

# 10 YEARS 1983-1993

## STILL REACHING FOR THE STARS

THE OFFICIAL CAPE FEAR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 8 no. 3

Wilmington, NC

March 1993



### March Meeting Announcement

Sunday  
March 7, 1993  
Bryan Auditorium  
Morton Hall  
UNCW Campus

A short business meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomical Society will begin at 7:00 PM and break at 7:15 PM.

A 30 minute social with refreshments will precede this month's special program. This month's program will start at 7:45 PM and will be presented by a guest speaker: the area's infamous amateur astronomer, Johnny Horne. He will be here in honor of our 10th anniversary.

### About the speaker: Johnny Horne

Johnny Horne lives in Stedman, North Carolina with his wife Ann and their two sons Adam and Stephen, ages 12 and 2 years old respectively.

Johnny has been an amateur astronomer

since the age of ten. At age fourteen, Johnny built a six inch Newtonian reflector Telescope. He ground and polished the primary mirror to his own calculations. In 1978, he built his present backyard domed observatory housing a twelve inch Newtonian/Cassegrain telescope used primarily for astrophotography.

Johnny has an Associate Degree in Photography from Randolph Technical College (1973).

Since 1972, he has been a staff photographer for the Fayetteville Observer - Times newspapers in Fayetteville, NC.. For the last five years Johnny has had his own column in the above mentioned papers called the "Backyard Universe". The column appears the last Sunday of each month.

He has had many photographs published through books:

Space Shoots by Timothy Ferris 1984  
Pantheon Books.

1000+ The Amateur Astronomer's Field Guide to Deepsky Observing by Tom Lorenzin.

Visual Astronomy of the Deepsky by Roger N. Clark.

Touring the Universe Through Binoculars by Phil Harrington.

Photographs through newspapers and Magazines:

Newsweek, Modern Photography, Sky and Telescope, Woman's World, Los Angeles Times and the Boston Globe.

# Meeting Minutes From February

Minutes by Ben Steelman

February 7, 1993

President Alan Hilburn welcomed 15 members and four guests to the meeting in Bryan Auditorium, Morton Hall.

Old business was dominated by plans for the 10th anniversary meeting in March. Associate Vice President Ronnie Hawes unveiled a special 10th anniversary logo for a limited edition of T-shirts and sweatshirts. Discussion followed on how to design the shirts. New member Charles Raines moved that the anniversary logo be put on the front of the shirt, over the pocket, with the Society's galactic logo on back, and his motion carried. Shirts will be \$10, \$15 for sweatshirts; for orders, contact Alan.

Alan said he'd call on members for help in contacting former members for a reunion. Secretary Ben Steelman volunteered to help with publicizing guest speaker Johnny Horne's talk; Bernice Pearson volunteered to chair a refreshment committee. Alan promised birthday cake and door prizes.

As Treasurer Elaine Fox was absent at a family wedding, President Alan reported that the savings balance stood at \$266.18 and the checking balance at \$240.54.

Alan reported that he is still following up on a possible permanent observatory site in the Wards Corner vicinity of Pender County; the property owner has had health problems.

Secretary Ben agreed to write the Morehead Planetarium for the upcoming schedule, so the Society can plan a trip. Alan reported no word on plans for an excursion to the observatory/planetarium at Roper Mountain, S.C.

Alan asked all members to help with an inventory of Society property. Members should contact Ben or Alan.

Associate Vice President Ronnie reported that a new session of his introduction to astronomy course will begin March 18 at UNCW. Classes will meet at 8 p.m. Thursdays. For details, call the UNCW

Division of Public Service, 395-3195.

Vice President Jim Picklesimer, as chairman of the public events committee, reported that he's trying to find a major speaker -- either an astronomer or an astronaut -- for later in the year.

Secretary Ben reported that he and Alan had presented an astronomy program Feb. 1 for Cub Scouts from Pack 200 at the Moose Lodge on Carolina Beach Road.

A double-header program was presented: Alan and Past President Tom Jacobs gave an introductory talk for beginners, while Jim and Ronnie discussed telescope use for the more advanced.

## PLUTO



**This artist's conception** shows one of NASA's proposed twin space probes flying near the planet Pluto (top) and its moon Charon (bottom).

## A Few Words From the President

To my Fellow members,

I would like to start by thanking all of you who rejoined us from last year. Also I would like to welcome all our newest members who join us for the first time. Your participation in club activities and meetings are greatly needed and appreciated.

This year I have announced the societies activities and hope we can fulfill each one by the end of the year. Some unannounced activities may occur through-out the year. However we will do everything within our power to provide our members with adequate notice. Please try to attend as many of these activities as possible.

Our number one priority this year is to find an observatory site. The executive committee, some of the members and I are working very hard to resolve this situation.

The executive committee and I, would like all C.F.A.S. members to have fun while learning something about Astronomy.

I hope everyone will attend our March meeting. I feel this could be one of the best meetings of the year. Johnny Horne will give the program in honor of our Tenth Anniversary.

2/25/93wrf

Keep looking up



Prez  
President  
Cape Fear Astronomical Society

## Special Agenda for the March Meeting

Refreshments will be served.

Our schedule for March 7th is as follows:

7:00 - 7:15 Short Business Meeting

7:15 - 7:45 Refreshments - Socialize

7:45 - 8:30 Johnny Horne Presentation

8:30 - Questions and Answers

## Astronomical tidbit

Space The Architecture Of The Universe  
by Gottfried Honegger and Peter van de Kamp

Over half of the fifty-five nearer stars are grouped in double or triple arrangements. The double stars permit measurement of the masses of the stars and reveal that the less luminous the star, the less massive it is. The faintest star, L726-8B, has only 3.5 % of the sun's mass but is still more than 30 times as massive as Jupiter, the largest planet.

## Special Thanks

I would like to thank Ronnie Hawes for taking the time to design the special anniversary logo for the tee shirts and sweat shirts. He also provided the new look for our monthly newsletter.



## Upcoming Events for March 1993

The next Meeting of the Cape Fear Astronomical Society  
Sunday March 7, 1993 7:00 PM - Bryan Auditorium; Morton Hall

Group Viewing Session  
Friday March 12, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

Group Viewing Session  
Friday March 19, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

Group Viewing Session  
Friday March 26, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

Group Viewing Session  
Saturday March 13, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

Group Viewing Session  
Saturday March 20, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

Group Viewing Session  
Saturday March 27, 1993  
Dusk until "?"  
Holly Shelter Site

The gate at the Holly Shelter Viewing Site is now open for the session.  
Please remember that headlights will cause night blindness to any viewers

Cape Fear Skies  
3436 Hampshire Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28409



ALAN HILBURN  
120 COVENTRY ROAD  
WILMINGTON, N.C. 28405