

## THE DOUBLE DOME

Issued by the

MILWAUKEE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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Most people today take electric power and its generation completely for granted. How many of us, for example, have stopped to look at an electric clock and wonder how it keeps such accurate time? What, we may ask, are the factors that control the accuracy of these time pieces.

As astronomers we all know that storms on the sun directly affect the earth by causing aurora and drastically interfering with many radio and television signals. These storms also cause great electrical currents to be set up in the earth which, if ignored, can play havoc with electric power distribution.

Now that our sun is approaching a peak in the sunspot cycle these magnetic storms will be gaining in magnitude, along with the problems that these storms cause.

For our February meeting the M.A.S. President, Mr. Harvey Lindemann, will present an illustrated program called "Electric time and Magnetic Storms" dealing with the generation of electricity and some of the more interesting problems concerned with its distribution. Plan to hear this interesting talk at our usual meeting place, Room 137 in the UWM Physics & Eng. Bldg. at the corner of Kenwood Blvd. and N. Cramer Ave. - 8 PM, Friday, February 21.

Thanks to Bill Albrecht and Pres. Harvey Lindemann, the January dinner-meeting was enjoyable and well attended despite miserable weather conditions. The delicious dinner was followed by a short meeting after which Phil Glaser held the audience captive with his inspiring talk on the exciting future for the amateur observer, basing his remarks on the recent Apollo 8 Flight and the "2001-A Space Odyssey" movie. The high point of the evening was the presentation of a Founder-Member Award to Walter Zinn whose unselfishness has done much to promote our organization to a second-to-none amateur astronomical society.

The interior decorating program at the observatory is progressing but would soon be completed with some extra help. Virgil Tangney and his family have done most of the hard work - let's finish the job. The project will continue the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 2-5 PM, so call Virgil at 281-6533 if you can help.

OVER PLEASE

Canadian handbooks are being reserved for Messrs. Boettcher, Brichta, Duecker, Moertl, Osburn, Ramthun, Schaefer, and Zanow. Books not claimed will be sold to whoever wants them for \$1.10. The books and a supply of free Julian Day Calendars will be available at the February meeting.

The Board of Directors will meet Friday, February 28, 7:30 PM at the home of Mr. Al Brœuillette. Wives are invited.

Keyholders in charge of the JOMAS Sat. night meetings are C. Simons, Feb. 15; V. Tangney, Feb. 22; R. Thomas, Mar. 1; R. Zit, Mar. 8; W. Albrecht, Mar. 15; R. Brichta, Mar. 22. JOMAS members are to contact leaders John Asztalos (547-3400) or Dave Street (774-8957) for program or weather information. Keyholder is to be contacted by the JOMAS leaders BEFORE 4 PM on the observing night.

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