

MARS

MARS

MARS

and other planets

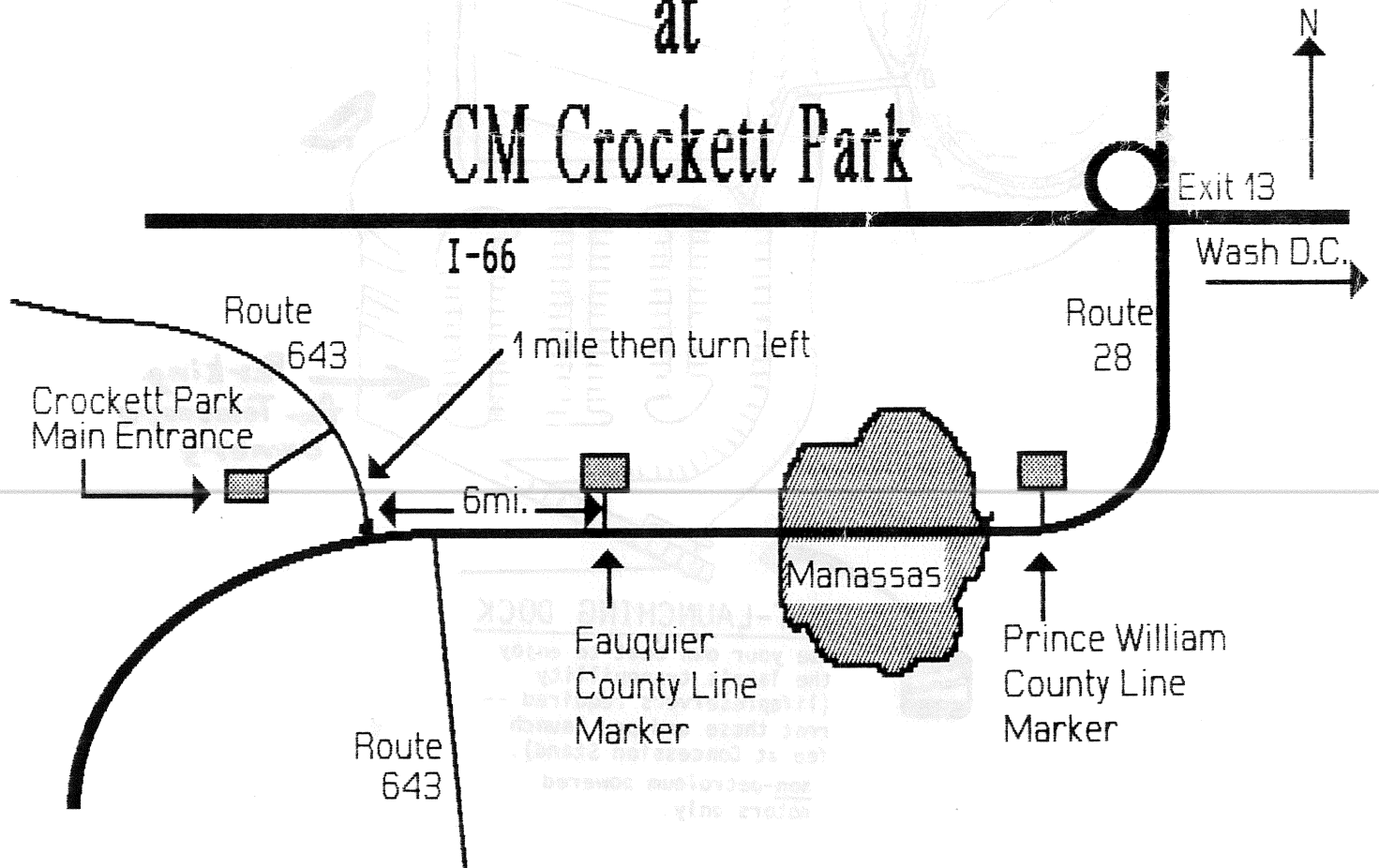
at the 1988

Northern Virginia Telescope Meet

September 9 and 10, 7:30 PM Both Nights

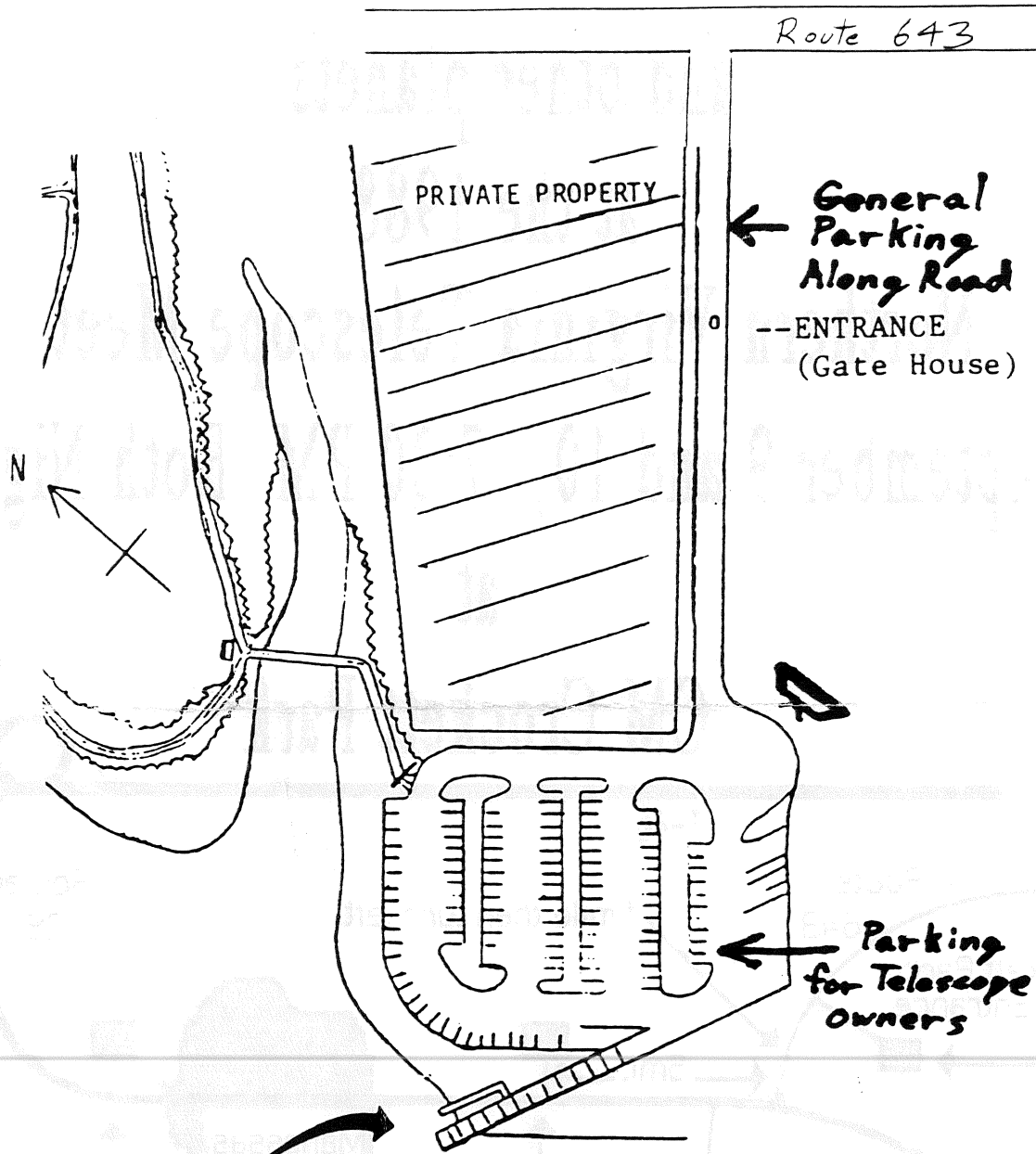
at

CM Crockett Park



CALL (703) 866-4985 for Details

Crockett Park



BOAT-LAUNCHING DOCK



Use your own boat to enjoy the lake's tranquility (lifepreservers required -- rent these and pay launch fee at Concession Stand).
Non-petroleum powered motors only.

