



Regulus



The Newsletter of the RASC Kingston Centre

2000 November-December

DSNOS-2000

Dark Sky - Night Observing Session
RASC Kingston Centre and Belleville
Astronomy Club Saturday September 23rd
27 in attendance in the rain at Pres'quile
Provincial Park!

And I thought I was the only one who took an afternoon nap after getting home :) The observing per se was a bust... but over 25 of us showed up at Presquille Park over the



course of Friday and Saturday. The centre? has a nice homemade tent that was quite large and accommodated everyone for Saturday nights get together and informal talks. The sun shelters paid off again as they make great rain shelters... and it rained and rained and rained (luckily not

for very long at a time). We got to meet some great (and active!) folks from Belleville and all in all the First Annual DS-NOS (don't ask me!) was a roaring success. It was about 1.5 hours



from Kingston and I showed up around 1:00 on Saturday after driving through a few downpours on the 401. The Park itself is really really long (a couple of hours walk from end to end?) and is sticking out in the Lake. The waves were something else during the high winds... Luckily the spot for the session was inland a couple of hundred metres and well sheltered from the wind. We actually did get some holes in the clouds around 02:30 Sunday and it did look dark. All through the night however, we fought running guerilla battles with the local raccoon population. They were incredible! Brazen! Chutspah! They would come right up to within a meter of us and rip off the lids from the coolers, grab the first thing in it and make a break, one came up to Hank and gave him a nudge (beat it bub!) They continually hopped up on the tables, grabbed stuff while we were there right in front of them. Eventually we gave up and moved *everything* into the vehicles. Next year comes motion sensors and electric fences!

We packed up Sun morning, took down the "big tent" and left around 11. The biggest drawback: no Tim Hortons on the way back on the 401 (except right outside of Kingston). I stopped into the Napanee around noon to get a coffee refill and was home and unpacked by 1.

Submissions from Members

YOG

by Hank Bartlett

Parents are encouraged to attend and share this hobby with their child. Parental attendance also allows the parent to learn enough about astronomy to allow them to help their child at home. As this is basically an after dark hobby it is best that children are not left alone, but also it is fun to share this experience with them.

For more information call Hank at 613-xxx-xxxx or email xxx@xxxx.xxxxxx.xxx .

Lost in the Barrens 2000

by E. Kliptic

Like one of those neuron flashes that strike you in the night and give you nightmares, I had an idea! Contact my Starfest Buddies and convince the Starfest 2000 advance party to spend our first night under the pristine, dark sky of the Torrence Barrens Dark Sky Preserve north of Gravenhurst. Of course in typical Starfestian fashion this deviation from the normal routine provided the opportunity, no, necessity, for a planning session.

After exchanging numerous e-mails a date and meeting place was set. It did not hurt at all that we would meet on the pool deck of my friend Csar on a hot summer afternoon. This would be an opportunity as well to share some of those rare Regulan wines and spirits that he secretly imports.

It was decided that we would, weather permitting stay the night at the preserve. Not knowing the exact location and facilities available an email was sent off to Terry Dickinson. With a minor adjustment to our directions and the advice to be prepared to be on our own, we were on our way.

At approximately 9:40 a.m. on Tue. Aug. 22 our convoy headed for its first Tim Horton's in Napanee (adequate supplies are important to any trek into the wilderness). Several hours later with our convoy stretched over the long lonesome highway and after some excellent rock tunes three of us found ourselves stranded. The next Tim's was on the southbound lane of divided hwy. 11! Thank Janus for cell phones. A quick call to our compatriots led us just a few more kilometers north where they were already in line for Tim's coffee and lunch. Believe me there were a few tense moments when we thought we may have to pull over and consult Csar, if we could get him out from underneath several hundred pounds of supplies and telescopes.

At lunch with rain coming down periodically it became plain to us that staying over night may be in jeopardy. Stopping only for emergency rations we headed out in the

POURING rain. Terry's directions coupled with those we already had led us easily to the barrens in less than 1/2 hour. Let me warn you that if you head in that lonesome road off the highway stay alert. Although the area is not as remote as the road in leads you to believe, it is still nowhere to miss a turn.

