



Our July Meeting...

Thursday, July 13th, 1995
Phillips Auditorium, Harvard-Smithsonian
Center for Astrophysics

AS VOTED on by the membership during the June meeting, we shall have a July ATMoB meeting. By tradition, the July meeting has been reserved as a member presentation night. There will be no designated speaker, but rather, ATMoB members will describe various projects and activities that they have been involved in. In my opinion, these presentation meetings are among the most enjoyable and entertaining evenings we have. The ATM membership has a number of very talented and clever individuals, and this is the evening to let them show us their projects and ideas.

Any member who wishes to present a project, idea, photos, recent astronomical adventure, please contact me so that I may place you on the schedule. Your talk should be limited to no more than 15 minutes. Show and tell type presentations would be most welcome.

Please join us at a pre-meeting dinner at the Changsho Restaurant, 1712 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge. Please meet at the restaurant by 6:00 PM.

Our June Meeting...

AT THE last meeting, the membership elected the following members to the Executive Board: President - Mario Motta, Vice President - Peter Bealo, Secretary - Stephen Beckwith, Treasurer - Bernard Volz, Membership Secretary - Mark Bruckner. Members at Large are: Anthony Costanzo, Richard Koolish, Phil Rounseville and Gary Walker.

The meeting was opened by Mario Motta. The Secretary's report was not given, Tony Costanzo gave the treasurer's report and Mark Bruckner gave an update on the club membership. John Reed reported that the clubhouse

kitchen is complete and that at the May 20th Star Party at the clubhouse went well.

Mario recognized outgoing Treasurer Tony Costanzo's nine years of hard work in fulfilling the obligations required of that position.

There was an extended discussion of the proposed changes to the club's bylaws (See the June 1995 *Star Fields*) resulting in some wording changes in some article proposals. Gary Walker set up a computer with an image of the edge on view of Saturn's rings. Steve Beckwith and Mario Motta reported their views of the same sight.

Two members commented that they were not receiving *Star Fields* until after the monthly meeting despite it having a post mark dating a week prior to the meetings. Ted Poulos suggested they contact their local post masters for assistance in this matter.

Dr. Laurence R. Young, the evenings guest speaker, gave an enlightened talk on the medical challenges of long duration space flight and the research taking place to meet those challenges.

President's Message...

I WISH to thank the ATM membership for their vote of confidence in me in electing me to a second term as your president. Thankfully our bylaws automatically make me a "lame duck" president as we have a two year term limit for this office, and next year at this time I will gratefully accept forced retirement from office. In addition to searching and providing interesting speakers for our monthly meetings, I have attempted to manage and direct our group into an efficient organization so that we can all do what we like best: astronomy. Fortunately, my administration has been blessed with an energetic and capable Executive Board that has given me invaluable advice and plenty of hard work over this past year. The membership should thank the many hours that this group has put in to make the club as active and great as it is. The current Exec Board remains intact for this coming year, with the exception of Tony Costanzo, who has elected, due to work obligations, to step down as treasurer after 9 years of service to the club. I join all members in thanking Tony for his hard work on behalf of the club over these 9 years!!

The clubhouse has been in great hands under the dual leadership of John Reed and Paul Cicchetti. It has never looked better and has never been more active than this past year with many telescope making projects, and an active observing program. For any member that has not visited the clubhouse lately, I urge you to go to visit, as you would be both inspired and proud of the club you belong to. Star parties have become so popular that I now receive an endless stream of requests from school systems, the museum of science, and various organizations. I thank all those who give of themselves at these events, but sadly we have more requests than we can handle at this time, and I ask for all members to volunteer for at least one star party a

year so that more people can appreciate the great hobby we have.

This past year much effort has been expended at getting the club on track. Our incorporation status and tax free status have been secured. Our budget and finances have been closely managed and we now operate in the "black". Our clubhouse has been carefully inventoried and restructured to be an efficient and relaxing place to enjoy your hobby. Our observing program is active and extensive. With this "infrastructure" work over this past year, I feel our club is a capable and user friendly organization that can help members achieve their goals in astronomy.

Any organization is only as good as its members. I know our club is blessed with many talented and energetic members. Come next year I will be forced (thank you) to retire, and several exec board members may wish to step down (Steve Beckwith among others). What this means is that other club members need to become active so that they can assume positions of leadership and service in the club. I am personally asking YOU to become involved in club activities (star parties, clubhouse work details, observing programs, teaching youngsters and the general public, writing articles for this publication). You will not be financially rewarded, but you will feel a deep sense of accomplishment and pride. We are now 61 years old and a proud organization: become an active part of it. If you do nothing else this year, show some child a sky object through a telescope this year, and remember your first sense of wonderment of the universe through the eyes of that child in front of you.

