



Regulus



The Newsletter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – Kingston Centre — 2007 August

Coming up...

RASC-KC Meetings

Stirling Hall Theatre A, Baader Lane, Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario.

Regular Meetings:

**Markfest BBQ from 5:30-11pm
On Friday August 17 at home of
Mark Kaye (will replace August
meeting at Queen's University);
Friday September 14, 7:30-10pm**

*Meetings are co-sponsored by
Queen's Physics and include
astronomy lectures open to the public.*

KAON Public Observing:

Queen's Observatory Ellis Hall, 4th
floor from 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm
**Saturday 11 August, 9:00-10:30pm
Saturday, 8 September, 9-10:30 pm**

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This is one of the major prominences on the Sun July 22, 2007 - HankBartlett



Photo by Susan Gagnon of sunspot AR10963 on July 15, 2007.

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President's Tidbits, by Kim Hay

It's the height of the summer Star Party season, and of course we have to contend with Mother Nature. In between the raindrops, the fog, dew and mosquitoes, there is an occasional clear night that we can take our binoculars or telescope in hand, and observe the celestial sky.

Upon our return from the General Assembly in Calgary, we had Astronomy overload and wanted to do so much observing, get to the projects that had been in limbo over the last several months, and get some results and data collected. We have managed to fix our uploading abilities for our radio meteor detection system, so daily radio scans are on the web, and we did manage to work on the Robo Dome project a bit more, but that is a discussion for another day, and best left up to the Project Director Kevin Kell.

Though it seems that it takes a long time for the sun to go down, and get dark enough to observe, there are observing projects that you can prepare yourself for, while waiting. You can gather your star maps, and lunar maps, and prepare for a night of lunar observing, if that is what you are hoping to accomplish. Finish up those few more Messier's or Finest NGC's. Perhaps take on a variable star or two, by downloading the maps from the AAVSO site.

We do have a spectacular show of the Perseid Meteor shower peak coming up on August 12/13. Make sure you can get out and get comfortable to try a meteor count. You can submit your data to NAMN (North American Meteor Network) or to the AMS (American Meteor Society) or to the IMO (International Meteor Organization). Any of these organizations are searchable on the Internet if you want to do some research, or just sit back and enjoy the summer light show.

There is also a Lunar Eclipse on August 28, but it will be already in eclipse at moonset for us, but we might see a slice of lunar pie.

Though the Centre seems to be in a summer hiatus, with not too much activity going on, the admin work is busily humming along. Our August meeting, is one week later than normal, on Friday July 17, and is a BBQ at the home of Mark Kaye & Linda Santry. Look on the web site in the members only section, to get the map directions. Or leave a message on the Centre's phone line (613) 377-6029, and we will make sure that you get the directions.

Fall'N'Stars is coming up on September 14-16, 2007 at the Vanderwater Conservation Area outside of Thomasburg. We are co-hosting the event with RASC Belleville and the Peterborough Astronomical Association. For more information, and to download your registration form, please visit <http://www.rascbelleville.ca/fallnstars>

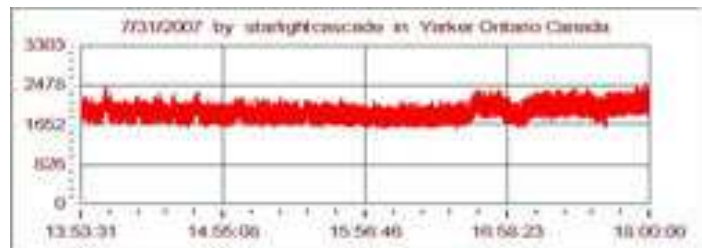
A Star party is a great place to ask questions, try out different equipment, and hang out with other Astronomy enthusiasts.

I have also been informed that we will have Banquet tickets available at our September meeting, details are still being completed at this time, but Diane Torney will have it all in place by September.

There is still a lot of great observing to be done over the next few months, and we want to hear about your adventures from the summer, so come out to the BBQ or the September meeting. Till then, clear skies.

Imagine

What's this image about?



Find out in the next exciting issue of Regulus! The newsletter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Kingston Centre (September 2007).