Surprisingly the cell phone rings, it is the first arrival warning us to stay right driving into the parking lot as there is a rather large hump of rock that he almost ran aground on. We soon see a small parking area on the left along side the road. We are there!

The Torrence Barrens Conservation Park, AKA the Dark Sky Preserve is immediately off a road that is surprisingly well traveled. Once all of us had arrived we had a photo shoot (see Kingston Center web site for Csar meditating under the sign) and then scouted out the area (under cloudy sky) for the best observing sights. We quickly found the whale back rock and the remnants of a couple of impromptu parties. There is a lovely small lake to camp near and it is a tranquil setting. Not being as adventurous as some I did not set out on the trail around the lake. Take a first aid kit one of recognizance party did a grounder. The observing area is partially sheltered from the road by trees but not well enough to block out headlights completely. After this brief walkabout of the territory the true campers showed there grit and set up camp. Those looking for more civilized facilities than one portable outhouse (even though it had a sink, mirror and paper towels) headed for Mount Forest.

Having stayed behind my traveling companions and I were rewarded with clear warm skies and some solar observing. Soon after setting up camp and partaking of liquid refreshment we were basking in the sun and playing badminton. Unfortunately after an excellent dinner of tube steak and more liquid refreshments the clouds rolled in. This was to be the last of the clear sky we were to see. The cloud did provide the opportunity to gauge the sky glow. The only truly

black sky appeared to be overhead and to the southwest, if memory serves me right. This of course is no indication of how good the observing sky is but I do have it on good authority that it is no better than Charleston Lake for those who have been there.

Shortly after dark, our tent pitched on flat rock we turned in for the night. Just what does one do when you are in the Barrens and unable to observe. The experienced camper is prepared for every situation. You take out the viewcam, pop in a tape and watch "Spaced Invaders". Have you ever been to a drive in with a four inch wide screen? The ants had good seats and their popcorn smelled great. Shortly after the feature attraction began cars and voices were heard. Apparently this is a party place. Our theatre seating being full and the guests being of dubious character we did not invite them in. An hour and a half later as the credits rolled by we heard them leave, me thinks they was eavesdropping.

Being adventurers and also too #\$\$% hot we left the outer flap open and turned in for the night. Have you ever laid looking into the darkness and tried to NOT think about bears? It is not easy, especially with crackling branches all around. Once thunderous rain hit we closed the flap and used our body weight in the corners of the tent to keep it on the ground as the storm rolled through.

Ah, morning. Damp and stiff, we arose, packed and headed for McDonald's, and of course Tim Horton's.

So in conclusion if this site is no better than the likes of Charleston Lake what good is it? In my opinion it is a start. This site has brought attention to the need for dark preserves if not for now but for the future. It is my understanding that the local tourism and businesses are already discussing limiting future light pollution to best preserve this site. Dark Sky Preserves may someday be a thriving industry not only for astronomy use but also for those who just like to enjoy the darkness they remember from their youth.



ATM Projects: The Variable Height Observing Chair by Kevin Kell



Variable Height Observing Chair in Action

Every year I and many other Astro-Dudes partake of the Star Party known as StarFest, held at Mount Forest Ontario. And every year we come back full of ideas and energy to do something about them. This variable height observing chair project came out of those ideas. Of our group of 22 transgressors, 3 or 4 had observing chairs (fixed height) and none had variable height chairs. We saw one design at StarFest but it was selling at over \$150? \$200? Zowie! So about August 9th I started hunting the net for project ideas. I found the following:
<http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/twjhnst/space/chair/chair.html>
<http://home.earthlink.net/~flyj/cperch1.html>
<http://www.cableone.net/les/Astro/Chair.htm>
<http://www.starchair.com/main.html>
<http://www.icstars.com/starmaster/chair.htm>

Now this was an innovative design! I like it.. I like it a lot! Let's go with something like this!

Benefits

For anyone with a sore back, a longer focal length that causes the eyepiece to move up and down a LOT, or for public observing sessions with a lot of vertically challenged rugrats. It can be sat on at heights of 6", 12", 18", 24" and maybe even 30", and stood on at heights of 6", 12" 18" and 24". It had better support 200 lb+- (90kg +-)!

