

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA -KINGSTON CENTRE
AND QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ASTRONOMY CLUB
The week of the Autumnal Equinox, 1977.



Greetings, and if you have joined our group since the last newsletter, welcome and best of luck in astronomical endeavours in 1977-1978.

Our first meeting of September was held on the 13th. The second page of this newsletter may contain a report from Sue, our secretary who recorded minutes of the meeting. An important decision taken at the meeting was to strive for fairly orderly meetings and to keep good records for the Centre. To this end, I will be responsible for preparing the agenda for each meeting; Sue will be responsible for recording the minutes and decisions of the meetings; and Doug will keep at his place the files, records, newsletters, books, and other things belonging to the Centre. Meanwhile we will work toward ^{acquiring} storage space where these things may be kept safely and be handy when needed. There were ten items on the agenda, and all were covered at the meeting, though decisions on some items were postponed for another time.

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE

The dates of all the meetings remain the same as published in the last newsletter. However, please interchange the agenda for Nov. 8, and Nov. 22.

We are very fortunate that Dr. Alan Batten, President of the R. A. S. C. and a professional astronomer, has accepted our invitation and said he will be here on Nov. 22. His topic is to be: Close Binary Systems. He mentioned a willingness to answer questions about the R.A.S.C.

MEETINGS

Since the dates of meetings was published in the last newsletter, please do not wait for a newsletter or reminder about any of these dates. Here they are again: (PLEASE RECORD THEM) Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Dec. 6, Dec. 20, Jan. 10, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, ALL OF THEM BEGIN AT 8:00 p.m. IN ROOM 222 IN ELLIS HALL.

ECLIPSE REMINDER: To prepare yourself for the Penumbral lunar eclipse of Sept. 26-27, please read the information in The Observer's Handbook on page 61 and at the top of page 52. More info. may be had in the American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac on page 344.

Reminder: Your dues, next meeting. "See YOU AT THE MEETING!"

~~Sept 27~~ th.

Minutes of RASC, Kingston Centre and QUAC meeting, October 25, 1977

Meeting was opened by Leo with a warm welcome to all present.

Minutes of the last meeting accepted as published in the last newsletter--the motion to do so was made by Denis and seconded by Enrico.

Leo explained the recent executive meetings--to prepare our Centre's reply to Dr. Percy's report for the RASC.

The winner of the Mosquito Contest was announced--Doug Baker won the "money Star" for his entry, which will be published in a coming newsletter.

Observing reports:

1.) Solar Eclipse--saw slides that Leo took out at Sharbot lake. David Levy and Enrico will bring their own photographic efforts to a later meeting. Mike Kennedy also was able to see the eclipse (The clouds mysteriously parted at just the right time for some!)

2.) No one reported any observations of the Saturn eclipse.

3.) One Orionid (a possible second) was seen by our observing group during two hours out at Fort Henry Hill. Leo also saw one--while looking out his window.

4.) An Aurora Borealis was seen at about moonset on Oct. 18 in the north and East by Leo. It was described as "Quite spectacular".

5) The regular Tues. night observing session (Oct. 18) saw a near-occultation of a star by the moon which was quite good--very clear skies. It was a full occultation about 250 miles north of here.

David Levy gave a quick talk on variable stars in order to stir interest with the hope of starting a variable star observers group. David is very experienced with this type of observing, and is a member of the American Society Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO).

Denis Belanger gave a presentation of the photometer he built--lots of questions were asked and answered.

Observing reminders:

1.) The Taurid meteor shower of November 4 (Friday). We will meet at 5:30 pm in front of Ellis Hall to observe them.

2.) Others coming up include the Leonids, the Geminids and special phenomena of Jupiter's satellites. The latter will occur on the nights of: Oct. 31-Nov. 1, Nov. 9-10, Nov. 10-11.

New Business:

We will look into purchasing some RASC T-shirts from the Ottawa Centre.

An announcement was made of the Great 1978 Observing and Display Competition in Edmonton at the time of the 1978 General Assembly. Those interested in applying should get an entry form from Sue at a meeting.