

## The Legacy of Solar Telescope Designer George A. Carroll

By John W. Briggs



John W. Briggs is Astronomer in Residence for the Michele and David Mittelman Family Foundation at the HUT Observatory near Eagle, Colorado, USA. John's present work includes CCD photometry for asteroid rotation studies, seeing measurement with differential image motion monitors, solar system astrometry, and educational projects involving schools, science centers, and related organizations. He is also active in the history of astronomy, especially regarding history of telescopes and related instrumentation. Recently a visiting scientist at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, John served for many years as an instrumentation engineer based at the University of Chicago's Yerkes Observatory. Among projects during that time were pioneering experiments with sodium laser guide "stars" now commonly used in adaptive optics; instrument commissioning for the Sloan Digital Sky Survey; field engineering for the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope Site Survey; and three visits to Antarctica, including a winter-over at South Pole Station for Chicago's Center for Astrophysical Research in Antarctica. In earlier days John served as a parallax observer at Wesleyan's Van Vleck Observatory. In residence at Mount Wilson, he observed chromospherically active stars for the long-running HK Project. He also served as an editor at Sky & Telescope magazine in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is a past president of the Antique Telescope Society. John conducts the Hartness House Workshop series in conjunction with the annual Stellafane convention in Springfield, Vermont. A current project underway is to relocate a 95-cm Boller & Chivens observatory reflector from its original site at Princeton University to a new dark site in the Cloudcroft, New Mexico, area.