Design

Oak is too expensive as is aluminum. So instead I went out for 1x2" whitewood and 1" wooden dowels (maple).

Parts List

- 6- 1"x2"x8' whitewood @\$7.25
- 6- 1"x48" wooden dowel @\$2.88
- 28 #6 screws x 1 1/2"
- wood glue
- 2 or 3 hinges
- Total costs Look like about \$60 so far.

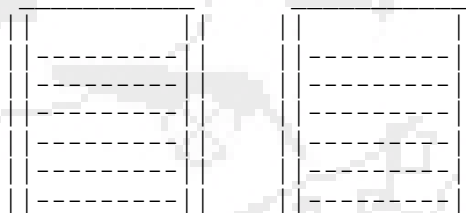
The Assembly

Start with a 1x2x8 and cut it into two 42" pieces (with 12" left over) and drill a 1" hole all the way through every 6" (eg 6", 12", 18", 24", 30", 36") starting at the foot end centred on the 2" side. Repeat for the 2nd piece. Test fit a dowel. It should be snug (it will be glued in place later).

Repeat the above step. You should now have 4 legs with 6 holes each.

Take another 1x2x8 and cut it into two 42" pieces (with 12" left over). Do it again with the 4th 1x2x8. These 4 will go on the outside of the first four, holding in the dowels and making stronger legs.

Take the 5th 1x2x8 and cut off two 24" pieces (leaving 48"). These will be the tops. OK take a hole-ly leg, attach an unhole-ly leg to it using glue and screws in between each dowel. Repeat with a second set. Insert the 6 dowels in between. Lay down on a flat surface. Square it all up. The top and bottom outside edges should be 24" apart. Add the 24" top 1x2 and glue and screw it to to form a 3 sided square. Do It again. You should now have



Stack these on top of one another and attach a hinge or hinges to allow them to sweep open to a 90 degree angle.

We now have a functional chair without a seat. The seat will be a piece of plywood that sits across the two "walls", which are at 90 degrees.

The seat can be placed across the dowels at 6", 12", 18", 24" and maybe even 30".

To keep the seat in place we'll cut and intricate pattern at the hinged corner so the plywood "locked in place" the two arms of this device. A 2x2 brace was added to the front edge of the seat, to help support the plywood front edge.

After the Fact

The plywood seat still had a tendency to flip up at the back when weight was applied at the front. So little 2"x2" blocks were added on the inside leg of one of the arms to prevent the plywood from moving up (much). You still need to leave a bit of room to allow the plywood to insert into the arms.

After visiting at Starfest 2000, I found another observer had built on of these out of 2x4's and this allowed him enough room to add wooden blocks under the plywood to lock on the dowels. Neat but a little heavier.

[This is part of a series of ATM projects that include:

-Observing Table (Regulus 2000 Sept)

-Power Box (Regulus 2000 July)

-Type I Barndoor (Regulus 1999 March)

Coming in future issues:

-Dew zapping heaters

-Dew Zapping hater controller]

Astronomy buff gets first big breaks (from a local newspaper article)

Amateur astronomer Theodore Micholias is going pro. The Kingston McDonald's burger flipper has booked the first two gigs for his newly purchased portable planetarium.

"I'm very excited," said Micholias, who will give presentations on the Canadian Space Agency, Greek mythology and the constellations at Harrowsmith Public school today and tomorrow. On Thursday, he'll be at Rideau Heights Public School. He's also showing off his planetarium at Chapters on Princess St., between 5 & 7 :00 pm on Saturday.

Micholias, a computer student, came to Kingston from Greece about 12 years ago. He began dabbling in astronomy about seven years

ago, when his wife bought him a cheap telescope at a yard sale.

Check out Theo's website at

<http://www.geminispace.com/>



SETI@Home update Version 3.0 adds science improvements to the operational improvements of version 2.x. (released in early October 2000)

Notes from the Secretary

Regular Meeting of the Kingston Centre of the RASC
August 11, 2000 - Annual Markfest BBQ at the home of Mark Kaye No minutes...

