



CAPE FEAR

Skies



*The
Monthly
Newsletter of the
Cape Fear Astronomy Club*

Volume 3 No. 11

Wilmington, NC

November 1988

November Meeting Announcement

7:00 PM
Sunday, October 30, 1988
Bryan Auditorium
Morton Hall
UNC-W Campus

The next meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomy Club will be held on **October 30, 1988** in the Bryan Auditorium of Morton Hall on the UNC-W Campus. The Business meeting will begin at 7:00 PM EDT. Please note that this is not the first Sunday of November.

The general meeting will begin at 8:00 PM. This month we will have our last Mars Watch '88 program. A celebration of the 50th anniversary of Orson Welles "War of the Worlds" radio broadcast.

the meeting over to Alan Hilburn when he arrived.

Ronnie reported on the Mars program held last weekend at Trask School. The bad weather held out long enough to allow some good viewing. The club collected donations totalling \$79.00.

Ronnie stated we have \$50.62 in the club treasury and \$434.75 in the Observatory fund.

David Maness reported on the viewing site progress. It is 3/4 finished. David expressed thanks to those who helped last week and issued a call for help next Saturday to finish up on the construction.

Alan brought in a large box of t-shirts and offered them for sale for \$5.00 each. They are "War of the World" t-shirts.

The club members present voted to have the next meeting at 7:00 PM on Sunday October 30th. This is the 50th anniversary of the Orson Wells' "War of the Worlds" broadcast. This meeting will be counted as our November meeting.

Alan asked members to start thinking about the upcoming club elections and he hopes some will consider holding office. Nominations will be taken at the

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Meeting Minutes from October

October 2, 1988

The October meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomy Club was called to order at 7:05 PM by Treasurer Ronnie Hawes.

There were 12 members present when the meeting began but a few others arrived later. Officers absent were Paul Petty and Tom Jacobs. Ronnie turned

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(October Meeting Minutes - from page 1)

October 30th and again at the December meeting. The Election will be held at the January meeting.

Members who have overdue books are: David Maness; Steve Reynolds; and John Marshall. Please return these at the next meeting.

The New Hanover county fair will be held October 17th thru 22ed. We will probably set up close to the entrance. Hopefully the \$150.00 entrance fee will be waived.

Alan wants to have a yard sale next weekend. He needs to get rid of items left from the last sale. He will pick up items if any member has something to donate.

A proposal was made to include a map to the new

Hampstead site in the next newsletter. Included should be some commonsense rules and general information concerning progress made on the site and the Observatory.

It was suggested that members select constellations or planets of special interest and report on them at meetings next year.

The meeting ended at 8:00 PM. The slide presentation began at 8:15 PM. The slides were on the Southern Star Convention and the Mars Symposium attended by some of our members.

- Barbara McGowan

Nominations for 1989 Club Officers

The end of another year approaches and it is time once again to start the process of electing club officers for the coming new year. The Cape Fear Astronomy Club will elect all six officers this January to serve for the 1989 calendar year.

This January we will elect someone to fill each of the following club officer positions: President; Vice-President; Assistant Vice-President; Secretary; Treasury; and Newsletter Editor.

To start the election process a club members must be nominated for one of the club offices. Nominations must be made from the floor at the club's monthly

Welcome New Members

Let's give a big clear skies welcome to the newest members of the Cape Fear Astronomy Club. We have three new members to report this month. They are Emily Dotson and J. R. Palmeter both from Wilmington and Michael Newton from Whiteville.

business meetings. Anyone may nominate a club member for any office. The person being nominated must be present to accept the nomination.

Nominations for club officers are now open. Nominations will remain open through the end of the December general meeting. Nominations are closed at the December meeting in order to allow time for the preparation of ballots.

Meeting Minutes from September

September 11, 1988

The September meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomy Club was called to order at 7:05PM by Alan Hilburn.

