



Regulus



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

Coming up...

RASC-KC Meetings

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

Regular Meeting:

Friday 12 October 7:30-10pm;

Friday 9 November 7:30-10pm

(This is the Annual General Meeting and will be held in Theatre "D" of Stirling Hall)

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 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Saturday 13 October, 7:30-9:30pm

Saturday 10 November 7:30-9:30pm

List of contents:

Worldwide Star Count

Secretary's Announcement

President's Tid Bits

OAFN Report

Big Bang Theory

RASC Membership Information

Gleanings

FALL'N'STARS Reports

KAON Committee Notice

September Meeting Notes

KAON Report

RASC-KC Annual Mtg. Notice

Masthead

Solar Observation: September

Target for Tonight

Kingston Cosmic & Events Calendar



Great Worldwide Star Count

Kids and adults are invited to count stars in the evening sky from October 1-15, 2007, and to report their results online. The event, sponsored by Windows to the Universe, is designed to raise awareness about light pollution and to encourage learning in astronomy. All the information needed to participate will be available on the Web. At the conclusion of the event, submitted data will be analysed and a map will be generated highlighting the results. For more information, visit: <http://www.starcount.org> —and— http://www.windows.ucar.edu/citizen_science/starcount/steps.html

2007 Annual General Meeting Announcement

The Kingston Centre's Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 9, 2007, in Theatre D of Stirling Hall, Queen's University.

Along with reviewing annual reports, the following positions are open for election: **President**, **Vice President**, and **Treasurer**. We shall also be recruiting **Committee Chairs**. Hope to see you there.

—Steve Hart, Secretary, RASC-KC

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President's Tid Bits
Kim Hay

I sit here writing the 'Tid Bits', already knowing I am late on the deadline. Oh we have a very patient Newsletter Editor, thank you Joe.

Fall N Stars 2007 has come and gone, and again it was a great success with Kingston, Belleville and Peterborough coming together to put the event on. It rained on Friday night (apparently- I was home snug as a bug in a warm bed) but Saturday night the clouds left the area and gave us clear skies. The temperature on Sunday morning was -1°C ; yes, Mother Nature was telling us that a new season is just around the corner. This year's Fall 'N' Stars was dedicated to Arlyne Gillespie, our past Vice President, member of the Fall 'N' Stars team, and Belleville Centre member, better yet our friend. Arlyne would have enjoyed Saturday night's Astro-trivia, and the clear observing skies; maybe she arranged it just for us.

It's hard to believe that we are in the Autumn Equinox. I got up early on the morning of Sunday September 23 to say goodbye to summer, which was oh way too short of a season for me, and hello to autumn. At 5:51 a.m. I was there to usher in autumn. Not much changed from the moment before to the moment after. The leaves didn't all start falling on the ground, nor did the frost permeate onto the last of the gardens, but knowing that seasons have changed, and that mother nature is getting ready to rest, brings on all kinds of emotions.

However, I was greeted by Venus, which was at her brightest, -4.6 magnitude, was just beaming, and she seemed to have a halo or aura around her. The winter constellations already are high in the sky. I sketched Orion's Nebula, then over to M31, M32, and M110, sketching and looking at the ever brightening sky. It was a moment of peace and tranquillity. It was soon shattered by a very fast moving -1 magnitude white South Delta Aurigid.

Like the seasons, all things never stay the same, and it is that time of year again, that we have our Annual General Meeting. It is slated for Friday November 9, and it's getting easier all the time. This year, we have the offices of President, Vice President and Treasurer coming open. They are two-year terms, and the terms of office are located in the newsletter. If you feel that

you would like to contribute, send your name to the Nominating Committee (Laura Gagné ([laura.gagne at sympatico dot ca](mailto:laura.gagne@sympatico.ca)) or Doug Angle ([Douglas.S.Angle at can dot dupont dot com](mailto:Douglas.S.Angle@can.dupont.com))). Since our bylaws state that we must notify our members 30 days in advance of the meeting, the notification is a little sooner since the time frame would be cutting it close to our next meeting.

Our OAFTN course started back up with 7 students and quite a good number for our instructors, Doug Angle and Brian Hunter.