Not only do members of the RASC-KC observe in the dark, observe in the light, publicly educate vertically-challenged rug rats about the negatives of putting peanut-butter coated fingerprints all over telescope optics... we have cool research projects as well!

The FM Radio Meteor Detection Project is off the ground after two years of development. In next month's issue we will talk about the nuts and bolts of the project and how to put one together along with some results from the upcoming Perseid Meteor Shower peaking around August 11-13.

Future KAON Presentations, by Kevin Kell

We are starting to schedule some of our KAON session public talks for the next year and have identified some possibilities of talks/presentations that we could give. We are looking for help for people to create some talks that we could put into our collection and use for public speaking. NOTE: you do not have to be the one presenting! We are just looking for someone to CREATE the presentations.

Some of the possibilities are:

- # The Planet Venus: historical, visual, spacecraft, future
- # The Planet Mars: historical, visual, images, spacecraft, future
- # The Planet Jupiter: historical, visual, images, spacecraft, future
- # The Planet Saturn: historical, visual, images, spacecraft, future
- # Sol: solar observing safety, tools, records, ALPO, animated sketches,
- # Comets: historical comets of the last x years, photographic summary, orbital path summary, where to find info on them (star charts, etc)
- # Fireballs: what are they, why we look for them, what to do if you see one, etc.
- # Uranus & Neptune are back for observing.
- # "Sagittarius, Observing the Galactic Core Region"
- # Occultations: what are asteroidal occultations all about?
- # The MOON: how it moves, surface highlights, etc
- # ETU Certificate Program

If you can think of others aimed at a general public level, please mention it here. If you want to put together a talk, great!

Gleanings from Regulus of 30 and 25 Years Ago by Leo Enright

Thirty years ago, in 1977, the predecessor of **Regulus**, known then as **The RASC-KC-QUAC Newsletter**, had a hiatus in the month of August. In all there were 18 issues that year, but, as editor, I was able to enjoy a rest from preparing a newsletter during August. As time would tell, each of the following months that year [as well as three of the previous months, I hasten to add] would have, not one but two, newsletters. It was a break between the flurry of activity associated with the July GA in Toronto and the numerous Centre meetings with important guest speakers during the coming autumn.