Regular Meeting of the Kingston Centre of the RASC September 8th, 2000 -

The meeting was called to order at 20:05 by President Doug Angle and our speaker for the evening was introduced.

JJ Kavelaars received his Ph.D. from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario in December of 1997. He is currently working in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at McMaster and is engaged in studies of the outer solar system (the Kuiper Belt), searching for more moons around the gas giants, and the use of globular clusters as probes of galaxy formation and dark matter halos. After this excellent presentation JJ presented to the Centre, two copies (one English and one French) of the much discussed Long Range Plan, a product of the The National Research Council of Canada (NRC), in partnership with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Canadian Astronomical Society (CASCA), a Long Range Plan for ground-based astronomy in Canada.

Laura thanked JJ and there were a few minutes for a quick break. After the break David Pianosi reminded everyone about the joint Kingston Centre, Belleville Astronomy Club, camp out at Presqu'île Park, on September 23rd and that some people will be going out on the Friday as well.

September 15th there will be a CCD session at Jan Wiesniski's Saturday the 9th at 11:00 there will be a memorial service at Reid's Funeral Home near the VIA station for Gord Taylor. October 3 is the next Public Session at Murney Tower. September 20 the YOG starts

up for the winter at Holy Cross, room 108. Books were donated to the Centre Library by Kevin Fetter and Leo Brodeur.

Laura as V.P. announced the speaker line up for the next while, October, Bill Broderick (what to say to Astrology). November, members night and Elections. December, Jan Wisniewski (CCD imaging). As Education Chair Laura also announced that the Grade 6 Book has moved on to proof reading.

Susan as Secretary announced that the mail box had been quiet, but we had received a gift of slides from member Kevin Fetter to add to our collection. The tickets for the Annual Awards Banquet November 25 went on sale at \$22 each. On the National Council front there is a meeting coming up October 14th.

Kendra as ATM chair announced that the polishing is done and figuring will begin on the 24 inch. Plywood has been purchased and most cell parts have been cut but we are in need of a welder.

On the newsletter front Kevin announced that it was in the mail and many have been received. He would also like people to participate in the Messier tally sheet that he is keeping in Regulus. With respect to Messiers Steve Manders said that an informal survey he did of Starfest attendees showed that many have logged all objects but do not bother to apply for the certificate. This sparked some discussion. Tom, the Observing chair, said that there are new Messier Certificate applications. He also had handouts listing the items in the loan program. New items include colour filters, 3 stop neutral density filters and an O3 purchased from Hank.

John's Treasurer's report was short and to the point, get your membership renewals in ASAP please.

There were a few slides from Leo of Linear and Kevin of Starfest sights. Hank reported that several of the group made a stop at Torrence Barrens on the way to Starfest and the weather was not good enough (heavy rain) to evaluate the site.

Regular Meeting of the Kingston Centre of the RASC October 13th, 2000 -

Doug called the meeting to order at 20:00hrs and introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Bill Broderick. Bill has been an active member for many years, holding the V.P. and Newsletter Editor positions as well as chairing Light Pollution committees locally and nationally. The topic of Bill's talk was The Truth About Astrology, and a lively debate followed.

After Bill spoke Kevin presented some pictures of the Dark Sky Camp Out and it seemed that for a rainy weekend there was still a lot of fun to be had.

There was a short break, filled with frantic ticket selling including the Awards Banquet November 25th (do you have your ticket, Mail a cheque in by November 20 or purchase at the next meeting \$22).

Laura then reported as VP that there were speakers in the 2001 line up. She then switched to the

Public Ed. Chair hat and delivered that report. She and Doug will attend the Science Teachers Association of Ontario seminar and talk up astronomy and promote the grades 6 and 9 Teacher's Guides, slide sets etc. Leo added that the National Committee has a website for educators and reminded members that if they are interested in education they should check out the report to National Council October 14th (Leo is also teaching an astronomy course at Algonquin College in Perth).

The observing dates announced by Tom were Members Oct 27 at Tessa's CCD night at Jan's and observatory tour October 20, and Jan 20 or 27 location TBA. Public nights coming up are October 31 and November 28. Kevin gave us the newsletter deadline as October 27. Bunny York donated a Tasco to the centre. There were a few observing reports about the recent aurora, visible even with the full moon. This completed the meeting and we adjourned to Harvey's.