The KAON sessions are back to 7:30 p.m. starting times, beginning in October, and we have a new KAON Coordinator- Susan Gagnon. Thank you Susan so much for coming forward to volunteer for the position. I am sure we shall give Susan all the help she needs for the coming months...stay tuned.

On Friday November 16th, we will be having our Awards Banquet, at Christ Church on Sydenham Rd. Tickets are \$30.00 per person, and they will be for sale at the meetings. If you wish to reserve your ticket, contact Diane Torney at the meeting or send her a message at [diane.torney at sympatico dot ca](mailto:diane.torney@sympatico.ca)

'Til later, clear skies

September 25, 2007

I received an email today from Dr. Robert Young, from Rome, Georgia, who was visiting our centre web site, while looking for information on Kemble's Cascade. He writes a weekly astronomy newsletter and it is kept on the server at Georgia Science Teacher's Association.

He will be sharing his newsletter with the Kingston Centre, and this might also be a nice way to converse across the border and start an astronomy exchange. Education is a great way to help anyone at any age to learn; we are always learning something new everyday.

If you wish to read some of his newsletters they are located at

(<http://www.georgiascienceteacher.org/index.htm>) about three quarters of the page down, hit the button Stargazers Newsletter.

Thank You Bob, for sharing.

—Kim Hay

A Note from the OAFTN Coordinator

A short note of interest to members...

We have had our first class in the Observational Astronomy for the Novice (OAFTN) course this past Monday Sept 17th and have 7 students registered.

This course is open to members of the public *AND* to our own members as a structured eight week program in Observational Astronomy and you may wish to consider this as another way to pick up on the background knowledge that you may be looking for.

The course includes a one year membership in the RASC-KC. Tuition is \$150 but if you are already a member this drops to \$90.

You can still sign up... up to and including the 2nd class on Monday Sept 24th, simply by contacting me off list and then attending.

You can find out more at the website <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/courses.php>

Alternatively, if you have ideas about other courses/ workshops, please let us know!

Kevin Kell at
Starlight Cascade Observatory and Gardens
outside Yarker Ontario Canada
www.starlightcascade.ca

2007: RASC-KC Treasurer, OAFTN coordinator,
fall'n'stars chair

The Big Bang Theory Revisited

Here is an article giving some little known facts about politics and evolution of the Big Bang Theory. I thought to honour this scientist's accomplishments by sending this link to all of you I hope you have time and interest to read the article.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/connected/main.jhtml?xml=/connected/2004/09/22/ecnsing22.xml&sSheet=/connected/2004/09/22/ixconnrite.html>

Who deserves credit for the Big Bang theory?
"The honest answer is that the theory was developed by dozens of physicists, astronomers and cosmologists

over several decades, with contributions from famous names such as Edwin Hubble and Albert Einstein. However, perhaps the man who deserves most credit is also one of the least well known."

His name is Ralph Asher Alpher.

He retired and lived in upstate New York until recently.

He died on August 12, 2007, in Austin Texas. That wasn't in the article as it was written in 2004.

—Tim Seitz

A reminder from the Treasurer

As this is the prime renewal season for memberships, here is a list of benefits you receive as a member of Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Kingston Centre.

Publications

- *Observer's Handbook, 1 issue, soft cover (a \$26 value)
- *SkyNews magazine 6 issues, paper (a \$24 value)
- *Journal of the RASC, 6 issues, PDF file (a \$95 value)
- *Regulus, Newsletter of the RASC-KC 12 PDF issues including 6 paper issues (a \$15 value)

E-mail Discussion Groups

- * Access to the RASC's RASCals group.
- * Access to the Centre's RASCCHAT-KC. (Centre members email chat about astronomy, upcoming events, meetings, and yes, National RASC Politics.)

More Benefits

- * A New Member's Package
- * Access to the Centre's Library (books, magazines, videos, etc).
- * Access to the Centre's Telescope and Equipment Loan Program.
- * Readily available answers to any of your astronomy questions.
- * Discounts for subscriptions to **Sky & Telescope**, and **Astronomy**, magazines (when ordered through the Centre).
- * A 20% discount on all Centre Produce merchandise!

This includes Slide Sets #1, 2, and 3, Elementary and Secondary School Astronomy books, and more.

