

THE ATLANTA ASTRONOMY CLUB, INC.
April, 1980

MEETING NOTICE

Our last regular meeting of the 1979-1980 season will be held on Friday, April 18 at 8:00 p.m. in Bradley Observatory at Agnes Scott. The speaker will be Mr. Garry M. Ross of two distinguished organizations: The Detroit Observational and Astrophotographic Association and the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomer's Association. Mr. Ross' topic remains a mystery, but I have learned that it is based on a book entitled *N-Day*, by Philip Latham. Let us all satisfy our curiosity by making this meeting a well-attended one.

A RARE DISCOVERY AT A.R.C.A.

For years, the Palomar Sky Survey Charts have been scrutinized by astronomers in an attempt to locate and classify faint celestial objects, one type of which is the planetary nebula. As a result, thousands have been discovered. The astronomer Kohoutek made his own catalogue of planetaries and one particular entry, his K2-6, has been shown to be something quite extraordinary. Jerry Armstrong and George Roberts, who have also been analyzing the Palomar charts in conjunction with their work at A.R.C.A. Observatory near Douglasville, have determined that K2-6 is a cosmic rarity known as a ring galaxy. This object, appropriately located in Lyra, is theoretically the result of the collision of a small, elliptical galaxy with a larger spiral. This collision either destroys or removes the nucleus of the spiral, leaving a ring of stars and other galactic matter. The famous astronomer Halton Arp, whose specialty is peculiar galaxies, has been working with Jerry and George for spectrographic confirmation at Palomar. Already, however, the astronomers at the "big eye" feel positive that this object, one of only seven discovered, is indeed a ring galaxy. This is the first such object found by amateur astronomers. Congratulations, Jerry and George!

HANK HUDSON MEMORIAL BANQUET—MAY 16

Final preparations are being made for the club's annual banquet, which has traditionally replaced the regular meetings in May. It will be held in the Oak Room of Cox Hall on the Emory campus at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 16, 1980. Two aspects of our banquets have always attracted a sizeable gathering: excellent food and an interesting guest speaker. The cost is \$8.50 per person. In order to effectively coordinate the amount of food with the number in attendance, Mark Christensen needs to know how many persons to expect. Last month's letter contained a preliminary head count slip, but now is the time to start sending in your payments. The final registration form below should be filled out and mailed to Mark NO LATER THAN MAY 5. Make checks payable to The Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc. Mark's address is: 1438 Ridgewood Dr., Lilburn, GA 30247. I personally have enjoyed our banquets in the past and I hope to see many of you this year.

Al Beales
Corresponding Secretary

RESERVATION — HANK HUDSON MEMORIAL BANQUET

Name _____
Address _____ Zip _____
Number in Party _____
