

club circuit

THE SINGLE-AIRES begin publication of a new newsletter for singles called Singles Lifestyle to serve the greater Detroit area this month.

The newsletter will include an advice column, travel features, astrological forecasts for singles, reviews of movies, books and restaurants, travel features, personal ads and regular columns called "Helping Hand for Singles," "Things to Do for Singles" and "Singles Etiquette."

"Singles Lifestyle" is published by Al Alkana, founder and chairman of the Single-Aires. The Selectable Singles, the Livin' Singles and the Lively Ones are now off-shoots of the original club.

The group is based in Birmingham, but now draws members from throughout the area.

Subscriptions for Singles Lifestyle is \$8 per year for 12 issues, or \$1 for a single copy. Checks can be made payable to Singles Lifestyle and sent to Box 618, Birmingham 48012.

The Single-Aires invites newcomers to their third annual New Year's Day pot-luck dinner and dance at 5 p.m. in the home of Lila Rode, 3860 Old Creek Road, Troy. Guests are asked to call

ahead of time to Marcia Magrid, 855-2558.

At 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, the Selectable Singles (ages 21-34) and the Livin' Singles (ages 31-44) join for a discussion huddle with the topic "Rebuilding the Edge After a Breakup."

The huddle is hosted by Gail Leyva in her Dearborn home. Guests are asked to call Ms. Magrid for directions.

DETROIT NORTH SUBURBAN ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF ALPHA DELTA PI meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8 in the Wm. Bloomfield home of JoEllen Camphill, 5158 Chestershire Drive.

Dorren Bieryla, director of Residence Halls at Oakland University, will talk on "Assertiveness Training." Inquiries will be taken by calling Kathy Sigoun, 879-9179.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024, and must arrive on the Monday prior to Thursday publication.

Sky watch

January offers partial eclipse

By RAYMOND E. BULLOCK

January offers a fairly nice meteor shower, brilliant winter constellations, some interesting planetary groupings, and a partial eclipse of the moon.

Since the earth's orbit is elliptical, our distance to the sun varies throughout the year. On New Year's Day, the earth is closest to the sun (Perihelion).

So why is it so cold this month? Because our seasons are not related to distance, but rather to the tilt of the earth. In January, the northern hemisphere is tilted away from the sun, thus we experience winter.

The Quadrantid meteor shower reaches maximum on Jan. 3, with an average of about 40 meteors visible

every hour. The best way to observe the shower is to get as comfortable as possible in a reclining chair and look up toward the north. Most meteors will be visible after midnight.

Morning skywatchers will see the brilliant planet Venus about 3 degrees south of the waning crescent moon on Jan. 4. Higher in the southeast are Jupiter and Saturn. Jupiter is the brighter.

ON JAN. 14, Jupiter will be about 1 degree below Saturn. This is the first of three conjunctions (groupings) between these two planets in 1981. Watch as Jupiter slowly drifts away from Saturn as each day passes.

A partial eclipse of the moon is vis-

ble from our area on the morning of Jan. 20. The eclipse begins as the moon passes into the earth's shadow at 12:35 a.m.

The midpoint of the eclipse occurs at 2:50 a.m. The top half of the moon will appear darker than the bottom half. The eclipse concludes at 5:03 a.m.

It may be possible to spot Mercury and Mars in conjunction on Jan. 23. Mercury will be less than 1 degree south of the red planet, but they will be only 5 degrees above the southwestern horizon at 5:30 p.m. An unobstructed horizon and binoculars may help you spot them.

On Jan. 25, the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn will form a trio high in the southeast in the morning sky.

THE WINTER constellation Orion is very prominent this month. Look for three stars forming a straight line high in the southeast after sunset. The two bright stars above the three "belt" stars are his shoulders — two bright stars below the belt are his knees. A cluster of stars hanging from his belt form his sword and is the location of the Orion nebula, a place where stars are in the process of forming.

If you draw a line down from Orion's belt, you will come to brilliant Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky. At a distance of 8.7 light years away, it is one of our closest neighbors.

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