



**STAR
FIELDS**

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMATEUR
TELESCOPE MAKERS OF BOSTON

Vol. 6, No. 6 June 1995

Our June Meeting...

Thursday, June 8, 1995
Phillips Auditorium, Harvard-Smithsonian
Center for Astrophysics

THE JUNE meeting will feature Dr. Laurence R. Young from MIT, who will talk on the medical effects of spaceflight. Dr. Young is a payload specialist astronaut for the space shuttle, and has a long and distinguished career in space instrumentation. In 1957 he was involved in flight control systems for Sperry Gyroscope co. 1958-62 he worked on inertial guidance systems at MIT. He spent a year at the Puerto Rico School of Medicine doing eye movement research, then joined MIT in 1962, currently being a professor of aeronautics and astronautics, and a member of the Man-Vehicle Laboratory, doing research on visual and vestibular systems, flight simulation, space motion sickness and manual control and displays. He was a payload specialist for spacelab life sciences 2, spending 2 years of training at the Johnson Space Center.

He is chairman of the Harvard-MIT Committee on Biomedical Engineering and Physics and the interdepartmental Ph.D program in Biomedical Engineering. He has been a lecturer at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Young has been active in many professional and governmental committees too numerous to mention, but including the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, The Space medicine and Biology Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, NASA's Life science advisory committee, and the NIH training committee on biomedical engineering. He chairs the Life Sciences Group of NASA's Task force on Scientific Uses of the Space Station, and serves on the committee on the Space Station. Finally he has been elected to both the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science.

Dr Young has authored over 200 journal articles, and is a recognized world expert on in the field of vestibular function, and a leader in the aerospace applications of manual control theory. Added to the above impressive list of accomplishments. Dr Young's daughter is receiving her

Ph.D degree from MIT the day after our June meeting, and will attend our meeting as well. 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.

Bylaw Change Proposals...

THE FOLLOWING amendments to the club bylaws were discussed by the Executive Board. These amendments are proposals and must be approved by a two thirds majority of members attending a monthly meeting. In order for the membership to have sufficient time to review the proposed changes, our bylaws require the proposals be submitted to each member at least one regular meeting prior to the meeting in which the amendments will be voted on. The earliest we can vote on the amendments will be at the September meeting (assuming we have a meeting in July which will be voted on at this months meeting). Please study the proposed changes, and if you have any questions, please address them at the meeting or by contacting an Executive Board member. *Please note, any ATMoB member can propose amendments to the bylaws.*

Article V, Section 2, Election of Members, B, New Members

This article currently reads:

Any person desiring to become a member of this corporation shall submit to the Membership Secretary an application for such membership, in such form as shall be determined by the Executive Board, together with payment in full of the dues applicable to the class of membership for which application is made. The Membership Secretary shall submit any such application received to the Executive Board for consideration at its next meeting. Acceptance of any such application by the majority vote of the Executive Board shall constitute election of the applicant to the class of membership for which application was made; in the event of rejection of any such application by the Executive Board, all amounts received from the applicant shall be returned.

Proposed change:

Any person desiring to become a member of this corporation shall submit to the Membership Secretary an application for such membership, in such form as shall be determined by the Executive Board, together with payment in full of the dues applicable to the class of membership for which application is made. The Membership Secretary shall submit any such application received to the Executive Board for consideration at its next meeting. The Executive Board may review any such application, and may by majority vote, reject any such application for any reason which it, in its discretion, may deem sufficient. In the event of rejection of any such application by the Executive Board, all amounts received from the applicant shall be returned.

Purpose of the change:

To remove the requirement that the Executive Board vote on all membership applications, but reserve the right to review and reject them.

Article V, Section 3, Membership Dues

Add paragraph F. Reduction or Waiver of Dues

In cases of financial hardship, a regular or associate member may apply in writing to the Executive Board for a reduction or waiver of dues. The Executive Board may, at its discretion, reduce or waive the annual dues for that member, for one year at a time. No waiver or reduction shall be granted for optional publications.

