

The Atlanta Astronomy Club, Inc
March 1981

Our next club meeting will be on Friday, March 20, at 8:00 PM in Bradley Observatory. Guy Ottewell, editor of the Astro Calendar, will be coming down from Furman University to do the program. I don't know if he will be talking about his recent travels or telling us about some special astronomical project that he is working on - whatever; he gives an interesting talk, I've heard him before.


-- wants, needs, desires, and aspirations -- Lindwood Beck, longstanding club member, speaks from his retirement rocking chair and tells me he is looking for an off-axis guide system that will fit a 10-inch, or 6-inch, Newtonian. Also he needs a ac/dc variable speed control that is strong enough to work on his 10-inch Craftsman mount; the phone is beside the rocker, 355-6635. For aspirations we have Mark Christensen and a group of active club members. A plan is underfoot to make working telescopes out of our 16-inch and 20-inch mirrors - the 16 first. The plan is to have it out at the Barber Observatory and functioning as a sky observing instrument within a few months. I know there are many people with ideas, and they are welcome; however, what we need most is some basic gifts: a few eye-pieces, finder scope, secondary mirror, a little money.

It's getting toward that time of year for nominating new officers. This is an opportunity for new members to make themselves more visible by becoming involved with making things happen. The Program Chairman's position is open; my position, Corresponding Sec. is also open. For many years I've been a very active member - sure, it has required effort and time; that's what gives substance and meaning to the experiences. The A A C is a living entity and must continually be renewing itself. Learning about responsibility and decision making are acquired traits; Let Mark Christensen have some input from the membership.

The Annual Atlanta Astronomy Club Banquet will be in May. Start making your plans to attend; tell Ray Devarney.

***** Salute to Harry Johnson, who has quietly been doing a worthy job. Since sometime in 1977 Harry has been coming to club meetings with a check in his pocket; it's already filled out, it's for \$5.00, and it's for the Observatory Fund. His small and steady contribution has now put him right up there with the mere handful of members who have contributed 2 to 3 hundred dollars. Back when I was doing the Recording Sec. job I ran across the club incorporation papers - Harry was much involved with that. His first official position with the club was Treasurer in 1951-52, and he held that position for 4 years. In 1963-64 he again became Treasurer and served 4 more years. Harry was around at the beginning and was in one of Bill Calder's telescope making classes that were begun shortly after the A A C formed in October 1947.

-- Next observing alert; Saturday, April 4--

 lee wilson