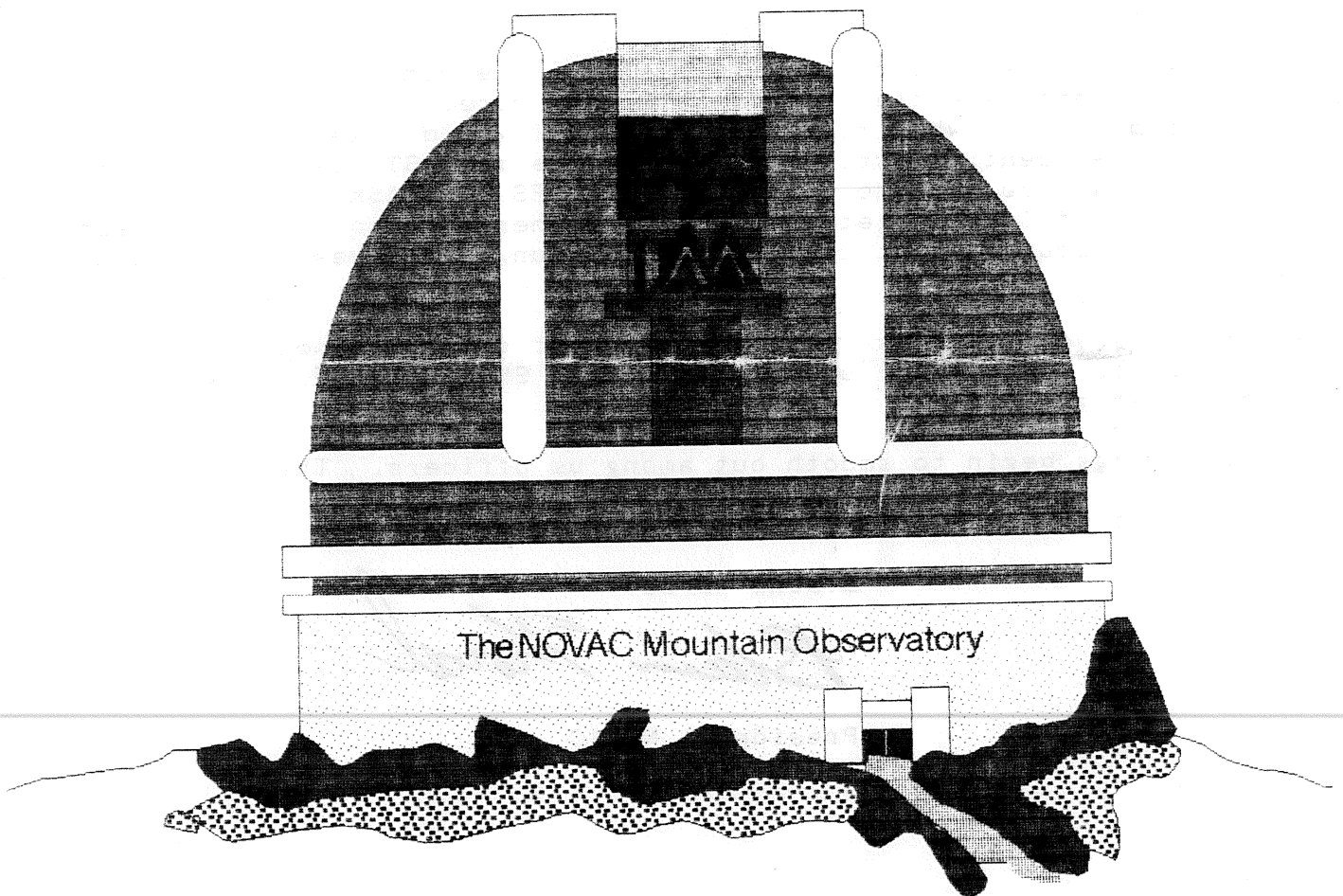
The NOVAC Corona

Issue No. 19

Volume 8

August 1988

President, Blaine Korcel 703 - 256 - 4430
Secretary/Treasurer, John Huggins 703 - 866 - 4985
NOVAC INFORMATION HOTLINE: 703 - 866 - 4985
NOVAC Computer Bulletin Board: 703 - 256 - 4777 - NOVAC RBBS



Dues are due!