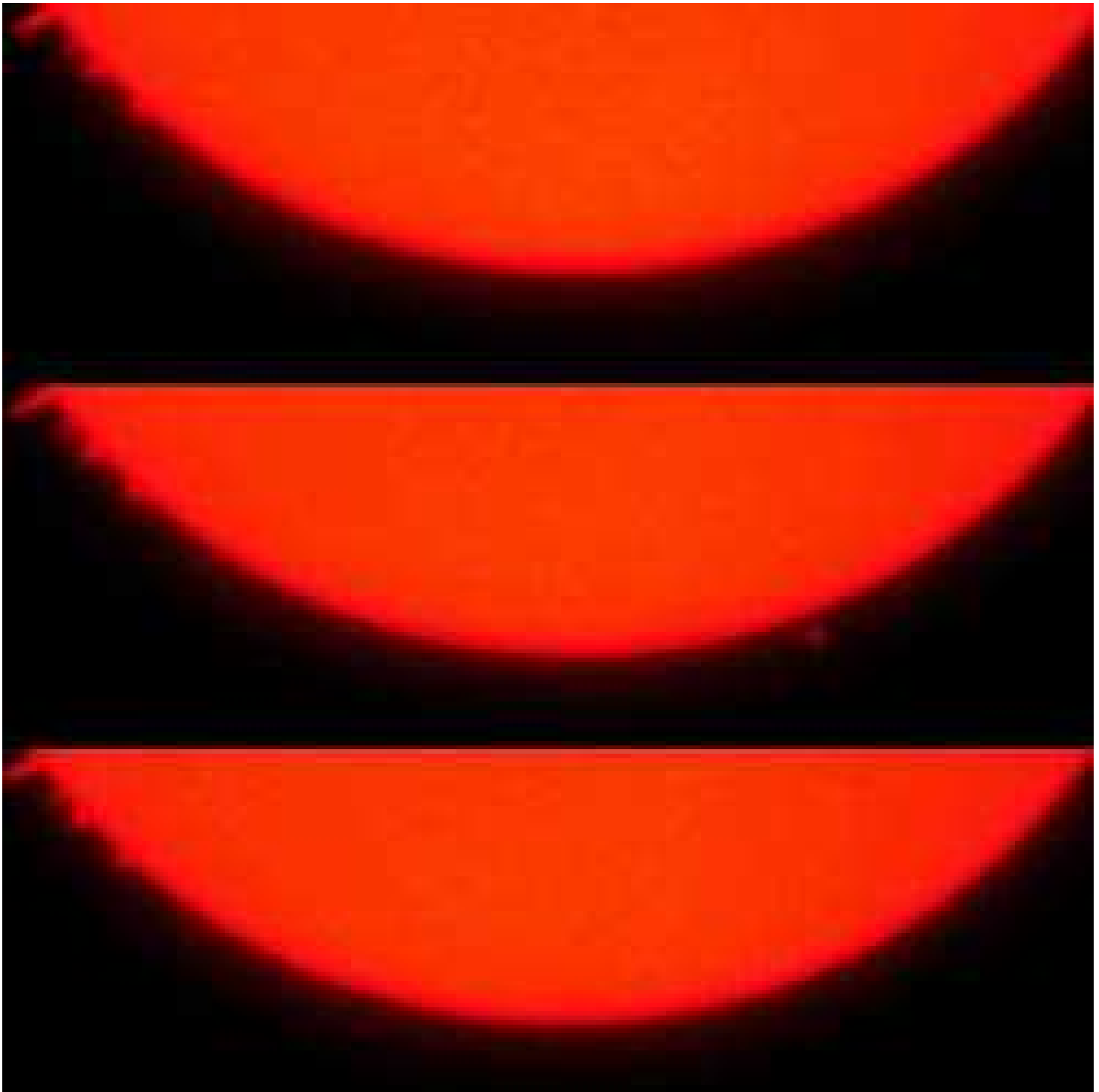
Twenty-five years ago, in 1982, with the name **Regulus** well established, the August-September issue of our newsletter was one of seven that year. In it there were three main feature articles. In the first one I gave a summary of information relating to the bright comet that amateur astronomers of North America were observing that summer. Comet Austin had been discovered at 10th magnitude in the constellation Telescopium by New Zealand amateur Rodney Austin on June 18th, and it would soon brighten to become the brightest comet in several years. The second major article was the first part of the paper I had presented to the London Centre at the time of the Kingston-London Centre Exchange in July. I had talked about the identification and verification of the Holleford Crater as a meteorite impact site. The two subsequent newsletters carried the second and third parts of the talk. The third major item was a letter, dated August 7th, from Gus Johnson of Swanton, Maryland, who discussed parts of his observing programs at that time. Using his 6-inch reflector, he was interested in trying to "split" or "elongate" some very close double stars. He mentioned particularly the challenge of Eta Coronae Borealis, which, at 196X, he was able to "elongate".

We were especially fortunate in August 1982 to have David Levy return to Kingston, and speak to us at not one, but two, meetings of our Centre. It had been over a year since he made the move from Amherstview, Ontario to Tucson, Arizona. I was very pleased that he accepted my invitation to speak to us on August 27 on a topic that I had suggested: "Practising Astronomy In The Shadow Of Kitt Peak". It was a delightfully informative presentation by someone whose chance to enjoy unhindered observing for what seemed like absolutely endless clear nights created nothing but sheer envy.

After the talk, I was extremely pleased to have David come to my observatory near Sharbot Lake where for a good part of the night of August 27th-28th, we observed numerous deep sky objects and had an excellent view of Comet Austin.

As I look back on the activities of our Centre of 25 and 30 years ago, I continue to be impressed by the amount of involvement in astronomy we shared in that small group, even in the summer time.

Bubble Trouble!



I took these 3 images (along with 80 more) yesterday [July 30 2007], and another 100 today. In these 3, though, there is what appears to be a hydrogen bubble. I was shooting at 2.5 fps. and this is what I got, artifact, bubble, glare? You all be the judges, because I don't know.

Hank Bartlett

Rogues' Hollow Astronomical Observatory rhaobservatory@persona.ca

If you are an Astronomer remember to "Share the View".

