

Q u.a.c. R a.s.c.  
News Letter

Everyone please note the final  
2 sheets By Leo These are very important  
Return the second sheet to me as soon  
as possible. Mail them to

Douglas Baker  
447 Princess st  
Kingston ont  
K7L 1C3

For the Perseid meteor shower there has been  
another site suggested, This is Knowlton lake,  
and is near the Holliford Crater. If  
you would like this site write it in.  
Please return the sheet in any case. Quickly

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Have you ever had one of those nights  
observing where everything goes right.  
I have, The morning of Sat May 14

I saw 16 Messier Objects  
a meteorite through the small scope  
Venus, Mars and the Moon all in  
the same part of the sky (Beautiful!)  
and A Bolide with SOUND!

This was fantastic! Unbelievable  
Despite Loozing Sleep I was glad  
that I had gone! LUCK &

## Mars and water

(condensed from Science Dimension)

Mars has always fascinated man. Ever since the first telescope was pointed at it and it was discovered to be a solid body similar to earth various people have thought it to contain water.

Percival Lowell built an observatory to try to prove that the line-like details on its surface were water-courses constructed by the planets inhabitants to save their water supply.

The first close up photographs from the mariner probe showed that Mars was a barren, cratered dry planet with huge waterless dry canyons. Water was absent from the surface except in a thin frost film at the poles. Exobiologists reason, however, that water may be lying undetected just under the planets surface. Last winter (75-76) a group of astrophysicists at Nrc's Algonquin Park Radio Observatory may have detected subsurface water.

When Mars was in opposition in Dec. 1975 the 46 metre dish was aimed at Mars for a 2 Week period and the intensity of microwave emission was measured at the 2.8 cm wavelength over the entire Martian surface. These radio waves can be considered to originate from a depth of 15cm. below the surface. As the sun shines on the surface it heats up and the heat gradually penetrates downwards. After measuring the mid-day surface temperature all around the planet it was noticed that there were several hot spots covering 25% of its length.

After considering and rejecting several ideas to explain this the scientists came to the conclusion that it could be due to sub-surface water. If there is water in the soil the radio characteristics of it would be greatly changed and the radiation received would be from the top few cm. These would be hotter than the area 15cm. in depth and would give the impression of a hot spot.

At the moment the explanation that the hot spot is produced by water is the most widely accepted but there are other convincing explanations such as porous soil that would enable the heat to penetrate further.

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The planet Mars these days is visible just before the beginning of twilight, It is a nice sight to see, since it is now in conjunction with venus. If anyone likes getting up at 4am. to see it, it is worth it.

# R.A.S.C. - K.C. - Q.U.A.C. "SUMMER PLANS" 1977.

Here is a proposed schedule of summer activities.  
Please supply the information we request and return to  
Doug Baker.

## I The Hollford Crater Picnic

Come and see the second oldest meteorite impact site in all of Canada (Just check your handbook to verify this) It's 550 MILLION YEARS OLD, and it's in our own county.

At: the crater site

On: Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Fee: No Charge!

## II A Summer Solstice Outing

- A Scintillating Celebration of The Summer Solstice On The Shimmering Shores of Sharbot Lake.

This may feature swimming, canoeing, exploring and water-skiing.

At: Leo's place

On: Sun. June 26. (It's not exactly the solstice.)

Fee: No Charge!

Bring binoculars and small telescopes for an evening observing session.

## III The Perseid Meteor Shower Observing Session

Join in an all-night observing session of one of the richest and longest meteor showers of the year. We intend to do some precise recordings of timing, number, and velocities

At: a site to be chosen later

On: the night of Fri-Sat, Aug 12-13  
or

Sat. - Sun. Aug 13-14

Fee: No charge!

## IV

45<sup>th</sup> P. m m - - -

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## IV 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel Outing. (An Excursion To And Picnic On 45°N.)

Join an excursion to a point in the northern part of our county which is precisely  $\frac{1}{2}$  way between the North Pole and the equator. Stand on the 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel of North Latitude. Bring cameras and photograph the group on the famous forty-fifth.

At: the 45<sup>th</sup> (of course) but precise details will be given later

On: Sun. Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>

★ To. The Organizers of Summer Plans " 1977

Here's my reply to the 4 activities.

I The Holleford Crater Picnic.

- Check:  I will be thrilled to go  and will bring lunch.  
 I am unsure, but perhaps will go.  
 I will not be going

II The Summer Solstice Outing.

- Check one:  I'll be there, for sure.  
 I probably will go.  
 I possibly will go.  
 Sorry, but not this solstice.

III The Perseid Meteor Shower Observing Session.

- Check one:  I'll go; it's a great idea.  
 Not this shower!

- Check one:  I would prefer the Fri.-Sat. night. } of course, I realize  
 I would prefer the Sat.-Sun night. } weather may necessitate  
a change. (Phone me on Fri.)

- Check one:  For a site I would prefer handy Fort Henry  
 For a site I would prefer Wolfe Island  
 For a site, I would prefer the environs of Sheild Lake.

IV The Excursion To And Picnic On The 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel.

- Check one:  Great! I'll be there.  
 Probably; I'll let you know more definitely very soon.  
 Possibly; I'll let you know later.  
 I can't make it.

I will not be going

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- I can supply transportation and could take \_\_\_\_\_ people.  
 I don't have transportation and will need a ride.  
 I can bring some equipment (where appropriate)  
such as  camera(s),  binocular(s),  other \_\_\_\_\_

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_