

BUFFALO ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION INC.
BUFFALO MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
HUMBOLDT PARKWAY
BUFFALO NEW YORK 14211

the Spectrum

Editor: Ernst E. Both

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1976

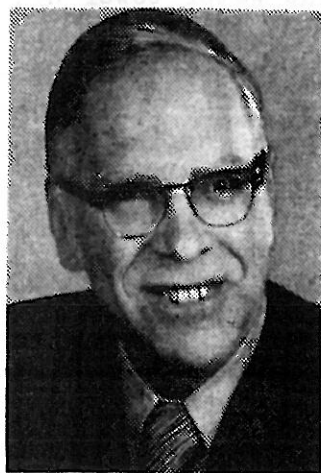
**** IMPORTANT NOTICE **** MEETING PLACE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER CHANGED - SEE PAGE 2.

NOVEMBER MEETING: Dr. Donald Botteron of the Syracuse Astronomical Society will be our guest speaker on Friday, November 12, 1976, at 8:00 p.m. (New Science Building auditorium, see page 2). As he points out, his topic, "Origins of Life," is subject to change at any time as results from Viking explorations on Mars are analyzed. All the more reason for us to look forward to hearing his timely talk.

DECEMBER MEETING: Our Christmas meeting, to be held on Friday, December 10th (same time, same place, see page 2) will feature a brief report on visual observations of Jupiter and Saturn by Joe Provato, followed by Mrs. Edith Geiger, who has been prevailed upon to give us one of her very enjoyable photographic profiles of our group. At 9:00 p.m. that evening, Dr. James Orgren of the State University College will present a demonstration of the College's planetarium. Rowland A. Rupp, Jr., Secretary.

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*** IN MEMORIAM: DR. SEVILLE CHAPMAN, 1913 - 1976.***



It is with deepest regret and personal sorrow that we record the death of Dr. Seville Chapman, one of the BAA's most distinguished and influential members.

Dr. Chapman was born an American citizen in Seville, Spain, the son of a Spanish-American historian. After graduating from Berkeley, California, High School in 1929, he earned his B.A. and Ph.D. degrees in physics at the University of California at Berkeley. In 1948 he joined Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory (now Calspan) where he held various positions ranging from assistant department head to member of the board and chief scientist. During the 12 years he was associated with the laboratory, he was responsible for about 2,000 research and development projects totaling more than \$ 100 million.

In 1971 when the New York State Assembly created the Assembly Scientific Staff, Dr. Chapman was appointed director of what was the first full-time legislative scientific advisory staff in the U.S. This appointment allowed Dr. Chapman to also serve as Senior Research Associate of the Atmospheric Sciences Research Center as well as Adjunct Professor of the State University of N.Y. at Albany.

Dr. Chapman served in various other advisory capacities and on several boards, including that of the Buffalo Museum of Science and that of the Child and Family Services of Buffalo. As a member of the BAA for many years he was unfailing in his support of our Association, presenting a number of highly interesting lectures, usually dealing with difficult topics. He had the very rare ability to bring these topics to life and make them easily comprehensible. Dr. Chapman was instrumental in the creation of the BAA's former Newstead Observatory on the grounds of the Radiophysics Laboratory of Calspan.

We will always have a special place in our memories for Sev Chapman, for his commitment to excellence, his kindness, his willingness to help (continued on p. 3)