- Mario Motta

Astro Software Review...

GUIDE Ver. 3.0

IRIS Got me guide Ver. 2.0 for father's Day a few years ago. Now that I have upgraded my CPU to a '486 DX50 from a '486SX25, it's really a lot of fun. As a novice in both computers and astronomy. I have found this computer star chart easy to use, inexpensive and useful. The original software cost \$50.00, the version 3.0 upgrade was an additional \$20.00 (it is advertised in *Sky & Telescope* for \$70.00).

Guide comes with a floppy disk program, a CD library disk and a detailed manual. The performance is just as good with a single speed CD drive as it is with a double speed, but the CPU upgrade (which includes a math co-processor) made zooming in and out and animation at high magnification a breeze.

Version 3.0 added colors to the display and some object catalogs to the already huge library (It turns out that our own Mario Motta was instrumental to making improvements on version 1.).

The features I especially like are changing the screen colors to red on black (for use at the telescope) and that the images can be flipped left to right and/or up and down to match the view in the eyepiece. Other features I enjoy are

animating the planets' movements from earth's perspective or from Halley's comet's perspective, watching lunar and solar eclipses and going 2000 years backwards or forwards in time.

Where in Space is Carmen San Diego

This is better than you may expect. My eleven-year-old son and I enjoy it and even I am learning a lot from it. David learned about the Martian moons Diemos and Phobos and now that's all he talks about. The animation of space creatures are funny and the photos of the solar system objects are lovely and contain clear explanations. The software includes a star chart and data base containing explanations of names, mythology, famous science fiction authors, space probes along with descriptions of solar system objects. It runs well on my PC with a *Sound Blaster Pro* sound card and comes on floppy disks. - Eric Reines

Membership Renewal...

HOW DO I Renew or Join?

Renewing or joining is easy. Find the ATMob Renewal Form on the back page of this newsletter. Then fill out the membership information section, check off the boxes and total up the amounts. Write out a check (payable to "ATM's of Boston"), and you are done. Most members are Regular Members (full paying members). Senior Members are generally anyone who is retired (or over the age of 65) and Student Members are full time college, high school, middle or elementary school students (regardless of age).

Sky & Telescope Renewals

Sky & Telescope (S&T) affords club members a \$9.00 discount over it's regular subscription price of \$33.00. If you wish to continue your S&T subscription, send in the renewal card from S&T along with your club renewal form.

Throw away the Sky Publishing envelope that comes with the card and ignore everything the front and back of the S&T card says except for the price and expiration date.

Do not send your card back to S&T (they will have to send it back to you). To renew S&T through the club, send your S&T subscription fee, your S&T card and your membership fee to the ATMob Membership Secretary (Mark Bruckner). Lost your S&T card? Send in the order to the ATMob without it, S&T will make do without it.

Astronomy and CCD Astronomy Renewals

These are both optional magazines. You do not have to send in any renewal cards tot the membership secretary. Just sign up and include the subscription amount in your check. *Astronomy* cost \$20.00 (\$6.95 discount) and *CCD Astronomy* costs \$20.00 (no discount).

Signing Up for Subscriptions

If you have a S&T form from an existing subscription, send it with the ATMoB renewal form and a check. Otherwise, just sign up.

Double Check Your Form

Some members love math and some hate it, so please double check your application and make sure you don't do things such as asking for *Sky & Telescope* without including your membership fee. In order to purchase optional magazines through the club you must be a current ATMoB member.
- Mark Bruckner (617-648-4426)

EDITORS NOTE: Mail your membership renewal form, etc. to Mark Bruckner (The return address of Star Fields). DO NOT send it to me, Steve Beckwith, or you might unwittingly be financing my next set of eyepieces...

Announcements...

VOLUNTEERS ARE needed to help with **SPACE DAY** activities to be held at the Boston Museum of Science on Saturday, July, 22nd. Noreen Grice has asked us to set up a display table and help with the evening star party. She wants the event to be held outside (weather permitting) in a "Space Day Carnival" atmosphere! The star party will take place that evening on the roof of the parking garage from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., weather permitting of course. If you'd like to help out, please call me at (508) 879-3498. Thanks in advance!
- Rich Nugent

STAR PARTY volunteers are needed on July 18th (July 20th weather date) for the Hampstead, N.H. Library Summer Reading Program. The party will be held at the Library. Peter Bealo is the star party contact. He is looking for three to four volunteers. Please give him a call (603-382-7039) if you can lend a hand.