Ronnie Hawes gave the Treasury Report. There is \$11.12 in the clubs general fund and \$394.76 in the Observatory fund.

Ronnie expressed his gratitude to Ken Murphy for his help with the Mars program narration. It will be used at the Mars viewing next week.

David Maness presented a proposed plan for a club observatory to be used. Kevin and Rose Dunay have donated an acre of their land in Hampstead to be used as a temporary site. It was described by Sam Bissette as an ideal site. The club voted to accept the Dunay's offer of a parcel of land despite some opposi-

tion to the timing of the vote. it was decided that since members were aware of the offer and we had a quorum a vote was in order.

The Mars viewing is still planned for Saturday the 17th of September; and again on Saturday the 24th of September. Members are expected to have their telescopes at the site between 6:30 and 7:00PM. The program will begin around 8:30PM. Jane Fountain will have posters made up for each telescope explaining what the scope is trained on.

David requested a booth on the Midway for our club exhibit during the county fair in October. The dates are not known yet. He also stated that the \$150 entry fee may be waived.

The Program for the general meeting was the film "The Blues for a Red Planet".

- Barbara McGowan

Sky Calendar for November 1988

(All times are Given in UT. to convert to EST subtract 5 hours.)

<u>1st</u>	7h	Mercury passes 4° north of Spica magnitudes of -0.8 and 1.0 respectively.	<u>13th</u>	-----	retrieve the failed Palapa satellite during a space walk from STS 51-A.
	10:11	Moon at last quarter.			
<u>3rd</u>	1h	The equation of time is at maximum for the year. Apparent solar time is 00:16:28 ahead of mean solar time.		11h	1982: Last transmission received from Viking 1 on Mars, after more than 2300 days of operation.
	3h	Regulus passes 0.8° south of the Moon.		-----	Neptune passes 5° north of the Moon.
	12h	Venus at perihelion distance is .72 a.u. from the Sun.			Taurid Meteor North Branch. Radiant is located at right ascension 04:16; declination +22°.
	-----	Soviet dog "Laika" becomes the first living creature place in orbit on this date in 1957.	<u>14th</u>	-----	Andromedid Meteors - Radiant is located at right ascension 01:40; declination +44°; ZHR = 5 to 15; faint and slow moving 20km/sec; mostly red in color; Some will have orange trains.
<u>4th</u>	5h	Moon at descending node.			
	11h	Moon at apogee distance is 63.5 Earth-radii.	<u>16th</u>	21:35	Moon at first quarter.
	17h	Pluto in conjunction with the Sun passes into the morning sky.	<u>17th</u>	4h	Venus passes 4° north of Spica magnitudes -4.0 and 1.0 respectively.
<u>5th</u>	-----	Taurid Meteors south branch. Radiant is located at right ascension 03:32; declination +14°; this is near the Pleiades. ZHR = 12.		-----	Leonid Meteors - Radiant is located at right ascension 10:08; declination +22° (this is in the sickle of Leo); fast moving 70km/sec; ZHR= 5-20. Many bright meteors; some fireballs; greenish or bluish in color. About half of the meteors will live trains.
<u>6th</u>	15h	Venus passes 5° north of the Moon.	<u>18th</u>	1h	Moon at ascending node.
<u>8th</u>	-----	Election Day. Please vote today.	<u>19th</u>	16h	Mars passes 3° south of the Moon.
<u>9th</u>	14:20	New Moon. Lunation number 815.	<u>20th</u>	10h	Moon at perigee distance is 57.5 Earth-radii.
	-----	Cepheid Meteors - Radiant is located at right ascension 23:30; declination +63°; this is located between Cepheus and Cassiopeia. ZHR = 8 usually much less. First observed in 1969 with 43 meteors in a 15 minute period.		-----	Astronauts Conrad and Bean recover pieces of Surveyor 3 spacecraft to return to Earth on this date in 1969.
	-----	The first successful unmanned test flight of the Saturn 5 moon rocket occurred on this date in 1967.		-----	Edwin Hubble born this day in 1889.
<u>11th</u>	8h	Antares passes 0.5° north of the Moon.	<u>21st</u>	-----	Monocerotids Meteors. Radiant is located at right ascension 07:15; declination -7°; Fast moving. Had 100 meteors during a 20 minute period in 1985.
	-----	The crew of Columbia deploys the first of two communications satellites on the first operational mission for the Space Shuttle on this date in 1982.		-----	The first manned flight on the Montgolfier balloon is made on this date in 1783.
<u>12th</u>	-----	Pegasis Meteors - Radiant is located at right ascension 22:54; declination +19°. Slow moving 15km/sec.	<u>22nd</u>	19h	The Sun enters the constellation of Scorpius.
	18h	Ceres is stationary in right ascension.			
	19h	Uranus passes 5° north of the Moon.			
	21h	Saturn passes 6° north of the Moon.			
	-----	Astronauts Joe Allen and Dale Gardner re-			

