

# THE SPECTRUM

APRIL

BUFFALO ASTRONOMICAL ASSN

1963

## B.A.A. MEETING ADVANCED

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** The April meeting of the B.A.A. has been moved up to the first Friday, April 5th at 7:45 P.M. because otherwise it would conflict with Good Friday. Remember: April 5th.

## APRIL PROGRAM

We are privileged to have as our main speaker this month, Walter Semerau, whose subject will be "The Mechanical Construction of an Equatorial Telescope". He will describe for us a new telescope mounting, with several novel features, that he has just completed. We also will have a film of pictures he has taken of solar prominences.

The Rev. George Walker will present us with a highly interesting and timely talk on the coming solar eclipse of July 20, 1963, which will be visible from this area as a nearly total eclipse. The Rev. Walker has made a specialty of solar eclipses and his talks on this subject are always worthwhile.

Margaret Rabe will be in charge of our refreshments, and if the skies cooperate, members will be able to complete the evening by viewing interesting celestial objects with the Kellogg Observatory refractor.

## PLANS FOR MAY

The May meeting will be unusual and as such needs advanced billing. It will consist of a trip to the Niagara Falls N.Y. Planetarium. This new and well equipped Planetarium is a welcome addition to the astronomical activities of the Niagara Frontier. The many capabilities of the Spitz projector will be demonstrated at a special showing arranged for the B.A.A. members and their friends. Details about transportation

will be given to members attending the April meeting. If you can not attend the April meeting but would like to make the trip to the Falls on May 10th please call Edith Geiger at TF3-4138 or Ron Clippinger at NF4-4718.

## ELEMENTARY STUDY GROUP

The Elementary Study Group will resume meeting in April. The first and only April meeting of this group will be on Thursday the 25th at 8:00 P.M. at the Museum of Science. The group is now studying double and variable stars. New members are encouraged to join the Elementary Study Group, or if they prefer, the Advanced Study or Advanced Observing groups. For details please call Paul Redding at TF4-8219

## ADVANCED STUDY GROUP

The members of the Advanced Study Group have voted to change the meeting date from the third Saturday to the 4th Friday of each month at 8:45 P.M. It is hoped that the change in time and date will enable more members to participate in the activities of the group.

In addition to the continuing responsibility of providing talks for many of the Association's regular meetings, the group is considering work on a project which will be of benefit to the community. Several ideas are under consideration and a decision on this may be made at the next meeting. There will, however, be NO APRIL MEETING. The group will next convene on May 24th.

## ADVANCED OBSERVING GROUP

There will be no meeting of this group until after Easter. The group is developing a program of double star observing using the micrometer and double star library at the Kellogg Observatory.

The April Meeting  
will be held

#### ASTRO\*ERRORS

Caught in the act!

"These luminous formations were found using Schmidt telescopes..." from the Observatory, 77,251, 1957.  
(Looking at us, perhaps?)

The new sunspot cycle.

"Dr. D.G. King-hele used radar to track the falling satellites. He found "bumps" occurred at regular intervals. Luigi G. Vacchia, an American radar expert, also noted the "bumps". Both men found that they coincided exactly with sunspots - Periods of intense activity occurring every 28 days when the sun sends out strong radio signals..." from the Evening Standard, Mar.6, 1959  
(This represents a distinct advance in our knowledge of sunspots.)

#### TELESCOPE TIPS

Beginning with the May issue of the Spectrum a new series of articles will appear, to be called "Telescope Tips". The series will give valuable information concerning the problems that most amateurs have with small telescopes. The series will consider mainly the use of small refractors and reflectors rather than their construction. There is a considerable amount of material available to the amateur who wishes to make his own mirror, but relatively little information is available regarding the use or operation of telescopes. The series will also discuss the advantages and shortcomings of various types and makes of mountings and what to look for if you are considering purchasing either a new or a used telescope.

Mrs. Edward Cook  
33 Burbank Dr.  
Snyder 26, N.Y.

TV9-1396

