

BAA CLUB BULLETIN

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Editor- I. Reinagel

SOUTHERN SUNRISE JOURNAL REVEALS AN ARCADE OF THE FOUR MAJOR PLANETS

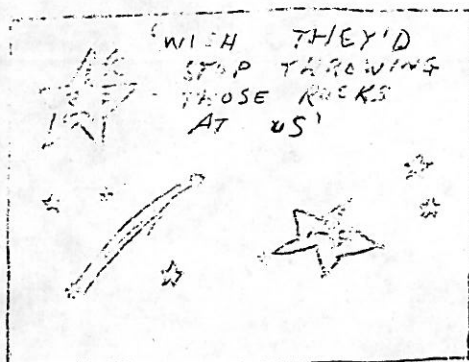
MEMBERSHIP LISTINGS

It is with pleasure that I replace Mr. Robert Schregelman on the club roster. For the past six months Bob has been under medical surveillance and only recently has recovered sufficiently to take up activities. His listing for 1958 is:

77) Schregelman, Robert
40 Cicott Ave.
Eflc. 20, N.H.
TA 4367

His name, along with numbers (31) - (36) will be listed and sent with the June Bulletin.

The following cartoon is for the sake of those reading the Buffalo Evening News comic skit PLANETS



APRIL PLANET NOTES

Those present at the March meeting will remember that the editor agreed to present a talk concerning the present mental debate about the universe and the measurement of it with respect to the speed of galactic motion. After reading several books on the subject I can only conclude that not only is the subject highly controversial but the exact position of each side is equally strong resulting in confusion if one tries to support either side.

If you were coming to the meeting to hear this talk however don't go away disgruntled. Instead of the talk an excellent film will be shown. From Bell Telephone Company we have obtained the movie entitled "The Strange Case of Cosmic Rays". This film offers a new and refreshing outlook on this matter and whether you are a cosmologist or a neophyte in this field, I think you will thoroughly enjoy this program.

If you, a comet observer, become discouraged at finding comets to study, there is one you can always rely on. Comet Encke makes its trip around the sun in almost exactly 7.5 years.

For those ambitious enough, the morning skies for the month of April unveil one of Nature's rarest arrangements of the planets.

The accompanying diagram shows this portion of the heavens visible just before sunrise.

By sweeping the telescope along the ecliptic from west to East, the first planet is Jupiter. Jupiter is at opposition and presents a rare spectacle for the observer. Its moons and cloud belts are easily seen in the smallest instrument.

During the month of April Saturn approaches its western quadrature placing it on the meridian at sunrise. Its satellite, Titan, is difficult to pick out from the background of the Milky Way's confusion.

At almost a halfway point between Saturn and the sun is Mars. At the present time Mars is insignificant and only the larger instruments can make its disc out during the preceding months it will become a spectacle approaching that of October of 1958.

And then in the first streams of dawn's light reveal the supreme embellishment of all the heavens. This brilliant planet, Venus is now easily in broad daylight with a small instrument seen. Under 200X the disc appears 38% illuminated.