Purpose of the change:

To allow members to remain active in the club in spite of temporary financial hardship.

Article VIII, Executive Board, Section 2, Powers, Paragraph A

This article currently reads:

A. To act upon applications for membership in the corporation, and to accept or reject any such application for any reason which it, in its discretion, may deem sufficient.

Proposed change:

A. To review applications for membership in the corporation, and to reject any such application for any reason which it, in its discretion, may deem sufficient.

Purpose of the change:

To indicate that the Executive Board need not vote on membership applications, but reserves the right to review them.

Article VI, Meetings of Members, Section 1, Regular Meetings

This article currently reads:

Regular meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month except July and August, unless otherwise provided for by vote at the previous meeting. The following order of business shall be observed at all regular meetings, unless it is set aside by a majority vote of members present.

- A. Reading of the records of the previous meeting.
- B. Business and reports
- C. Unfinished business
- D. Discussions

Proposed change:

Regular meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month except July and August, unless otherwise provided for by vote at the previous meeting. The following order of business shall be observed at all regular meetings, unless it is rearranged by a majority vote of members present. No class of business except the program may be eliminated.

- A. Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting
- B. Officer and committee reports
- C. Announcements
- D. Unfinished business
- E. New business
- F. Program

Purpose of the change:

To clarify the current meeting practice, and to more closely conform to Roberts Rules on the suspension of rules.

Article VII, Section 2, President

This article currently reads:

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation. He or she shall preside at all meetings of the members

and of the Executive Board and shall be an ex-officio voting member of all committees.

Proposed change:

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation. He or she shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Executive office voting member of all committees, except the nominating committee.

Purpose of the change:

The president should not be a member of the nominating committee.

Article VIII, Executive Board, Section 3, Meetings

This article currently reads:

A regular meeting of the Executive Board may be held at the behest of the President after each meeting of the members of the corporation provided an Executive Board quorum is present. No notice need be given of any such regular meeting and action may be taken on any business coming before the Executive Board at any such regular meeting.

Proposed change:

.... Add to the paragraph quoted above ...

In addition, a regular meeting of the Executive Board may be held at the behest of the President at any time and place determined by the Executive Board, provided only that due notice be given to the members of the corporation at a regular meeting of the members or in the bulletin sent to All members. The Executive Board may take action on any business coming before it at any such regular meeting.

Purpose of the change:

To allow the board to meet at a convenient time but still provide for notification of the members.

Article XI, Elections, Section 1, Nominations

This article currently reads:

At the regular meeting of the members in April of each year, the President shall propose a list of the names of six members from which the members present at the meeting shall choose by ballot the names of three members to act as a nominating committee to select candidates to fill the places of the retiring officers and members of the Executive Board. ...

Proposed change:

At the regular meeting of the members in April of each year, the President shall propose a list of the names of six members from which the members present at the meeting shall choose by ballot the names of three members to act as a nominating committee to select a full slate of candidates for the elected positions on the Executive Board. ...

Purpose of the change:

To make clear that the nominating committee must propose a full slate of officers and that they can replace any officer, not just those who choose not to serve any longer.

Article XII, Dissolution

This article currently reads:

Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, ...

Proposed change:

Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Executive Board shall, ...

Purpose of the change:

We don't know who the Board of Trustees are. Everywhere else in the bylaws, the reference is to the Executive Board.

Article XV, Parliamentary Authority

Add a new article:

Article XV

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Corporation may adopt.

Purpose of the addition:

To clarify the means of interpreting the bylaws and determining the proper operation of the club.

McGregor Observatory...

AFTER SEVEN years of dedicated effort, the Springfield Telescope Makers wish to announce the completion of the Douglas McGregor Observatory. Located 2 hours by car northwest of Boston, the observatory is situated atop Breezy hill, in the town of Springfield, Vermont. Members who have attended recent Stellafane conventions will already be familiar with the location, and can point the way for newer members who may be interested in attending the dedication ceremony.

