

MD-DC JUNIORS

On Friday, April 21, it was announced that Rick Falwell had taken the grand prize and first in his division (astronomy) in the Maryland Science Fair held at Northwood High School. His topic was "The Surface Currents of Jupiter" and was remarkably similar in theme to the exhibit of Ed Lusby of the Virginia Juniors, who also captured honors. Through his analysis of over 300 drawings, a large number of which were drawn through the NCA 5" at the Naval Observatory, and which covered the past three years, Falwell postulated theories to explain the progressive wandering of bright markings that he found in the NEB of Jupiter. It is for analyses like this one that the summer World Nights are conducted, and in hope of such research that many man-hours are spent in the drawing of a planet. As I am writing this he is in Kansas City competing in the National Science Fair with other winners from all parts of the country. I will ask him to write this column for August and explain more fully his project. But for now hearty congratulations are in order. It is not every year that the NCA Juniors capture 2 from the top 6 science fair prizes in the area with such outstanding exhibits. (In addition, it will be remembered that a year ago Sam Friedman became a Westinghouse Finalist for his work on Saturn.) It is a record of which we all can be proud, and we thank the NCA for the leaders and equipment that they have made available to us.

---- Chris Walker
Junior Editor

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VIRGINIA JUNIORS

In an effort to introduce the stars to students in northern Virginia, the Virginia Juniors are giving a series of illustrated lecture-star parties. Edward Cragg spoke to an interested group at Dennis J. O'Connell High School on April 28. The star party to follow was clouded out. On May 19th, Barry Sperling gave a talk to a group of Fairfax High School students. Following the lecture, the audience was treated to a heavenly tour through the Juniors' scope.

Our new coordinator, Edward Lusby, won a 4th place and \$25 at the National Science Fair in Kansas City on May 17th. His project "The Atmosphere of Jupiter" had been named the best project in the Northern Virginia Science Fair earlier.

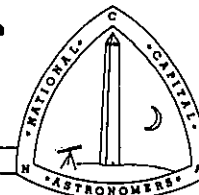
---- Barry Sperling

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June, 1961

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RADIO ASTRONOMY IN THE US AND THE USSR

Both the United States and the USSR astronomers are making important strides in the construction of huge radio telescopes of unusual design. Several of these telescopes will be described and an account will be given of some of the astronomical discoveries they have made possible.

Dr. Geoffrey Keller, Program Director for Astronomy at the National Science Foundation, was born in New York and received his BS degree from Swarthmore College in 1938. In 1948 he received his PhD in Astronomy from Columbia University. From 1941-1945 he was associate physicist in the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department. He has taught at Ohio State University and Ohio Wesleyan. During his years at Ohio State University he rose to the rank of Professor of Astronomy and for six years served as Director of Perkins Observatory. Since 1959 he has been the Program Director for Astronomy at the National Science Foundation. His work has included work on the internal constitution of stars and stellar scintillations.

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JUNE JAUNTS

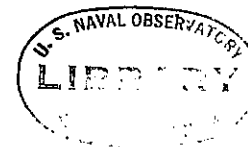
- 3 - RADIO ASTRONOMY IN THE US AND THE USSR by Dr. Geoffrey Keller. Followed by monthly meeting in Dept. of Commerce Auditorium, 8:15 PM.
9,23 - VIRGINIA JUNIORS MEETINGS at Westover Baptist Church, 1125 N. Patrick Henry Dr., Arl., Va. Rm. 234, 8 PM.
10 - TRIP TO GREEN BANK - See story inside
10,25 - EXPLORING THE SKY - 9:00 PM, Ft. Reno Park, 40th & Chesapeake Sts., NW.

TELESCOPE MAKING CLASSES

Mondays - Chevy Chase Comm. Bldg., 5601 Conn. Ave. with Hoy Walls
Wednesdays - Fairfax High School with Grady Whitney
Thursdays - Bladensburg Mat.Ctr., 4600 Varnum with Bill Isherwood

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no June meeting of the MD-DC Juniors.
There will be no June Discussion Group.