RHA Observatory 44.32647N. 76.87486W, 111m

<http://members.kingston.net/knah/knah.html>

KAON, 2007 July

No matter how much juggling the Buskers could have done, they did not clear away the clouds. It started to rain in the afternoon, and did not let up.

However, that did not dampen the spirits of those who came to the KAON session. Though the crowd was small (15), it was a nice way to introduce the daytime observable sky to the public, with Hank giving a talk on "Venus in the Blue". Hank showed that daytime astronomy can be done, and images taken with a digital camera. Though the sky is brighter, the brightest objects can be seen, and with detail. He showed Venus, Mercury, moon, sun, Saturn, Jupiter, Antares, and Sirius.

If you want to get into daytime astronomy and try this yourself with your telescope, contact Hank and ask how he uses his RA/Dec with his telescope to guide him through the daytime sky. Astronomy is not just for nighttime.

In attendance for Kingston Centre: Hank, Kevin, Steve, Susan, Judith Irwin, Walter, and Kim. For Queen's U., Terry, and Judith, came by to help.

Lots of one-on-one conversations took place, and we were out of there by 10:30 pm, and it was still raining.

Thanks, Hank, for all your hard work and passion on the subject of daytime astronomy.

If it's sunny today, why not try to find Venus for yourselves. -Kim

Congratulations To Our Honourary President: David Levy Wins Major Comet Award by Leo Enright

A recent announcement has made known the winners of this year's Edgar Wilson Award. This is a major award, administered by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, for amateur comet discoveries over the past year, and it includes \$20,000 from the estate of American businessman Edgar Wilson. This year the award is being shared by three well-known comet discoverers, John Broughton and Terry Lovejoy, both of Australia, and our own Honourary President, David Levy.

Mr. Broughton's discovery was in addition to the discovery of over 400 asteroids and one previous comet. Mr. Lovejoy became the first person to discover a comet using a digital camera, and within two months he had discovered two comets, C/2007 E2 and C/2007 K5.

David's discovery of P/2006 T1 was, amazingly, his 22nd comet discovery. It occurred on October 2, 2006, and within a short while after its discovery, it became known that it was a periodic comet. It has by now left the inner solar system, but it will return in the year 2012.

Our most sincere and hearty congratulations to the three winners, but especially to my good friend, David, on the winning of this very significant award!

OAFN Registration

Observational Astronomy for the Novice (OAFN) is a nine week course, running on Monday evenings from September 17th to November 12th, 2007 from 6:30-8:30pm.

OAFN will teach the novice:

- * How to get around the night sky
- * The use of star maps
- * Introduce the constellations
- * Teach basic telescope principles.
- * Moons & Eclipses
- * Solar Systems & Stars
- * and much much more

As part of the course you will complete the RASC "Explore the Universe" Certificate.

The cost of the course is \$150 (\$90 for members without renewal) This includes:

- * a one year membership in the RASC Kingston Centre (which includes the RASC Observer's Handbook, a one year subscription to Skynews, and a one year e-subscription to the RASC Journal;
- * the Beginner's Observing Guide.

The Observational Astronomy for the Novice Course registration form is now available and online at <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/courses.php>

This is our 4th annual course and we encourage you to think about signing up, or at least keeping it in mind to tell your friends! For more information contact Kevin Kell or the instructors Doug Angle and Brian Hunter.

A Deadline for registration is on or about Monday September 3rd, 2007. At that time we will take a look at the registration numbers to see if there are enough to go ahead with the course or to cancel it.

Equipment Donation to Loan Program

by Kevin Kell, Equipment Loan Coordinator

RASC-KC received an equipment donation from member Hank Bartlett in July 2007. Thanks Hank! Attached is a small image of the product and below is a short description. So far this has not been dedicated to any particular piece of equipment. If you have any ideas, please let me know.

This is a rigel quickfinder ... a kind of finder scope.

The Rigel QuikFinder is a compact, lightweight night time or low light reflex sight that is engineered for use on large binoculars, and compact or large telescopes. It is well suited to the needs of astronomers, or anyone who must work in low light while preserving their night



(scotopic) vision. The QuikFinder can be employed as the sole or primary sight to help you find objects that would be invisible to the naked eye, or in other small finder telescopes. Or, you may choose to use a QuikFinder in combination with a second conventional magnifying finder telescope.