****IMPORTANT NOTICE** MEETING PLACE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.**

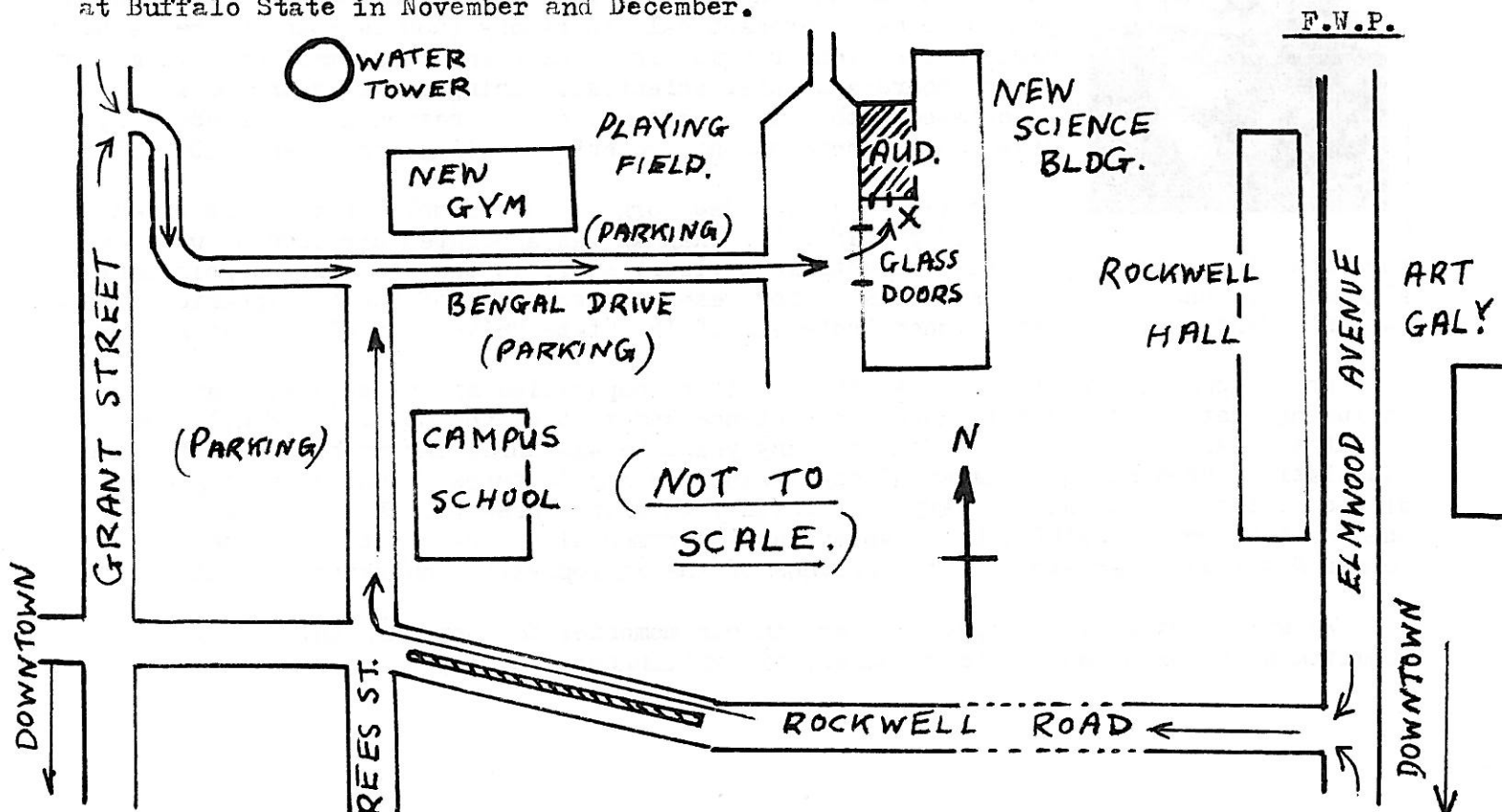
As you know, interior decorating is in progress in the Museum of Science and there is a possibility - hopefully remote - that operating funds for the Museum may not be available after December. The B.A.A. Board of Directors therefore discussed having general membership meetings temporarily elsewhere. One of the places that were suggested was the campus of Buffalo State College. Enquiries were made and we have been given permission to meet in the New Science Building auditorium. At its meeting immediately before the general meeting on Friday October 8th, the Board unanimously voted in favor of a motion that the November and December general meetings be held in the New Science Building auditorium (room NS 213) on the State University College campus. After December, the situation will be reviewed by the Board. When this decision was announced to the general membership at the October 8th meeting, no objections were raised.

The Science Building is easy to find and there will be no need to get lost if the appended sketch map is carefully followed. If you come in from Grant Street this is the easier route to follow. You simply turn in to Bengal Drive which bends twice and then runs along the south side of the New Gym; the Science Building will be facing you. Park your car and walk the few yards to the double glass door of the Science Building and turn left into the auditorium (room 213) immediately upon entering (see map, X marks the spot).

