R. A. S. C. MEETINGS

ARE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM (ROOM 100) OF THE FLETCHER ARGUE BUILDING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA EACH MONTH, EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST. THE AGENDA CONSISTS OF GUEST SPEAKERS, FILMS, DISCUSSIONS, ALSO AMATEUR PROJECTS, TELESCOPE MAKING ETC. THE LAST FEW MINUTES ARE SOMETIMES SPENT IN THE UNIVERSITY PLANETARIUM, WHERE WE REVIEW THE SKY FOR THE COMING MONTH. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AND GET-TOGETHERS.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE $12.50 FOR ADULTS, AND STUDENTS(UNDER 18) FEES ARE $7.50. FEES INCLUDE THE JOURNAL R.A.S.C., THE OBSERVERS HAND BOOK, AND WINNICENTRICS.

FOR INFORMATION

PHONE: THE SOCIETY
OFFICE - 832-6325

MEETING DATES - 1973 - 1974

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER	14, 1973	8:00 PM
FRIDAY OCTOBER	12, 1973	8:00 PM
FRIDAY NOVEMBER	9, 1973	8:00 PM
FRIDAY DECEMBER	14, 1973	8:00 PM
FRIDAY JANUARY	11, 1974	8:00 PM
FRIDAY FEBRUARY	8, 1974	8:00 PM
FRIDAY MARCH	8, 1974	8:00 PM
FRIDAY APRIL	19, 1974	8:00 PM
FRIDAY MAY	10, 1974	8:00 PM

R.A.S.C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, JUNE 28 - JULY 1, 1974

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
WINNIPEG CENTRE

Winnicentrics

ANNUAL ELECTIONS:

The nominating committee is now busy choosing candidates to fill vacancies occuring at the end of the year. The voting will take place at our December meeting. Please remember that as well as candidates chosen by the committee, members may also nominate other members of their choice at the election. The nominee must have given his permission to run for office.

OBSERVATORY FUND:

Would you like to do some observing through a 14" Celestion Telescope??? Our own 14" Celestion Telescope?? So far, 7 members have come up with concrete ideas and have raised funds. Another 17 have assisted. What about the other 100 members? Give your suggestions to Paul or Roy. In spite of apparent insurmountable problems and obstacles.....

WE WILL GET OUR OWN OBSERVATORY
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FOR INFORMATION REGARDING OBSERVING ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS UNDER THESE CLASSIFICATIONS, PLEASE CALL THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL:

General Observing Co-ordinator:	Mr. Del Stevens	832-6325
Ass't Co-ordinator:	Mr. John Wunderlich	832-1945
Astro-Photography:	Mr. Jack Newton	888-8026
Aurora and Solar:	Dr. J.N.R. Scatliff	453-0514
Grazes:	Mr. Frank Shinn	947-5620
Librarian:	Mr. Larry Frostiak	247-9070
Lunar Observing:	Mr. Kim Mysyk	269-1742
Meteors:	Mr. Wm. Krosney	582-2140
Occultations:	Mr. Clyde Reid	(1)482-3930
Planetary:	Mr. Alan Dyer	247-3861
Radio Astronomy:	Mr. Fred Venema	338-2755
Satellites & Asteroids:	Mr. Paul Moffat	284-1344
Variable Stars:	Mr. Frank Shinn	233-4384

MAILING ADDRESS:

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada,
Dept. of Math & Astronomy,
University of Manitoba,
FORT GARRY, Manitoba

EDITOR:

Miss Ella Dack,
505-24 Carlton St.,
WINNIPEG, Manitoba
R3C 1P1

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL - 1973

Honourary President:	His Worship, The Mayor of Winnipeg, Mr. Stephen Juba
Past President:	Mr. Jack Newton, 18 Peel Crescent, 888-8026
President:	Mr. Del Stevens, 22 Rowand Ave., H: 832-6325; O: 774-1956
1st Vice President:	Mr. Roy Belfield, 859 Nassau St., 284-3189
2nd Vice President:	Mr. Paul Moffat, 804-800 Corydon Ave., 284-1344
Secretary:	Miss Ella Dack, 505-24 Carlton St., 943-3173
Treasurer:	Mr. Frank Richardson, 17 Waterford Bay, 452-1900

