

GEMINI

publication of the
Twin City Astronomy Club



Vol. 1 No. 4

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
Tuesday, September 7, 1976

The meeting was called to order in the Members' Lounge of the Science Museum at 7:30 P.M. by our President, Pat Clements. Coffee was again available.

Several announcements were made before the scheduled presentation was given. Jim Fox who is the Secretary of the Astronomical League, reported, briefly, on the National Convention of the Astronomical League held in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, at Kutztown State College, this year, August 19 - 22. The official attendance was 667 which is more than any other amateur or professional astronomical convention can boast. The only entry in the astrophotography contest from the Twin City Astronomy Club was a lunar photograph by Lauren Nelson, our Vice President. He received the only Honorable Mention for his entry and the presentation of the certificate was made by Jim Fox.

Howard McKenzie, our Treasurer, reported that we have \$306.00 in the savings account and "almost" \$200.00 in the checking account.

Astronomy courses - University of Minnesota to start September 27th. Ivan Policoff will teach Astronomy 1009 (stellar astronomy) a 3 credit course on campus and Astronomy 1008 (solar system) a 3 credit course at Central High School, St. Paul, this is part of the St. Paul Community Program. In the spring of '77 Ivan Policoff will again teach "Astronomy Lab for the Amateur" course #GC 1167.

For information on meteor showers or meteor observing, call Carl Harsted, 448-2927.

William Larson, 331-6124, has the latest information on star charts and atlases.

Scheduled observing sessions at the Metcalf Nature Center are as follows:

Friday, September 24th Friday, November 19th
" October 22nd

The following day, Saturday, is the alternate date. If in doubt about the weather call Lauren Nelson, 644-1254, or the Museum Guard, 227-8241. Members wishing to observe at the Metcalf Site on nights other than those scheduled should call Andy Fraser, 733-6944 (days).

We wish to acknowledge with thanks the following members who have worked (given of their time and energy) at the Metcalf Observing Site:-

Dave Schumann	Lauren Nelson	Herb Grika
Maria Mortensen	Craig Johnson	Cindy Blaha
Jon Saukerson	Carl Harstad	Don Tate
John Botkin	Andy Fraser	Al Ominsky

There is some more brush clearing to be done at Metcalf and we ask that you come early, about 5:30 P.M. on Friday, September 24th and help us develop an observing station away from the city lights.

We also need the services of a bonded and insured electrician licensed to do commercial work to wire from the NSP transformer to our post and down to our box.

For free recorded message from NASA on Viking activity call toll-free day or night: 1-800-423-4275.

The 3M Club Astronomical Society observes every clear Monday night at its Tartan Park facility. For more information or arrangements to observe call Roger Lange 733-4928 (days) or 739-5142 (evenings). Visitors are always welcome.

Please sign and mail in the affidavit (if you have not already done so) we must have the response of all members in order to get the lower bulk mail rate.

A very interesting presentation was made by Don Tate on the movement of the planets against the stellar background as seen from the earth and how they actually move around the sun creating the effect of retrograde motion.

Harvey Senecal, who was instrumental in organizing our club, is on vacation, and so was able to attend this meeting. He was introduced to the membership present at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Hubert U. Brueckner, Secretary

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Andrew Fraser
Carl Harstad
Alan Ominsky

Gemini is issued monthly by the Twin City Astronomy Club (TCAC), an affiliate of the Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn.

The TCAC strives to promote amateur astronomy through its publications, meetings and public programs. Membership is open to anyone. Annual Regular Member dues are \$16 and Student Member dues are \$5, of which \$1.50 is allocated for a subscription to Gemini. Subscription to Gemini is available to non-members at \$2.50 per year. Inquiries may be directed to: TCAC Science Museum of Minnesota, 30 E. 10th St., St. Paul, MN 55101.

Advertisements for publication in Gemini are welcome and inquiries may be directed to Lauren Nelson c/o TCAC.

Application to mail at 2nd class rates is pending at St. Paul, Minnesota

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 5th at 7:30 P.M. in the Members' Lounge of the Science Museum. Ivan Pollicoff and Herb Grika will speak on Stonehenge. This presentation will be made first and after this program there will be a brief business meeting or discussion period.

Become a member of the Science Museum of Minnesota. You will receive the EXPLORER Magazine, the Calendar-Newsletter of Museum activities, a 10% discount in the Museum Shop, reduced rates for Museum Field Trips, reduced rates for special classes, and you will also receive notices of special programs for members. Family Membership is \$15.00 per year. Individual Membership is \$10.00 per year.

Club members will present the following programs for the public on Saturday at 11:00 A.M.:-

- October 2nd Voyage to Venus and Mercury, Photographs from Mariner 10 by H. U. Brueckner
- October 9th Recent Observations of Mars by Ivan Pollicoff
- October 16th The Sun by Wm. Larson
- October 23rd The Developing Universe by Kevin Marx
- October 30th Bizarre Celestial Objects by Dave Schumann

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