Kevin Kell, RASC-Kingston Centre Treasurer
[Kevin at starlightcascade dot ca](http://www.starlightcascade.ca)
In 2007: Fall'N'Stars Chair; Coordinator of Loan Program, & of OAFTN; Observatory Chair

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

Thirty years ago, in 1977, our newsletter, known as **The Newsletter of the RASC—Kingston Centre and Queen’s University Astronomy Club**, was published twice in the month of October. In addition, a one-page supplement was mailed out following the meeting of October 25 in order to inform members of the issues discussed at that meeting. (It is interesting to note that first-class postage for this third mailing of the month had gone up to 12 cents from the 10 cents used for the first mailing of the month, even though that first one had been a four-pager!)

The first newsletter of October, 1977 lamented the poor observing weather that had prevailed in the area during the month of September, and it gave information regarding the upcoming partial solar eclipse visible in the area in late afternoon on October 12th. As the then-President of the Centre, I was able to represent the organization at the Queen’s Clubs’ Night on October 4th in order to explain what we did and encourage membership from students who had recently arrived on campus to begin another academic year. Mention was made of a special executive meeting on Tuesday, October 11th to discuss our Centre’s response to the “Percy Report” which had been published earlier by the National Office—a report on the “state of the Society”. That newsletter also reminded members of the outstanding speakers scheduled for our upcoming meetings of November 8th, and 22nd, and December 6th—Dr. Bridle, the Queen’s astrophysicist and eminent radio astronomer, Dr. Batten, National President and stellar physicist, and Dr. Percy, First Vice-President and authority on variable stars.

The second newsletter of the month was dated “The latter half of October, 1977”. I was quite busy indeed, being both newsletter editor and Centre President. In the first article I wrote about the happy circumstances of the October 12th Partial Solar Eclipse—at least as seen from my backyard in Sharbot Lake. First umbral contact was scheduled for 5:09 p.m. EDT. Most of the day had been hopelessly cloudy. Within a half-hour of first umbral contact, it was “raining very hard where I planned to do my observing. The wind was wild and gusty”!! Then almost miraculously and mysteriously, “the clouds parted; the winds calmed; the eclipse-viewing was unhampered from beginning to end.” What more

could a solar eclipse enthusiast ask for? I was even able to take a number of photographs!

On a very light note, that newsletter reminded our Centre members of the ‘parody publication from the Montreal Centre, Smog and Telescope’. [Note: For anyone who has never seen this “pseudo-periodical”, it is well worth the effort of locating a copy from the 1970’s. Very funny indeed!]

Plans were also announced for members who were Kingston residents to go to Fort Henry Hill on October 20th (October 21st, if the 20th were cloudy) to observe the Orionid Meteor Shower.

At the Centre meeting of October 25th, I showed my eclipse slides from the solar eclipse of two weeks earlier. Mike Kennedy reported being able to view the event also, and David Levy and Enrico Kindl said that they would bring their photographic efforts to a subsequent meeting. David Levy gave a short talk on variable stars with the hope of stimulating more interest in variable star observing within the Centre. Denis Belanger gave a short talk also, on the photometer that he had built. Reports from the Orionid observing trip to Fort Henry Hill four nights earlier were scant; very few were seen, probably because of cloud and light pollution.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1982, with name **Regulus** well established, our Centre’s newsletter had a combined October-November issue. As its editor, I was pleased to announce on the first page that I had received from the Tucson Branch of the Kingston Centre a two-page report that would be appended to our newsletter. (Our Tucson Branch existed several years as a result of the efforts of our member David Levy who had moved there from Amherstview two years previously. In those days it really did contribute to our Centre and to our newsletter.)

In the major front page article of the newsletter, “Three Memorable Nights Of Observing”, I described a trio of occasions in the previous two months when I had been extremely fortunate to have my friend, David Levy, at Oso Observatory to share the dark skies that provided excellent observing conditions. On the night of August 27th - 28th, we had observed Comet Austin and many deep-sky objects. On September 10th - 11th, after he had spoken to the Centre on “Personal Observing Experiences”, we had a night of observing, concentrating on planetary nebulae such as NGC 7009, 7293, 6826, and M57, and we had noted that “their views were spectacular against the dark background sky.” On the following night (September 11th - 12th) we had pleasant and

FALL'N'STARS 2007, by Kevin Kell

clear conditions to comet-hunt with my C14 and David's "6' comet-hunter", and for a moment there was actually an object in the western part of Bootes that gave us pause. "However, we were not able to confirm it as anything other than a star." I described it as a "most enjoyable evening of comet-hunting and deep-sky probing."

