

SCORPIO

Journal of the Astronomical Society of Frankston Inc

Vol 1, No. 1

P.O.Box 596, Frankston Victoria 3199

JAN/FEB 1992

FUTURE EVENT GENERAL MEETING

18 March 1992

Speaker To Be Advised

Subject:

16 April 1992

Speaker To Be Advised

Subject:

VIEWING NIGHTS

Society Viewing Nights

None planned until observing site established.

Public Viewing Nights

Jan 10, Hasting Foreshore (Melways 154 K11)

Jan 17, Rosebud Beach (Melway 159 d12)

Jan 24, Sorrento Southern Peninsular Heli-pad (Melways 157 B6)

Jan 26, Rosebud (as for Jan 17)

Special Viewing Events

???

COMMITTEE MEETING

The committee will be held at the Brown residence on:-

9 Jan 1992

27 February 1992

26 March 1992

NACAA

National Australian Convention of Amateur Astronomers.

Adelaide at Easter, 1992

Registration before 31 Jan. 1992 or miss out

SOCIETY NEWS

ASF CHRISTMAS BBQ

The end of year Christmas BBQ was successfully held at the Mt. Martha picnic ground. The weather held until the BBQ was over but as seemed to be our lot this year rain started before any observing could be done. Steve Malone and helpers came to the rescue and soon had a roaring fire going in the shelter ("I think he's got his backwoodsman badge). Ivan Blake had the saxophone out to help soothe those disappointed by the weather.

Everyone settled in for a very pleasant night of armchair astronomy.

(P.S. rumor has it that someone gave a talk on How to Collimate Your Telescope which took longer to give than to actual collimate the telescope in question, I think I'll wait for the paperback)

EDITORS MESSAGE

To make this Society Journal a success it is important that I get feedback as to its successes and failures. If you have any comments about the magazine, its layout or its contents - please tell me.

I am looking for ideas and of course contributions.

Send comments to the Vice President

The Astronomical Society of Frankston was founded in 1969 with the aim of fostering the study of astronomy by amateurs and promoting the hobby of amateur astronomy with the general public.

Meeting Venue:

Peninsular Church of England School

Nepean Hwy, Mt Eliza

(Melways Map 105, F5)

8.00pm on the third Wednesday of each Month except December/January

Visitors are always welcome

Annual Membership Fees

Full Members \$20

Concession Members \$15

Family Members \$30

Membership Fees due 1st July each year

President

David Murray, 132 Bay Road

MtMartha (059)744 204

Vice President

Peter Lowe, 4 Grainstore Court

Langwarrin (03)776 6309

Treasurer

Peter Brown, 7 Kiandra Court

Frankston (03)789 5679

Secretary

Don Leggett, 4 Vellvue Street

Tootgarook (059)85 4927

Committee

Peter Skilton (03)776 5898

Ros Skilton (03) 776 5898

Bruce Tregaskis (03)787 2444

Ken Bryant (03)789 1590

Tony Hales (03)781 3251

Bob Heale (03)787 1748

WHAT'S HAPPENING

COMMITTEE NOTES

During the last few months the committee has had several activities ongoing. The Society continues to get good publicity from the various local newspapers and while we have had mixed success with our public viewing nights those that were not clouded out were great.

Details are being sought for the manufacture of the "Lapel Badges" with the new ASF logo.

An application has been made to the Frankston Council for a money grant to purchase video equipment. It is hoped this equipment will allow us to produce videos about astronomy and telescope making for education and public demonstrations. The grants are awarded in March '92.

A library display is being organised from 3-14th Feb. Can you think of some display items.

The committee has been considering whether members would prefer an alternative format to the current monthly meetings. It has been suggested that we should alternate each month between a formal meeting with a guest speaker and a technical workshop at which members can discuss their interests and projects. We hope to give it a go about March/April.

Contact is being made with some of the other Societies to explore the possibility of a Society visit.

New Meeting Forum

As mentioned in the Committee News, there has been some discussion about the format of the monthly general meetings and whether this format is appropriate. There is some concern that the current format is too formal and does not allow spontaneity from the members at meetings.

The suggestion is that we need a meeting format that allows the members to get involved in general discussions over coffee without the need to cover Society business.

It is proposed to trial a new meeting format where a discussion will be held about some topic in an informal workshop. A discussion leader(s) will assist in keeping the discussion lively. Members are free to join in or change the discussion topic.

This is an opportunity to make our meetings more attune to your needs.

It is proposed to alternate between this new format and the old format on a monthly basis. If unsuccessful we will return to the old format.

The first Technical Workshop will be at the March meeting and the topic will be "Extra-terrestrial Life". So go and do some reading and come prepared to talk.

Frankston Council Grant

Last December, the Society submitted an application to the Frankston Council for a grant to purchase video equipment. The council provides money grants each year to assist local clubs and societies. The council uses this as a forum to improve the services provided to the Frankston ratepayers. The grants are only provided to local groups. This is the first time our society has applied for such a grant and if successful, this equipment will assist us greatly in our general public education and viewing night programmes. The video equipment will be used to produce various training videos on amateur astronomy topics and telescope making.

Wanted: actors (or hams) all ages for production of astronomical epics. If you have any ideas, lets hear them.

SOCIETY PROJECTS

Committee is preparing a list of possible Society Observing Projects to act as a basis for planning future activities. **We need your help.** Can you think of any observing projects or any other type of project that you think would be fun. The list will be put to members for comments. Please send in you ideas to any of the committee mem-

From left -
Bruce Tregaskis
Ian Porter
Don Leggett
Dave Girling
Bob Heale
Peter Lowe



Above - Richard Pollard & Friends

