

B.A.A. CLUB BULLETIN

Vol. V - No. 10

**

June 1957

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Editor- I. Reinagel

INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR BEGINS JULY 1st. 1957 ; (see page 2)

CONSTELLATION STUDIES

by Kay Gros

8 of our brightest stars are out:

- (6) Vega in Lyra- halfway up in East;
- (4) Arcturus near Zenith in South;
- (8) Alcair (All-tair) in Aquila (Ak-wi-lah) the Eagle rising in East;
- (1) Pollux setting in Northwest;
- (3) Spica in Virgo- West of South;
- (5) Antares (An-ta-reez) in Scorpio rising in Southeast;
- (7) Deneb (Den-ehb) in Cygnus (Sig-nus) the Swan;
- (2) Regulus in Leo- setting in West.

This is a good time for observing Hercules (Hur-kyou-leez). His key-shaped body is halfway between Vega and Gemma (Gem-mah) in Corona Borealis (Co-ro-na Bor-i-eh-lis) the Northern Crown. Look for the globular cluster: M.13.

NEW MEMBERS

Last month's meeting brought: Mrs. L.K. Moore of 12 Rowland Ave., Buff. 25, N.Y. BA 6312 into the club.

To all non-members on our mailing lists, we of the club cordially invite you to participate in the summer's activities and projects. You are also invited to join the club once the new club year begins, next Fall.

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NOTICE

In order to more easily facilitate the editing of this paper, we could use more news of individual projects or important observations.

NAME CONTEST

The Astronomical League is conducting a contest to rename the Astronomical League Bulletin. Next month's League bulletin will announce the prize for the contest; so pick up your copy by coming to the star party of July 6. For those unable to get a copy, All results of the contest will be printed in this paper.

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Our khakai bound friend (Gerry Rote) is still keeping in touch with us by mail. Although his type of work does not permit freedom in correspondence, he may be contacted by writing all letters c/o this paper. They will be forwarded to him at his location.

NO MEETINGS DURING JUNE

But beginning July, we go into full swing. As July 1st. marks the start of the International Geophysical Year and as the club is fully participating in all phases demanding observations:

- 1) Moonwatch Committee
- 2) Aurora Committee
- 3) Meteor Committee

we will put all our time and efforts into making this I.G.Y. the most successful united effort to disclose the mysteries of the heavens.

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FIRST SUMMER STAR PARTY JULY 6

We plan to start our I.G.Y. program by holding a star party in the early part of July.

As of yet, we are not sure of the time and location. Ellicott Creek Park on July 6 was suggested so far. If no objections are raised to this paper, the date will be set as such. If a better location or time is chosen, all listed personal will be notified by mail.

As this gathering marks our most important stride toward organized effort in I.G.Y., all interested personal are asked to attend. The program includes a picnic in late afternoon followed by discussion and observation period.

II

OUR SPECIAL I.G.Y. BULLETIN FOR THE YEAR 1957-58- COMPLETE REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

I.G.Y. METEOR	I.G.Y. AURORAL	I.G.Y. MOONWATCH
<p>During the 20 months I.G.Y., visual observations of meteors will of tremendous aid to later radar findings. Although this program highly organized and carried out with great exactness and detail, it is not as demanding nor as rigorous on the observer as the Moonwatch program, which you are already familiar.</p> <p>The only optical equipment used is a pair of good eyes. All report forms are supplied. The only conveniences needed are one or preferably two stop clocks and a comfortable chair. There are three objectives to be attained in this program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">) Accurate meteor magnitudes reported;) Accurate weather conditions reported;) Exactness in time element during observing. <p>Since many observers do better than one, we will organize and so able to use a central station of relatively easy accessibility by Buffalo and surrounding area members. As of yet no definite address can be given but will be somewhere in the Ellicott Creek area.) As some cannot possibly be at this location, they can so obtain personal instructions and report forms from the following address-</p>	<p>This will be directed in much the same way that the I.G.Y. Meteor program is being carried out. We will be equipped by July, with enough filters, report forms and angle protractors for a team of five persons.</p> <p>As we will most likely be observing meteors on every clear night at the afore mentioned location, we can keep an eye open to the North for signs of aurora, using special filters to test their authenticity. At the instant of a sign of display we will cease watching meteors or, if we have enough observers, assign a couple to report the display. Again if the display is of long duration or low intensity, an additional observer can be positioned facing North to report changes or bursts of activity. Thus we will have accurate reports for both committees without sacrificing one for the other.</p> <p>If between now and July, any observer spots a display, immediately call this paper at DE 3455 and/OR take as accurate a description as possible including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) magnitude; 2) color; 3) type(see S&T-May '57) 4) angular height; 5) duration. <p style="text-align: right;">C. W. Gartlein Auroral Data Center (IGY) Rockefeller Hall Ithaca, New York</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I.G.Y. MOONWATCH</p> <p>Our endeavors in this field of I.G.Y. have been going on for about a year, now. Although we are still hard pressed for finances, the time we have to construct and man a station have been lengthened to a considerable degree by the delaying of the launching of "MOUSE" by the rocket: Vanguard.</p> <p>The location has been changed recently to: Clarence School East Academy St. Clarence, N.Y.</p> <p>This site has been generously donated to us by the Civil Defense: Ground Observer's Corp. in Clarence. We must stress the point that only RECOGNIZED members of Moonwatch may be allowed on this site.</p> <p>As concerns construction of the station: all optics have been received and paid for, The mountings have been designed with an eye to simplicity, ruggedness, ease in construction and lowness in cost. As we will use an already constructed East-West horizontal bar, no masts will have to be sunk. Materials are presently being gathered and bugs being worked out. This makes it very probable that the station will be completed by mid July.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>May 1957-Correction: The address of Kay Gros is on <u>Brockfield Rd.</u>, and not Oakfield.</p> </div>