GREEN BANK - HERE WE COME !!!

For many years the NOA has been hoping to plan a trip to Green Bank, West Virginia to view our major radio telescope facilities. That dream is, at last, a reality and arrangements have been made for the week-end of June 10 and 11.

For those who wish to go as a group, we plan to leave from the Department of Commerce at 9:00 AM, June 10. Those who want rides will please contact Tove Neville at CO 5-5563. That day we will go to Davis, W. Va. where we will spend Saturday night at Blackwater Falls State Park in the Blackwater Lodge which is located 4 miles SW of Davis off of State Highway 32. It is an attractive stone resort lodge with a magnificent view and good dining facilities. It has 55 well furnished rooms, 25 cabins and fishing, riding, boating, swimming and tennis facilities. Room rates are approximately \$6.00 for a single or \$10 - \$11 for two. You may make reservations by writing or calling Blackwater Lodge, Blackwater Falls State Park, Davis, W. Va., ALpine 9-3021 or you may give your checks to Tove Neville by the June meeting and she will make the reservations.

The distance to Davis is about 150 miles and we plan to arrive in Romney, W. Va. about noon for lunch. You may wish to pause here for some sightseeing since there are several points of interest in the area: the Confederate Monument, the Indian Mound Cemetery and the Hanging Rocks which are perpendicular cliffs rising nearly 300' above the south branch of the Potomac. These are located 4 miles N of Romney on Route 28.

We will then continue on to Davis and the Blackwater Lodge which is another 40-50 miles. If we register about 3:00 PM we will have time to explore the State Park which covers 1,679 acres and includes the Blackwater Falls which are 63' high with a gorge 1000' deep. There is a stairway which descends to the foot of the Falls. The Canaan Mountain is located in Davis and is 3800' high and provides a delightful view.

We will eat dinner at the Lodge at 7:00 PM and start an observation session at 9 PM. There will be no moon and perfect visibility of Saturn, Jupiter and Mars if the weather cooperates.

To get to the Blackwater Lodge follow U.S. 50 straight thru to Red House, Maryland where you will turn south on Route 219, which will take you to Thomas. There you take State Road 32 to Davis.

The next morning we will go 80 miles to Green Bank. Plan to arise early because we are expected there at 10:30 AM. It would be a good idea to eat and check out in time to leave about 8 AM. To get there we will continue on Route 32 to Harmon, then turn East on U.S. 33 to mouth of Seneca. A point of interest there is the Seneca Rocks which are 900' high and resemble an old world cathedral. Continue on Route 33 to Judy Gap and there you take State Route 28 which goes to Green Bank. In order to avoid confusion please notice that 28 goes part of the way with Route 250.

At Green Bank we will visit the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. There we will stop at the Karl Jansky Laboratories where we will meet Dr. Waslo who will be our guide for the afternoon. We will see the 140' radio telescope which is about 40%

GREEN BANK (cont'd)

completed, the site for the new 300', the 85' which is in operation, a 120' Calibration Horn Antenna, and the 12' Parabola antenna. A film and a lecture are also being planned for us. This program will last about 3 hours, from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM. We shall try to make plans for eating together following the program. There are various ways of returning home which you should note on your maps. A suggested route would be Route 28 to Petersburg, Route 220 to Romney and Route 50 home.

This should be one of the most exciting of the NOA trips, so everybody should start making plans and be sure to come prepared with telescopes and all viewing equipment.

----- Tove Neville

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ELECTIONS

New officers for the forthcoming year were elected at the May meeting. They are:

President	Jim Krebs
Vice-President	R. Adm. A. I. Malstrom
Secretary	Ellen Stolarik
Treasurer	Duane A. Baugher
Trustee	Bob McCracken

We will introduce each of them to you in our next issue. In the meantime, thanks to the present officers for presenting a season of exceptionally interesting speakers.