COUNCILLORS

Mr. Richard Bochonko,
2 McMaster Road,
269-4652

Mr. Clyde Reid,
242 Rosser Road,
Selkirk (1) 482-3930

Mr. Jim Gould,
900 Somerset Street,
474-2044

Dr. J.N.R. Scatliff,
21 Sandra Bay,
453-0514

Mr. A. Luchik,
21 Durham Bay,
256-0074

Mr. B.F. Shinn,
173 Kingston Row,
233-4384

Junior Rep.
Mr. John Wunderlich,
71 Lismer Crescent,
832-1945

Public Rel'ns. Officer,
Mr. Herb Davis,
3 Belcourt Bay,
888-0210

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Despite inclement weather and the inconvenience caused by the strike at the University, our October meeting resulted in a large attendance.

The feature speaker, Richard Bochonko, gave an informative talk on Comets, and in particular, Comet Kahoutek. The talk was complemented by slides and pictures of the more recent comets which have been famous over the years. While Comet Kahoutek is still forecast to be spectacular, Mr. Bochonko quoted another Czechoslovakian astronomer, V. Vangsek, who warned that there is always an element of uncertainty in predicting maximum brightness.

Our other speaker for the evening was Paul Moffat who showed and commented on his June 30th Solar Eclipse slides. Paul has captured the Diamond Ring effect and Solar Corona as well as any professional and is to be corgratulated on this accomplishment.

TELESCOPE AUCTION:

The two telescopes donated by Mr. Shinn, resulted in proceeds of almost $200.00, which went entirely to our Observatory Fund. The auction was handled very capably by Roy Belfield. The off-axis Schiefspiegler went to Herb Davis, and one of our guests took the folded reflector. Our sincere thanks to to these participants.

LIBRARY:

Dr. Scatliffe has again donated a quantity of books to our rever-increasing libra.y as some back issues of Sky & Telescope. We'll try to have these catalogued and ready for distribution at our November meeting. See Larry Frostiak.

COPERNICUS STAMP DRAW:

The winner of the year's subscription to Modern Astronomy was Ron Turek. The draw was made at the last council meeting.

A note verifying Precautions of Solar Observers. While testing the Solar Skreen filter on a 6" reflector during a breezy winter afternoon, I had a dramatic example of the Sun's power combined with the reflectivity of a Newtonian. I had completed testing and was moving the filter around to find the best position for tying down. Mistakenly, the telescope was left tracking the Sun with a low power eyepiece. A leather glove had been removed and draped over the eyepiece holder, while untying the filter's retaining string. The wind popped the filter off the tube; it took less than 5 seconds to slip it back into place. Meanwhile, a puff of smoke was noticed coming from the gloved eyepiece. There was a 1/8" smoldering circle burnt right through the heavy leather! If my eye had been there for any part of that 5 seconds!!!! Therefore, do not leave the instrument pointed at the Sur while adjusting filters. Insure that an objective filter or any type of Solar Filter can not possibly come loose from its mount. Do not leave the instrument unattended without capping and moving in RA and DEc. or taking similar precautions. Do not forget to cap the finder. Use CAUTION at all times.

PROGRAMME FOR NOVEMBER, 1973.

MEETING TIME: Friday, November 9, 1973 at 8:00 p.m.

MEETING PLACE: Room 100, Fletcher Argue Building, University of Manitoba

TOPIC: (1) "The Use of Setting Circles" by Paul Moffat (promptly at 8:00 p.m.)

(2) "The Nature of Time" by Dr. Paul Churchland

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Dr. Churchland is with the Department of Philosophy, University of Manitoba. We look forward to hearing a most interesting lecture.

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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "What we are building now is the nervous system of mankind, which will link together the whole race, for better or for worse, in a unity which no earlier age could have imagined." -- From: REMOTE SENSING -A new look at the Canadian Environment.

WELCOME to new members:

A warm welcome is extended to Mr. Ernest Shume and Mr. Cecil Baranovsky. Mr. Shume is principal of Prendergast School in St. Boniface, and Mr. Baranovsky has a special job which takes him to Baffin Island for six months of the year.

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ANNUAL DUES:

Annual dues of $15.00 for 1974 may now be paid to our treasurer, Frank Richardson. Members and prospective members must be age 16, or over to be eligible for membership.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify us immediately when you change your address, giving the postal code at the same time.