That newsletter also recounts an adventure that David and I shared on the night of September 4th, though I was at Oso Observatory and he was at the family cottage at Jarnac, near Ripon, Quebec. At 0h 48m UT, Sept. 5, I saw a brilliant fireball move slowly from near Polaris through the zenith to a point near Beta Capricorni, an object I estimated at between mag. -6 and -7. I immediately phoned Jarnac. I quote from the article: "Hello, David! Did you see what I just saw?" "Hello, Leo! Did you see what I just saw?" "Yes!" "Yes!" "Wasn't that a bright fireball?" From his location a couple of hundred kilometres to the east, David had been observing too, and had seen it! For him it had started near Arcturus and moved southward against the western sky, and since that part of the sky was still somewhat brightened by twilight, the fireball had appeared not quite so brilliant to him. His estimate, therefore, was mag. -4, but other estimates from other places put it as bright as mag. -8. It had been a most interesting evening!

That newsletter also congratulated David Levy, our Centre's Vice-President, on having a major article published in *Astronomy* magazine, and on the recent publication of his book, *The Joy of Gazing—A Personal Guide for a New Observer*. [Who would then have known how many great books David would subsequently write?] On October 1st, I was able to hear David give a superb talk to the Ottawa Centre. Our own Centre had two meetings that month, October 15th and 29th. At the first one I spoke on the topic "Slides of Aurora and Other Astrophotography"; at the second one I gave a presentation on the topic "Mathematical Formulae To Help The Observer And Astrophotographer".

Looking back on activities of 30 and 25 years ago has given me a chance to relive the excitement of the small group of very involved amateur astronomers who made up our Centre in its early days.

Our 8th annual star party, Fall'N'Stars has come and gone, and was judged by most to be a success. Registration was approximately 40 people.

This was our 7th year at Boy Scout Camp Saganosa in Vandewater Conservation Area just east of Thomasburg, north of Belleville Ontario. The prototype, DSNOS, was held at Presquille Provincial Park in September 2000.

Friday afternoon showed a few early birds come in. Opening ceremonies were held in high turbulent winds and though the rocket launch was successful, the craft was lost. We were forewarned a little of a big storm coming in and packed everything up ... and there it came, rain rain rain. At least 2-3 cm over a few hours.

Saturday warmed up with fairly informal talks, chats, seminars on "What's in My Observing Bag" with 9 participants, ATM and other topics. Dinner was served by a local caterer and all were full. We held a moment of silence and a toast to Arlyne Gillespie, Chair for 2007 until she stepped down earlier in the year, and who we lost this past August.

Lots of door prizes... everyone in attendance received something and we started going around again.

Joe Shields donated an observing chair for raffle and response was good.

Our magazine auction of a couple of hundred astronomy and sky & tel magazines raised maybe \$5 but the book auction was fantastic and raised much more.

Dave Cotterell followed up with a shortened celestrivia with 4 teams of 5.

By this time the skies were dark and we headed outside as the temperature dropped and dropped and dropped.

Lots of good observing up to midnight and beyond with a few folks lasting until 2am with temperatures below zero. Some were up again at 05:00 to pick up Venus, Mars and Orion. We went down to -1 most of that night and it didn't warm up until nearly 8am when the sun finally cleared the tall trees in the east.

More reports from participants are always welcome! Pictures are now online at <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/pics/fallinstars/2007/> on the RASC-KC website.

—Kevin Kell

Change of KAON Coordinator, by Kevin Kell

Effective after the September KAON session, I am stepping down as the KAON Coordinator. Susan Gagnon has stepped forward as a volunteer for this position and I have full confidence in her ability to handle the position.

Susan has been a regular and reliable volunteer at the Kingston Astronomy Outreach Network for a number of years now and recently she has given some of the short talks that we introduced two years ago as filler in the event of cloudy nights.

She has a wonderful mannerism when dealing with the public and I have nothing but good to say of her :)

And believe it or not, I am not laying it on thick :)

I will continue to be a regular volunteer at the event but am really looking forward to a little time off :) You can contact her directly at Susan Gagnon <[sdgagnon at kos dot net](mailto:sdgagnon@kos.dot.net)> as she will still require 2-4 volunteers from the membership for a couple of hours each month.

