



# STELLAFANE

1926-1978

Saturday, August 5, 1978

The 43rd Convention of Amateur Telescope  
Makers on Breezy Hill in Springfield, Vermont

On Friday evening, August 4th, at 8:30 p.m., Walter Wheeler of the Springfield Telescope Makers will monitor the informal talks under the tent. If you wish to contribute a short, interesting talk at this session, then you must submit a description of your planned presentation with your registration form. These talks are limited to 25 slides and 15 minutes speaking time. A 35-mm. slide projector and 16-mm. movie projector are available for your use.

Following the informal talks there will be observing (weather permitting) with the Porter Turret Telescope.

The *Hartness-Porter Museum of Amateur Telescope Making*, located in the underground rooms of the Hartness Turret Telescope at Hartness House, will be open for visitors on Saturday morning, August 5th, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, and on Sunday morning, August 6th, from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. Look for a sign on the Hartness House lawn pointing to the museum's entrance.

Light lunches will be available at Stellafane on Friday evening and barbecued chicken dinners will be available for Saturday's lunch and supper, as well as other snacks. Cooking is also allowed in the camping areas, and water will be provided at the site beginning on Friday evening.

## TELESCOPE COMPETITION

This is a convention of amateur telescope makers. If you have built a telescope, we encourage you to bring it and enter the competition. Awards will be presented for various telescope designs including reflectors (Newtonian and Cassegrain), refractors, and catadioptrics. There are also awards for the best junior telescope (made by a person under 16 years of age) and other special categories. Judging for mechanical excellence will commence at 12:00 noon, so please have your project registered and on display by that time. It is hoped that judging will be completed in time for all to attend the afternoon talks under the tent. Judging for optical excellence will begin immediately following the evening program. Only telescopes which are operative, *both* mechanically and optically, will be accepted in the competition. However, telescopes do not have to be judged for both mechanical and optical awards.

A special *Porter Youth Award* will be presented to the junior (under 16 years of age) whose exhibit shows the most promise for a career in science and technology.

### JUDGING COMMITTEE

Dennis di Cicco and Berton Willard, Co-chairmen

Fred Chellis      Donald Dilworth      George Keene

Ralph Dakin      George East      Diane Lucas

Walter Singer

Roger Tuthill

Roger Sinnott

Paul Valleli

## AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Jack B. Newton of Ontario, Canada, will monitor the afternoon talks under the tent from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.

### *Light Pollution*

— Richard Berry, Editor of *Astronomy Magazine*

### *Relocating the North Mountain Observatory*

— Fred Lossing, President, Ottawa Centre R.A.S.C.

### *Predicting Solar Eclipses à la Bessel*

— Bill Weller, Toronto Centre R.A.S.C.

### *Radio Astronomy*

— Kim Tapping, Chairman, Radio Telescope Group,  
Ottawa Centre R.A.S.C.



## EVENING PROGRAM

George E. Gould of Rockville, Maryland, is the Master of Ceremonies this year and will preside over the Twilight Talks beginning at 8:00 p.m. Saturday evening.

*Words of Welcome* — Gov. Joseph B. Johnson

*Stellafane Shadowgram* — Walter Scott Houston

*PROBLCOM: At the Threshold of Astronomical Discovery* — Ben Mayer, Los Angeles, California

After the evening program, the Porter Turret Telescope will be open for observing (weather permitting). Judging for optical excellence will also be taking place at this time. *Please remember to use a red filter on your flashlight during all observing hours.*

## CONVENTION REGISTRATION

A registration fee is required to cover expenses of the meeting. You are urged to pre-register by mail before July 22nd. Fill out the enclosed blue card and return it with a check for \$3.00 (payable to the Springfield Telescope Makers) to:

Dennis di Cicco, 94 Pierce Road, Watertown, Massachusetts 02172

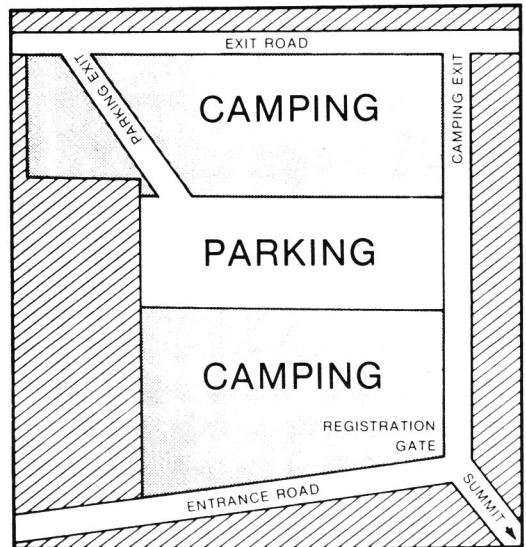
After July 22nd, and at the gate, the registration fee will be \$4.00 per person. Your non-participating guest (spouse or companion) is welcome without charge, but please list him or her on your registration card for our records. No charge for family members under 16 years of age. Your cancelled check will be your receipt, and there are *no* refunds. Please pick up your name tag, which will be waiting for you at the gate when you arrive.

If you are not planning to attend this year's convention, but wish to remain on our mailing list, please fill out the blue card (check the appropriate box) and return it. It is pre-addressed and only requires a postage stamp.

## CAMPING/PARKING AREA

Non-campers are asked to park in orderly lines in the designated space (see map at right). *There are NO open fires allowed anywhere on the convention site.* Controlled traffic will be allowed to the summit for unloading and picking up telescopes entered in the competition. Telescopes not in competition are also welcome at the convention. In the past, for every telescope entered in judging there have been two or three in the camping area being used for observing and photography.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There is no assurance that light-free observing conditions will be maintained in the camping area. If you must avoid automobile lights, please bring your telescopes and cameras to the summit. Since there will still be observing done from the camping area, be as courteous as possible to others. This goes for *both* observers and drivers. This year the camping area has been rearranged to help keep lights of cars exiting from the parking area from interfering with campers and their telescopes.



### *A Statement on Commercial Exhibits*

To maintain the strict spirit of amateur telescope making unique to Stellafane conventions, no exhibits of a commercial nature will be allowed at the convention site (this includes the camping area). A commercial exhibit will be interpreted as: a display of any commercial products which are the property of the parent company, handing out of any company literature by company representatives or other persons, and solicitation for periodical subscriptions and other business ventures.