REPORT ON OCTOBER 12TH AND 26TH MEETINGS:

At a recent Council meeting it was decided that we should consider holding two meetings a month - one as a business meeting and the second for study and discussing problems which observing members may encounter. Accordingly, it was decided to hold the second meeting on October 26th. The following reports will give the members some idea of what transpired at both meetings.

Despite the strike at the University of Manitoba, which prevented the regular buses entering the Campus, there was a good attendance and all enjoyed Richard Bochonko's talk on "Comet Kahoutek," -- one of the most exciting astronomical events of the year.

The second meeting held October 26th, was also well attended to see the film "Crab Nebula" forwarded to us by courtesy of Mrs. Mary Grey, Secretary of the Ottawa Centre. Those who attended this meeting found it most stimulating as the film was followed by a very lively discussion. We look forward to having more of this stimulating type of meeting.

CRESTS: Herb Davis has a small supply of Crests of the same design as the cover of Winnicentrics. They are beautifully made up and sell for $1.50. Quite a number were bought at our last meeting, but there are some for those who have not yet seen them. Please see Herb Davis. Proceeds from the sale of these crests will go to the Observatory Fund.

LIBRARY NOTES: by Larry Frostiak

Our Library continues to grow and is available to paid-up members. Larry Frostiak will being the books out at the coffee hour after the meeting.

EQUIPMENT LOAN STATUS:

3 1/2 " Refractor	- John Haines
3" Kaufman	- Under maintenance.
Orrery Shadowgraph	- Available
Spitz Junior Planetarium	- Available

Please return this equipment promptly as there is quite a waiting list.

FOR MIRROR ALUMINIZING please 'phone Mr. Rene Lamontagne at 452-5078 (584 Gertrude Street).

For those who are anxious to procure astronomical books for themselves, it is suggested that you communicate with either of the following:

Griffith Observatory, P.O. Box 27787, Los Angeles, Calif. 90027

Hansen Planetarium, 15 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

"Hansen's" who are astronomical publishers, will send a catalogue on request.

Museum of Man and Nature, in Winnipeg, also carries a small supply of astronomical books.

CENTRASCOPE '74

by B.F. Shinn

All you ATNs get busy and dust off your laps. We don't mean get the ladies off them but get the mirrors on! You are going to get a chance to show your wares off!

As part of the festivities at the 1974 National Assembly we are staging a Festival of Telescopes under the name of CENTRASCOPE '74, that being the title we have bestowed upon our local homebrew form of the Stellafane gathering.

Stellafane, as you know, is the Mecca of amateur telescope makers, who gather from time to time at the location of the central observatory of the ATMs in New England. We are bringing it nearer the mid central folk with similar interests.

Our CENTRASCOPE '74 will invite showing under five categories:

(1) Originality of design.
(2) Mechanical excellence.
(3) Best optical performance.
(4) Best telescope made by a Junior builder 16 or under.
(5) Radio telescopes.

Awards will be made in each category, probably at this date of writing in the form of a leather medal cut from my last year's pair of Hush Puppies, but the elegant design subject to further consideration.

We'll set up the telescopes for sky viewing after the other festivities on the Saturday night, and again for judging on Sunday afternoon. Viewing will continue on Sunday night. We invite you to set up any telescopes you like, whether you have made them or not, but we will restrict the judging to non commercial entries for obvious reasons.

Watch this column for more gen as plans develop. We're all fired up! How about you?

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE AMATEUR OBSERVER

by Lewis J. McQueen

A bargain for Lunar Observers. The Lunar Index, 7x8 1/2" 40 page booklet with a separate Entire Surface Lunar Chart, 21x30" made from ACIC U.S. Air Force negatives. Available from H.S. Ross, Box 117, South Walpole, Mass. 02077, for $2.00 (American funds only). Lists spherical selenographic co-ordinates of near and far side craters and formations in degrees of latitude and longitude, for use with the enclosed NASA map. Position numbers and rectangular co-ordinates of near side craters for use with the Lunar Quadrant Maps sold by Sky and Telescope. Also, the "Blagg and Muller Index", showing all named features occurring in each one degree area. Adequate explanatory information is included.

