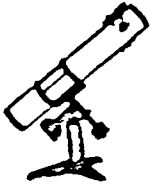
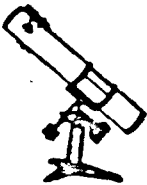


SEPTEMBER 1984



# Phoenix Astronomical Society, Inc.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA



|                 |                 |          |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| PRESIDENT       | RAUL EXPINOZA   | 948-3617 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT  | WILLIAM KRIST   | 254-4057 |
| → SEC/TREASURER | HAROLD MOORIN   | 933-8896 |
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| DIRECTOR        | LOUIS BOYD      | 275-8258 |
| DIRECTOR        | TREVOR TUFFIN   | 948-3126 |
| EDITOR          | JERRY MAURER    | 996-4478 |

3321 E. Yucca Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85028

Well, it's that time of year again. Time to crank up Old Betsy (the car that is), and come to the first meeting of the Phoenix Astronomical Society, 1984-85 Season.

This month we have two speakers from right here in our own organization. The first speaker will be Jerry Maurer showing off his auxiliary guidescope mount. The main speaker for September will be Dan Heim. Dan will be speaking on "The History of Astronomy in the 16th and 17th Century." Dan teaches physics, math, and astronomy at Brophy Prep. This is a great way to begin the '84-85 Season.

The meeting will be held on Friday, September 28, at 8:00 pm, Phoenix College, Room C-102 (same time, same place).

Yes, it's also that time of the year when the annual dues are due. Membership dues are as follows:

|         |    |                                                       |
|---------|----|-------------------------------------------------------|
| \$20.00 | -- | Individuals                                           |
| \$22.00 | -- | Family                                                |
| \$25.00 | -- | Sustaining (for those whose checkbooks are too fat!!) |
| \$ 8.00 | -- | Nonsubscribing to S & T magazine.                     |

Membership entitles you to receive "Sky & Telescope" magazine (for those who wish it), the monthly newsletter, the membership directory, access to the Society's 8 inch f-4.5 Newtonian telescope, and the library of astronomy slides. (What-a-deal)

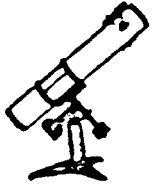
The Phoenix Astronomical Society is a non-profit organization and all dues and/or donations are tax deductible.

Please fill out the membership slip and bring it with you to the meeting. Or, if you can't make the meeting, send a check or money order along with the membership slip to:

✓ Harold Moorin  
11145 Kolina Lane  
Sun City, AZ 85351

Make checks payable to: PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

We ask that all dues be paid as soon as possible so that we can budget for the coming season. Current members who have not paid their dues by the end of November will be dropped from the membership list... (Pressure-Pressure).



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It seems almost a fact that at this time of the year the serious amateur undergoes a metamorphosis. The symptoms are very characteristic and common. There is a quickening of the heartbeat about the time of the new moon, a pacing of the floor, anxiety about the weather, an increasing detachment from the worldly cares, and a loving fondness of the telescope and its accessories. Unknowing relatives might get distressed at the change in the person afflicted, but those in the know simply realize that it is near the end of the "monsoon" season when the astrobuff eagerly plans a night at the telescope.

These are only the beginning symptoms. If left untreated, the eyelids may become heavy and slam shut at the sight of any bright or even moderately bright light. This can be particularly hazardous while driving at night. The fingers may start involuntary movements, simulating the turning of a rack and pinion eyepiece holder. Very dangerous, especially around dinner time. Some may find themselves wandering aimlessly in the back yard after dark with their eyes focused on the sky. (Don't trip over the ---yeowch!?!)

Fortunately, there is a cure for this affliction. That cure is the "STAR PARTY". On Saturday, September 29, the Phoenix Astronomical Society (PAS), in cooperation with the Saguaro Astronomy Club (SAC), will be having an "ALL ARIZONA STAR PARTY" at Buckeye Recreational Area. (See enclosed map and directions). All known Arizona astronomy clubs are invited.

If you suffer from any of the above symptoms, I strongly urge you to attend this star party (for medicinal purposes only, of course). BUT, even if you don't suffer from "monsoon-itis", attend the ALL ARIZONA STAR PARTY just for the fun of it.

JM

## IT'S A CONTEST!!

We are looking for a new **LOGO** (even an old one will do).



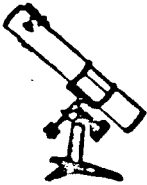
Here are the rules:

1. Participants must be a member of PAS
2. Each entry must contain the Society's name or initials and the founding year (1948).
3. You may enter as many times as you wish

You don't have to be a professional artist. Just get out the old scratch pad & pencil and scribble something down on it (we can fix it up later). But please make it legible. The deadline for entries will be determined at a later date. The logo may be used later on for name-tags, T-shirts, etc. The winner of the logo contest will be determined by membership vote and will receive a \$75.00 gift certificate to Wilson's Camera.



# Phoenix Astronomical Society, Inc.



PHOENIX, ARIZONA

MEET RAUL ESPINOZA: Raul is a native Arizonian, born right here in Phoenix on September 26, 1934. He became interested in astronomy in the fourth grade when the principal of Lowell Elementary School, who was also the President of the only astronomy club in Phoenix at the time, would show him his homemade astronomy photographs in his office. (Wonder what Raul was doing in the principal's office!!)

