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NEW MEMBERS

Ralph Funk, 3318 Manor Wood Drive, West Hyattsville,  
Maryland, UN 4-8164  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen E. Neville, 1549 N 17th Street,  
Arlington, Virginia JA 7-4130

- \*Saul Joseph Adelman, 4329 Fourth Street, S.E.,  
Washington 20, D. C. JO 3-5974
- \*Mihrañ Miranian, 4729 - 47th Street, N. W.  
Washington 16, D. C. EM 3-7363
- \*Jerry Galt, 8903 Kimes Street, Silver Spring, Md.  
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- \*William Doying, 4898 Chevy Chase Blvd., Chevy Chase  
15, Maryland OL 2-8938

\*Juniors

THE NOVEMBER issue of the MOHAWK ASTRONOMER gives extracts of a report made by several astronomers a few years ago on the correct pronunciation of stars. There are many differences between the correct pronunciations and some of the pronunciations quite commonly made. Below are some of the stars from the list:

Aldebaran	Al deb' a ran
Antares	An tay' res
Arcturus	Ark too' rus
Betelgeuse	Bet' el jews
Capella	Ka pell' a
Fomalhaut	Fo' mal o
Pollux	Poi' lucks
Procyon	Pro' si on
Regulus	Reg' u lus
Rigel	Ri' jel or Re' gal
Sirius	Ser' i our
Spica	Spike' er
Vega	Vee' ga

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Jewell Boling, Editor 1717 P Street, N.W. North 7-9621

STAR DUST  
National Capital Astronomers

December 1954

Vol. 12, No. 4

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MEMBERSHIP ROSTER ISSUE

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- Dec. 4. "SOME PROBLEMS OF AIR DEFENSE IN GUIDED  
(Sat.) MISSILES," Dr. Henry H. Porter of the Applied  
Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University.  
Commerce Auditorium, 8:15 P. M.
- Dec. 18 OBSERVATIONS IN THE WASHINGTON AREA, Mabel  
(Sat.) Sterns moderator of discussion group. Commerce  
Foyer, 8:00 P. M.

Each Saturday morning, Telescope making class with Irene Warthen at Chevy Chase Community Center, 5600 block of Connecticut Avenue, 9-12 A. M.

"MOVIES!" - The forerunners of the spaceships are the guided missiles on which our Government is spending about a billion dollars a year. Mr. Henry H. Porter of the Johns Hopkins Allied Physics Laboratory will describe how guided missiles can soar into the upper atmosphere, the frontier of the earth, to smash an air attack by an enemy. Dramatic motion pictures showing how the earth looks from a missile zooming straight up for many miles will be shown. Mr. Porter has headed the Guided Missile Project of the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory for several years.

---Benjamin Adelman

OBSERVATORIES IN THE WASHINGTON AREA with Mabel Sterns as moderator will present the history and present programs of some of the professional observatories in the Washington area, as well as the problems of building private observatories. Of particular interest will be:

Georgetown Observatory - Jeff McAnally  
 Naval Research Laboratory - Bradley Bennett  
 International Latitude Observatory - Robert Misner  
 Carnegie Institution at Derwood, Md. - Ellis Marshall  
 Private observatories of Dr. Gant, Bob Wright, Lyle Johnson

Some of the discussions will be illustrated. If you have pictures of other observatories, we'd like to see those, too.

OBSERVATIONAL DATA

Mercury is in superior conjunction on December 25 and is poorly placed for observation all month. Venus is a morning star visible in the south-east for about three hours before sunrise. Mars may be seen low in the south-west in Aquarius and sets a little over an hour before midnight. Jupiter is still in Gemini and rises about three hours after sunset. Saturn is a morning star in Libra and rises about three hours before the sun. The data of maximum intensity for the GEMINID meteor shower is December 12. This shower averages 30 meteors per hour.

LUNAR OCCULTATIONS FOR DECEMBER

Date	Star	Mag.	Age	Phase	E. S. T.
Nov. 30	BD - 16°5690	6.9	5.5	D	7:13.5 P.M.
Dec. 2	BD - 5°5790	7.3	7.5	D	8:58.4 P.M.
11	56 Gemi	5.2	16.6	R	9:34.6 P.M.
11-12	61 Gemi	5.9	16.7	R	12:08.0 A.M.
13	222 B. Cane	6.3	18.7	R	11:18.6 P.M.
15-16	p° Leon	6.2	20.9	R	5:41.9 A.M.
20-21	43 B. Lib f	6.1	26.0	R	6:12.4 A.M.
29	BD - 7°5727	7.4	4.7	D	8:19.9 P.M.
29-30	BD - 2°5858	6.4	5.6	D	6:31.8 A.M.

---A. L. White

OBSERVATION OF HALO - On November 4 at 7:30 A.M., I saw a 22 degree radius halo. When first noticed, there was only a short, apparently vertical, band of light visible. It was opposite the sun on the right and red colored on the inside. The sun's altitude was about 15 degrees and the cirrus clouds were scattered. The cloud area increased and within ten minutes the entire upper half of the circle was visible. Small portions of the band at the altitude of the sun were noticeably brighter than the rest. This increased brightness may be explained as follows: The hexagonal ice crystals which contribute light are tabular in habit and tend to float with their bases horizontal. When the sun is near the horizon, the light forming the sections of the band at the altitude of the sun comes from crystals with approximately this orientation. Since there are a larger number of crystals available which can refract light to an observer from these directions than those crystals which can send light from the rest of the band, these areas appear brighter.

---A. L. White

SPECIAL ELECTION - Bill Isherwood was elected to the trustee vacancy. He will serve as trustee through 1955. Betty Fazekas was elected for a three year term, ending in 1957, as NCA representative to the Regional Council of the Middle East Region of the Astronomical League.

BALTIMORE PLANETARIUM TRIP on November 18 was fogged out. Twenty-five persons showed up for the trip. It will be rescheduled a little later.

TELESCOPE FOR SALE. 6 inch Pyrex Newtonian, precision built. 1 1/2 meter focal length, 1/10 wave length, first class diagonal construction, aluminum tube, cradle and tripod, 3 eye-pieces, 30, 60, and 300. Only \$75.00 or trade-in arrangement for a 3" or 4 1/2". Owner is going abroad in a few months and needs a more portable instrument. Call Col. L. R. Bartlett, JA 7-6003.