This is a more compact evolution of the Telrad sight - the original astronomy heads-up display sight. QuikFinder is distinguished not only for its compact profile, but also for its blinking circuit which allows one to have the Bulls-Eye pattern blink on or off.

Target for Tonight, by Susan Gagnon

Deep Sky Challenge lists for Constellations listed in September 2006...

Ophiuchus: Deep Sky Challenge: B27.

Sagittarius: Deep Sky Challenge: NGC 6822.

Scorpius: Deep Sky Challenge: None.

Scutum

ETU: M11, R Scuti.

Messier: M26, M11

Finest NGC: 6712

Levy List: None

Deep Sky Challenge: None

Serpens

ETU: M5, M16.

Messier: M16, M5

Finest NGC: None.

Levy List: 206 (NGC 6118), 270 (NGC 6535)

Deep Sky Challenge: NGC 6027.

Sky & Telescope Club Program Changes

Kevin Kell, RASC-KC Treasurer

We have been notified of some changes Sky Publishing is making to its Club Program discount subscriptions to Sky&Telescope Magazine.

Typically we are charged \$40 US for a one year subscription, which is about \$10 better than the regular price. In this \$1.00US=\$0.90Can environment this is about \$45 Can, and at \$1.00US=\$0.95Can it is about \$43

1) If you are a NEW subscriber, you still go through the Treasurer to subscribe or if you are renewing outside of the Club Program and want to join it.

2) For all other existing Club Program subscribers, you can now renew directly yourself, without going through the RASC-KC treasurer. You can either mail your renewal directly in with payment or telephone a toll number with credit card. This will eliminate any delays by an extra middleman in the system (me) in getting your renewal processed.

How will Sky Publishing know that you are still a member in good standing? They will continue to communicate with me regularly to verify subscribers are still RASC-KC members.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask at: kingston@rasc.ca

July 2007 Monthly Meeting Revisited, by Kevin Kell

Campus construction still has University Avenue shut down and the navigation around campus is still poor. Hopefully by September it will be completed.

The RASC-KC had a regular meeting and lecture in Astronomy on Friday night July 13th, 2007 at Stirling Hall Theatre A on Queen's University Campus.

Turnout was in the mid 20's. Our guest speaker was member Walter MacDonald from Winchester. His talk was titled "Astro Imaging" and he went through the steps of basic image processing of astronomical images. We had draw donations from Hank Bartlett, John Pilon and Tessa Clarke.. Thanks!

A survey of observing notes from all members was full of variety, but most caught the Venus/Saturn conjunction on Saturday June 30th.

Kevin asked members to look at a list of possible presentation topics for the public lectures in astronomy, and put some together. See page ?? in this issue of Regulus.

Walter also demonstrated "Library Thing," an Internet service that allows us to put our library online with images, background and reviews. From the site:

What is LibraryThing?

Enter what you're reading or your whole library—it's an easy, library-quality catalog. LibraryThing also connects you with people who read the same things.

**** Meet the world's largest book club. Find people with eerily similar tastes.***

**** Catalog with Amazon, the Library of Congress or 78 other world libraries. Import from anywhere.***

**** Get recommendations. Tag your books and explore others' tags.***

**** Put your books on your blog.***

I like the book covers online with the ability to search through the thumbnail images.

General Assembly was covered briefly as reports in the July Regulus issue. Eight images out of 400 or so online (<http://130.15.144.99/rasc/pics/ga/2007>) were shown and talked about. The Annual General Meeting was pretty lacklustre.

Next year, General Assembly will be held in Toronto on the July long weekend. <http://www.rasc.ca/ga2008>

* Friday, June 27, 2008 - National Council Meetings / Welcoming Reception, optional tours

* Saturday, June 28, 2008 - Official Opening, Workshops, National Member's Night, Informal Observing at York University Observatory

* Sunday, June 29, 2008 - Workshops, Group Photo, Hamilton Centenary Banquet at the Ontario Science Centre

* Monday, June 30, 2008 - Additional Program, Annual General Meeting, Hogg Lecture, General Assembly Banquet

* Tuesday, July 1, 2008 - Optional Tours and getaway day.

The 2009 GA will be held at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, home of the Summer Saskatchewan Star Party, 2009: August 13-16.