If you come in from Elmwood Avenue, drive the length of Rockwell Road, turning right at the end into the continuation of Rees Street and right again into Bengal Drive and so to the Science Building. This is the long way round but is simplest if you are not familiar with campus. Do not attempt a short cut by turning right off Rockwell Road prematurely or you will get lost in a maze of buildings. The water tower near the New Gym is a useful land mark.

We respectfully ask members to set out earlier than usual for the November meeting, especially if you are unfamiliar with campus, and that you follow these directions rather than try to find your own way. This will minimise disturbance of the business part of the meeting by entry of latecomers who "got lost".

We are indeed fortunate to have found an alternative meeting place so soon. See you at Buffalo State in November and December.



DR. CHAPMAN (continued from p. 1), his willingness to share his vast knowledge, to teach, and to serve.

We express our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Chapman, to their sons Dr. Clark Chapman and Ralph Chapman, and to their daughter, Mrs. Diane Will. E.E.B.

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FREE FILM FOR BAA MEMBERS, by T. L. Dessert

Through the generosity of one of our most distinguished and respected members, Walter Semerau, I am able to make available to the members of the BAA a variety of astronomical films free of charge. It is my hope that this offer will further increase the efforts of those members interested in and practicing astro-photography. For those who do not have access to darkroom facilities, I will be happy to develop black & white film and make 5 x 7 prints from acceptable negatives, at no cost to members. The paper and developers are supplied by the observatory at Beaver Meadow. Qualified members may also make arrangements with me for the use of my darkroom and club supplies, if they wish to process their own pictures.

A limited supply of the following spectroscopic films is available to members only: KODAK 1-D; 2-O; 4-J; 103-E; 103-O; 103-F; ILFORD HP-4. Distribution will be made under the following guidelines: 1. Members must be in good standing (current dues paid).

2. Each member may have two 35 exposure rolls of each type of film, as long as the supply lasts. Additional film requests may be honored when initial supply is exhausted.

3. A deposit of 35¢ per film cassette or a serviceable empty cassette must be exchanged for each full cassette received.

4. The film must be picked up at my home, S-1286 South Anne Dr., Marilla, N.Y., phone 652-5530;

5. The film is intended for our members' personal use and will not be distributed to other groups or organizations. I am confident that interested members of our organization will benefit greatly from Mr. Semerau's generosity.

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IMPORTANT CHANGES AT BEAVER MEADOW OBSERVATORY

A report by Observatory Director T. L. Dessert

Since Beaver Meadow Observatory became functional nearly one year ago, the 40 and 80-inch (focal length, that is) telescopes have been proven to be exceptional instruments for observation and photography. With the recent availability (see above) of free film, all the tools for the amateur have been provided. A 35 mm camera body with all necessary adapters and focusing devices is available. Bill Deazley recently completed an illuminated reticle eyepiece for the micro-magnifier built by Bob Mayer. These two devices give the user extremely high magnification which is necessary for certain kinds of photography. Another recent addition is a 35 mm, f/2.8 wide angle lens for the camera body. This will give our members the opportunity to do excellent Milky Way and constellation photography. If you prefer to use your own camera, you can use the camera platform built by Bob Mayer, a platform capable of handling all systems including 4 x 5's.

Projects for the coming year include updating the Kartyas 8-inch reflector to make it available to more members. In the planning stage and under construction is a completely automatic star tracker - again we have to thank Walter Semerau for building the beam splitter, which is the heart of the tracker. A gift of two 1P28 photo-multiplier tubes

has been received for use in a planned photometer. It is through the thoughtfulness of members and friends that we have a successfully working observatory at Beaver Meadow.