<http://www.csicop.org/> and <http://www.skeptic.com> and <http://www.skepdic.com>

Notes from National

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF
CANADA Motions of National Council 2000 10 14

Note: the following is presented merely to foster discussion and rapid communication within the Society. This list of the motions considered at the meeting of National Council is completely unofficial and is the responsibility of the (outgoing) National Recorder. For official purposes, wait for the completed minutes in a few weeks.

MOTION 00401 It was moved by Ms. Gagnon and seconded by Mr. Dick to accept the minutes of the meetings held 2000 06 30 and 2000 07 02 as published on the Society's web site. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00402 It was moved by Ms. Hay and seconded by Mr. Fleming to award Messier Certificates to Mr. Lawrence J. Burgess (Windsor), Mr. Paul Ellard (Okanagan), Mr. David Marchand (Windsor), and Mr. Arnold L. Rivera (Edmonton). The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00403 It was moved by Ms. Hay and seconded by Dr. Pihack to award NGC Certificates to Mr. Guy Mackie (Okanagan), Mr. Arnold L. Rivera (Edmonton), and Mr. Ron Scherer (Okanagan). The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00404 It was moved by Mr. May and seconded by Dr. Pihack to accept the list of unattached members and life members as circulated. The motion was CARRIED by special resolution.

MOTION 00405 It was moved by Mr. Haig and seconded by Mr. Lane to spend up to \$700 to purchase two tape

drive systems and cartridges for the computers at national office. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00406 It was moved by Mr. Haig and seconded by Mr. Lane to spend up to \$250 to purchase an upgrade for the email address software. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00407 It was moved by Mr. Haig and seconded by Mr. Lane to spend up to \$500 to implement an entry-level electronic commerce arrangement. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00408 It was moved by the Publications Committee to disband the Journal Editorial Board as created by MOTION 96213. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00409 It was moved by the Publications Committee to charge the Publications Committee, in consultation with the Executive Committee, with overseeing the production of the 2000 Annual Report, which shall cost no more than \$7000 to produce. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00410 It was moved by the Publications Committee to convert "Looking Up" to a html-based version and publish it on the Society's web site, subject to acquisition of the publishing licence for "Looking Up" by the Society. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00411 It was moved by the Publications Committee to list astronomical resources that are recommended in the "Observer's Handbook" or have been reviewed in the "Journal" on the Society's web site, accompanied by relevant descriptions or reviews. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00412 It was moved by the Publications Committee to enter into on-line referral arrangements with chapters.ca and amazon.com, linking third-party literature that is listed at the Society's web site and carried by these booksellers to their web sites, subject to approval of the referral agreements by the Society's legal counsel. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00413 It was moved by the Publications Committee to add Mr. Mark Bratton (Montreal) to the Publications Committee. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00414 It was moved by the Executive Committee to transfer administration of the Walter Helm Fund to the University of Toronto, subject to such arrangement as may be approved by the Executive Committee. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00415 It was moved by the Awards Committee to spend \$1100 for participation in the 2001 Canada Wide Science Fair. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00416 It was moved by the Nominating Committee to appoint Ms. Heide DeBond (Toronto) to the position of Recorder, the term to begin immediately after this meeting and to end at the Annual Meeting in 2003. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00417 It was moved by the Nomination Committee to appoint Dr. Rajiv Gupta (Vancouver) to the position of Editor, "Observer's Calendar," the term to

begin immediately and to end at the Annual Meeting in 2003. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00418 It was moved by Ms. Talbot and seconded by Mr. Attwood that the Society accept the invitation of the Montreal Centre to host the 2002 General Assembly. The motion was CARRIED.

MOTION 00419 It was moved by Mr. May that the meeting adjourn. The motion was CARRIED at 16h14. Clear skies, Peter Jedicke, First Vice-President and formerly National Recorder 2000 10 14 21h30 edt

Editor's Corner

by Kevin Kell

By the time you read this you should have received your 2001 Observer's Handbook along with the current issue of Skynews and the RASC Journal.