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NEW MEMBERS

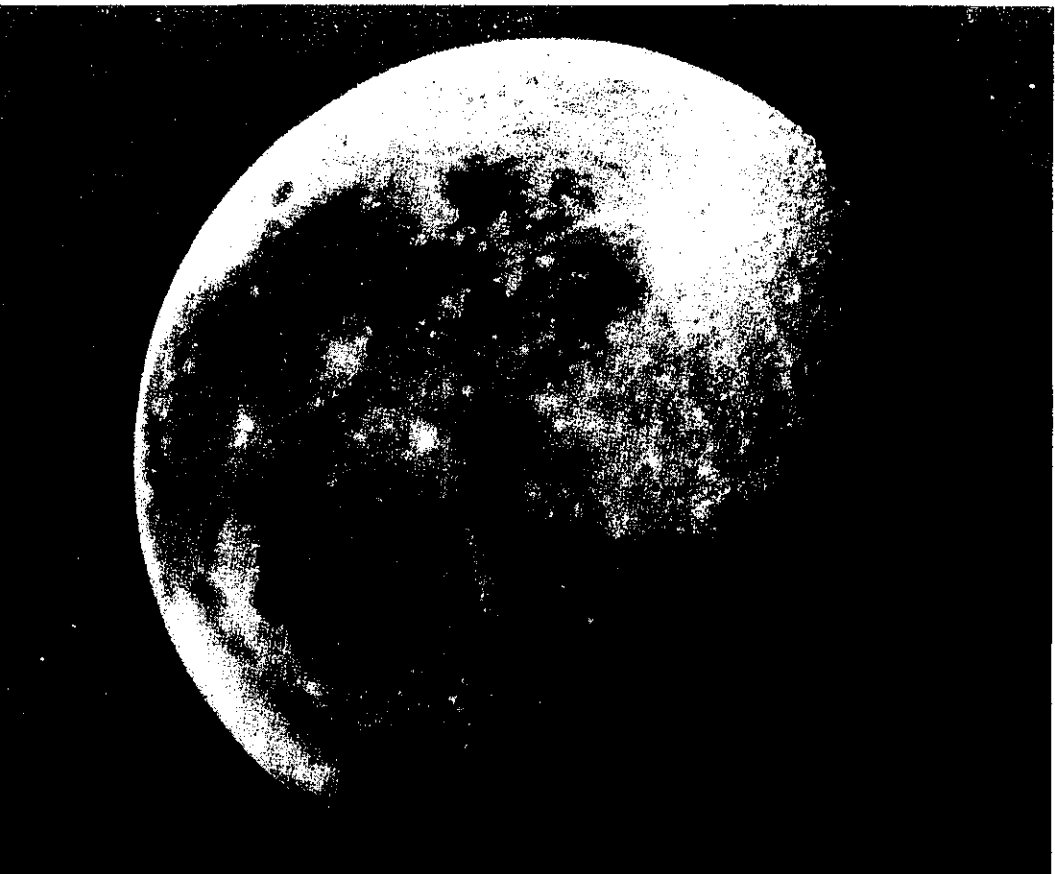
REGULAR

Dr. Michael Canelis	1850 Columbia Pike	JA 4-1446
Miss Isabel Fine	1549 35th St., NW	FE 7-3942

JUNIORS

Miss Dianne Davis	1055 Beacon Lane, Falls Ch., Va.	JE 4-3985
Robert M. Johnson	6009 Wilmet Rd., Beth., Md.	OL 4-4878

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The Moon on January 5, 1961. Taken with a 72X eyepiece and 24 x
3/4 cut film, enlargement 3 1/2 times. Photo by Chris Walker.



The Pleiades, taken with the Bellows camera, a 10 minute exposure, enlarged 6 times. Photo by Chris Walker.