Fall'N'Stars is coming up. Registration is now online and available at <http://www.rascbelleville.ca/fallnstars> Friday September 14th to Sunday September 16th, 2007 at Vanderwater Conservation Area Boy Scout Camping Area, Thomasburg, Ontario

Next meeting at Queens in August is cancelled in place of a third Friday August 17th Markfest BBQ held at the home of Mark Kaye on Loughborough Lake. A map with directions can be found at <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Secure/markfestmap.jpg>

BYOB and chair and maybe a salad or dessert. BBQ items will be provided. If I've missed anything, please include it in another note to the list.

Some notes: The Centre web site had some hard drive surgery (a replacement) and a new operating system installed and the end result is that the site itself and the calendar are back online but the image gallery is still offline waiting to be fixed.

Wolfgang Steinicke & Richard Jakiel “Galaxies and How to Observe Them” published by Springer-Verlag, London 2007 (246 pages, US 29.95)

Reviewed by Jan Wisniewski, RASC-Kingston Centre, Rockville, MD

This time it is the third volume in “How to Observe Them” series of guides from Springer (at least, of those concerned with deep sky....). Let me state right away – this is the book many amateurs will find helpful in planning their voyages under night sky!

Traditionally, with relatively few exceptions, visual observation of galaxies can be summarized as “fuzzy blob” detection. It takes long careful inspection and some averted “imagination” (not to mention larger aperture or CCD imaging) to start noticing subtle details of many of those distant objects. Steinicke’s and Jakiel’s book will help you sharpen those skills and offers a rich selection of possible targets.

First section (72 pages) reviews general nature of galaxies (including our own), their distribution in space, various classification systems and proposed evolution schemes. It includes an important discussion of apparent and surface magnitudes as well as the effects of galaxy orientation. The authors also introduce exotic objects worth an observer’s attention, such as giant NGC6166 (and a swarm of its attendants) or Hoag’s Object. A short discussion of active galactic nuclei (including quasars) is also there, followed by the introduction to social life of galaxies in the form of pairs, interacting merging objects and clusters of galaxies, with examples such as beautiful NGC3314 optical pair or challenges in the form of Einstein’s Cross or Double Quasar. This section ends with a very informative overview of available catalogues and surveys.

Technical aspects of observations are discussed in a 32-page second section. While the usual introductory stuff is there (eyepieces, filters, GoTo, light pollution, planning and recording observations), a discussion of the function of our human eye (chapter 5) and those factors affecting visual perception of the target makes that section worth reading. By necessity, the authors make it quite condensed. Interested readers will continue with Clark’s “Visual Astronomy of the Deep Sky.”

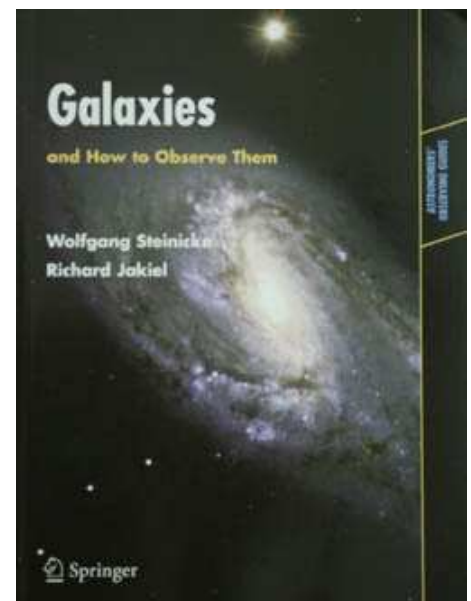
In the third section (118 pages), readers will get an answer to the eternal question: “WHAT TO OBSERVE?” Though be warned beforehand: the choices are bewildering! It is impossible to relate the full spectrum of selection presented by the authors. And this constitutes, in my opinion, the most important

contribution of this book! Steinicke and Jakiel present an open-ended proposition which will inspire you to go beyond and explore the endless realm of galaxies on your own. They steer clear of both a simple “110 best” list, and an extremely boring computer printout of zillions of faint fuzzies. They suggest that the observer choose different possible observing schemes, such as: following some catalogue (M, bright NGC/IC, bright UGC); investigating an area (e.g. circumpolar, particular constellation); focusing on nearby galaxies (Local Group, IC342/Maffei, Holmberg’s, extragalactic clusters and nebulae) or distant ones (AGNs); or searching for objects with particular morphology (edge-on, face-on, peculiar galaxies, giants). In each case, authors list representative examples, as well as notes pointing to particularly interesting features. This section is very well illustrated with Hubble Space Telescope and other images—let’s hope that readers will avoid color burnout at this stage.