The center page Star Chart from SKY AND TELESCOPE magazine can be put to good use as a finder chart, and with a transparent overlay, can be used to accurately plot satellites, planetary positions, and meteor trails without marking up the map. The removal of the center page does not interfere with other articles and can always be replaced. A piece of stiff cardboard cut to size a little larger than the map, a heavy duty paper clamp or clip board, a set of 12 monthly charts, a suitable coloured China Marking pencil, the Star Chart Grid Overlay, and you are set. The markings of the China pencil are easily removed from the overlay. With the Grid, the charts are accurate to 1 or 2 mins. in R.A. and a degree or less in Dec. The stars are white on black to fifth mag. with white lines joining constellation members. Small instrument and M objects are marked. The charts are plotted for Epoch 1975.0 so that a position can be read directly without appreciable precessional correction. Uncluttered, easy use, and durable, the charts have weathered well with the protective overlay in heavy dewing and sub-zero temperatures. Star Chart Grid - heavy transparent mylar with red-orange grid markings 11 1/2 x 14 1/2" available from Sky Publishing, 49-50-51 Bay State Road, Cambridge, Mass. 02138. Price $1.25, cheque or money order and there should be no customs charges.

Notes of precaution when ordering publications from the United States. -- Personally I like to deal with Canadian firms, but, the mark-up on books may total more than 30% over US prices. Difficulties of delivery, filling orders, and selection have led me to US firms, Publications from the US are usually delivered in 2 or 3 weeks. With few exceptions, all books are duty free. Atlases and maps are sometimes an exception, with a possible 10% or more Custom's duty if they are not published by a foreign government. Payment may be amde by cheque or money order, to 90% of the firms. (You need not stipulate American funds on your cheque). Crdering publications from the US Government Printing Cffice is best done through a dealer, such as Herbert Luft in New York, as it will save many weeks of delivery time. Use caution when dealing with such firms as Optica b/c, as they clamp a 5 dollar "foreign country" surcharge plus a $1.00 charge on orders of less than $25, for each order. That is, five dollars extra for normal handling! In all cases, ask for a price list, method of payment, any extra charges as postage or handling. It will pay you to shop around a tit. As another precaution, make duplicates of orcers, keep receipts, cancelled cheques and other information for at least one year.

SOLAR SKREEN FILTERS - efficient, full aperture, objective solar filters, available from Roger W. Tuthill, Box 1086F, Mountainside, N.J. 07092. Frices vary with objective size, from $4.00 for binoculars to $20 for a 1 1/2". They are shipped 1st class so there is no customs difficulties. Consists of 2 sheets of aluminized polyester film with characteristics similar to gold leaf in thickness and uniformity. It is used in front of the primary objective of a refractor or reflector, thus keeping heat out the the optics. The mounting cell is made of heavy cardboard or foam material included. The film is mounted with thin double sided plastic tape (available at a stationary store). Adequate material is included to cover the finder as a safety bonus. Sufficient warning is included for precautions of eye safety and possibility of defects. Precautions must be taken, (as mentioned in the instructions), to

prevent the mounted filter from being blown or knocked off the telescope due to its light weight. The 6" model on a Criterion RV6 newtonian, is tied to a spider mount bolt and the focusing mount. The film is tough and does not tear or puncture easily. The density is about neutral/density 5 and a transmission of .001% (reflects 99.99+%). The density is not neutral, but soft blue due to the aluminum coating, very easy on the eye. Loss of resolution is rated at less than 10% of the instrument used. Resolution is very good, the thickness of the film being a definite factor, ieven if the filter happens to get a few wrinkles in it. Instructions are included with some information on observing and photography.

CORRECTION: In the article concerning Mr. Shinn's donation of telescope, the editor in error stated the "mirror grinding" had been done by Mr. Rene Lamontagne. This should have read - "mirror aluminizing." Mr. Lamontagne does aluminizing.

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Dr. Wilhelmina Iwanowska, of Torun, Poland, recently visited Winnipeg, when she was awarded an honourary Degree of Dr. of Science by University of Manitoba, at which time she delivered the Convocation address.

FOR SALE:

2 Telescope Camera Adapters at $10.00 each. Please see Jim Gould, 900 Somerset Ave., or 'phone at 474-2044. Proceeds to be donated to the Observatory Fund.

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1 - 8" Telescope, complete with drive, etc., please 'phone Mr. Rene Lamontagne at 452-5078. Price to be discuesed.