Kevin Kell

Report on FALL'N'STARS, by Susan Gagnon

I had a great time and managed to stay dry in my little tent. Yipeeee!

I want to continue the yearly tradition; it is a great time of year and Saturday was a fabulous night, with such a great sky. It was dark early enough to get some visiting, and observing, done.

The meal was great and there was at least one door prize per person.

A lot of work went into planning and executing such a nice weekend. The food at dinner was great.

I do believe that I could have a nice weekend without my friends having to work so hard.

This is what I think about the structure of the weekend as it has evolved, and what I think should be considered for the future.

Job that cannot be avoided...cleaning the johns...this was great, there were no scary surprises and there were lots of supplies at hand. This is something that can make or break the desire to return another year. Also we cannot avoid cleaning up the area on Sunday so we can come back if we want to.

The major planning feat of the weekend was coordinating the banquet. For me this is nice but unnecessary and perhaps inappropriate for the time of day. There is

only one time-slot that is appropriate for this, and that is the time when people think that it would be nice to have a nap and to begin planning the evening observing session. Some years this also leads to a major clean up by volunteers as well. I think that we could plan for the evening meal without having someone do it for us.

Another job: while I really like my door prizes, my friends shouldn't spend their precious time hunting them down. Donations are always harder to get year after year. Also, it takes a lot of time to give them all out while the evening gets shorter. One or two prizes perhaps purchased with registration \$\$\$ would be great, if we need any at all.

Keepers from the event...

1. The book auction: A great way for people to recycle books and make a few \$\$ for the Centres. I love the books I picked up.

2. Morning session: What's that in your bag? (That may be wrong)

This was a great informal sharing session.

3. Afternoon (ATM, etc.) session: for the same reason.

4. The trivia game must have been fun, from all the noise (but I had to start putting on every item of clothing I owned to be ready for the drop in temperature). This is something that Dave probably put a fair bit of work into and I am sure it was appreciated and enjoyed.

The point I am trying to make in a rather ham-fisted way is that the original idea was to have a weekend of dark sky observing for everyone. When you factor in all the planning and prize collection, volunteers have to work several weekends. That may be making it harder to get volunteers. If it was a serious fundraiser, it would be a different matter, but this is supposed to be a fun weekend for everyone.

I saw some folks getting caught up in basic instruction at the telescope. It is good to share, and we encourage people to go to star parties to see a variety of 'scopes, but there has to be some balance. I was looking though other people's telescopes and getting tips as well. We often do not get this chance to observe together without it having to be a public outreach night, and I am happy to keep those to one night a month.

I do not want anyone to think that my tone is ungrateful or bitchy. I had a great time and I would like to continue to attend, but I want as many people as possible to have a good time.

How can we make this happen? I guess I could volunteer!

-Susan

General Meeting 14 September 2007, by Joe Benderavage

Mount Carleton Provincial Park, and the beginning of a Messier hunt were variously mentioned. Raffles followed, and the meeting concluded somewhat earlier than usual.

KAON Report 2007 Sept 08, by Kevin Kell

We held the latest public observing session Saturday night September 8, 2007, from 21:00-22:30 EDT at Queen's University Ellis Hall Observatory.

Thanks to our volunteers Steve Hart, Hank Bartlett, Kim Hay, especially to Susan Gagnon for fronting the short talk that night on The Equinox and Venus. Thanks also to Paul, Doug and Judith for dropping by and chatting with folks, and to Terry Bridges and student assistant Andrew.

We had 69 visitors, lower than normal yet a very good turnout. Campus construction is still running amok and the Mackintosh-Corry parking lot is down to half of what it was, and construction fences are up everywhere, limiting pedestrian traffic. Hopefully this will improve in one or two months.

The night sky was clear, but clouds resembling the cosmic string from Star Trek Generations came our way from the south, along with a whiz bang lightning storm on the southern horizon. A good breeze and a temperature around 22 C made it very comfortable.

No ISS or Iridium flares were evident, but a couple satellites made an appearance, including one big bright intermittent flasher around 22:19 moving south to north below Polaris. Very bright flashes! -2 or better.