Publishing Projects

To date we have now published two major pieces of work and one minor one, namely the Expanding Their Universe, Worlds to Discover and Careers in Space. I'm putting together the next in the series: The RASC-KC ATM Project Book. I'll be presenting at the November meeting the submission guidelines but in a nutshell what I'm looking for are ATM project ideas (preferably ones that you have built yourself and that have materials lists, assembly details and drawings and pictures) that are more biased towards accessories and woodworking than optical or mechanical assemblies (after all that is what Berry's Making a Telescope book is all about!) Les Dempsey from the Belleville Club had a couple of great projects (more than a couple but I can only remember two): a binocular tripod and a Bushnell Voyager finder. I've got plans for the series of projects shown in Regulus over the last few issues and hope to get ALL OF YOU with homebuilt observatories to send in submissions (Kim, Jan, Norm... you are the ones I know about!).

Slide Loan Sets:

To remind you that we have a large selection of 35mm slide that can be loaned out to members for use in giving public talks, talks to schools, etc. And we forgot to mention three of our own!

Expanding Their Universe Set #1 (40 slides)

Expanding Their Universe Set #2 (40 slides) Worlds to Discover Set #3 (20 slides)

We have also taken the 170+ slides donated by members and sorted them according to topic into 13 sets. This should make it easier to set up a talk and locate the slides you need.

Name	Last status	recent adds	Current Total
Tom Dean	36	0	36
Laura Gagne	65	0	65
Peggy Hurley	55	0	55
Kevin Kell	21	30	51

OK, what's up with the rest of you?? Haul out your logbooks and do a count... Gotta get that competitive spirit up and running to get you motivated to get up and outside!

What's New on the Web?

<http://www.rasc.ca/kingston>

- added Light Pollution Abatement Page
- completely overhauled Educational Resources page
- added 24" telescope Project Work List, updated 24" mirror project status
- added Flash Minutes of Motions from the Oct 14th National Council Meeting
- added New National Membership Application Forms and assorted national reports for upcoming NC meeting
- added minutes of September RASC-KC meeting
- added minutes of Winnipeg July 2000 meetings
- modified How-to-Join with the National membership application form in adobe acrobat format (modified locally to correct fee listings for Kingston).
- updated Youth Group, Meetings and main pages.
- added public and member events onto home page - to give members an easy to see upcoming event list as well as the public

Education Group News

The 3rd Slide set in our Education series has come back from duplication (thanks Mark!). It consist of 20 slides related to the Grade 6 curriculum and contains some slides from sets #1 and 2. All 3 sets are available from our Loan Library as well (free loan to members giving public talks). Doug and Laura are headed off to the Science Teachers Association of Ontario 2000 Conference held in Toronto the first week of November, to give

presentations and introduce our resources to the province's teachers.

ATM Group News

The 24" mirror has left the building!
Actually it was trundled off to the home of Doug Angle on the Thanksgiving weekend for many weeks of figuring. The grinding/polishing machine is probably going to be torn down and put into winter storage as it will take a major effort (a weekend?) To refurbish it back to doing smaller diameter glass and by that time water will start freezing again. So maybe I'll get some garage space back for the winter months :)

Public Observing Sessions

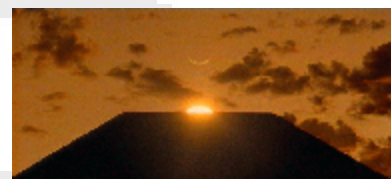
Our monthly Public Observing Session is normally held "about the first Tuesday after a New Moon". The sessions generally start with setup around dusk (in the summer, in the winter it's early evening, after dinner) and run for an hour or so and are held at the Murney Tower Museum Park (King & Barrie Sts) in Downtown Kingston

Tuesday October 31st (6 days old)

Tuesday November 28th (3 days old)

RASC Kingston Centre Meetings

The Kingston Centre RASC meets once a month on the 2nd Friday of each month at 8:00 pm (20:00) in Mackintosh-Corry Hall, Room B-201 on Queen's University Campus **unless noted otherwise**. We have adopted a policy of moving any meeting that is held on a holiday weekend to the **WEEK BEFORE**.