We are now entering one of the best times of the year for astro-photography. Winter, with its giant nebulas and spectacular presentation of the planets will produce a heavy attendance at the observatory. Public nights will continue each Saturday night (from dusk until midnight). However, if attendance is low, as may be the case during very cold weather, the facility can be used even on Saturdays by individual members and friends. Unfortunately demand for observing time is exceeding availability. Therefore, starting December 1, 1976, time will be allotted at the observatory as follows:

1. The order of access to the main telescope shall be determined by the order of arrival as listed in the observatory log upon arrival.
2. When more than one member is present, time at the telescope shall be limited to no more than one hour nor less than $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
3. When three or more members are present, time shall be divided as follows:

Members waiting: 1	Allotted time: 1 hour
2	45 minutes
3 or more	30 minutes
4. Unused time cannot be added to access time, either one's own or another one's.
5. After all members who have signed in have completed their time, a new list of access time will be made, or if no new members have arrived, the old list for that evening may be used again.
6. On nights other than Saturday, members are discouraged from requesting access time for their friends. They may not use access time for non-members, if BAA members are waiting.

If there are any questions concerning the operations at the Beaver Meadow Observatory, please contact the Observatory Director, Tom Dessert, at the monthly meeting or at 652-5530.

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"LOST ON THE MOON", contributed by Rowland A. Rupp, Jr.

The following problem was given last year in DESIGN NEWS, a trade journal, to illustrate a decision-making process called "Consensus Thinking." While it is not too clear to me just what "Consensus Thinking" involves, the problem itself may provide some thought and amusement for space-minded people. Apparently the author felt that the statement of the problem was sufficiently clear so that definite decisions would follow - a conclusion not reached by everyone who has read it. Try working it. You will find, I think, that quite a few important guesses must be made. Depending on the interpretation, the order of choices changes radically. A subsequent issue of DESIGN NEWS carried the "answers." So will the SPECTRUM.

PROBLEM: You are a member of a space team on a trip to the moon. You and your team have just crash landed on the moon's surface. Your spacecraft was ruined and everything on board was destroyed except the 15 items below. You are scheduled to rendezvous with the mother ship, which is 200 miles away on the lighted surface of the moon. Your survival depends upon reaching the mother ship. Rank the 15 items in order of importance to your successful and safe trip to the rendezvous location. Place number one (1) beside the item you consider most important, and so on through number 15, the least important item. A. Box of matches ____; B. Food concentrate ____; C. Fifty ft of nylon rope ____; D. Parachute silk ____; E. Solar-powered portable heater ____; F. Two .45 caliber pistols ____; G. One case, dehydrated milk ____; H. Two 100-lb tanks of oxygen ____; I. Star map (of Moon's Constellations) ____; J. Self-inflating life raft ____; K. Magnetic compass ____;

L. Five gal of water ____; M. Signal flares ____; N. First-aid kit with injection needles ____; O. Solar-powered FM receiver/transmitter ____.

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FOR SALE. FOR SALE. FOR SALE: ITEM 1: 2.5-inch Unitron equatorial refractor which sold for \$ 225 in 1966. In excellent condition, asking \$ 125 - call John P. Breese at 832-9193 (75 E. Depew Ave, Buffalo, NY 14214).

ITEM 2: 6-inch Criterion reflector, equatorial mount with clock drive, 4 eyepieces, camera adapter, like new, asking \$ 200 - call Paul Reeves, 885-5445.

ITEM 3: Two 6-inch, 1 1/4 inch thickness ULE Fused Silica Blanks, price to be arranged, call Charles Lum, 662-5352 (50 Provincetown Lane, Orchard Park, NY 14127). FOR SALE, FOR SALE, FOR SALE

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NEW ASTRONOMY HALL AT THE MUSEUM: The first newly finished hall of the Museum's vast renovation project opened on NOVEMBER 10 - entitled Hall of the Universe, it seeks to acquaint the visitor with the scale of the universe and its contents through a series of accurate scale models starting with the Earth-Moon system and ending with the Local Supercluster of Galaxies. Created by the Museum's Curator of Astronomy, the hall was designed by Dale B. Ransom, the Museum's Designer, and built by Guiltspur of Rochester. On display in the hall will be a Moon Rock from Apollo 11, collected by astronaut Edgar Mitchell. The rock weighs 115 grams, is a breccia estimated to be 3.9 billion years old. The rock is on display only at certain hours, until December 1.

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