

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ASTRONOMY CLUB NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING

Date: Feb 5, 1974 (Tuesday)
Time: 8:30 p.m.
Place: Room 323 Ellis Hall
Agenda: film, and observing if weather permits

Celestial Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Feb. 5	19	Moon at perigee (222,690 mi.)
6		Mercury at ascending node
	18:24	Full Moon
9	03	Mercury greatest elongation E. (18°)
11		Mercury at perihelion
12	18	Vesta Stationary
13	11	Jupiter in conjunction
	19:04	Last Quarter
15	00	Mercury stationary
16	18:03	Appulse of Pallas and SAO 124318

NOTE: Vesta and Pallas are asteroids.

ASTRONOMY IN THE NEWS by Neil Carleton

Not wishing to see the Q.U.A.C. newsletter shrink any further in size and realizing that a golden opportunity has arisen to display my writing talents, I've compiled some information that may be of interest to all newsletter readers.

But also realizing that the vast storehouse of knowledge that should be available at this stage in one's academic career was devoid of major astronomical revelations, I've relied on the information gathering services of the Ottawa Journal for the following hot vews items.

Comet Kohoutek:

Dr. G. Herzberg and Dr. H. Lew of the National Research Council have discovered electrically charged water molecules in the tail of comet Kohoutek. The discovery, made late December, has been described as one of the most important findings so far of the comet's composition.

Tokyo Sees Stars

For years astronomers in Tokyo have been combatting air pollution, neon signs and search lights but because of energy shortages the lights have been dimmed and the milky way can be seen with the naked eye once again. Astronomers throughout the country are enthusiastically reporting fresh sightings of previously vanished stars!

Stay tuned for more next time.

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Mr. Gordon Brown has written to me and asked if any members of the Kingston Centre of the RASC or of the Q.U.A.C. would be interested in becoming a part of an amateur and professional astronomers association, called The Association of Amateur Astronomers. According to Mr. Brown, the key of the Association is astronomical research and observational work on a primarily Amateur level. The Association is designed to work with other astronomical

societies and associations, and not compete against them. If there is anyone interested, please contact Mr. Brown at the address below, and mention that you are a member of the R.A.S.C. or Q.U.A.C.

Mr. Gordon Brown, Director,
The Association of Amateur Astronomers,
181 Woodmount Ave.,
Toronto, Ontario.

Geoffrey Wyght, Secretary-Treasurer

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ELECTION NOTICE -(Feel Power-Hungry?)

Elections for positions as President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer will be held on 26 March, 1974. Now is the time to start thinking about having yourself nominated for a position in the Kingston Centre of the R.A.S.C. and the Q.U.A.C. Please note that by running for a position in one club, you are running for that same position in the other club. Also there nominations will be accepted for an additional Member of the Executive position.

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WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT? WANT TO BE KNOWN NATION-WIDE? Then write an article for our newsletter. Copies are sent to other branches of the R.A.S.C. all across Canada. Send information to:

Valerie Kirkwood
Vice-Pres. Q.U.A.C.-R.A.S.C.
408 A Victoria Hall
Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario.

P.S. You would also be helping the nerves of a harassed Editor!

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF OTHER R.A.S.C. BRANCHES

WANT TO BE KNOWN NATION-WIDE? Then get the editor of your newsletter to send copies of your newsletter to the other Canadian Branches. We regularly receive letters from only a few other branches, and these are read with interest by our club members. We'd like to hear from you, and, I'M sure, so would the other branches of the R.A.S.C.