

*This Friday — Phoenix College---March '78*



## *\* Solar System Special — Dr. Millis —*

Because of the Easter time being on the fourth Friday this month, the March meeting will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 PM, room C-102, Phoenix College campus, the same place as has been used regularly.

The subject will be of interest to all as it involves, among other things, information about a recent discovery. Dr. Robert Millis will give a talk on "Occultations Studies of the Solar System". The discovery mentioned above is the ring system of the planet Uranus. Although the talk will be about other things as well, the excitement about the discovery may make some of the other topics less well known. You might recall that Dr. Millis was involved with this discovery, so this meeting is an excellent opportunity to ask some questions to the man who knows.

This meeting is important for another reason, too. The slate of nominees for the coming year will be presented by the nominating committee which consists of Joe Callahan, Ken Sikes, and Bill Nelson. Should anyone wish to make nominations from the floor, the next two meetings are the time to do so.

We hope to see you on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Bill Anderson*

SKY-LINES is published monthly by : PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Phoenix, Arizona. A non-profit, educational and scientific corporation.  
Mailing address: Chuck Nash, Secretary, 2736 West Rose Lane, Phoenix,  
Arizona 85017. 1976-1977 Officers : President = Bill Anderson, Vice-  
President = Dick Lines, Secretary-Treasurer = Chuck Nash

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily that  
of the Phoenix Astronomical Society or its officers.

EDITOR : Cliff Vaughan 838-7107

## 24 Inch Update

As most of you know the Phoenix Astronomical Society owns the frame-work, partial mount and optics for a 24 inch cassegrain telescope. The construction of a finished unit has hit many snags, the biggest being a requirment for several thousand man-hours and dollars.

Most members are unable to generate this level of interest in a project that may not see first-light for four or five years. Also, most of us have an instrument available that meets at least some of our requirments with-out driving two or three hours to a remote site.

Some of the particular problems with what we now have are:

(1) The frame and fork are incomplete and deficient in several critical areas; (2) The clubs optics don't fit the frame and fork; (3) There is no place to erect the system if they did.

A group of PAS members are trying to get together to form a corporation to aquire a site and generate whatever is needed to complete the telescope. As this will require a lot of dedication as well as other particulars this project will not concern most members until it is complete.

If you think you might be interested in a project of this magnitude call Keith Parizek, 996-1013. Don't call unless you're serious, I'll keep you informed of their current status. -cv-

## — 1979 Total Eclipse —

Another project in the planning stage is an airplane tour of the February 26, 1979 total eclipse in the north-western United States.

This one would take off early in the morning of the 26th, fly over Oregon, Idaho, Montana and possibly a portion of Canada before returning to Phoenix that evening. This would give those aboard an extended time in totality as well as guarenteed clear weather.

A group in the San Francisco area already has their scheduled flight full. I'll keep you informed of costs, times, etc. as they develop. -cv-

First Class Mail

PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
 Chuck Nash, Secretary  
 2736 W. Rose Lane  
 Phoenix, Arizona 85017  
 (242-1581)