board of Directors meeting. Location will be announced. All board members are urged to attend.
- Sat., Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas!
- Thur., Dec. 30 - Total lunar eclipse. See article.
- Sat., Jan. 1 - Happy New Year!
- Fri., Jan. 21 - January Program-Meeting.
- First Weds. - Cancelled until further notice.
- Sat. Nights - Members nights. See article.

WHAT IS ALCON '84? It is the National Astronomical League Convention that the MAS has offered to host in Milwaukee in 1984.

The league is composed of 155 societies with some 8000 members. It meets annually for 3-4 days, usually during June or July. The last time the MAS was a host was in 1965.

MAS program chairman Dan Koehler volunteered to be chairman if he can get enough help. Five or ten more people should suffice.

Dan will show pictures at the December meeting and give us the fine details.

LAST CALL FOR DUES: Members who have not paid dues might not receive their Sky & Telescope on time. Unless you remit soon, Treas. Jim Toeller must remove your name as an MAS member.

An MAS membership is still a bargain considering all of the benefits. Fill in the handy dues form on page 3 now.

Incidentally, ignore the Sky & Telescope notices you may have received if you've paid your dues.

NEW MEMBERS: The Milwaukee Astronomical Society is pleased to add William Chapin, William Fitts, and Maureen Haggens, all of Milwaukee, to its membership list. They will be introduced at the December meeting.

MUGS AND MEMBERSHIPS make good Christmas presents. MAS coffee mugs sell for \$5.00 each and are available from Frank Roldan. See the dues tearoff for membership prices.

1983 CANADIAN HANDBOOKS should be ordered now from Treas. Jim Toeller. The handy book is full of astronomical reference information and would be a useful part of your observing equipment.

ANNUAL DINNER-MEETING: In years past, the annual dinner-meeting took place in January. Owing to the cold and frequent bad weather which is normal during January, the board and dinner committee decided to move the dinner-meeting to a nicer time of the year as was done in September.

Members present at the November meeting chose October for future annual dinner-meetings.

CELESTIAL EVENT NEARS: Hardy early risers on the morning of Thursday, Dec. 30 will see the second total lunar eclipse of the year, weather permitting. For observers in our area, this will be the last one until Aug. 16, 1989!

The moon will enter penumbra at 2:52 a.m., totality will begin at 4:58 a.m., and the middle will occur at 5:29 a.m. Page 574 of the December Sky & Telescope gives complete details. Page 618 gives tips on timing passage of craters through the umbra.

YOU CAN STAR GAZE INDOORS and in comfort at UWMilwaukee's Manfred Olson Planetarium at Kenwood and Cramer, the same building where the MAS has its meetings. Lecture/demonstrations in astronomy are offered to classes or groups Monday through Friday during the day and evening. The shows last about one hour. The group fee is \$20 per group of up to 65 people.

For the Christmas season, special evening programs on the "Star of Bethlehem" will be shown on Friday evenings from Nov. 26 through Dec. 17 at 7, 8:10, and 9:20 p.m., \$1.00 for adults, \$.50 for children under 12.

For reservations or more information, call Mr. John Harmon at 963-4961.

METEOR SHOWERS

NIGHT OF MAXIMUM

PEAK RATE/HR

Geminids

Mon., Dec. 13

55

Quadrantids

Tue., Jan. 4

100

Best viewing between midnight and dawn. Peak rate may occur a day or two before or after maximum. Full moon December 30.

OBSERVATORY NEWS: The optics for the 26" telescope are nearly finished. The mirror is in Arizona and should be here by Christmas. Machining of large and small parts is continuing.

But a gray cloud is hovering over the project. 26" Telescope chairman Bill Tuerck is somewhat dismayed and concerned over a growing lack of interest in the project. We cannot expect a project of this magnitude to be done by a handful of devoted people. True, not all of us are craftsmen. Some don't care. Others are helping by being financially generous. But all of us will be poppin' buttons with pride when we push buttons and electronically aim that big beauty at distant objects never before seen from the observatory.

Let's re-evaluate our time, treasure, and talent. Call Bill Tuerck at 782-2844 and ask him what he wants done. Many tasks require only a little perseverance and perspiration.

And please check with Gerry Samolyk about what else needs to be done at the observatory.

SEASON'S GREETINGS from the MAS officers and directors to MAS members and their families.

The Society has accomplished a lot this year. High spots include the hosting of the 36th Annual NCRAL convention, celebration of the MAS golden anniversary, and the giant leap forward towards completion of the 26" telescope. A lot of members (and non-members) did much to bring all of this about.

Let's make the most of the coming festive season and hope that things turn around at this time for the better.

MEMBER'S NIGHT KEYHOLDERS:

Dec. 4	P. Murn	464-1539	Jan. 1	V. Tangney	327-7976
11	J. Pfannerstill	548-9287	8	H. Auchter	542-2158
18	F. Roldan	344-2354	15	J. Asztalos	258-5626
25	T. Schmidtkunz	276-9675	22	P. Borchartd	445-1181

Saturday night is member's night at the observatory. All members are invited to come out to observe, learn how to use the equipment available, or just chat. 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 COLD MOON THUR., DEC. 30 (SEE ECLIPSE NOTE)

JANUARY DOUBLE-DOME DEADLINE: Friday, January 7. Please notify the editor of items to be included in the January issue by this date.

DIRECTORY:

- President - Francisco Roldan - 344-2354
- Vice President - Eileen Korenic - 541-3999
- Program Chairman - Daniel Koehler - 544-1178
- MAS Secretary, 26" Telescope Chairman - William Tuerck - 782-2844
- Treasurer - James Toeller - 352-7144
- Observatory Director - Gerry Samolyk - 258-5626
- Asst. Obs. Director - John Asztalos - 258-5626
- Double-Dome Editor - LeRoy Simandl - 933-3052
- MAS Observatory - 18850 W. Observatory Rd., New Berlin - 542-9071

\$

DUES REMITTANCE

December, 1982

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" (0.6m) Telescope Completion Fund (tax deductible)

Name _____
Address, zip, & phone _____

Thank you for supporting the Milwaukee Astronomical Society.

CARE AND CLEANING OF FIRST SURFACE ALUMINIZED OPTICS

by Robert Maleninsky from the Newsletter of the Lackawanna Society.
(From the Lehigh Valley Club Observer)

Necessary Materials: 1 lb. Surgical or Engravers Cotton and 1 pt. of
Isopropyl Alcohol and Liquid Dishwashing Soap.

A variety of methods have been suggested over the years for the proper cleaning of telescope mirrors without damage to the reflective coating. The following method, supplied by Coulter Optics of Calif. has proven to be gentle enough to clean even soft classical silver deposited mirrors.

1. Place mirror face up on a towel in a sink and direct a spray of cool water on its surface to remove dust and light particles of dirt.
2. Dip a wad of cotton in a mild soap solution (1/2 tsp. soap in 1 pt. water).
3. Gently swab entire surface with soap solution then direct water over mirror to rinse thoroughly. Note: Keep complete surface of mirror wet at all times. Failure to do this will result in water spots.
4. When thoroughly rinsed, dip another wad of cotton in alcohol and turn water off, as you place wad of cotton on the mirror's surface.
5. Swab entire surface of mirror. Do not turn wad of cotton over or skin's oils and acids will deposit on mirror's surface.
6. Immediately wipe gently with a dry ball of cotton. Keep changing cotton wads until surface is totally dry.