

SOUTHERN SKIES



PRESIDENT

John Hare
Bishop Planetarium
201 10th Street, West
Bradenton, FL 33505

EDITOR

Thomas W. Hocking
Space News Publishing Co.
4201 University Drive, Suite 102
Durham, NC 27707-2531

PAST PRESIDENT

Duncan Teague
Craigmont Planetarium
3333 Covington Pike
Memphis, TN 38218

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Kathy Summers
1078-2 Noble Vines Drive
Clarkston, GA 30021

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Sue Griswold
Kelly Planetarium
1658 Sterling Road
Charlotte, NC 28209

MAILING LIST/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Sue Griswold
Kelly Planetarium
1658 Sterling Road
Charlotte, NC 28209

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jon Bell
Peninsula Planetarium
524 J. Clyde Morris Blvd.
Newport News, VA 23601

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DEADLINES: Submit all copy and artwork to the Editor in accordance with the following deadlines:

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|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Spring Issue (No. 1) | January 1 | Fall Issue (No. 3) | July 1 |
| Summer Issue (No. 2) | April 1 | Winter Issue (No. 4) | October 1 |

Your cooperation will insure the continued timeliness of Southern Skies.

Southern skies



VOL. VI, No. 2

JUNE, 1986

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

by
John Hare

By the time you read this, Halley's Comet will be a faint and, probably, forgotten phenomenon. After nearly a year of comet programs, observing sessions, and responses to thousands of questions, we can finally relax. I've got a great idea! Let's all meet in Chapel Hill on June 22, and throw a four day "recover from the comet" party! Then we can go home and recover from the party.

Seriously though, June 22 marks the opening day of the 1986 SEPA Conference and, contrary to popular belief, a SEPA Conference isn't a four-day party. What it is, is four of the most intense and enlightening days you will ever experience. SEPA's track record of success is based upon participation. Do your part to maintain the continuity of this tradition. If you can't attend the conference, don't despair. By renewing your membership you will continue to receive the SEPA Journal and other benefits of membership, including special mailings and access to the SEPA script bank and mailing list.



Following the SEPA Conference by less than a week is the International Planetarium Society (IPS) Conference. This year's meeting will be held in Tucson, Arizona, from June 29 through July 4. Included in this week-long conference is a tour to Kitt Peak, with optional tours to the Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT) and various historical/scenic sites.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

by
Tom Hocking

I will be representing SEPA at the IPS Council meeting. One item of business that will be discussed, and possibly acted upon, will be the choice of the 1990 conference site. Richmond, Virginia has already been chosen for the 1988 meeting. Two formal invitations have been extended for the 1990 conference; Paris, France, and Borlange, Sweden. A Paris meeting would be hosted by the planetarium at La Villette, "the world's largest science center." The proposal was in very general terms and mentioned nearby astronomical and historical sites, as well as hotels, food, transportation, etc. The meeting dates were proposed for July, with mention of a possible group trip, before or after, to the total solar eclipse in Finland. See Southern Skies, September 1985, for the details of the Borlange proposal. I hope to have additional information on these proposals by the SEPA Conference and will discuss them and other IPS business with you at that time. I will, of course, carry any mandates from the SEPA membership to the IPS Council meeting.

See you in Chapel Hill!

To paraphrase an old cowboy song, "We're back on schedule again...."

If you notice that the issue seems a little thin this time around, that's because your contributions to the publication have been proportionally thin. Even our "double issue" wasn't much bigger than we normally put out. Just a reminder--I edit the stuff, I don't invent it. If y'all want to see an issue of Southern Skies crammed full of interesting stuff, then send some things to me and start cramming.

You will also notice that I have changed my address yet again. Gone are the days of two-hour commutes (one way). By the time you read this, I will have settled down on my North Carolina farm (40 acres) to do Space News with my additional spare time. Please take note of my new mailing address:

Tom Hocking, Editor
Space News
4201 University Drive
Suite 102
Durham, NC 27707

I may be reached at (919) 879-2640
(answering machine).

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10000 St. Vrain Ave.
Golden, CO 80401
Phone: 303-239-5241

SPECIAL EDITOR'S MESSAGE

If this issue seems a wee bit short to you, you're right. Guess why! I haven't received anything for it. What you see is what I got.

It is possible something got lost in the mail, but to my knowledge everything sent to me is contained in these pages.

Your editor,

Tom Hocking