Jupiter was clear enough to spot with its three moons. We also targeted Albireo, and shone a lot of green lasers into the sky for general constellations. The summer triangle, Cygnus, Big and Little Dippers, M31, M57, and Arcturus were some of the other targets. We attempted to find Neptune but the skies were not cooperating.

The next KAON (Kingston Astronomy Outreach Network) will be Saturday October 13th 2007 from 19:30-21:30 EDT. Sunset is 18:24 EDT.

Steve gave out about 50 sets of Hank's What's Up? and Starcharts, combined with a full page ad for our OAFTN course.

The meeting began with a remembrance of Arlyne Gillespie, who died the previous month. Attendance was rather low because many members were attending FALL'N'STARS over the weekend. The featured speaker, member Laura Gagne, spoke on the topic of "Sex and Violence in the Night Sky." She began by saying that we have the same star formations that prevailed thousands of years ago in the night skies over ancient Greece.

She then launched into the complicated saga of Perseus that began with a prophecy. A seer had prophesied that Danae would bear a child who would kill his grandfather Acrisius, the king of Argos. He locked her away, but Zeus visited her in her cell in a shower of gold. Nine months later, Perseus was born but was hidden from view.

When the king found out, he decreed that mother and son be placed inside a wooden chest and cast into the sea. They drifted to an island, were saved by a fisherman, but got into hot water when the local king Polydectes lusted after Danae. That king schemed to get rid of the protective Perseus by sending him on a seemingly impossible mission to kill Medusa, whose appearance was so awful that she could turn living creatures to stone.

Perseus' semi-divine heritage gained him some leverage when various gods gave him magic sandals to speed him on his journey, a helmet of invisibility so no one could see him coming, and a highly polished shield to behold Medusa by looking at her reflected image as he approached her.

Perseus accomplished his mission by getting close enough to Medusa to cut off her head. Perseus placed the gory head into a sack; but where spatters of blood fell to earth, Pegasus, a winged horse, sprang from the ground.

Perseus flew on Pegasus from Greece to a country ruled by King Cepheus and Queen Cassiopeia. Their daughter Andromeda was chained to a rock to be offered as a sacrifice to Cetus, a sea monster. The gods and goddesses of ancient Greece had demanded this sacrifice when the queen deemed her beauty and that of her daughter so great that they surpassed even that of divinity.

Just as Cetus approached Andromeda, Perseus flew in to intervene. He dismounted, holding the head of Medusa so that Cetus would see it. Cetus turned into stone and crumbled into the sea. Perseus claimed the hand of Andromeda, but he retained the head of Medusa. When he later showed it to Polydectes as proof of his successful mission, Polydectes turned to stone.

Later in life, during athletic games which grandfather Acrisius was a spectator, Perseus accidentally hit him with a discus and killed him, thus fulfilling the prophecy. Athena granted him a place in the heavens. There the eye of Medusa, Algol, the beta star in Perseus, forever variably glares at Cetus.

And at midnight, because we are at the same latitude as Greece, at this time of year we can see Perseus and other constellations representing characters that are all part of that story, almost directly overhead.

After this stunning presentation, the meeting turned to observing reports. Jupiter, the Milky Way, Perseids, Charleston Park,

ELECTION

RASC Kingston Centre Annual General Meeting

"Notice is given to all members of the RASC Kingston Centre with this announcement in our newsletter Regulus, of the RASC-Kingston Annual meeting, being held on Friday November 9, 2007, Stirling Hall, Theatre D, 7:30 pm, Queen's University.

Friday November 9th, 2007
Annual General Meeting
Stirling Hall Theatre D, Baader Lane,
Queen's University Kingston, Ontario.
7:30-8:00 pm

Agenda

Consideration and Approval of the Agenda.
Consideration and Adoption of the 2006 Annual General Meeting Minutes.
Consideration and Approval of the Reports of Council Presentation and Adoption of Financial Statements.
Centre Elections - Slate proposed by Nomination Committee.
President - 2 years for 2007-2009
Vice-President - 2 years for 2007-2009
Treasurer - 2 years for 2007-2009
Election of Auditor
Other Business
Followed by Regular Meeting 8:00

Here's How

For anyone interested in the positions of President, Vice-President, or Treasurer, please contact Doug Angle [angle at personainternet dot ca](mailto:angle@personainternet.ca) or Laura Gagne [laura.gagne at sympatico dot ca](mailto:laura.gagne@sympatico.ca) They are members of the Nominating Committee.