If the above is circled in red, you need to send in your ten dollars

PRESIDENTS COLUMN
Blaine Korcoel

It is that time of the year again folks. Our big telescope bash is just around the corner. It is being held at Crockett Park this year and as such has taken on a new name. Starting this year BLTM will now be called NVTM for The Northern Virginia Telescope Meet. This provides a much broader description and leaves the options open to hold it elsewhere in the future. Hopefully, we will not have to move it for a while. Let's hope we can hold back the light pollution.

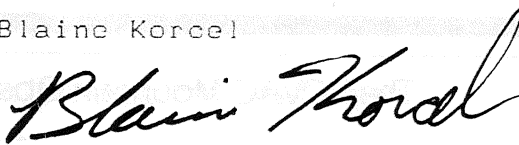
We will be holding a public slide show with telescope viewing for the park on August 30, 1988. It is expected to begin at around 7:30pm. Those free that night are asked to show up with their telescopes so onlookers can see what the sky has to offer.

I'm sure you have noticed that newsletters are coming out rather scarcely this year. I do not have the time to do it any more! My new job is taking nearly all of my time. What time I have left, I would like to use for myself as well as other presidential duties. This will be my LAST issue folks. Someone must come forth and relieve me of this duty. YES I AM ASKING FOR A VOLUNTEER!!!!!! If I don't get one, I will either have to appoint someone or worse!?! Think about it. It can be a lot of fun. It gives you the chance to be creative.

By the time you get this letter, a board of directors meeting will have been scheduled to discuss our upcoming events. Shortly after we will schedule a general membership meeting.

I hope things begin to smooth out among us officers. There has been a lot of demand on too few of us and changes must (will) be made. I apologize for any confusion it may have caused.

Blaine Korcoel



President, NOVAC

Northern Virginia Telescope Meet (NVTM 88)
John Huggins

On September 9 and 10 NOVAC will be sponsoring the annual telescope meet under the new name above. At last month's meeting at King's Park library, we discussed the meet in detail. Topics of discussion included what awards should be given, what slide presentations should be shown, what contests should we have, etc. Many good ideas came out of the meeting. Here is a list of some of the things brought.

Possible Awards

- Best Homemade Optical Performance
- Most Original Optical Design
- Most Original Telescope Mounting
- Best Motor Drive Scheme
- Most Creative Observing Innovation
- Best Innovative Observing Technique

Judges might be chosen for their particular skill.

Competitions

- The above awards can be considered competitions
- Messier Marathon
- Scavenger Hunt

Schedule

One possibility is to have the traditional Amateur Astronomer night followed by a public night. The tradition was created because of certain restrictions that Burke Lake imposed. The new sight probably has different rules so we may be able to be different this year. They seem very interested in our event; this is very advantageous. We will decide on this after we talk with the park people further.

Speakers

The topics that could be discussed by an orator are limitless. Anything from "Stellar Evolution" to "Buying Your First Telescope" are great topics. Which ones we choose will be largely determined by who volunteers to speak.

Binoculars

As always NOVAC will show people that a good pair of binoculars is all that is needed to get enjoyment out of astronomy. As such, we will strive to have some sort of seminar for the people who desire to maximize the use of their binoculars.

Mars

Mars will be one of the highlights in the sky this season. We should take advantage of this and have a seminar of something similar to explain some of the facts about the red planet.

Public Viewing

In our quest to serve the public we must show them the amazing sights in the night skies. Remember that the general public is interested in viewing dramatic objects like Saturn, Jupiter, and even the Moon. Be polite, kind and informative; you will get an optimistic and thankful response. Watch your gear because there will be a lot of kids running around. Bring a stool for the shorter ones.

Soon the Board of Directors will meet to hammer out the agenda for the meet. Soon after, we will announce another meeting for the members. You will receive a map like the one you got before. This will allow all of us to quickly get acquainted with the NVTM schedule.

There is one month left. Every year this thing gets better. We have a few volunteers from the club to help out with the details. I will be providing the public address system if it is required; last year it was. If you have some talent (e.g. speaking ability) or something (astrophotos, a slide projector, a large tent or maybe a generator) that you think might help, let us know.

1988

AUGUST

1988

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	1 Mars 8 deg, south of Moon	2 Mars 8 deg, south of Moon	3	4 Moon at last quarter	5 OBSERVATION GREENVILLE	6 OBSERVATION CROCKETT PK. Jupiter 6 deg. south of moon.																																																																																																									
7	8 Venus 9 deg. south of moon.	9	10	11 Perseid meteor at their best 11, 12 & 13th of August.	12 OBSERVATION GREENVILLE New moon 8:31a	13 OBSERVATION CROCKETT PARK																																																																																																									
14 Moon at apogee	15	16	17 Asaph Hall dis- covers Phobos, moon of Mars, 1877. He also found Keimos, 11 Aug 1877.	18	19	20 Moon at 1st. quarter, 11:51																																																																																																									
21 Antares .7 deg. Nor. of moon, occultation.	22 Venus at great- est western elong- ation - 46 Deg. Saturn 6 Deg. Nor. of moon.	23	24	25 Voyager 2 flies past Saturn, 1981.	26 Mars station- ary.	27 Full moon, 6:56 AM; par- tial eclipse. Moon at peri- gee.																																																																																																									
28 Wm Herschel discovers Enceladus, moon of Saturn, 1789.	29 Mars 9 Deg. South of Moon.	30 Saturn station- ary. Public Astro Program 7:30pm Crockett Park	31	<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="7">JULY 1988</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	JULY 1988							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="7">SEPTEMBER 1988</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	SEPTEMBER 1988							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		August
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4	Labor Day Uranus stationary.	6 Venus 6 Deg. South of Moon.	7	8	9 NOVAC TELE-SCOPE MEET CROCKETT PARK	10 NOVAC TELE-SCOPE MEET CROCKETT PARK																																																																																																									
11 Grandparents' Day New Moon, 12:49 AM. Eclipse.	12 Jewish New Year	13 Mercury .6 Deg. Nor. of Moon, occultation.	14	15 Mercury at greatest eastern elongation, 27 Deg.	16 NVTM 88 Rain Dates	17 Antares .7 Deg North of Moon, occultation.																																																																																																									
18 Moon at first quarter. Neptune stationary.	19 Wm Bond discovers Hy-perion, moon of Saturn, 1848.	20	21 Yom Kippur	22 Autumnal Equinox, 3:29 PM.	23 Neptune discovered, 1846.	24 Jupiter stationary. Moon at perige																																																																																																									
25 Full Moon, 3:07 PM.	26	27 Mars at opposition.	28 Mercury stationary.	29	30 Jupiter 6 Deg. South of Moon. <u>OBSERVATION GREENVILLE</u>	September																																																																																																									

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<p>2</p> <p>Moon at last quarter.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Sputnik 1 launched, 1957.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>OBSERVATION GREENVILLE</p>	<p>8</p> <p>OBSERVATION CROCKETT PARK</p>																																																																																																		
<p>9</p> <p>Draconid Meteors.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Columbus Day Thanksgiving Day (Canada) New Moon. Lassell discovery of Triton, moon of Neptune, 1846</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Mercury in inferior conjunction.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>																																																																																																		
<p>16</p> <p>Saturn 6 Deg. North of moon.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Saturn 1.1 Deg. North of Uranus.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Moon at first quarter.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Mercury stationary.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Orionid meteors next three nights.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>First recorded solar eclipse, China, 2136 BC</p>																																																																																																		
<p>23</p> <p>Moon at perigee. Mars stationary.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lassell discovery of Ariel & Umbriel moons of Uranus Halloween</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Full Moon. Cassini discovery of Iapetus, moon of Saturn, 1877.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Mercury at greatest west elongation. 18 Deg.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Jupiter 6 Deg. South of Moon.</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>																																																																																																		
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N.O.V.A.C.

THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA ASTRONOMY CLUB

TO OBSERVE AND TO HELP OTHERS OBSERVE

5401 DANVILLE STREET
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22151



Bill Burton Dec 31 88
2102 Whisperwood Glen Lane
Reston VA 22091