The selection continues with pairs, trios and chains of galaxies, finally arriving at clusters. Authors also present additional “oddballs”: galaxies near bright stars or other objects and galaxies with common names (all again supplemented with notes and images). Overall, hundreds of potential targets are introduced—a selection which will keep any observer busy for a long, long time. Appendixes at book’s end list some useful resources as well as objects presented in figures etc.

“Galaxies and How to Observe Them” is the best of the three Springer’s deep sky guides. It is well written and illustrated. The authors effectively share their

observational experience and align it with the perspective of galactic origin and evolution. It deserves a place in an amateur’s library, and will supply a rich and useful selection of “fuzzies” which, while faint, deserve your attention.



Moon Studies, by Susan Gagnon

Taken July 29, 2007, from 9:38 to 9:43 P.M.



RASC-KC Board of Directors

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 OAFTN Instructor: Kevin Kell
 Observing : N/A
 Publicity : Peter McMahon
 Relay for Life: N/A
 Responsible Lighting: Kim Hay
 Sky Is the Limit: N/A

***** SolObs 2007/08/03 6:16:39 AM

Solar data from: HAYK

Kim Hay

RR#1 Yarker, Ontario

Canada, K0K 3N0

kim@starlightcascade.ca

For the month of: July 2007

Instrument: SCT Method: Direct Filter: 1000 Oaks Solar Filter

Aperture: 100 EP: 26 mm plossel

Day	see	UT	g	s	W	ng	sg	ns	ss	Obs.	Remarks
03	E	2125	1	2	12	0	1	0	1	HAYK	LIGHT BRIDGE EVIDENT
06	FAIR	1413	1	2	12	0	1	0	2	HAYK	PLANGE ON AR10961
08	POOR	1725	1	4	14	0	1	0	4	HAYK	NEW SPOT ROTATED ON
09	FAIR	2152	1	7	17	0	1	0	7	HAYK	AR10963
10	FAIR	2152	1	11	21	0	1	0	11	HAYK	AR10963
11	FAIR	2247	1	7	17	0	1	0	7	HAYK	
15	FAIR	1350	2	7	27	0	2	0	7	HAYK	
16	FAIR	1500	2	5	25	0	2	0	5	HAYK	AR10963 AND AR10964
17	POOR	2055	1	2	12	0	1	0	2	HAYK	
21	E	1605	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYK	
22	E	1344	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYK	
25	FAIR	2145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYK	
26	FAIR	2059	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYK	
28	POOR	1720	1	1	11	0	1	0	1	HAYK	AR10965
29	E	1807	1	2	12	0	1	0	2	HAYK	AR10965
30	FAIR	2049	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYK	

Kim Hay

till later, clear skies, and keep looking up from

Starlight Cascade Observatory & Gardens

44.2239N 76.4547W 155m

<http://www.starlightcascade.ca/>

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada— Kingston Centre

Newsletter Submission Info:

I can take most common formats, although I prefer plain text. Pictures should be sent as image files in attachments separate from the articles. Please avoid the use of capitals, asterisks etc for formatting, as I use the publishing software's formats for this kind of emphasis.

E-mail: lbenderavage (at) sympatico (dot) ca

Post: Joseph Benderavage, 147 Braemar Road, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7M 4B7

2007 Publication Deadlines

For the month (Deadline)

September (August 24)

October (September ??)

Subscriptions: Members of the Kingston Centre receive Regulus as a benefit of membership. Advertisements are free to members of the Centre. Commercial advertising is \$20/quarter, \$40/half page, \$100/ full page and should be in electronic format. Contributions are more than welcome. Submitted material may be edited for brevity or clarity. Copyright 2007 All rights reserved. Permission is granted to other publications of a similar nature to print material from Regulus provided that credit is given to the author and to Regulus. We would appreciate you letting us know if you do use material published in Regulus.