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(Sky Calendar - from page 3)

	<u>23rd</u>	
3h	Jupiter at opposition moves into the evening sky.	
15:53	Full Moon. Called the Frosty or Beaver Moon.	
17h	Jupiter passes 6° south of the Moon.	
20h	Mercury at descending node.	
<u>25th</u>		
2h	Venus at it's greatest northern latitude 3.4°.	
<u>26th</u>		
-----	The first clear images of Mar's moon Phobos are taken by Mariner 9 on this date in 1971.	
<u>28th</u>		
-----	The European-built Spacelab makes it's first orbital flight on this date in 1983 aboard the space shuttle Columbia.	
<u>29th</u>		
15h	The Sun enters the constellation of Ophiychus. Ophiychus is not one of the original zodiac signs.	
<u>30th</u>		
11h	Regulas passes 0.5° south of the Moon. Occultation.	

Nominations for Club Awards

Once again as the end of the year approaches it is time to think not only about club officers for next year but also about who if anyone should receive awards from the club.

Is there someone who you feel has made an outstanding contributions to the club this year? If there is you may nominate that person for one of the 1988 awards.

To nominate someone for one of the club's awards all you need to do is contact any officer of the club before the December general club meeting.

Directions to the Hampstead Site

On page 5 of this newsletter you will find a map, that was provided by Rose Dunay, showing how to get to the new Hampstead viewing site. For those of us who are not very good at following maps there are directions you can also use to find the Hampstead site.

First go to Hampstead.

From the stop light in Hampstead travel north on US highway 17.

You will pass the Topsail Elementary School. The Topsail Elementary School will be on your right as you are going north on US 17.

You will pass the entrance for Olde Point. Olde Point will be on your right as you are going north on US 17.

You will pass the Topsail High School. The entrance for the Topsail High School will be on your left as you are going north on US 17.