—Joe Benderavage, Editor

Duties of the Positions Up for Election

Duties of the Officers Positions that are up for Election . Taken from the RASC Kingston Bylaws that were Revised & Adopted 2006 April 14 (RASC-KC SGM, 2006 May 19 RASC National Council).

8.9 Duties Of **The President**

8.9.1 The President shall

8.9.1.1 * preside at all meetings of the Centre and the Council as provided by Articles 10.4 and 7.2.4,

8.9.1.2 represent and speak for the Centre when appropriate,

8.9.1.3 preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee referred to in Article 9.7, and

8.9.1.4 have such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council.

8.9.2 The President is a member of all committees of the Council, as prescribed in Article 9.3.

8.10 Duties Of **The Vice-President**

8.10.1 The Vice-President shall assist the President in the discharge of his or her duties, shall preside at meetings of the Council and of the Centre in the circumstances prescribed in Articles 7.2.4 and 10.4, and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council.

8.10.2 The Vice-President shall be a member of the Executive Committee as prescribed in Article 9.7.

8.12 Duties Of **The Treasurer**

8.12.1 The Treasurer shall

8.12.1.1 * prepare the annual financial statements of the Centre as specified by Article 11.2, present them to the Council for approval at a meeting prior to the next annual meeting of the Centre, and present the approved annual financial statements for adoption by the annual meeting of the Centre as prescribed in Article 10.1.3.3,
8.12.1.2 * submit the financial statements referred to in clause (a) to the Treasurer of the Society by January 15th in each membership year,

8.12.1.3 prepare and keep complete financial records of the business of the Centre, including books of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities,

8.12.1.4 receive and supervise the deposit of receipts,

8.12.1.5 supervise the disbursement of Centre funds,

8.12.1.6 supervise the safekeeping of the Centre's securities and other monetary assets,

8.12.1.7 in general conduct the financial business of the Centre in accordance with the direction of the Council, and

8.12.1.8 have such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council.

8.12.2 The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive Committee as prescribed in Article 9.7

RASC-KC Board of Directors

President: Kim Hay
 Vice President: Norm Welbanks
 Secretary: Steve Hart
 Treasurer: Kevin Kell
 Librarian: David Maguire
 Editor: Joseph Benderavage
 National Council Rep: John Hurley

2007 Committee Chairs:

Astronomy Day: Susan Gagnon
Amateur Telescope Makers: Doug Angle
Awards: Kim Hay
Banquet: Diane Torney
Education: Steve Hart
Equipment Loan: Kevin Kell
Fall 'N' Stars: N/A
KAON: Susan Gagnon
OAFN Instructor: Doug Angle, Brian Hunter
Observing: N/A
Publicity: Peter McMahon
Relay for Life: N/A
Responsible Lighting: Kim Hay
Sky Is the Limit: N/A

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

2007 Publication Deadlines

For the month (Deadline)

November (October 19)

December (November 25)

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SolObs 02/10/2007 8:52:20 PM **SOLAR DATA** from: HAYKI (Kim Hay) For: **SEPTEMBER 2007**

Instrument: SCT; Method: Direct; Filter: 1000 Oaks Type II; Aperture: 100; EP: 26 mm plossl

Day / see	UT	g	s	W	ng	sg	ns	ss	Obs.	Remarks
01 E	2015	2	5	25	0	2	0	5	HAYKI	NEW GROUP AR10969 AR1097
02 E	1830	1	2	12	0	1	0	2	HAYKI	AR10970
03 E	1627	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
06 FAIR	2057	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
07 0	2038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
08 E	1518	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
14 FAIR	1229	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
17 E	1615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
18 E	1654	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
20 E	1620	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
21 POOR	1630	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
22 E	2050	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
25 0	1615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
26 POOR	1648	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HAYKI	
28 FAIR	1615	1	6	16	0	1	0	6	HAYKI	AR10971

Target for Tonight, by Susan Gagnon

Capricornus

ETU: Algiedi,
 Dabih
 Messier: M30
 Finest NGC: None
 Levy List: None

Vulpecula

ETU: Collinder 399 (The
 Coat hanger)
 Messier: M27
 Finest NGC: 6802, 6940
 Levy List: none

Sagitta

ETU: none
 Messier: M71
 Finest NGC: none
 Levy List: none
 Deep Sky Challenge:
 IC 4997.

