

MINNESOTA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
MEETING NOTICE

LOCAL NOTES

The December meeting of the Society will be at 8 pm. Dec. 4, 1984, in the Penthouse of the Science Museum of Minnesota. The speaker will be Fred Abbott, a former optical engineer with 3M. His topic will be "The Application of Lasers in Astronomy and Industry."

COMPUTER PROGRAMS

A note from the editor of "Gemini"

A display of astronomical computer programs is tentatively set for the January meeting of the Society. To avoid duplication of effort as members with computers prepare for this presentation, I am attempting to coordinate the keying of programs contained in publications such as "Celestial Basic."

As any of you who have keyed programs know, it takes an incredible amount of time to key and test a long one. There is little point in each member of the Society who has a computer keying the same program.

Modems or utilities such as Uniform make it possible to share completed programs among Society members.

My first task is to take an inventory of programs among MAS members. If you have a program written in any language (Basic, assembler, Pascal, etc.) that runs on a CP/M or MS/DOS (or PC/DOS) microcomputer, please drop me a note with the following information:

- 1) Language written in (assembler, Basic, etc.)

- 2) Operating system running on (CP/M, PC/DOS, etc.)
- 3) Microcomputer currently used
- 4) Terminal currently used
- 5) If you have a modem, the speed and what brand
- 6) If you have a foreign format utility such as Uniform for copying to and from the disks of other computers
- 7) Name each program
- 8) What each program does
- 9) Source of the program (book, wrote, etc.)
- 10) Whether the program is copywritten software (versus from a copywritten publication)
- 11) Whether the source code, if typed from a book, is copywritten

Send this information (please do not call except to ask questions) to Carl Harstad, 1935 W. Old Shakopee Rd., #26, Bloomington, MN 55431.

I will share this information with all members who have computers and respond to this request. If a substantial number of members want to share programs, I will see about coordinating distribution, possibly through a local computer group which I am vice president of.

NEW HONORARY MEMBERS

The following three individuals have been installed by the Board of Directors as honorary members of the Minnesota Astronomical Society:

William Larson
Hub Brueckner
Sherman Schultz

They join two previous honorary members, Father George Metcalf and Harvey Senecal.