Kingston Cosmic & Events Calendar, August & September 2007, by Kim Hay

- | Date & Time | Events |
|-------------|--|
| Aug 5 | Sunday Last Quarter moon 17:20 |
| Aug 9-12 | Thursday- Sunday: Starfest, at Mount Forest ON www.nyaa-starfest.com |
| Aug 10-12 | Friday – Sunday: Stellegane Convention at Springfield, Vermont www.stellafane.com |
| Aug 11- | Saturday: KAON Observing Session, Ellis Hall Queen's Observatory, 9:00-10:30pm; for more information visit http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/kaon.php . Terry Bridges will be speaking on the upcoming Perseid Meteor shower. |
| Aug 11-19 | Saturday- Sunday; Mount Kobau Star Party, Osoyoos BC www.mksp.ca |
| Aug 12, | Sunday New Moon 19:02 |
| Aug 13, | Monday Perseid Meteor peak 1:00 am |
| Aug 17, | Friday- Markfest BBQ, home of Mark Kaye & Linda Santry- 5:30-?? Bring a salad, dessert or munchies, your own chair. Sausages, hot dogs, hamburgers provided. -check the web site for directions. |
| Aug 17-19, | Friday-Sunday: Nova East, Smileys Provincial Park NS halifax.rasc.ca/ne |
| Aug 18, | Venus at inferior conjunction |
| Aug 20, | Monday First Quarter moon 19:54 |
| Aug 21, | Tuesday Saturn in conjunction with the Sun, Moon 1.5° S of Antares |
| Aug 28, | Tuesday Full Moon 6:35 am. Total Lunar Eclipse 6:37 a.m., best in west, but try it. |

Planets for the month of August: Mercury in ENE in the morning sky, Venus emerges in the morning twilight in E, late in the month, Mars, rises ENE near 12:30 am in E at dawn. Jupiter, low in SSW after dark, and sets WSW near 1am.

- September 3- Monday Last quarter Moon 22:32, Moon will occult Pleiades at 2am.
- September 6- Thursday- Alberta Star Party, Caroline AB. calgary.rasc.ca/asp.htm (Through Sept. 9)
- September 7- Annual Algonquin Adventure, Algonquin Park www.toronto.rasc.ca (Through Sept. 9)
- September 8- Saturday KAON Observing Session- Ellis Hall Queen's Observatory ** 9:00-10:30 p.m.; visit <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/kaon.php>. Susan Gagnon will be speaking on "Venus and Sky Lore."
- September 9- Sunday Uranus at opposition
- September 11- Northern Prairie Starfest near Tofield AB. edmontonrasc.com/nps.html (Through Sept. 17)
- September 11- New Moon 8:44
- September 14-16- Friday-Sunday: Fall N Stars- Thomasburg, Ontario, Vanderwater Conservation Area. See <http://www.rascbelleville.ca/fallnstars/> for more information and registration.
- September 14- Friday: Regular Meeting Guest Speaker: Laura Gagné, Topic "Sex & Violence in the Night Sky," at Stirling Hall Theatre "A" 7:30 pm-10:00 pm.
- September 16- Sunday: Saturn 2° E of Regulus visible at dawn, easier late in the month.
- September 17- Monday-OAFTN Course starts up at 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario
- September 19- Wednesday: First Quarter Moon 12:48
- September 23- Sunday: Fall Equinox 5:51 am, Venus at greatest brilliancy
- September 24- OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ont.
- September 26- Wednesday: Full moon 15:45, Today's Full Moon is the Harvest Moon*
- September 29- Saturday: Mercury is at greatest elongation E (26°)

Planets for the month of September: Mercury visible with difficulty, very low WSW in evening with the moon; Venus, low in the East at dawn, Mars, rises ENE near 11:30 pm, high ESE at dawn. Jupiter, very low in SW after dark, sets WSW near 11:00 pm. Saturn very low in E in morning twilight, in 2nd half of month.

For more detailed information, please refer to the RASC 2007 Calendar, and the RASC 2007 Observers Handbook. Available from our Treasurer or <http://www.store.rasc.ca/>