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## **The History of the RASC Kingston Centre - Part 2**

### **Some reminiscences on the Third Decade of the Centre from 1981 to 1990 by Leo Enright**

[The following is from the notes used for a paper presented to the Kingston Centre on February 9, 2001 to mark the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the Centre in 1961.]

#### The Kingston Centre in the 1980's: "An Explosion of Activity"

The great explosion of activity during the 1980's was marked by the following events or activities:

- Centre exchanges were promoted between the Kingston Centre and the London, Ottawa and Halifax Centres
- Holleford Crater Tours became more common, and were undertaken much more frequently
- The general assemblies of the society drew wider participation from across the country and certainly from members of our Centre.

Our member David Levy discovered his first comet, and later several other comets, and became well known in the astronomical world (from Comet Levy-Rudenko to Comet Levy 1990)

- Stellafane and the Syracuse Summer Seminar conventions drew members to popular summer events
- Popular attention (in both the tabloid and legitimate press) was drawn to the "The Superconjunction of 1982" and to the appearance of Halley's Comet in 1985-86.
- Recognition was given by the City of Kingston for Ontario's first astronomical observatory at a ceremony in MacDonald Park.
- There was greater participation by members of the Centre in the affairs of the Society.
- There were increased activities associated with participation in International Astronomy Day.