

stages of work, testing equipment and finished mirrors. Patterns for mountings were displayed by Mr. Walls and Mr. Gilley. One of the outstanding features was the drive made by Lyle Johnson for his "Johnsonian telescope". This was unique as use was made of magnetic clutches for either reversing the drive or driving at double speed. The magnetic clutches were activated by two small switches at the end of a cable.

All in all it was the most successful hobby ever held by the NCA. The changes in the type of displays and the equipment shown indicate that if you are interested in such activities you should see each one that comes along. Each and every time they are different.

NEW MEMBERS

Norman Garrahan, 1422 Madison Street, N.W. Washington 11, D. C. TA 9204

Paul Hensen, Jr., 4002 Beachwood Road, Hyattsville, Maryland. WA 0351

*Vinson Stephens, 1307 Seaton Circle, Falls Church Virginia. FA 0006

Mr. Holland has moved to his Annandale address.

EXPLORING THE SKY. The National Capital Parks inaugurates its "Exploring the Sky" program for this season on May 28 at Fort Reno Park, 40th and Chesapeake Street, N. W. Mr. Rotbart will be the commentator. The events will be cancelled in case of rain. NCA members are urged to come out and bring as many telescopes as possible.

Jewell Boling, Editor, 1717 P Street, N. W. DU 2969

STAR DUST
National Capital Astronomers
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MAY CALENDAR

- May 3 Wed. Open house Naval Observatory.
- May 6 Sat. Discussion Group led by Mr. Gilley. 8:00 p. m. Commerce Foyer.
- May 5-7 Middle East Region annual convention, Norfolk, Virginia.
- May 10 Wed. Open house at NCA 5-inch, Naval Observatory grounds, for regular members.
- May 17 Wed. Open house at NCA 5-inch, Naval Observatory grounds, for regular members.
- May 20 Sat. NCA regular monthly meeting, 8:15 p. m. Commerce Auditorium. Election of officers.
- May 24 Wed. Open house at NCA 5-inch, Naval Observatory grounds, for regular members.
- May 28 Sun. "Exploring the Sky," National Capital Parks star outing, 8:30 to 10:30 EST, Fort Reno Park, 40th & Chesapeake Streets, N. W. (Near Sears, Roebuck on No. 30 street car line.) David Rotbart, Commentator.
- May 31 Wed. Open house Naval Observatory.

Every Friday night, 7-10 p. m. Telescope making class, Roosevelt High School, 13th and Upshur, N. W., Room 319. Miss Irene Warthen, instructor. Telephone LO-1237.

FIRST AMATEUR NIGHT in the history of the NCA will be held on May 20. The lecture and discussion session of the meeting will be taken over by two regular and two junior members. John Lankford, Jr., sophomore at McKinley High School, youngest member of the AAVSO, will talk on the subject, "When Stars Explode." Miles Davis, senior at Central High School, and winner of the Westinghouse Talent Search, will talk on "Methods of Observing Variable Stars". Bob W. Rynsburger, senior at George Washington University, will read a paper on "The Astronomical Unit and Its Measurement". Dr. Francis P. Wells, Lt. Col. Med. Corps. USA (Retired) will talk on "The Moon's Course in Relationship to the Sun". Election of officers for the coming year will also take place at this meeting.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES--A National Capital Astronomers Activity. THE NCA encourages boys and girls of school and high school age in the study of astronomy by providing membership in the association at a reduced rate and by providing supervised participation in those astronomical research fields wherein the amateur may contribute to the advance of astronomy. For information come to the meeting or call Mr. Edward H. Jones, DE 3171.

NORFOLK CONVENTION - We hope to see many of our members at the Regional Convention in Norfolk. We know that at least twelve have made their reservations, and most of those are going by boat. Figure some way to be there for the Saturday, May 6 meetings, if you can't be there for more than one day. If you want to go by boat, and the word is no more reservations, call Bob Wright and maybe something can be done.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS have been reproduced and copies will be available at the next meeting. See the Secretary for a copy.

SLATE OF OFFICERS. Miss Irene Warthen, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, submitted the following names for officers for the year September 1950 through August 1951:

President:	Dr. Francis P. Wells* Mr. Morgan Cilley
Vice-President:	Mr. Edward H. Jones Mrs. Elanora B. Davis
Secretary:	Miss Janet Perkins
Treasurer:	Mr. Joseph B. Matthews, Jr.
Trustee:	Mr. G. R. Wright

Further nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election of officers, May 20, 1950.

*Word has been received from Dr. Wells stating that due to circumstances beyond his control it will be impossible for him to accept the nomination.

HOBBY SHOW. Saturday, April 15, the NCA held the "best ever" hobby show at the Department of Commerce Auditorium. This year more telescopes were shown than ever before. Mr. Cilley had two, Mr. Wells two, Judith Rogers two; Irene Warthen, Miles Davis, John Lankford, and I. H. Halpern each showed one. John Lankford and Miles Davis displayed cameras that were attached to their telescopes and also negatives and prints taken with the cameras. [Mr. Benfer displayed cameras that were attached to their telescopes and also negatives and prints taken with the cameras.] Mr. Benfer displayed a replica grating spectroscope that attracted a great deal of attention. The telescope making class had a display showing blanks, pitch laps, mirrors in various