

ATLANTA ASTRONOMY CLUB NEWSLETTER

MEETING: Club President, John Parker 977-2387  
The October meeting will be held at 8:00 P.M. on Friday, October 18, 1985 at the Bradley Observatory of Agnes Scott College.

PROGRAM: Program Chairperson, Dr. Joe Gibson 255-1621  
Live! From the Bradley Observatory! It's Astronomynight! With Telescope Tips and Observing Obsessions! A medley of member meanderings...

TREASURY NOTES: Treasurer, Liz Peterson 767-4674  
Please NOTE==> correct phone number. Last month's newsletter had the wrong phone number!!!!!!  
A financial report is coming soon.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President John Parker  
As each month brings Halley's comet closer, there is an increasing interest in the public about the comet and other astronomical phenomena. I have been asked to speak before several elementary school classes on various topics in astronomy. If anyone is interested in giving short presentataions to groups of this kind, please contact me. Presentations outside our own club are an excellent way to promote astronomy and provide factual information to the general community.

THE UPPER HALF: Upper Halver, George Reight 633-1202  
New Moon, Saturday, October 13  
First Quarter, Saturday, October 20  
Observing Session at the Barber Observatory, weekend October 13  
Famous Astronomical Football Score, Georgia Tech 222, Cumberland College 0, October 6, 1916

This month's UPPER HALF is written by William H. Black, a member of the AAC Board of Directors. Bill comes from a long and distinguished career in professional astronomy.

Among Bill's past accomplishments was an assignment at the giant radio telescompe at Cornell University. Later he was appointed as Senior Observer at the Harvard College Observatory at Agassig Station.

Bill currently is associated with the Bellsouth Corp. as an Analyst. He writes:

The 1936 edition of William Olcott's FIELD BOOK OF THE SKIES begins with, "Why should I study astronomy? What use is it to me?", and then answers: OF NO USE ! You must read the chapter to offset this abrupt beginning, and to gain an appreciation for the author's love of amateur astronomy.

Mr. Olcott founded the American Association of Variable Star Observers, an organization whose lifeblood is quality data from amateur astromers. He mentions the American Meteor Society, and today there are other organizations such as the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, The Society of Amateur Radio Astromoners, organized groups in specialized photography, lunar occultations and photoelectric photometry, which thrive on the amateur/professional interface. These amateur groups cover the spectrum from visual observing to highly sophisticated achivers like the people you meet at the Atlanta Astronomy Club meetings.

No time could be more appropriate than the imminent season of Halley

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hype for individual introspection as amateur astronomers. The "once in a lifetime comet", will offer unprecedented opportunities for amateur participation while visiting our little corner of the universe, and even after it leaves, there will be residual effects to be studied. Beyond Halley, will you return to "business as usual", or will you be inspired to become more actively involved in amateur astronomy? No other hobby in the world offers comparable opportunities for professionalism and enjoyment.

By William H. Black

Last Minutes: Recording Secretary, Sharone Franklin 934-8796  
President, John Parker, was inspired by a question from the audience to suggest that the AAC (that's us) should consider locating an area for members to assist the public in viewing Halley's Comet.  
Last meeting was the first meeting under the new club officers: President, John Parker; Treasurer, Liz Peterson; Newsletterer, Dennis M. Holmes; Program Director, Dr. Joe Gibson; Public Relationist, Lee Wilson; Star Reporter, Sharone Franklin; Observing Chairperson, George Reight. ...

