

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA -KINGSTON CENTRE

andQUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ASTRONOMY CLUB

The latter half of October, 1977.

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Greetings again!

Hope the weather was favourable for your Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> eclipse observing!

MIRACLE OF MIRACLES!

During many parts of the day, Oct.12<sup>th</sup>, I did not hold much hope of getting in solar eclipse photography, or even of seeing the eclipse at all. Within a half-hour of the beginning of the eclipse it was raining and raining very hard where I planned to do my observing. The wind was wild and gusty. Then something, almost providential, seemed to happen. The clouds parted; the winds calmed; the eclipse-viewing was unhampered, beginning to end. A miracle of 8'77.

I had been undecided about even setting up any equipment, but with a lot of haste, the camera was set up, and I went wild getting over 20 photographs. If they are of decent quality, I hope to have them ready for the next meeting.

If you had a minor miracle, or took photos, bring your report and your results to the next meeting.

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The DOES THE SUN RISE IN THE EAST OR THE WEST column

About a week ago a friend told me about seeing what he called "a comet " flash across the sky from one horizon to the other, and he said it was really bright. I never before knew that it was easy to get comets and meteors mixed up!!!!!!!!!!

Give me the naked-eye observers of antiquity rather than their modern day counterparts. Give me one of the former for fifty of the latter.

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WORTHWHILE READING - There is a very good article for beginning and novice astrophotographers in the latest issue of POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHY magazine (Oct.1977, page 110.). It's worth buying from your newsstand.

FUNNIEST (by a lightyear ) PUBLICATION OF THE DECADE Have you read the parody astro-publication, SMOG AND TELESCOPE (Montreal,1975)??

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Don't miss the next meeting - Tue. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, in Ellis Hall.

"See you at 8 o'clock!"

-Leo.

Minutes of the RASC--QUAC meeting of October 11, 1977

1. The meeting was opened by President Leo.
2. The reading of the minutes from the last meeting was waived since they were published in the newsletter.
3. Business arising from the last meeting was discussed:
  - Club's Night--the success of this event in drawing new members remains to be seen. It appeared to be successful.
  - Letter writing--stationary and envelopes were supplied so that interested members could write letters to their MP's regarding the import duty on telescopes.
4. The Mosquito Contest run by our club was written up in "Sky and Telescope"!!!! Doug sends a copy of each of our newsletters to a man involved with that magazine and he published news of our contest.
5. Leo gave a report on the Annual Assembly, 1977 which he attended this summer, after we heard no reports on Saturn's occultation because of rain. A description of the events during the Assembly, plus a brief run-down on each of the papers given, were enthusiastically reported by Leo. He also gave an outline of the keynote speech by Terrance Dickinson, which was about the recent re-working of the CETI equation.
6. Several reminders were given about xxxxxx upcoming observing:
  - The solar eclipse on Oct. 12, 1977 at about 5:09-26 minutes.
  - The Eclipse of Iapetus by Saturn on Oct. 19--which will be mainly during the day around this area.
  - The Orionid meteor shower--Oct. 20-21. It was decided to go out to Fort Henry Hill for this event. We decided to meet at Ellis Hall at 10:00 pm Thurs., Oct. 20 if it is clear, or at the same time and place on Friday if not.
7. New business--Sue received a letter from an RASC member in Alberta. He has developed a new method for recording meteor showers and has asked that anyone interested in finding out about this method, and recording showers for his files please write him. His address is:  
**MR. MARK ZALUK**  
**13015 115 ST**  
**EDMONTON, ALTA. T5E-5G4**
8. More dues were paid and then, unfortunately, we did not adjourn to the dome, since it was cloudy.