

Saskatoon Skies

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

Vol. 48, No. 12

December 2017



An incredible shot of the aurora from Colin Chatfield. More of his photos can be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ChatfieldPhotographics/>



Saskatoon Centre

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To view *Saskatoon Skies* digitally,
see our website:

<http://www.usask.ca/rasc/newsletters.html>

In This Issue:

Membership Information / Bottle Drive / Officers of the Centre	2
U of S Observatory Hours / Light Pollution Abatement Website	2
Calendar of Events / Notice of Meeting	3
Minutes of the October Meetings - <i>Marcel Müller-Goldkuhle</i>	4-6
Book Sale – <i>Jim Gorkoff</i>	7
Observers Group – <i>Larry Scott</i>	7
Observing Clubs and Certificates	8

MEMBERSHIP? JOIN TODAY!

Regular: \$85.00 /year

Youth: \$45.00 /year

Family: \$80/year

The Saskatoon Centre operates on a one-year revolving membership. You will be a member for the next 12 months no matter when in the year you join. Members are encouraged to renew early to avoid disruption in publications. Renew through the National Office at <http://www.rasc.ca/join-us>

Benefits of Membership in the Saskatoon Centre

- knowledgeable & friendly amateur astronomers
- use of the Sleaford Observatory
- use of the U of S Observatory (after training)
- Saskatoon Skies Newsletter
- Observer's Handbook
- Journal of the RASC (electronic format)
- SkyNews Magazine (bimonthly)
- borrow the Centre's Data Projector to give astronomy outreach presentations – contact Les Dickson at astrochem@sasktel.net
- rent the Centre's Telescopes <https://www.usask.ca/rasc/telescopes.html>
- discounts to Sky & Telescope Magazine*
- use of the Centre library

U OF S OBSERVATORY

The U of S Observatory is open to the general public every Saturday of the year. Admission is free. The observatory is located on campus, one block north of the Wiggins Avenue and College Drive entrance. On clear nights, visitors may look through the vintage 6-inch and tour several displays. Current events are recorded on the Astronomy Information Line at 306-966-6429.

Observatory Hours:

January – February	7:30 – 9:30 pm
March	8:00 – 10:30 pm
April – August	9:15 – 11:45 pm
September	8:30 – 11:00 pm
October – December	7:00 – 9:30 pm

SASKATOON CENTRE'S MAIN OFFICERS:

President – Alan Duffy

Vice-President – To be Filled

Secretary – Marcel Müller-Goldkuhle

Treasurer – Norma Jensen

National Council Rep – Rob Shepard

Bottle Drive &
Canadian Tire \$
By Les Dickson

If you cannot attend a meeting but would like to donate your Canadian Tire money please email me at astrochem@sasktel.net

**LIGHT POLLUTION
ABATEMENT
WEBSITE AT:
www.ras.sk.ca/lpc/lpc.htm**

Newsletter Editor – Kris Ohnander

Copy & Collate – Les & Ellen Dickson

Labels & Temps – Mark de Jong

Web Posting – Gord Sarty

Saskatoon Skies is published monthly by the Saskatoon Centre of the RASC. Distribution is approximately 100 copies per issue. Saskatoon Skies welcomes unsolicited articles, sketches, photographs, cartoons, and other astronomy or space science material. Submissions should be sent by e-mail to the editor at krisohn@gmail.com in msword or text format. Images: any format, less than 30MB, sent by e-mail as attached files. **Deadline for submission of all articles for an upcoming issue is the first Friday of the month!**

A separate by-mail subscription to Saskatoon Skies is available for \$15.00 per year. Saskatoon Skies is also posted on our Saskatoon Centre homepage as a .pdf file and can be downloaded free-of-charge. Members may choose to receive the newsletter by regular mail or via the Internet. Articles may be reprinted from Saskatoon Skies without expressed permission (unless otherwise indicated), provided that proper source credit is given. Saskatoon Skies accepts commercial advertising. Please email the editor at krisohn@gmail.com for rates. Members can advertise non-commercial items free of charge.