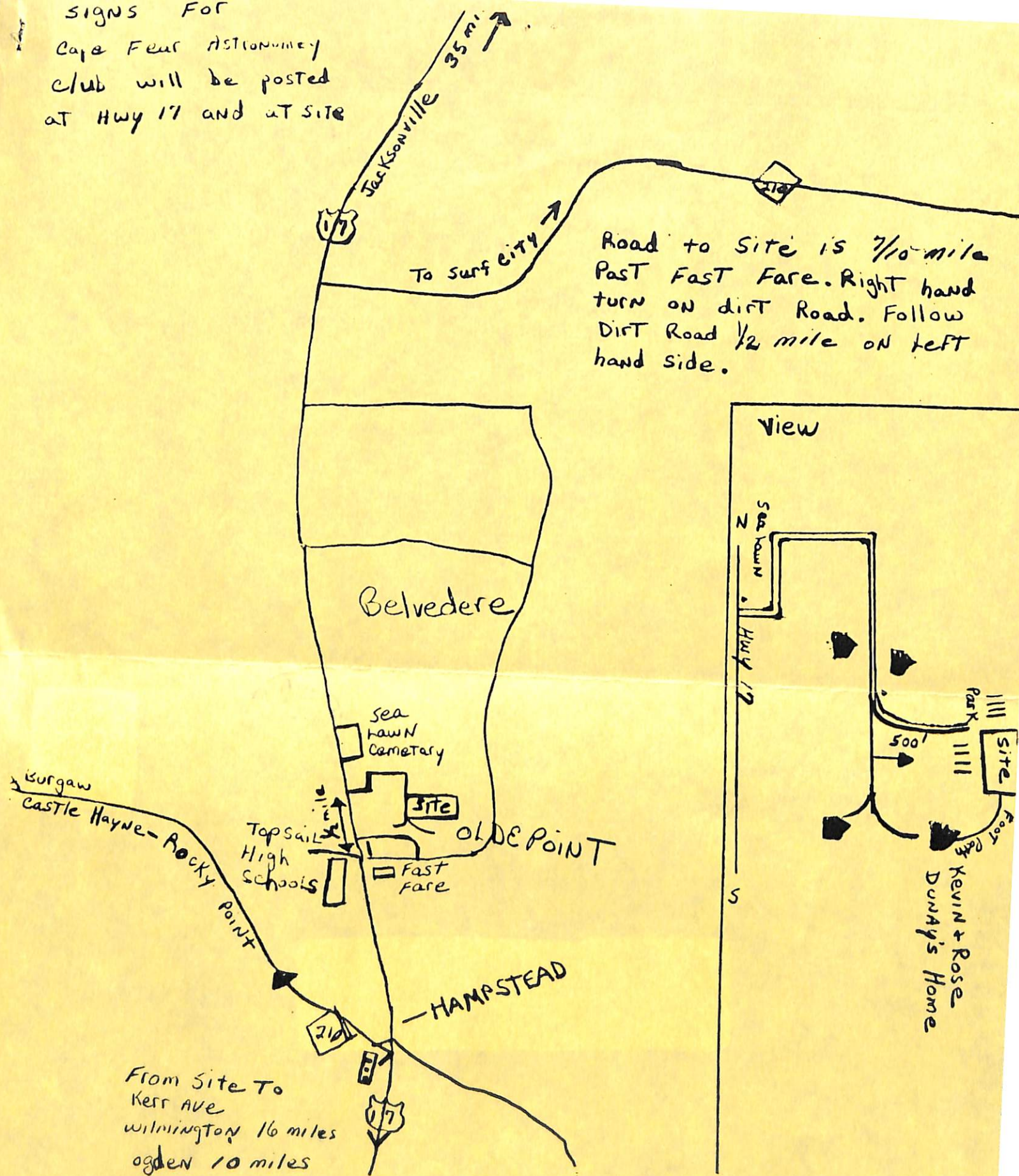
Slow Down the turn for the viewing site is before you leave the School Zone.

Look for a billboard with an advertisement for a realtor. This billboard is just in front of the driveway into the viewing site. Also just beyond the driveway into the viewing site is a hand painted sign with white letters on a black background. This hand painted sign has CFAC written on it plus some other information.

Take this dirt driveway back to the viewing site. Stay on the main driveway until you see another hand painted sign with CFAC pointing to the left. Take this left turn and dim your lights. You are less that 100 yards from the shelter we have built.

If you go past Sea Lawn you have travel to far north on US highway 17. Turn around and take the first Left turn after passing the Sea Lawn office.

SIGNS For
Cape Fear Astronomy
club will be posted
at Hwy 17 and at site



Upcoming Events for November 1988

Monthly Meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomy Club
October 30, 1988; 7:00 PM - Bryan Auditorium; Morton Hall; UNC-W

Club Viewing Session
November 12, 1988; Dusk until "?" - Hampstead Site

Club Viewing Session
November 19, 1988; Dusk until "?" - Hampstead Site

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