

URANOGRAPHOS



*Newsletter for the
Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association*

President- Robert Wade, D.Phil.

Vice President- Peter Burkey

Secretary/Treasurer- Mark Logsdon

Robert Wade, Editor

December 1990

December Meeting

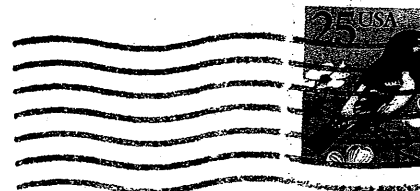
The December meeting of the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association will be held on December 20th, beginning promptly at 7:00 PM in the West Ottawa Middle School Planetarium in Holland, Michigan. Refreshments will be provided. The agenda will be as follows:

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| 7:00-7:10 | The December Night Sky Tour. |
| 7:10-7:30 | General Business Meeting: constitutional matters, etc. The 1991 SAAA Observing Program will also be presented. |
| 7:30-8:30 | <i>The First Annual SAAA StarBowl</i> - bring a list of ten questions concerning some aspect of astronomical trivia. We will divide into teams and go head to head to see who knows it all! |

November Meeting Highlights

At our general business meeting it was moved and passed to combine the offices of secretary and treasurer into one office. Our new officers for 1991 are Peter Burkey, President; Steve Tuls, Vice President; and Rob Tuls, Secretary/Treasurer.

3882 62nd Street
Holland, Michigan 49423



Congratulate our new officers when you see them (or perhaps offer them your condolences). If they need your help throughout the year, please consider giving them a helping hand. It's a lot of work. Proposed SAAA constitutional amendments were discussed. Changes are highlighted on the attached constitution, and these will be voted on in the December meeting. Mark Logsdon asked for any member not receiving the *Reflector* from the Astronomical League. If you are not receiving one, give Mark a call.

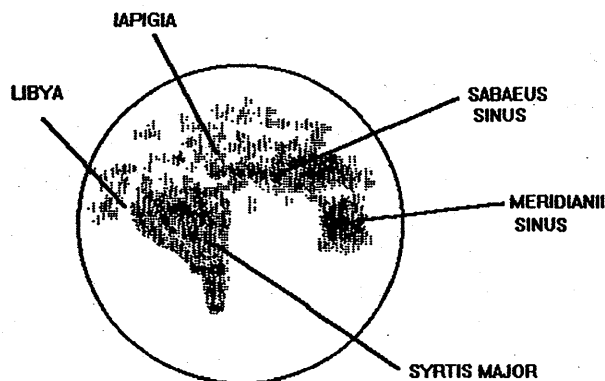
Our Board meeting further discussed constitutional changes. One of the changes will shorten the fiscal year for 1991. If that change is passed, dues for

the following year (which will end August 31, 1991) will be: *Full Regular* membership - \$28.00 (this includes either *Astronomy* magazine or the *Observers Handbook 1991*). Please let Mark know your choice at the December meeting. For *Full Senior* or *Full Junior* membership, the dues will be \$21.00 which also include the above choice. *Subscribing Regular* memberships will be \$14.00, and *Subscribing Junior or Senior* memberships will be \$7.00. Those who have already paid their dues at the previous rate will have the extra money refunded.

For All Mankind

Between December 1968 and November 1972, nine manned flights journeyed to the moon. Twenty-four men made the journey, the first human beings to leave planet Earth for another world. *For All Mankind* is the film they brought back. The experience they shared was a dream for generations and the work of a great nation. It lives as human history and embraces all of us. This film distills the millions of feet of motion picture film taken during NASA'S nine lunar flights into a composite depiction of a single Apollo mission. Critics have been unanimously enthusiastic in their praise for this film. It is well worth your time - take your family or a friend to see it at the Knickerbocker theater where it will be showing from January 2-10, 1991.

November Star Party

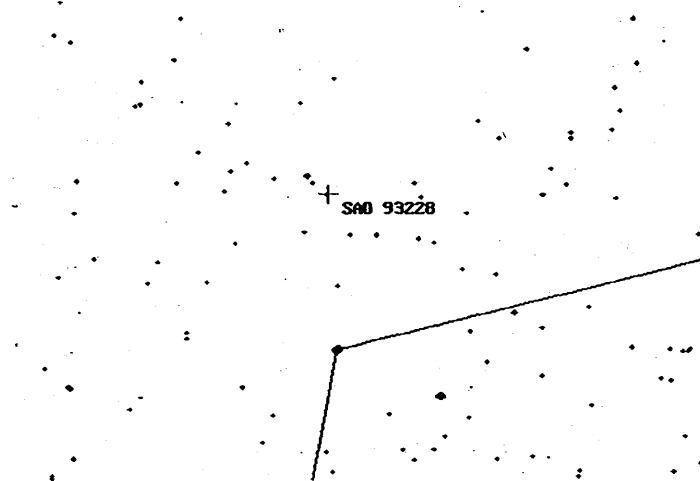


Mars was the highlight at our November star party, graciously hosted by Vivekananda Monastery. Through the long focal length 22" with a high power eyepiece, Mars was an observers feast for greedy eyes. Exclamations like "Wow, I can't

believe it..." were constantly flying. Members were almost having to drag other members off the observing platform kicking and screaming to get a turn. Later in the evening the Leonids kept a faithful few entertained with a respectable display, with one good bolide to round the night off. Reproduced in the previous column is a good approximation of the detail visible on Mars that night...

Vesta Occultation

Vesta is the brightest asteroid as seen from Earth, and on the evening of January 3rd will occult (pass in front of) the star SAO 93228, which is just over the Aries border from Cetus. Both are about magnitude 7.5. According to David Dunham of IOTA, they should merge into a single object of about magnitude 6.6 some minutes before the occultation, with an actual drop of 0.8 magnitudes lasting up to 2.5 minutes when the star is actually occulted. This event will easily be seen from the Holland area, assuming West Michigan weather doesn't assert itself in an unfriendly manner. The figure below may help you find the target star with your atlas - part of the circlet in Cetus is drawn out and the bright star shown at the intersection of two lines is λ Cetus.



Newsletter Name Contest

Several members wondered if the name of the newsletter could be changed. It's your club, so bring your favorite suggestion to the December meeting, or phone a suggestion to the editor if you cannot make it. *Make it original!*