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1 TASCO 3" Refractor with eye pieces, etc., 1 - 12 1/2" with F/418 mirror, null-figured, just been aluminized. Reasons for selling are that I wish to make a larger instrument. Will discuss price. Please 'phone Garry Jacob - 489-9826.

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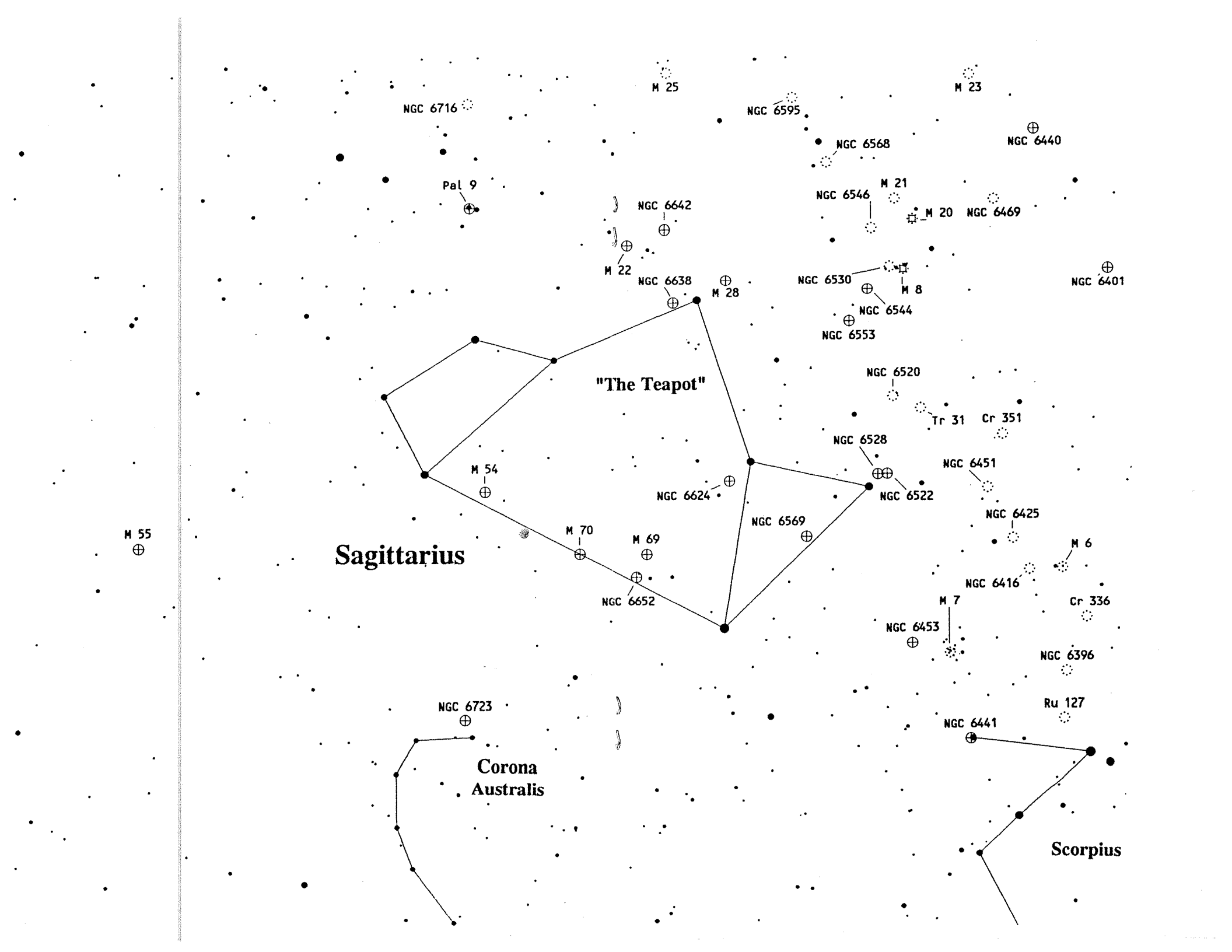
3 - Japanese Eyepieces at $5.00 each, with sun and moon filters at $1.50 each; 2 - 1 1/2" power Erecting Barlows at $5.00 each; 1 TASCO camera clamp at $5.00; 1 Star Prism at $5.00. Please 'phone Tom Wujec at 475-4776.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