

Organizing scientific meetings, (2) providing information about publications and other activities in the field of the history of astronomy, (3) undertaking joint projects.

The working group releases a newsletter in German language *Mitteilungen zur Astronomiegeschichte* as well as special issues with bibliographies. In 1994, the working group started to issue an electronic newsletter in German language, *Elektronische Mitteilungen zur Astronomiegeschichte*. It contains announcements of conferences, exhibitions, new books and other related material. An English translation, *Electronic Newsletter for the History of Astronomy*, is available. Outside Germany all newsletters are distributed free of charge. To be included into the mailing list please send an E-Mail message to W. Dick (wdi@potsdam.ifag.de).

Discussion

W.T. Sullivan : "HASTRO" is a valuable electronic forum for discussion of issues in the history of astronomy and in archeoastronomy. To subscribe to this E-mail bulletin board, contact Prof. S. McClusky, Dept. of History, University of West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia, USA.

AURA, KITT PEAK AND CERRO TOLOLO - THE EARLY YEARS

Frank K. Edmondson, *Indiana University, Bloomington, USA*

I retired as Chairman of the Indiana University Astronomy Department in 1978. This gave me time to start this project, a response to strong suggestions made by David Crawford, Albert Hiltner and Arne Slettebak several years earlier. During a 1978-79 sabbatical I taped 49 oral histories and collected archival material at the National Science Foundation and in Tucson. I was back in the classroom for four more years after the sabbatical, during which I taped 34 oral histories and continued to look for archival material. I became Professor Emeritus in 1983, which gave me full time to finish the archival search. I taped 9 oral histories in 1983-91. Altogether, I taped oral histories with 85 individuals in 92 interview sessions, and visited 23 institutions to collect archival material. 26 individuals provided archival material from their personal files.

I started to write in January 1988 and finished the 560 page manuscript on December 3, 1993. Two-thirds of the pages are text and one-third are the references. The Cambridge University Press has reviewed the manuscript, and the Press Syndicate of the University is expected to make the decision about publication in the near future.

THE NASA SETI HISTORY PROJECT

Steven Dick, *US Naval Observatory, Washington DC, USA*

The purpose of the NASA SETI History Project is to document NASA's twenty-five year involvement in the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI), and to produce a written history of this effort. The project seeks to place the NASA program in the context of the much longer history of ideas about extraterrestrial life, including concepts for interplanetary