

THE SPECTRUM

THE BUFFALO ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1962

New Officers Elected

At the September meeting of the Buffalo Astronomical Association officers were elected to replace members who have left the city. Ron Clippinger was moved up to the presidency to replace Herb Elson and Mrs. Carol Geiger was elected to fill the position of Vice President.

Mrs. Geiger was named chairman of the Program Committee. Serving with her are: Ron Clippinger, John Lawrence Thomas Felts, Mrs. Arthur Rabe, Paul Redding and Lou Reinagel. Mr. Ernst Both served in a consulting capacity.

Programs Planned for the Year

The program committee has had its meeting and planned a stimulating program for the entire year. They feel sure that you will be very pleased with it.

During the year you can expect to hear a memorable talk by our own internationally famous and highly respected astronomer, Ernst Both; a lively panel discussion on vital astronomical material, and some very interesting speeches. We will take a gay and worthwhile trip to the Nia-

gara Falls Planetarium, and perhaps a trip to the moon! There will also be many fine tid-bits, and astronomical news flashes. Sounds good, doesn't it?

Our next meeting will be on October 19th, the third Friday instead of the second, because October 12th is a holiday. At that time we will continue with our informative "constellation of the month" series, with Diane Hafner telling us about Taurus and the Pleiades. Mrs. Cook will read Bruce Cook's report on the book, "Stars in the Making" by Cecilia Payne-Gaposhkin which you will not want to miss. You'll enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones during the coffee break before we adjourn to the observatory to see some great sights in the heavens.

Come! Bring your friends. Help our B.A.A. grow bigger and better. We need YOU.

Something to think about

Several members of the B.A.A. would like to form an active Meteor Society. If you are interested, be at the next meeting and we will discuss it.

New magazine offered

The B.A.A. at present has the opportunity to obtain for the membership the magazine "THE REVIEW OF POPULAR ASTRONOMY" at a reduced rate. This magazine is written for the amateur only and does not attempt to be a professional trade journal, as does "SKY AND TELESCOPE". The usual subscription price is \$3.00 but if 14 or more members subscribe, we will get the reduced rate of \$2.00 a year. This magazine comes out six times a year and is well worth the price. If you wish to subscribe to this magazine, send your money to the treasurer, Miss Marjorie Meyer, 12 Manhardt St., Buffalo 15, before Nov. 1st. Or better, see her at the next meeting.

Advanced Study Group

The first meeting of the Advanced study group will be held at the Museum of Science on Saturday, Oct. 20th at 1:30 P.M. Since this group has been given the responsibility of preparing the main portion of each month's regular club meetings for most of the year, it is urged that all members attend all of the scheduled meetings.

If any member finds it difficult to attend the October meeting, call the group leader, Lou Reinagel, at TT4-8716 before Oct. 19th so that proper allowances can be made.

At this meeting a series of lectures will be assigned and plans for group support will be arranged.

Also, come and find out about IQSY in nations around the world.

Nuggets of Information Department

Best Altitude Conditions for Observing the Moon

For each phase of the moon there is a certain time in the year when altitude conditions are most favorable for observing. This is, of course, when the moon is highest in the sky. The moon's path usually coincides with the Ecliptic, or the path of the sun. Her altitude at the highest point, on the average, will be exactly the same as that of the sun at noon when it has a similar Right Ascension. For example, if the sun on Sept 14 has a RA of 18 hours and an altitude of 45 degrees, the moon, at some other date, when occupying the same RA will have the same altitude.

	3-4 days	1st quarter	full	last quarter	25-26 days
most favorable	end of April	Vernal Equinox	Winter Solstice	Autumnal Equinox	end of July
least favorable	end of October	Autumnal Equinox	Summer Solstice	Vernal Equinox	end of January

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