Pisces

ETU: None
 Messier: M74
 Finest NGC: None
 Levy List: 31(NGC
 514), 34(NGC 488),
 59(NGC 524),
 278(NGC 404),
 284(NGC 718)

Delphinus

ETU: none
 Messier: none
 Finest NGC: none
 Levy List: 156
 (NGC 6934), 263
 (NGC 7006)
 Deep Sky
 Challenge: none

Kingston Cosmic & Events Calendar, October & November 2007, by Kim Hay*Date & Time* *Events*

October 1- Monday-OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

October 3- Wednesday Moon last quarter 6:06, Mars near M35 this week

October 7- Sunday Crescent moon between Saturn and Venus 6:00 am

October 9- Monday Draconid meteor peak at 3:00 am

October 10- Wednesday, Zodiacal light visible in East before morning twilight for next two weeks.

October 11- Thursday, New Moon 1:01

October 12- Friday Regular Meeting Guest Speaker: Dr. Ross Kilpartrick Topic "Klimt's Kiss and the Corona Borealis." Stirling Hall Theatre "A" 7:30 pm-10:00 pm.

October 13- Saturday KAON Observing - Ellis Hall Queen's Observatory ** 7:30-9:30pm; For more information visit <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/kaon.php>; Speaker Dr. Dick Henriksen - Cosmic Jet Engines

October 15- Monday Venus 2.9°S of Saturn visible at dawn

October 15- Monday-OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

October 19- First Quarter Moon 4:33

October 21- Orionid Meteor peak 6:00 pm

October 22- Monday-OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

October 26- Full Moon 0:52- largest full moon of 2007, closest lunar perigee of 2007 today's moon is the Hunter's Moon.

October 27- Moon occults the Pleiades best of E. of N. America 7:00 pm

October 29- Monday-OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

Planets for the month of October: *Venus* in the east at dawn, *Mars* rises in ENE near 10:30 pm high SSE at dawn. *Jupiter* is SW in the evening twilight. *Saturn* rises in the ENE near 3:00 am and in ESE at dawn.

November 1- Thursday Last Quarter moon 17:18

November 4- Sunday Daylight Saving Time ends 2 a.m.

November 5- Monday Crescent moon 3° to the right of Venus 6:00 am; South Taurid meteor peak 5:00 p.m.

November 5- Monday-OAFTN Course, 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

November 8- Thursday Zodiacal light visible in E before morning twilight for next two weeks; also Thursday, Mercury at greatest elongation W (19°), best morning view in 2007

November 9- Friday Annual General Meeting Stirling Hall Theatre ** "D" ** note room change 7:30 pm-10:00 pm. Member's night to follow Annual Meeting

November 9- Friday New Moon 18:03

November 10- Saturday KAON Observing Ellis Hall Queen's Observatory 7:30-9:30pm; For more information visit <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/Observing/kaon.php>; Speaker Dr. Martin Duncan - New Solar System

November 11- Sunday- Remembrance Day

November 12- Monday- North Taurid Meteor peak 4:00 p.m.

November 12- Monday-OAFTN Course 6:30-8:30 pm at Isabel Turner Library, Gardiners Road, Kingston, Ontario

November 16- Friday- RASC KC Awards Banquet 5:30-10:00 see Diane Torney for tickets (\$30 each) read more about the Banquet at <http://130.15.144.99/rasc/banquet.htm>

November 17- Saturday- Leonid Meteor Peak 11:00 p.m.

November 17- Saturday- First Quarter moon 17:32

November 24- Saturday- Full Moon 9:30

November 27- Tuesday- Moon 1.4°N of Mars 12 a.m.

Planets for the month of November *Mercury* very low in the ESE in morning twilight all month- best near mid month; *Venus* in ESE at dawn, *Mars* rises in East near 7:30 pm, *Jupiter* very low in the SW after evening twilight; *Saturn* rises in ENE near 12:30 am, high in SE at dawn.

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/>