



Regulus



The Newsletter of the RASC Kingston Centre
ONLINE EDITION
2002 October Issue #8

Online Edition of Regulus!

This even-monthly issue of Regulus appears only online on our web site in Adobe Acrobat .PDF format.

This summer has been so very very busy... a side effect when you only get 3 or 4 months of decent enough weather to enjoy outdoors. Not to mention all of the extra events that get piled on as well.

Some Notes from the National Web site:

National Council Meeting minutes from the past are being scanned, OCR'd (optical character recognition) by Randy Attwood and being put online in the secure members only area. To date we have 1991-present and will be working on all existing records back into the 1960's.

You can find them at:

<http://www.rasc.ca/private/minutes/home.html>

National Membership Statistics from the Treasurer, Michael Watson, are now available as well on the secure web site, at:

<http://www.rasc.ca/private/home.html>

Interesting to see the ebb and flow of membership.

National Council Meeting - Saturday October 26, 2002

Held in Toronto, Ontario.

Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs will start to come in shortly and will be made available online for members to peruse and allow them to contact their National Council Representative (Peggy Hurley)

FallNStars 2002

This was our 3rd Annual starparty, co-hosted with the Belleville Astronomy Club. Committee Members were: Kevin Kell (RASC-KC), Les Dempsey (BAC), Kim Hay, Joe Shields, Hank Bartlett and sometimes Dave Pianosi. (Dave has a good heart but a bad calendar and missed most of the fun stuff).



Les Dempsey demonstrating solar



Kim Hay recording solar observations



Kevin Kell running up the flagpole



First scopes set up in the field



Party Alien!



Registration Tent

FallNStars was a great hit this year, our 3rd event and the 2nd year at the Thomasburg location. Thanks for coming out and here's hoping we'll see you in 2003!



“OK, you observe and I’ll supervise!”



Guess what’s under the cover! Here’s a hint: it’s 61cm across!



A man outstanding in his field.



Daytime observing of stars and planets



Resting up for the evening observing session.. Not suspecting the looming aurora!

Starfest August 2002 7-11

All of these images are available in our photo album, located at <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/pics/index.htm>



RASC-KC tentage



Swap table crowds



“Wonder how big the cow would have to be for this scope?”



Our favourite telescope cover

Annual General Meeting & Elections

Friday November 8th 7:30pm

**Topic: Annual General Meeting (Exec reports) and
Executive Officer elections for 2003**

This is normally a short meeting in which the Reports will be distributed from the President, Treasurer and Secretary. Hopefully some of the others will bring reports as well.

Then the newly formed Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for the next election and calls for candidates from the floor will be taken. Elections will be held (rarely, if ever, do we see enough volunteers to actually hold an election! Most volunteers are snapped up immediately and acclaimed within seconds).

Here is a summary of what the elected positions are and what they do:

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - President

- perform a visual audit of all Centre Capital Equipment (list is on secure web site) annually
- perform an inspection of the Centre's finances and sign off the centre accounts annually
- ensure meeting rooms are booked (usually delegated to Secretary or Treasurer) for the year
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- Prepare and review the Centre's Annual Objectives (do we go to STAO? Sky is the Limit Festival?, Charleston Lake Star Party? Any new projects?) and organize support for these events.
- Oversee membership retention, promotion and new memberships .

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - Vice-President

- Arrange for guest speakers for meetings throughout the year. If the speaker is from out of town and/or not a Center member, arrange for dinner before the meeting at a local restaurant (we pick up the tab). We do not normally offer an honorarium to any of our speakers. If warranted, some out of town speakers may look to be put up for the night. Center members may offer accommodation to some speakers, but we do not and can not always offer this service.
- Help the President prepare the President's Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- encourage and organize speaker exchanges with other centres.

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - Treasurer

- standard duties include account keeping of all in and outbound \$\$
- take new memberships and forward them onto National.
- coordinate Group subscriptions to Sky & Tel and Astronomy
- Prepare a monthly balance sheet and pass onto Exec
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- sell centre publications
- manage centre assets (cash accounts, other investments)
- maintain (or receive) accurate regular membership updates
- maintain Capital Equipment inventory list
- work with Membership Coordinator to retain existing members and on membership promotion.

