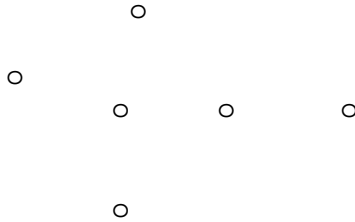


/ PETERBOROUGH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER /



Vol. 1, No. 4

JUNE, 1975

June is here and with the summer months approaching the P.A.A. is planning new activities as well as more outdoor events.

Firstly, however, it must be reported that the plans for a Public Star Night in May had to be cancelled. It was proven to be very difficult to reserve a place for us to hold such a public event and, as well, the poor weather during the night of the lunar eclipse made it impossible for us to prepare much for that night either. Enclosed is a special report on the eclipse, which would have been distributed if the storm had not come up to spoil the chances of staging a public event.

A sample postcard from Hansen Planetarium is also enclosed with this month's Newsletter. There is a limited supply of these postcards, which can be purchased either individually or in sets of 12 (there are 4 different sets, one for each season, with a constellation key included in each set). If you are interested you can order directly from me for only 10¢ per card or \$1.00 per set.

There are many copies remaining of the May Newsletter for distribution as samples. Any member who would like to help distribute them in order to attract potential new members should contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Bruce McIntosh and Ian Sandeman to the P.A.A. I'm sure that the new members will contribute a great deal of enthusiasm and ability to our association.

Meetings:

The P.A.A. meets Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m. in Wallis Hall Seminar Room 1, Catherine Parr Traill College near the corner of Reid and Dublin streets. The meeting on May 16 featured a talk by President, Harry Adams, on the effects of the orbits of the inner planets, Mercury and Venus, on observations of them from the Earth. After the formal part of the meeting the rest of the time was spent outside observing at Frank Hancock's place on the centre line of Smith Township.

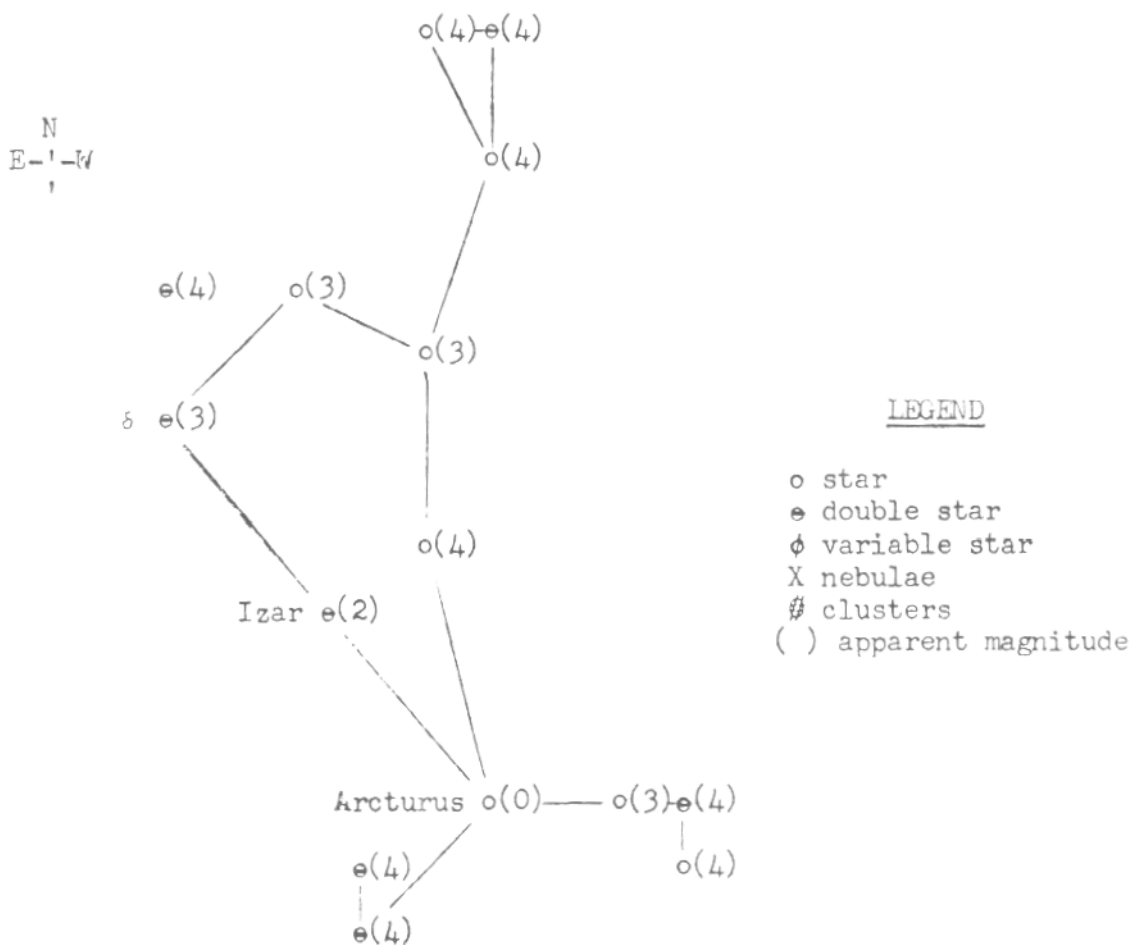
Association Activities:

During this month, two project ideas are going to be explored. One is an

idea of Harry's for a simple useful and relatively inexpensive method of building small 4" reflectors for use in planetary studies. The other idea involves the arrangement of transportation to Toronto for a show at the McLaughlin Planetarium for interested members. Both of these ideas will be discussed during the meetings this month.

The Sky in June:

Each month a constellation is featured to help members familiarize themselves with the night sky. If between 8 and 9 p.m. you follow an imaginary line running north and south from directly overhead (the Celestial Meridian) the featured constellation will be found along this line. This month's constellation is Bootes (the Herdsman).



<u>Double Star</u>	<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
δ	3.5-7.5	105"	Yellow-Blue; a field glass double
Izar	2.5-5.0	3"	Orange-Green; beautiful object

Bootes is an easily recognized constellation resembling a huge kite. Arcturus, its brightest star, has a magnitude of 0.2 and is the 4th brightest

star visible from northern latitudes. Arcturus can be located by following backwards the curve of the Big Dipper handle; the curved line connecting these stars extended about 30° will lead your eye to Arcturus. It is a giant star about 80 times as bright as the sun and is 32 light years away.

Mercury – not visible this month

Venus – in Cancer, mag. -3.9; a brilliant object in the west at sunset, sets three hours later

Mars – in Pieces, mag. 0.8; rises about three hours before the sun, in close conjunction with Jupiter on the 16th

Jupiter – in Pisces, mag. -1.8; as with Mars it rises about three hours before the sun, both are good morning objects

Saturn – in Gemini, mag. 0.4; it is quite low in the west and it sets soon after sunset, not visible after the middle of the month

Moon – last quarter, June 1; new moon, June 9; first quarter, June 16; full moon, June 23

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