

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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CAPE CENTRE



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CIRCULAR TO ALL CAPETOWN & DISTRICT MEMBERS

14th December 1999

Dear Member,

With the New Year approaching us and the "uninitiated" being determined to treat the first day of January 2000 as the first day of the New Millennium and Century, as Chairman of your Centre, may I wish every one of you a Peaceful and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Successful New Year. For those of the Muslim Faith, may you faithfully maintain the holy month of Ramadan and enjoy the Festival of Eid. Likewise, we wish any readers of the Jewish Faith a peaceful period during these coming weeks.

The main purpose of this letter is that I wish to place a proposition before you - one which could well affect the immediate future of our Centre.

I, and some members of the Committee, are really not quite certain what it is that you, the Member, really want from the Society. For this reason I wish to invite any Member who is sufficiently interested to do so, to come along to a special "THINK TANK" meeting at our usual venue on Wednesday 12th January 2000 at 8 p.m. This also applies to every member of the existing Committee as well ! If you can come, please bring paper and pen with you. We'll organise tea and coffee

If you are still on leave or recovering from the New Year festivities and cannot come but wish to place ideas on the table for us to study, please feel free to drop a line to me (incognito if you wish) at my home address above. *Any and ALL ideas will be welcome, however silly they may seem.*

For example : More serious lectures/Less serious lectures, more practical astronomy, resume the beginner's courses, start a telescope making class, create sub-Committees to follow up on ideas, get the Chairman to be more pro-active, improve the Newsletter, etc., etc.,

In the meantime, please put on your thinking caps and come up with ideas which can create a more dynamic Centre and one which can catch the imagination of our own members and the vast crowd of members of the public who normally cannot think past the cost of living or what is on the "TV".

My Christmas and New Year message is simply this. Every member has a part to play in the future and the running of our Centre - however small that contribution may be - and if this suggested meeting proves a success, we will enter the new "Century and Millennium???" with a bright future. I am sure that you would like to be a part of it. If so, you are more than welcome

Yours sincerely, clear skies and good viewing,

ANDREW GRAY - CHAIRMAN

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S. AFRICA

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE :

As a direct result of the extreme interest shown at the recent "THINK TANK" Meeting, it has been decided to follow up on some of the numerous suggestions that were made. Hence :

Please be advised that the next **TWO COMMITTEE MEETINGS** will be held at the close of the Informal Meetings at the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. in Cape Town on the following days and dates :

Wednesday, 26th January 2000

Wednesday, 2nd February 2000

THE AGENDA :

- 1) To Open the Meeting and record Apologies
- 2) To read and confirm the Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting
- 3) To deal with any Matters Arising therefrom
- 4) To discuss and deal with any new Applications for Membership
- 5) Correspondence
- 6) To discuss matters arranged at the previous meeting concerning THINK TANK decisions and to report on progress.
- 7) GENERAL
- 8) To close the Meeting. **NB** : Before the close of the meeting on 2nd February, a date, time and place to be set for the next meeting of the Committee.

M A Gray - Chairman (Tel/Fax : 785-5568)