RASC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 11	RASC General Meeting Christmas Social	Alan Duffy
December 13/14	Geminid Meteor Shower	Larry Scott
January 13	Observers Group at Sleaford	Larry Scott
January 15	RASC General Meeting	Alan Duffy
February 10	Observers Group at Sleaford	Larry Scott
February 12	RASC General Meeting	Alan Duffy

For a complete list of club events, please visit: <http://www.usask.ca/rasc/activities.html>

January RASC General Meeting

for all members and guests, Room 175 Physics Bldg
University of Saskatchewan, on

Monday, January 15th, 2018 at 8:00PM

Presented by Ron Waldron:

Norwegian Astronomy Above the Arctic Circle

Last October, Ron Waldron spent two weeks as a Road Scholar exclusive instructor aboard the Kong Harold Cruise ship. The cruise took him up the west coast of Norway from latitude 62 degrees north to latitude 71 degrees north of the Arctic Circle. While on board, he gave ten one hour lectures, four on the northern lights and six on astronomy.

Weather conditions both on the cruise path and on the sun were cooperative and eight clear nights were had to view and photograph the aurora. Ron will give a digitally illustrated talk on his trip along with a five minute video of the northern lights as captured by colleague Alan Dyer who was on another ship at the same time. Ron is scheduled to repeat the cruise this February and then travel to Churchill, Manitoba for three weeks in March to give a similar program.

Note: There will be an Executive Meeting at 7:00PM

Minutes of the November Meetings - *Marcel Müller-Goldkuhle*



Minutes of the Executive Meeting, Nov 20, 2017

Attendees: Tim May, Darrel Chatfield, Les Dickson, Rick Huziak, Errol Frazer-Harrison, Ron Waldron, Norma Jensen, Tenho Toumi, Mark De Jong, Jim Gorkoff, Curtis Tuplin, Marcel Mueller-Goldkuhle

Meeting called to order by Tim May at 7:02 PM

Approval of Oct 16 Executive Meeting Minutes: Moved by Ron, seconded by Mark, approved.

Reports:

- Financial Report:** The Annual Financial Report was presented by Jim.
Motion by Les to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Marcel, approved with all in favour.
- Membership:** The club has currently 90 members.
- Observers Group:** no update
- Sleaford:** Snow Removal was done on Nov 19.
Bees are in the north-east corner of the schoolhouse, Darrell is contacting a beekeeper.
- SSSP:** First meeting for the 2018 SSSP on Nov 23, topics to be discussed are budgeting, volunteers, schedule.
- Youth Club:** Next meeting on Nov 27, 2 potential new members
No meeting will be held in Dec.
- Newsletter:** Financial Report to be sent to Kris.

- Events: Dark Skies at Beaver Creek had about 500 visitors.
Open House: About 18 members attended and 60-100 visitors showed up.
The Christmas Potluck is planned for Dec 11 at 6:30PM.
- Telescope Coord.: 10" Newtonian telescope was picked up from Beaver Flat, north of Swift Current; Scope was set up for photography and is now modified for visual observing; Errol handed a list out showing the accessories which came with the scope. Total (new) value of scope incl. accessories is about 6000\$.
Errol suggests to rent the scope out for about 3 years, if the demand is too low it can be sold.
The dome (height 10 ft, diam. 8 ft 6") has to be taken down by the Club, this is not required to be done before spring; Rob Sheppard is interested.
- National: Current topics are: Social Media (Media Committee has been initiated), Harassment Policy, Fundraising, Draft Guide for Governance was issued.
- Certificates Darrell accepts to be the contact person for people who apply for the Explore the Universe Certificate.
- Old Business:**
- Yahoo Forum: No update.
Advertising: No update.
Memorabilia: No update.
Background Checks: No update.
- New Business:**
- Outreach Material Jim distributed Star Charts and Moon Charts:
Ron/Youth Club (100/100)
Norma (100/100)
- Elections: The Chair of the SSSP Committee is considered as Executive member.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM

Minutes of the General Meeting, Nov 20, 2017

Meeting called to order by Tim May at 8:15 PM.