Event Horizon 2000

! **Friday November 10th** Annual General Meeting and Elections and Member's Night Presentations

- ! **Saturday November 25th Annual Awards Dinner** Guest Speaker Dr. Dave Hanes (Queen's University) Topic: Astronomy Down Under
- ! **Friday December 8th Regular Meeting** Guest Speaker: Jan Wisniewski Topic: CCD Imager/imaging
- ! **Friday January 12th Regular Meeting** Guest Speaker: TBA

2000 Officers and Executive Council
 PO Box 1793, Kingston, On K7L 5J6
 Infoline & answering machine xxx-xxx-xxxx

President: Doug Angle
Vice President: Laura Gagne
Secretary: Susan Gagnon
Treasurer: John Hurley
Librarian: David Maguire
Editor: Kevin Kell
National Council Rep: Susan Gagnon

Standing Committee Chairs:
 Observing Group: Tom Dean
 ATM Group: Kendra Angle
 Youth Group: Hank Bartlett
 Education Group: Laura Gagne
 Astronomy Day: vacant
 Publicity: Kim Hay
 Awards: Dave Pianosi

Observing Group Meetings

November: TBA
 December: probably cancelled due to busy season and cold weather!
 January: TBA
 Check the main web page for the latest information!

Annual Awards Dinner
Saturday November 25th

Lasalle Travellodge Motor Inn
 (Princess Street east of Chapters Bookstore)

Join us for our THE Social Event (alright, one of many) of the RASC Kingston Centre's year!

Members, spouses, come one come all.

Plans for the evening include:

Our Guest Speaker, Dr. Dave Hanes (Queen's University), "Astronomy Down Under".

"I'll be going back to Australia (to the Anglo-Australian Telescope, where I used to work) for an observing run in December.

Since all eyes are on Sydney in this Olympic year, what say I give a combined

travelogue/scientific talk"

Dinner, and our Annual Award Presentations (including the AV Douglas Award)

Reservations in advance only (tickets are available from Susan Gagnon at the

October or November regular meetings (home phone in Regulus) (Deadline is Monday November 20th). Price: \$22/person

Cocktails: 18:30 Dinner: 19:30










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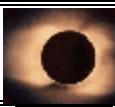


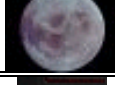


November December Run=200

The Newsletter of the Kingston Centre of the Royal
 Astronomical Society of Canada

Newsletter Submission Info: The deadline is the 3rd Friday before regular meetings in odd numbered months. The preferred method is E-MAIL, then disk, lastly paper. E-mail: <kell@cliff.path.queensu.ca> Fax: 1-613-533-2907 (with cover page to Kevin Kell) Post: Box 2033 Kingston Ontario K7L5J8 Canada ascii or most major word processors (Corel WP8 for windows preferred) via E-mail or 3.5" PC floppy disk

Kim's Kingston Kosmic Kalendar

New Moon	DARK SKIES	Oct 27
South Taurid Meteor Peak		Nov 2
1 st Quarter Moon		Nov 4
Full Moon		Nov 11
North Taurid Meteor Peak		Nov 12
Leonid Meteor Peak		Nov 17
3 rd Quarter Moon		Nov 18
New Moon	DARK SKIES	Nov 25
1 st Quarter Moon		Dec 3
Full Moon		Dec 11
Geminid Meteor Peak		Dec 13
3 rd Quarter Moon		Dec 17
Winter Solstice	Birth of a new Solar Year, and the beginning of Winter, and the days start getting longer	Dec 21

Ursid meteor peak		Dec 22
New Moon	DARK SKIES	Dec 25
Partial Solar Eclipse		Dec 25
1 st Quarter Moon		Jan 2,2001
Quadrantid Meteor Peak		Jan 3,2001
Full Moon		Jan 9, 2001
Total Lunar Eclipse		Jan 9,2001
3 rd Quarter Moon		Jan 16,2001
New Moon	DARK SKIES	Jan 24,2001

For more detailed information, please refer to the RASC 2000/2001Calendar, and the RASC 2001 Observers Handbook.