AN EXECUTIVE Board meeting was held May 14th, at Mario Motta's home in Lynnfield. A large portion of the meeting focused on the upcoming year's budget. The majority of the money is going into publishing "*Star Fields*" and operational and improvement expenses of the clubhouse.

The Executive Board also discussed a request for the placement of private observatories on the clubhouse ground. A major obstacle in such a policy is the fact we do not own the property. As a result, the request did not pass a vote taken by Executive Board.

In addition the plan for clubhouse repair and upgrade for Fiscal Year '96 was discussed and approved. Changes to the club's bylaws were reviewed and voted on to be recommended for ratification by the club membership.

THE JULY 15th clubhouse work party has been postponed until July 22nd due to the dedication of the McGregor Observatory at Stellafane. Various tasks will require the help of as many members as possible so please lend a hand. The next work session is scheduled for September 9th.

THERE WILL not be an August meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14th, 1995.

CLUBHOUSE DUTY ROSTER

July 8:	Paul Cicchetti	508-433-9215
	Henry Hopkinson	603-432-2490
July 15:	Greg Chase	508-957-9926
	Bob Heller	508-443-6536
July 22:	Steve Clougherty	617-7843024
	Jim Suslowicz	508-454-9239
July 29:	Closed for Stellafane	
August 5:	Greg Chase	508-957-9926
	Richard Burrier	508-448-5059

EXECUTIVE BOARD 1994-95

PRESIDENT:	Mario Motta	617-334-3648
VICE PRESIDENT:	Peter Bealo	603-382-7039
SECRETARY:	Steve Beckwith	508-779-5227
MEMBERSHIP:	Mark Bruckner	617-648-4426
TREASURER:	Bernie Volz	508-881-3614
MEMBERS AT LARGE:	Gary Walker	508-785-0352
	Dick Koolish	617-646-6086
	Phil Rounseville	617-527-1080
	Anthony Costanzo	508-521-5382

PAST PRESIDENTS: 1993-94 Bernard Volz
1990-92 Marion Hochuli

COMMITTEES

CLUBHOUSE DIR.:	John Reed	617-861-8031
	Paul Cicchetti	508-433-9215
OBSERVING:	Richard Nugent	508-879-3498
HISTORIAN:	Anna Hillier	617-861-8338

How to Find Us...

MEETINGS: Held the second Thursday of each month (September to July) at 8:00PM in Phillips Auditorium, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden St., Cambridge MA.

CLUBHOUSE: The Tom Britton Clubhouse is open every Saturday from mid-afternoon to late evening. It is the white farmhouse on the grounds of MIT's Haystack Observatory in Westford, MA. Take Rt. 3 North from Rt. 128 or Rt. 495 to exit 33 and proceed West on Rt. 40 for five miles. Turn right at the MIT Lincoln Lab, Haystack Observing at the Groton town line. Proceed to the farm house on the left side of the road. Since clubhouse attendance varies with the weather, it is wise to call in advance: 508-692-8708.

SEPTEMBER STAR FIELDS DEADLINE

August 30th is the deadline for items to be included in the September issue of *Star Fields*. Mail or phone your contributions to: Steve Beckwith, 195 Wilder Road, Bolton MA. 01740
508-779-5227 e-mail: Compuserver@71762,2513

1995/96 Membership Renewal -- How do I Renew or Join? To learn how to Join or renew your membership and optional magazine subscriptions, read the renewal section inside the newsletter. **Remember to Add correctly!** Some members love math and some hate it, so please double check your order and make sure you don't do things like ask for Sky & Telescope without including your Membership Fee. Please write checks out to "ATM's of Boston". Want to save your copy of *Star Fields*? Xerox this page, mark up the copy, and send it in.

Membership	\$25.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	} Choose
Senior Membership	\$12.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	} One
Student Membership	\$12.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	} Only
Sky & Telescope	\$24.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	} Optional
CCD Astronomy	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Astronomy	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Donation (suggested)	\$5.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	}

TOTAL Enclosed: - -

Member Information -- (Include only additions or changes)
(Please include mailing label)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State, ZIP: _____
Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____
Occupation: _____
Email Address: _____

Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston

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