PASTIMES

PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY -- FOUNDED 1948

APRIL MEETING

The April meeting will be held at Phoenix College on April 29, 1988, 7:45 PM at the regular meeting room 102 in the science building. The speaker will be our own Pete Manley, who will present an illustrated lecture on "Weird Telescopes." Pete is always good for an interesting program and this one should be very, very entertaining.

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STAR PARTY

There will be a star party on May 14, 1988 starting two hours before sundown. It will be at McDowell Mountain Park. Go east on Shea to first entrance to Fountain Hills, go toward Rio Verde. About four miles past the town, turn into the Park entrance and follow the signs to the Boy Scout campground. There will be a charge of 3.00 dollars per car. Call Raul Espinoza for details.

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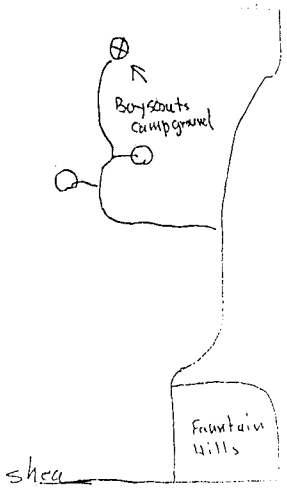

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VARIABLE IN ANDROMEDA

G. M. Hurst, Basingstoke, England, informs us that this object appear to be substantially fainter ($P \sim 20$) on the red Palomar Sky Survey prin than on the blue (cf. *IAUC* 4377) and thus that his suggestion that th object is a Mira variable is probably incorrect. Furthermore, his figurin examination of the 1976 Oct. 19 Papadopoulos chart under high magnifi cation suggests that the image he previously mentioned is a flaw, for th appearance is slightly elongated and at a position that is slightly differen from that of the new object on prime-focus exposures by A. Young. Spec troscopic observations would be useful for establishing whether the object i a nova. Hurst provides the following additional visual magnitude estimate Apr. 3.84 UT, 11.3; 9.84, 12.0; 10.84, 12.1.

(2060) CHIRON

E. Bowell, Lowell Observatory, reports that S. J. Bus, B. A. Skiff an C. J. Cunningham obtained CCD photometry of (2060) Chiron on Ma 23. They find that Chiron is 0.6 ± 0.1 mag brighter than in 1986 (Bus *et al.*, submitted to *Icarus*), confirming the finding by Tholen *et al.* (*IAU* 4554) and indicating that the brightening has persisted for more than on month. The uncertainty in the magnitude change arises from the use c 1.9 hr of observation shows brightness variation consistent with previous observed lightcurve. Specifically, the lightcurve amplitude appears to b similar, and the rotational phase is as predicted by the 1986 observations

COMET LILLER (1988a)

Total visual magnitude estimates: Mar. 22.79 UT, 6.3 (M. V. Zanotte Milan, Italy, 20 × 80 binoculars; 45' tail in p.a. 70°, 20' jet in p.a. 10°); 25.82, 6.8 (J. D. Shanklin, Cambridge, England, 20 × 80 binoculars); 27.7(5.8 (S. Baroni, Milan, Italy, 20 × 80 binoculars); 30.10, 6.8 (E. A. Jacobson Evansville, MN, 10 × 50 binoculars); Apr. 4.11, 6.0 (A. Hale, Las Cruces NM, 0.20-m reflector); 6.11, 6.4 (Jacobson; tail ~ 10' in p.a. 5°); 8.1: 6.4 (Jacobson); 10.79, 5.9 (A. Treback, Niepolomice Observatory, Polanc 10 × 60 binoculars); 11.84, 6.0 (P. Schmeer, Bischmisheim, West German 20 × 80 binoculars); 12.45, 5.9 (Hale, 10 × 50 binoculars; 30' tail in p.a 345°); 13.02, 5.5 (D. W. E. Green, Cambridge, MA, 7 × 50 binoculars).

1988 April 13 *Brian G. Marsde*