

URANOGRAPHOS

*Newsletter for the
Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association*

Michael Cote' and Robert Wade, Editors

August, 1989

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting of the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association will be held August 17th at the West Ottawa Middle School Planetarium in Holland, Michigan. The agenda is as follows:

7:30 - 7:45 PM - August Night Sky & Star Quiz

7:45 - 8:45 PM - "Aborigines, Stars, and Dream Time" by Sandra Plakke and Dr. Phil Hill. Come hear about the Southern Sky.

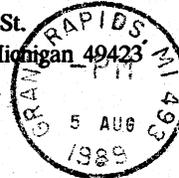
8:45 - 9:00 - General Business Meeting.

Executive Meeting

The meeting was called to order on August 1, 1989 by Dr. Robert Wade at 7:45 PM. Mark Logsdon and Sandra Plakke were also present.

Mark reported on his continuing efforts to get the local cable television companies to broadcast at least part of the upcoming Voyager encounter with Neptune. He also indicated that CNN will be carrying much of the Voyager broadcasts live, so look to your

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programming guides.

Sandy reported that Greg Alspach donated a 5-6" Newtonian reflector to the club. It may need some work, but it looks like we have another scope handy for those of you who don't own one.

We reaffirmed the desire to have a public star party in September/October (following Michael Cote's talk on Lunar Geology for the September meeting). Dates will be firmed up shortly.

Despite another call to *Sky and Telescope*, Bob still hasn't received promised info concerning club subscriptions. Mark will write a

letter on club stationery and see if that produces better results.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Wade, SAAA Vice President.

Future Events

Don't forget to mark your observing calendar for the celestial happenings this month. Specifically, the Perseid meteor shower (usually the best shower of the year. Plan to observe after 1 A.M. on Friday the 12th for best results. The moon interferes somewhat earlier in the evening, but you can still see bright meteors. You can also see Perseids for a few days before and after that date.

Also on the night of the 16th there will be a total lunar eclipse. For those of us in the Eastern time zone, approximate times are as follows:

moon enters penumbra	8:23 P.M.
partial eclipse begins	9:21 P.M.
total eclipse begins	10:20 P.M.
middle of eclipse	11:08 P.M.
total eclipse ends	11:56 P.M.
partial eclipse ends	12:56 A.M.
moon leaves penumbra	1:53 A.M.

R.W.

Star Quiz

This month we'll travel from near the southern horizon to Southern skies. I'll also be brief because of other time commitments! Break out your star atlas and try to find the following 5 stars. These will be covered in the quiz to be given at our next meeting.

Deneb Algedi is in the constellation Capricornus (the goat) and derives from the Arabic *Al Dhanab al Jady*, or the Tail of the Goat!

Dropping into Piscis Austrinus we find *Fomalhaut*, from *Fum al Hut*, or the Fish's Mouth.

The constellation Centaurus gives us one of the nearest stellar neighbors to Sol: *Rigel Centaurus*, from *Al Rij al Kentaurus* or the Centaur's Foot.

Acrux is the brightest star in the southern cross, i.e. Crux. It was probably named by a more modern celestial cartographer because, like most truly southern stars, this star was not visible to ancient emerging civilizations in the northern hemisphere.

We'll conclude with *Achernar* in the constellation Eridanus (the river). This bright star is about 32° from the south celestial pole and is derived from *Al Ahir al Nahr*, or the End of the River. And that's the end of the line for this month!

R.W.