

Cosmic Reporter

"The Sun"
by Tim Linder

The closest star to the Earth is of course our own sun. The sun is a star of average size and is about 865,000 miles in diameter. The temperature on the sun's surface is about 6,000 degrees F. Sometimes sunspots blemish the sun's surface. Sunspots are very large, sometimes they are much larger than the Earth. A sunspot is thought to be a large area where gases are escaping from the interior of the sun. These areas are about 2,000 degrees cooler than the surrounding area. Sunspot activity goes through an eleven year cycle. During the maximum of this cycle numerous sunspots appear on the sun's surface. The solar wind which is caused by sunspots ionizes the Earth's upper atmosphere causing radio waves to bounce farther or "skip" especially at the citizens band wave length. During sunspot maximum CB radio channels become crowded with distant transmission.

Also on the sun there are solar flares. Solar Flares are huge eruptions of gases and flames leaping millions of miles from the sun's surface. These huge solar flares send burst of solar wind into space. Because of the Earth's magnetic field, these solar wind particles are pulled into the Earth's atmosphere at the north and south poles. When this occurs, the solar wind particles interact with gases in the upper atmosphere causing the sky to glow. This glow is called the aurora. When the glow is seen in the northern sky it is called the Aurora Borealis and when it is seen in the southern sky it is called the Aurora Australis. Beautiful displays of the aurora can usually be seen after a large flare has occurred on the sun. Flares can only be seen with a

THANK YOU

The Commission on Aging and The Meeting Place staff greatly appreciates contributions made to the 1980 Fund Drive by the residents of Polk County. adv. 22,c.

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special solar filter on a telescope or during a total solare eclipse.

NEVER LOOK DIRECTLY AT THE SUN, EVEN FILTERS ARE NOT TOTALLY SAFE. THE SAFEST WAY TO VIEW THE SUN IS TO PROJECT THE SUN'S IMAGE THROUGH A TELESCOPE ONTO A SOLAR SCREEN OR A PIECE OF WHITE CARDBOARD.

That's it for this week, **HAPPY STARGAZING!!!!!!**

J. L. Shields, Jr. Give 8 Gallons

Gallons club members from April 21st Bloodmobile visit Parish House, Tryon were as follows:

One Gallon: Audrey Brown, Tryon.

Two Gallon: Joseph D. Rhymer, Marjorie Weiss, and Joseph B. Wilson all of Tryon.

Six Gallon: Louise M. Cochran, Columbus.

Eight Gallons: J. L. Shields, Jr., Landrum.

To date: 868 one gallon, 303 two gallon, 146 three gallon, 85 four-gallon, 16 five gallon, 28 six gallon, 5 seven gallon, 1 eight gallon, 5 nine gallon, 3 ten gallon, and 1 eleven gallon club members.

90th Organization Of Lanier Library

On Sunday, May 18, the Lanier Library held a brief 90th Annual Meeting. Four new Directors were elected: Mrs. Frank C. Basler, Lynwood Giacomini, William T. Reed and William H. Symmes.

On Monday, May 19, the four newly elected Directors joined the eight hold-over Directors in a Board meeting. The eight hold-overs are: Mrs. G. Freeman Brooks, R. Anderson Haynes, Miss Katherine Kirby, Col. Joseph L. Knowlton, Mrs. John T. Poteat, Graeme Reid, Mrs. Harold D. White and Mrs. Harvey Woltman. The Library Administrator, Mrs. Sidney H. Morgan, is also an ex-officio member of the Board.

The Board elected the following as the 1980-1981 officers of the Lanier Library Association: President, Joseph L. Knowlton; Vice-President, Miss Katherine Kirby; Treasurer, Graeme Reid; Assistant Treasurer, R. Anderson Haynes; Secretary, Mrs. G. Freeman Brooks.

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Norm and Marion