

NCA members own telescopes and there are probably more: George Borresen, Paul Cico, Morgan Cilley, James Cracroft, James Crowell, Miles Davis, William Doster, Elizabeth Faze-kas, Jules Feldmans, Samuel Friedman, James Gant, Sol Genatt, William Gregory, Nelson Griggs, Alton Hall, John Hogg, Estelle Isherwood, William Isherwood, E. C. Johnson, Lyle Johnson, Ned Johnston, Dana K. Law, Philip Lichtman, U. S. Lyons, Henry Metz, Donald Miller, Clarence Peterson, Judith Rogers, Leo Scott, H. J. Walls, Irene Warthen, Francis Wells, Carl Werntz, Alexander White, Phillip Willis, G. R. Wright, Janet Wright.

MAN'S FUTILITY!

Beyond the stars
We see
Lie those
Illimitable spaces
Of the Infinite,
Beyond which
Man never has
And never will
Succeed - exploring!
Cold, relentless
Having the secrets
Of the Universe,
God holds them
In his hand!

Man's puny effort
To fathom
Beyond the last
Discernible
Flicker of light,
Which for
Thousands of years
Has been in flight,
Try as he may,
And then -
Come still more rays -
From farther out!

--NCA'er VERNON T. BRAUNS

COMMANDER SEIELSTAD, who is out in Cleveland these days, writes STAR DUST that NCA activities make interesting conversation with people he is meeting. He showed several STAR DUSTS to Mr. Lawson of Warner & Swasey who in turn passed them to Dr. Nassau to show him the kind of activities our club has. Dr. Nassau returned them with this note: "Mr. Lawson has called my attention to the enclosed which I looked over with great interest. You are doing a very fine job with your club and I like to take the opportunity to congratulate you. With best wishes, J.J.Nassau." Commander Seielstad sends his best wishes to everyone, and especially President Perkins.

Jewell Boling, Editor 1717 P St., N. W. (6) NO 7-9621

STAR DUST
National Capital Astronomers

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JUNE CALENDAR

- Date
- June 6 "VIEWING THE UNIVERSE," is the subject of "motion picture night", Commerce Auditorium, 8:15 p. m.
 - June 14 "EXPLORING THE SKY," joint program of NCA and National Capital Parks. Fort Reno Park, 40th & Chesapeake Streets, N.W., 9 to 11 p. m.
 - June 18 OBSERVATION OF THE MOON at the NCA Alvan Clark 5", Naval Observatory, 9:00 p. m.

Tuesday and Friday, 7-10 p. m. Telescope Making Class, Roosevelt High School, Room 319, 13th and Upshur Sts., N. W. Miss Irene Warthen, Instructor. Telephone LO 5-1237. Miss Warthen is present on Tuesdays.

"VIEWING THE UNIVERSE" will be a treat for everyone who comes. These are not three dimensional films but they are out of this world. Viewers will see the following, produced by the Encyclopaedia Britannica, with the collaboration of Dr. Walter Bartky of the University of Chicago. EARTH IN MOTION - This portrays the earth as an astronomical body, showing its relation to the sun and its motion. The viewer will have a simulated observation of the earth from the stratosphere, showing the earth and stars in motion. EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE - This film examines stars and clusters in our own galaxy, showing, through special cinematic technique, their movements in relation to each other and as part of a great galaxy. It will also relate the fascinating theory of the expanding universe. THE MOON - This film describes how the moon's gravitational pull causes the earth's tides and will clarify the reasons for phases of the moon. Animated drawings and moving

Models symbolize motions of the moon in its orbit around the earth, and movement with the earth around the sun. The sequence discloses principal facts concerning lunar and solar eclipses. SOLAR FAMILY - This film presents study of the planets, their evolution, motions, sizes, and satellites. It reveals special phenomena pertaining to certain planets and describes the planetoids, Halley's comet and the movement of the solar system in space.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS were elected at the May meeting:

Term: Sept. 1953 - August 1954

President	Grace C. Scholz
Vice-President	William L. Isherwood, Jr.
Secretary	Elizabeth Goerner
Treasurer	Elizabeth Fazekas
Trustee, 4-year term	H. J. Walls
Trustee, unexpired term to Sept. 1955	Dana K. Law

AUDITING COMMITTEE has been appointed as follows:
A. Soucy and Robert H. Dellar.

THE BENFER TELESCOPE has been on loan to various NCA members continuously since February. See Bob Wright if you want to use it for some period during the summer months.

EXPLORING THE SKY, our joint program with the National Capital Parks, will convene for its second session at Fort Reno Park, 40th & Chesapeake Streets, N.W., on Sunday evening, June 14, 9 to 11 p. m. Planets, constellations, double stars and nebulae will be the subjects of interest for the evening. Please come and bring your telescope. The clearer the evening, the more telescopes we will need, so please judge accordingly. Mr. Isherwood will be in charge. Slides will be shown if the weather is cloudy.

A FEW MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS are available for members who joined since the list was published in January. See Janet Wright for a copy.

CONVENTION ROUND UP - All NCA members who have registered for the convention will receive prior to our next meeting an envelope with maps and information. Of special importance is the RESERVATION BLANK. It will be necessary for you to return this blank if you wish to make any of the trips. Reservations will be accepted only from those who have paid a registration fee. The registration fee will be increased to \$1.50 beginning in June. The \$1.00 fee will be accepted from NCA members through our June 6 meeting. Send your registration fee to Mrs. Ione Alston, 20 Plattsburg Court, N. W., Washington 16, D. C., or see her at the next meeting.

We request that you use the chartered buses for the trips, since this method will assist in keeping the group together. We must know in advance by the return of the reservation blank if you wish to make the trip to Naval Research Laboratory and attend the buffet supper at Georgetown Observatory. If you wish to participate in any of the trips but do not wish transportation, please so indicate, as we must charter the buses in advance. Only those who make reservations in advance will be admitted to the Naval Research Laboratory. The three trips will be taken as follows: Friday evening, Naval Observatory; Saturday evening, Georgetown Observatory; Sunday morning, Naval Research Laboratory.

NEW MEMBERS

Marion & Ellis Marshall, 1004 Chestnut Avenue, Falls Church, Virginia JE 2-6696
Mrs. Marilyn B. Loria, 30 Plattsburg Court, N. W. (16) EM 3-4815
Mr. Paul S. Davis, 2100 Eye Street, N. W. (7) ME 8-1009

THE SUMMER MONTHS are normally months during which the NCA is inactive as a group. We hope during this summer to have one or two occasions for members to get together for observing parties and picnics. In the meantime, why not look up your closest neighbor who owns a telescope and arrange to do some observing together when the skies are clear. Telescope owners, even those who rarely disturb the mothballs, usually warm with pleasure when a friend says "Let's do some observing." According to our knowledge the following