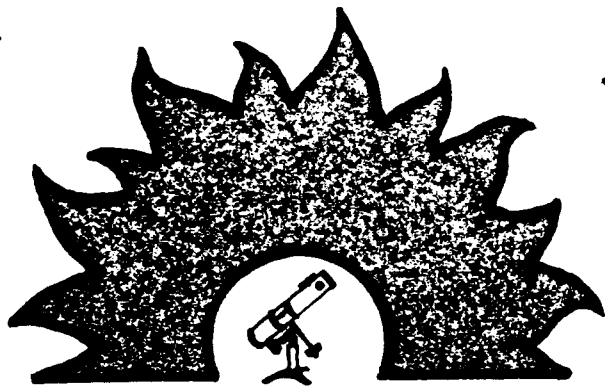




DECEMBER

1988

PASTIMES

PHOENIX ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY -- FOUNDED 1948

*
* I am sorry to say that attempts to find an evening on which Phoenix *
* College will accomodate us and attendance will hold its ground fell *
* in vain. We will NOT hold a December meeting but will begin the year *
* with a meeting on the fourth friday of January. A PASTimes issue will *
* be mailed concerning that evening. *
*

*
Last month's tour of Whipple Observatory in Amado, AZ was a fabulous experience. The day began with an informative, introductory video presentation. The view from the top of the mountain made the bumpy, bone rattling bus well worth it. The structure housing the Multiple Mirror Telescope sits tight on a small peak. The tour took the group through the machine shop, computer and control room and of course gave us an unforgettable view of the MMT lined with its reflective tape.

I personally suggest that anyone interested in seeing an awesome telescope make reservations and tour the Whipple Observatory. Pack a lunch, bring the family, and make a day of it.

Theory of Cosmic Creationism

by Sir Fred Hoyle

He states that the evolutionary course of life on Earth has always been subject to cosmic influences, and that the biological makeup of living things on our planet was and is radically changed by the arrival of pristine genes from outer space. Herein lies the explanation of sudden bursts of new lifeforms and other dramatic developments that occur. He attributes not only the origin of terrestrial life but its continued evolution to cosmic influences.

He concludes that the complexity of life on Earth cannot have been caused by a sequence of random processes. The Earth's primordial soup being seeded with spores from outer space, but must have come from a cosmic intelligence whom he calls God- and that God is the Universe.

David Allen of the Anglo-Australian Observatory theorizes that viruses and bacteria originate in outer space. Also, that comets bring living organisms bring the seeds of life to Earth.

* * *

As this decade comes to an end, we have discovered more during this time than in the history of Astronomy.

This most ancient science has come a long way in trying to answer the most fundamental questions about the nature of the universe. Having made discoveries at an unprecedented rate, there are few signs of slowing down in the future.

We can still look forward to finding out more in the upcoming year with the advent of the following shuttle flights:

Atlantis, April 28th, to start mission to deploy Magellan probe to map Venus' surface

Atlantis, October 12th, to start mission to deploy Galileo probe to map Jupiter's surface

Discovery, December 11th, to start mission to deploy Hubble Space Telescope

by Harold Moorin

Editor's Note

I am actually beginning to enjoy the job of Editor. I have decided to no longer post the notice which referred to the need of a full time Editor. In fact, just try and take this job away, just try!

I would like to thank Harold Moorin for his continued support of the Phoenix Astronomical Society by way of the articles he produces. It is energy and effort like Harold's that keeps a club like ours in gear. Keep up the good work Harold and I would love to see articles written by other members as well.

Orange County Astronomers

presents "Astrophoto VIII"

Astrophoto VIII, an all-day seminar and photographic exhibition, will take place on Saturday, February 25, at California State University at Fullerton. Astrophoto VIII provides an interchange of information and ideas for the expected 200 plus attendees and those receiving the Proceedings book. Papers will be presented by amateur astrophotographers as well as noted professional speakers invited to discuss the latest imaging technology.

Astrophotographers from several countries have been represented in the exhibition, which this year will award several cash prizes. The show has drawn more than 200 entries the past two seminars, and attendees learn from full captions and statements shown with the images.

This year the Seminar has new quarters, in and around a brand new 250 seat auditorium at Cal State University, Fullerton. High tech facilities for still and video imagery projection, and room for the exhibitors should provide attractive ambience.

The deadline for the inclusion in the Proceedings book is January 15. Cost of admission for the all-day event, two coffee breaks with refreshments, and the Proceedings book is only \$20. The Proceedings book is available by mail for \$15 ppd. in the US, and \$20 airmail to foreign countries.

For further information, contact: John Sanford

714-639-8446

Astrophoto VIII
2215 Martha Ave.
Orange, CA 92667

YES, I want to preregister for the Astrophoto VIII and I have enclosed \$20.

I WANT TO SHARE/SHOW my work at Astrophoto VIII. Please send an author's sheet or photo exhibitor's sheet with more information.

SORRY, I can't make it but I want the Proceedings and I have enclosed \$15.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

***** YOUR 1988 PAS OFFICERS *****

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Lunar Laughs!

"How did the impact of a meteor petrify a tree?"
(It made the tree rock! "... ohhhh, another one of those.")

"Why won't the world ever come to an end?"
(Because it's round.)

For Sale:

tons of back issues of astronomy magazine
all the issues from September 1973 through 1985
excellent condition
going for just \$100
if interested, call Will Hodges

278-3466

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