Raul enlisted in the Air Force in 1951 and was honorably discharged in 1955. On March 17, 1956, Raul married Peggy, and they have been happily married for 28 years. Raul and Peggy have four children, one son and three daughters, all of whom have left the nest and are out on their own. The Espinoza's are members of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Scottsdale.

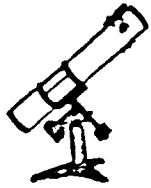
Raul is a denturist by trade and owns his own dental laboratory. He is President and Education Chairman of the Arizona State Dental Lab Association. In 1983 Raul was elected Vice-President of the PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY and takes the office of President this year.

Raul has an 8 inch Meade 2080 telescope completely set up for astrophotography. His other hobbies include celestial photography and painting. He also gives lectures on astronomy to various grammar schools in the Valley.

The next time you see Raul say "Hi". You might even wish him "Happy Birthday". He will be 50 years young this month. (WOW!)

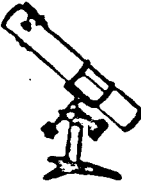


*"You weigh a hundred and sixty-five pounds  
and you're going to be in big trouble  
if you don't get off my foot, earthman."*



# Phoenix Astronomical Society, Inc.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA



## \*\*\*\* SKY-LINES \*\*\*\*

THE RING NEBULA (M-57, NGC 6702) in the constellation LYRA is the best known example of a planetary nebula, although it is not the biggest nor the nearest object of this type. The Ring Nebula was discovered by the French astronomer, Antoine Darquier, in 1779 using a telescope of about 3 inches in aperture (good eye!); however, it takes a scope of 5 to 6 inches in aperture to clearly see the Ring. Through my 10 inch f-5.6 the Ring is clearly visible at 44x. Its color is a pale blue and its image resembles the "ghost" of a doughnut. At 141x my best view, the oblong shape was clearly evident, although I was unable to see the central star.

According to BURNHAM'S CELESTIAL HANDBOOK the Ring Nebula's apparent size is 60 by 80 arc-seconds, and is at a distance of approximately 1400 light-years. This would make it 2.4 by 3.2 trillion miles in size. The Ring is expanding at the rate of about 12 miles per second.

If 437 earth-type solar systems were placed end to end, they could be put inside the Ring Nebula, along the major axis and not touch either end. If the Earth was reduced to the size of a dime, the Ring Nebula would be approximately 3,306 by 4,408 miles in size. If the entire solar system was reduced to the size of a dime, the Ring Nebula would be 19 by 25 feet in size.

The next time you are out with the scope, take a close look at the Ring Nebula and try to visualize its true size.

JM

## WANTED ----- WANTED ----- WANTED ----- WANTED ----- WANTED

Newsworthy items -- anything that pertains to astronomy. Maybe you've just completed your portable 200 inch telescope (don't we wish), or seen the northern lights, or a satellite launch. Even if you've done or seen something you don't think is newsworthy, jot it down and send it to me or give me a phone call anyway. (We may be able to juice it up a little.) Send it to: Jerry Maurer, 3321 E. Yucca St., Phoenix, AZ 85028. 996-4478.

Also, if you are looking to buy or sell items related to astronomy, let me know so I can print it.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 15. (No Soliciting Please)

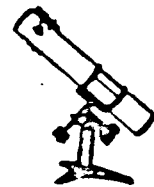
## TRADE :

I have a new 7.4 mm Plössl eyepiece that I will trade for a Meade 7.4 mm research grade orthoscopic eyepiece. Must be in good shape. CALL: Jerry Maurer 996-4478.



# Phoenix Astronomical Society, Inc.

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Dear Members:

I am pleased to report that we have had some enthusiastic business meetings in preparation for our new fiscal year.

Raul Espinoza is planning some interesting meetings with a variety of subject matter.

There are new ideas to better our Club as will be discussed at our first meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing you and welcome your participation.

Harold Moorin  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## \*\*\* SEPTEMBER 29 STAR PARTY \*\*\*

To get there, take McDowell west from I-17 to 91st Avenue where you can get on I-10 west. Take Highway 85 south (towards Gila Bend) for 7 miles. BUCKEYE HILLS RECREATIONAL AREA is on the right. There is a park sign, also look for the SAC (Saguaro Astronomy Club) sign.

WARNING!! There will be no less than 12 fifty-caliber machine guns, with light-sensitive aiming devices, strategically located at or near the telescope field. But never fear--all you have to do is, if you are arriving after dark, REMEMBER to TURN OFF YOUR HEADLIGHTS as you approach the telescope field. It might also be a good idea to bring a red flashlight with you. I've heard that the light sensitive aiming devices have, in the past, mistaken a white flashlight for an automobile headlight. Please observe all courtesies concerning white lights. (Fifty-caliber machine gun bullets are very expensive.)

Thank you, Audrey & Helen |:-|

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BUCKEYE HILLS  
RECREATION AREA -  
HOW TO GET THERE