The observatory houses a 13-inch aperture, 130-inch focal length Schupmann telescope, which is believed to be the largest aperture instrument of its type currently functioning anywhere in the world. First light through this instrument was in December of last year, and despite the lack of a tracking system and without much effort spent in optical alignment, first views of Saturn at 350x were sufficiently breathtaking to warrant unconditional enthusiasm by all present.

Under a previous agreement with the Springfield Telescope Makers, the Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston, Inc., joined the project as a corporate sponsor, putting up the necessary funds to begin fabrication of the optical elements and tube assembly. This agreement entitles members of both clubs to use the telescope, after individuals have successfully completed an envisioned qualified observer program.

The Springfield Telescope Makers invite members of the ATMob to attend the dedication ceremony, which will take place on Saturday, July 15, 1995, beginning at 1 P.M. The program features several speakers, a ribbon cutting ceremony, and a videotaped history of the observatory and telescope construction. Refreshments will be served, and the event will occur rain or shine. The location will be at the McGregor Observatory. Weather permitting, the new telescope will of course be trained on the heavens later that evening, so that all who are interested may observe whatever sights are given to us by the great celestial projectionist on duty.

- Scott Milligan.

Announcements...

I AM extremely proud to report that my wife (Joyce Motta) has completed four years of study at the Mass. School of Law, and Graduates on June 2. In addition she took the Mass. Bar exam and passed the bar on her first attempt. (only 56% passed who took it this year). I am proud of her accomplishments, but it is unfortunate that she couldn't have chosen a more socially useful profession!

OUR THANKS to the Coffin School of Marblehead for a \$50 contribution to the club as a thank you for our Star party on May 8., and I thank all the volunteers who came that made it possible. The kids and parents had a great time.

- Mario Motta

WITH THE 32- inch scope it WAS possible to see the rings of Saturn on edge on May 21 as an extremely faint line, and a shadow of the rings were visible on the planet.

- Mario Motta

AN EXECUTIVE Board meeting was held May 14th, at Mario Motta's home in Lynnfield. Due to lack of space in this issue, the meeting minutes will be published in next month's *Starfields*.

CLUBHOUSE DUTY ROSTER

June 3: Fritz Ledford 603-386-7028
Henry Hopkinson 603-432-2490

June 10: Fritz Ledford 603-386-7028
Henry Hopkinson 603-432-2490

June 17: Bernie Volz 508-881-3614
Art Swedlow 508-486-4734

June 24: Jim Suslowicz 508-454-9239
Eric Johansson 508-667-0137

July 1: Bernie Volz 508-881-3614
John Reed 617-861-8031

July 8: Paul Cicchetti 508-433-9215
Henry Hopkinson 603-432-2490

FOR SALE...

VLAD VUDLER has access to a supply of Magellan GPS (Global Positioning System) Satellite Navigator for \$299.00. The units are the size of a calculator and has an accuracy of thirty feet in latitude, longitude and elevation. Other features include time reference standards, too memory locations, true and magnetic north, and more. A price break maybe in the offering if ten or more people purchase units. Contact Vlad for details (617-272-4110).

Coming Events...

June 15 CFA MONTHLY OBSERVING NIGHTS.
"Desktop Universe: Astronomy on Your Home Computer"
by Ron Dantowitz, Boston Museum of Science. 8:00PM,
Phillips Auditorium, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for As-
trophysics. Call 617-495-7461 for additional information.

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: Anthony Costanzo 508-521-5382

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Gary Walker 508-785-0352
Dick Koolish 617-646-6086
Phil Rounseville 617-527-1080

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

Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston

JULY STAR FIELDS DEADLINE

**June 30th is the deadline for items to be in-
cluded in the July 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**

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 Astro-
physics, 60 Garden St., Cambridge MA.

CLUBHOUSE: The Tom Britton Clubhouse is
open every Saturday from mid-afternoon to late eve-
ning. 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 var-
ies with the weather, it is wise to call in advance:
508-692-8708.

FIRST CLASS