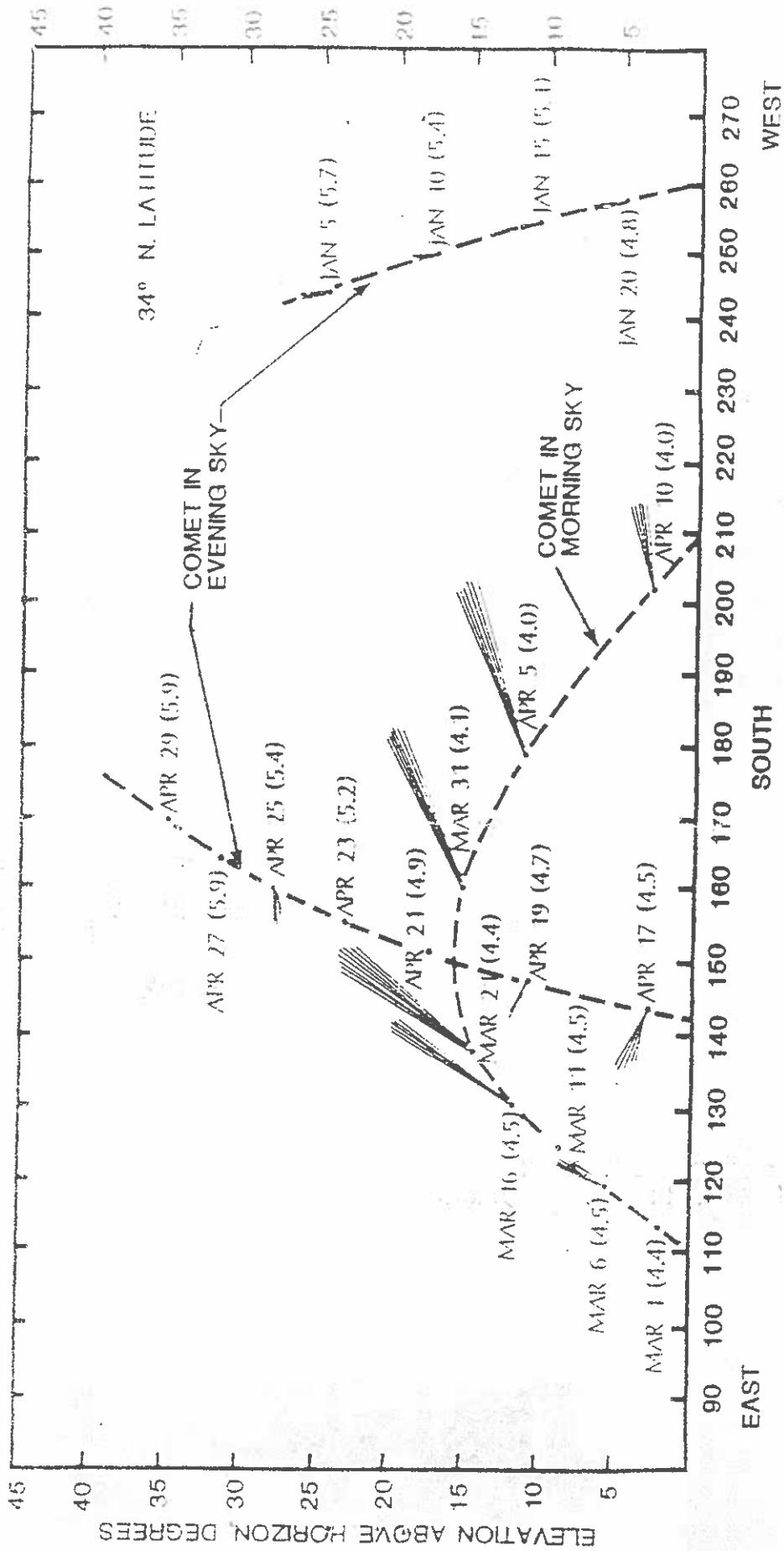
NOTICE to MEMBERS:

Please send membership dues to:

Liz Peterson  
2485 Batavia Street  
Eastpoint, GA 30344

IN THE STARLIGHT:

At Fernbank Observatory through November will be an exhibit of Space Art by Jerry Armstrong, a local amateur astronomer and comet catcher. A PRITF STAR award goes to Jerry for his fine work.



PREDICTED VISIBILITY OF COMET HALLEY  
 FROM THE LATITUDE OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA