

FREMONT PEAK OBSERVATORY ASSOCIATION NEWS

MEMBERSHIP CARDS ARE IN!

The long-awaited membership cards have finally arrived! Please check yours carefully for name-spelling errors, and let me know as soon as possible so that I can correct it and issue you a new card.

OBSERVATORY STATUS

Our tax-exempt paperwork has just been approved by the State of California. Tax-exempt status means that donations made to the *FPOA* are legitimate deductions on your Form 1040 Schedule A now!

Telescope Update

The 30 inch telescope is progressing on schedule. The Surrerier truss (open frame tube) is complete. The mirror is complete except for the optical coatings. Kevin Medlock has just finished building the vacuum chamber in which the mirror will be coated. The secondary mirror support is also complete.

The 24 inch primary drive gear has been cut, and work is progressing on both the north and south piers. The scope will be mounted on an English cross-axis mount, and will stand twelve feet high!

The 22 inch scope is in a similar state of construction. It will be mounted on a fork mount.

The Observatory Building

The *FPOA* has contracted with an architect to produce the architectural drawings for the 30 inch telescope building. The building will be a temporary structure, roughly 20 feet on a side, with a sliding roof. Once the drawings are complete, we will be able to generate a list of materials required.

Anyone out there who has a lead on building materials like concrete, nails,

plywood, 2 x 4's, etc, please give us a call! Anyone wishing to help in construction, likewise let us know. We plan to start the actual constuction either in late June or early July.

STAR PARTY MAY 18th!

On Saturday, May 18th, 1985, the *FPOA* Board of Directors will be conducting a Board meeting at Fremont Peak State Park. Interested members are encouraged to attend. We will be having a Star Party after the meeting. Bring up your favorite food to barbecue, as we will have several grills going.

Picnicking will commence around 5 pm, with the Board meeting scheduled around 6 pm. Hope to see you there!

To get to Fremont Peak, take 101 south to the San Juan Bautista exit (Highway 152 East). Proceed on 152 East, roughly three miles, to the turnoff to Fremont Peak (Big sign, and flashing yellow light - can't miss it!). Follow the signs to the top. Look for us in the Coulter Group Picnic area.

Frank Dibbell, Membership Chairperson - *FPOA*
(408) - 746-6493 (Mon-Fri 8-5)

FPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Fingerhut - President
Robert Schalck - Vice President
Rick Morales - Executive Secretary
Denni Medlock - Administrative Secretary
John Stewart - Treasurer
Frank Dibbell
John Gleason
Kevin Medlock
Howard Medlock