

BAA CLUB BULLETIN

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**

March 1958

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Editor- L. Reinagel

MARCH PROMISES TO BE A RECORD MONTH FOR AURORA PHENOMENON CONDITIONS

THIS MONTH'S BUFFALO

A.A. MEETING

Will be at the standard place of congregation. The business portion of the meeting will begin promptly at 8:00 p.m. After the conclusion of matters, the program will be presented. This month brings Dr. Seville Chapman to the rostrum. As Dr. Chapman encounters many fields of work and research in his position at Cornell Laboratories, there are quite a few topics which he can present. The greater part of his work at Cornell however is spent in rocket research. It can be assured that no matter what Dr. Chapman has prepared, it will be of interest and wealth to those who hear.

That's Wednesday, March 5 at the Museum of Science.

ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

It has been a year that the BAA CLUB BULLETIN has been presented to the amateur astronomers in the Buffalo area. That year has seen growth and advancement in the field of enrichment for our observers. A bulletin such as this, has proved invaluable to the advocate of astronomy who is in a position of not being able to attend the meetings. During the year to come, it will continue to bring articles for enrichment.

OPEN HOUSE AT MUSEUM FOR GIRL SCOUTS POSTPONED

This right was originally scheduled for March 4. It has been changed to March 11. Tours will be conducted from early evening hours to about ten. For those who cannot eat and still attend without inconvenience, hot food will be served in Dr. Cummings laboratory on the second floor.

Exhibits will include: Tour of observatory, Demonstration in Planetarium, and A material discussion of optical principles and applications in the Hall of Physics.

About ten people will be needed to handle the exhibits and demonstrations.

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS

The following names can be added to the already existing list of members:

35) Chapman, Dr. Seville
2343 Kensington Ave.
Buffalo 21, N.Y.
CI 1999

36) Hirsch, Wiklard
9 Linwood Ave.
Blasdell 19, NY
FA 1897

The midyear listing will be mailed with the bulletin in June.

WEATHER CONDITIONS IN BUFFALO PREDICTED TO BE A LITTLE BETTER THAN IN FEBRUARY

The number and intensity of aurora is thought to be directly dependent upon two factors. One is the relative position of the earth in respect to the equatorial plane of the sun. During the Spring and Fall months, (see illustration on next page) the Earth faces areas of activity on the sun producing more activity.

The second factor is probably even more significant in determining of activity. This is the sunspot cycle. During 1958, the sun will have a peak activity period meaning not only more visible sunspots but more flares which are thought to make the shifting, glowing patterns when the streams of electrons from these flares hit the rarefied atmosphere above the Earth.

During I.G.Y. it is the effort of thousands of observers across the nation to try to observe and record these outbursts. In Buffalo the observational program has been lacking. During March make it a point to get out and observe as many of these auroras as possible. Material can be picked up at the March meeting.

According to weather predictions Buffalo should get a **WARMER**, dryer period.

During the 22nd. of this month there will be an occultation of Mercury by the sun. Mercury being close to