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - Secretary

- Check Centre mailbox (downtown Kingston) at least weekly and forward appropriately to other members.
- prepare a budget for the upcoming year (January) (stamps, stationery, etc)
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting and submission to National Office
- Write up thank you letters to all guest speakers, handle replies to any written inquiries
- take rough minutes of meetings and submit to Editor for newsletter and website publication
- get well cards, sympathy cards, thank you cards to donors and other such correspondence as agreed upon by the Executive Committee
- maintain and send out RASC-KC New Members Kits of information
- works with Membership Coordinator to retain and gain members

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - Editor

- newsletter preparation: take submissions and announce deadline 2 weeks before odd numbered month Fridays. Try to get to printing that same day and back for the next Wednesday.
- Monday get the latest membership spreadsheet from Treasurer and prepare mailing labels and return address labels . Create and HTML and PDF version and post online.
- We've been adding in expiry dates and RASC membership numbers to the mailing label. We've also been using Canada Post prestamped envelopes to help cut down on processing time. Wednesday (usually around the 1st of the month) get the 200 newsletters, fold and stuff envelopes, add mailing labels and mail out to members. For non-member mailings (all other RASC centres, a few other interested parties), remove any confidential information (like web site passwords on bookmarks and mail out. Get help if at all possible.
- maintain web site with at least weekly updates.
- maintain inventory of Centre publications (in conjunction with other Committees, ie Education).
- prepare a budget for the upcoming year (January)
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- Create Executive Member package and distribute as soon as possible in January (typically new year letterhead, copies of Capital equipment, This Centre manual,
- edit and publish centre publications (Careers in Space, ETU9, WTD6, ATM Project Book, etc).
- edit and publish various Centre brochures (KC, getting started, YOG, Astro Day, etc)

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - Librarian

- Annually update the library catalog and audit, distribute at least annually to a centre meeting.
- update and rearrange online/offline catalogs and other items (eg video tapes)
- maintain borrowing library and track down outstanding items
- prepare a budget for the upcoming year (January) with recommended purchases
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- manage donations

Duties & Responsibilities of Executive - National Council Representative

- prepare a (travel) budget for the upcoming year (January) (see Executive Motion regarding additional reimbursement not covered by National Office)
- Prepare an Annual Report for the Centre Annual General Meeting
- attend NC meetings and submit minutes/notes to Regulus when appropriate
- Attend GA if at all possible, find delegate otherwise. National Provides travel \$\$ Kingston provides \$\$\$
(Motion 2001-15: Reimbursement for NC. Motion Kevin 2nd Doug National Council Rep will be subsidized by the Centre up to \$100 per year for travel. Carried. Tom will notify National that Kingston has a Travel Policy.)

Not interested in an elected position? Then consider joining one of the follow groups/committees

Existing Standing Committees/Chairs/Coordinators (2001 October)

- Amateur Telescope Making (ATM) Group
- Astronomy Day Coordinator
- Awards Chair
- CCD Group
- Education Group
- Executive Committee
- Fall-N-Stars Coordinator
- Light Pollution Abatement Group
- Membership Coordinator
- Observing Coordinator
- Publicity Coordinator
- Social Activities Group (includes BBQ's Awards Dinner, etc)
- Youth Observing Group (on hiatus)

RASC Kingston Centre Meetings

The Kingston Centre RASC meets once a month on the **2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 pm (19:30) in Stirling Hall Theatre D** on Queen's University Campus **unless noted otherwise**. We have adopted a policy of moving any meeting that is held on a holiday weekend.

OTHERWISE NOTED: The October meeting at Queen's is moved from the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend date of October 11th to the week before, October 4th.

2002 Officers and Executive Council

Elections are held annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Kingston Centre, usually in November. The terms of office are all one year taking effect January 1st.
PO Box 1793, Kingston, Ontario K7L 5J6 Canada
Infoline & answering machine: 613-377-6029

Email: rascexec@cliff.path.queensu.ca Mail sent here gets forwarded to all members of the Kingston Centre Executive after being checked for spam and viruses.

We also have a Kingston Centre email chat list called "rascchat". Send your email address to Kevin Kell (kell@cliff.path.queensu.ca) to be added to the RASCCHAT list.

Executive: (voting, elected)

President: Laura Gagne

Vice President: Paul Winkler

Secretary: Susan Gagnon

Treasurer: John Hurley

Librarian: David Maguire

Editor: Kevin Kell

National Council Rep: Peggy Hurley

Remember that the Annual General Meeting and elections are being held in November this year.

2002 Committee Chairs (non-voting, appointed)

ATM Group Chair:	Doug Angle
Astronomy Day Chair:	Kim Hay
Awards Chair:	Peggy Hurley
CCD Group Chair:	Jan Wisniewski
Education Group Chair:	Laura Gagne
FallNStars2002:	Kevin Kell
Light Pollution Abatement Chair:	Kim Hay
Membership Chair:	Kim Hay
Observing Chair:	Tom Dean
Publicity Chair:	Kim Hay
Social Activities:	Susan Gagnon
Youth Group:	vacant

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

Newsletter Submission Info: The deadline is usually 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 cdrom or 3.5" PC floppy disk

A note that all of the pictures seen in this issue are available on our web site. Go to our web site at <http://members.kingston.net/rasc> and click on Centre Information, then scroll down to the bottom and click on Picture Album. Have fun!