

# Giant Bicentennial Picnic - Observing Party

and

JULY 76

## Return of the Good Old Days

In the early days of our club interest was maintained during the summer by a series of picnic-observing parties. In many ways these festive occasions were the highlight of our year. Attendance was often as high as 80%. We are going to re-establish this enjoyable tradition and our first party will be held at Georgia's most elaborate private observatory.

WHERE: Braeside Observatory, 4610 Orkney Lane, Atlanta  
Director: Bob Fried  
Night Assistant: Margo Fried  
Janitors: Eugenia and Leonard Abbey

WHEN: Friday, July 16, 6:00 PM, RAIN OR (STAR) SHINE

WHO: Everyone who has eyes and a stomach. Visitors invited!

TELEPHONE: 344-8535. If you need directions or a ride please call.

Braeside's 16" Cassegrain reflector will be available throughout the evening for viewing such elusive objects as the central star in the Ring Nebula and Neptune's satellite, Triton. You are invited to bring your own instrument to set up on the lawn. A double star clinic will be held so you can test your telescope's performance against a test star chosen for its aperture.

In addition to observing, we have scheduled two new NASA films concerning the Viking Mars mission. Also, Bob has established a hot-line to Viking Mission Control in Pasadena, and throughout the evening we will hear mission updates straight from the Viking's mouth.

Now for the picnic: Everyone should bring a casserole, hamburgers, hot dogs, sandwiches, cakes, or perhaps a serving of snails. (If you can't find snails, Bob will be glad to scout some up from the back yard.) The Frieds will provide soft drinks, coffee, tea, and other liquid refreshments. All of these goodies will be spread out smorgasbord style, and you will be free to eat until your bellybutton pops off!

There will be a short business meeting sometime during the evening. Our Observatory Site Selection Committee will make a report, and it is possible that their recommendation will be presented for a vote at this, or the next summer meeting. This is a very serious matter for both the Club and the community, so it is important that you be present.

DON'T FORGET the Astronomical League Convention in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, August 19-22. If you did not receive a mailing on this, call the Club Business Office at 993-2346.

COME AND BRING A FRIEND

Leonard B. Abbey