Tim gave an update about the topics of the Executive Meeting:

Financial Report
Sleaford Observatory
Events
Explore the Universe Certificate
Christmas Potluck on Dec 11, 6:30PM

Elections:

Directors:

Rick Huziak, Norma Jensen, Tenho Tuomi, Ron Waldron, Les Dickson
Election of the Slate of Directors: Motion by Jim, seconded by Mark, all in favour.

Executive Members:

President	Alan Duffy
Vice President	Open
Secretary	Marcel Mueller-Goldkuhle
Treasurer	Norma Jensen
National Council Representative	Rob Sheppard

Other Officers:

Newsletter	Kris Ohnander
Events Coordinator	Open, events to be assigned individually (Christmas Potluck: Norma & Darrell)
Sleaford Site Coordinator	Darrell Chatfield
Observers Group Coordinator	Larry Scott
Youth Astronomy Club	Errol Frazer-Harrison/Ron Waldron
Membership Coordinator	Mark de Jong
Coffee Supply Coordinator	Open
Meeting Room Coordinator	Open
Photographer/Archivist	George Charpentier
Telescope Coordinator	Errol Frazer-Harrison
Councillor at Large	Curtis Tuplin
SSSP Chair	Les Dickson

Election of the Officers & Executive Committee Members as nominated:
Motion by Rick, seconded by Jim, all in favour.

Motion by Jim to engage an Auditor to audit the Financial Report, seconded by Norma, all in favour.

Presentations:

Rick Huziak: New issues with Light Pollution in Saskatoon
Ashley Stock: Detecting Supernova Neutrinos at SNOLAB
Tenho Tuomi: My 42 Hour Eclipse Trip

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM

Book Sale – *Jim Gorkoff*

Members should e-mail me at jgorkoff@yahoo.ca if they want to buy any of these titles. They will be sold on a first come first serve basis. That means first to pay their money and pick up their book, not first to put in an order. The price includes applicable sales taxes. This is a going out of business final stock sale; so, sales are final and once the items are sold out they will not be reordered. These items will not be shipped. Arrangements will have to be made for pick up. Some of these items will make a good Christmas gift. Although none of the books are second hand, many are old and hard to otherwise find. This sale ends on 15 January 2018.

BOOK INVENTORY

Name	Publisher	Quantity	Old Price	Sale Price
Night Sky Star Wheel	Sky Publishing	1	20.00	10.00
SkyWays New Edition	RASC	2	22.00	10.00
Beginners Observer's Guide	RASC	1	20.00	20.00
Night Sky Star Atlas	Firefly Books	2	20.00	5.00
Seeing In The Dark	Simon & Schuster	1	20.00	15.00
Pocket Sky Atlas	Sky Publishing	2	35.00	25.00
Sky & Tel Moon Map Laminated	Sky Publishing	1	12.00	10.00
Sky & Tel Moon Map Unlaminated	Sky Publishing	2	8.00	5.00
Sky & Tel Moon Map Mirror Unlaminated	Sky Publishing	2	8.00	5.00
Mars Observing Guide	Firefly Books	1	15.00	5.00
Moon Observing Guide	Firefly Books	1	15.00	5.00
Practical Astronomy	Firefly Books	3	15.00	5.00
Stargazing With A Telescope	Firefly Books	1	15.00	5.00
Sun Observers Guide	Firefly Books	1	15.00	5.00
Astronomy Dictionary	Firefly Books	1	15.00	5.00
Starwatch (Harrington)	Wiley	2	35.00	25.00
Saskatoon Stone		8	3.00	3.00

Observers Group – *Larry Scott*

Our Observer's Group for November 18th was cancelled due to clouds. I was unable to get out to Sleaford for observing on any other nights as well. Although there is no scheduled Observer's Group for December, there is an excellent observing opportunity on December 13/14th with the return of the Geminid Meteor shower. There will be moonless evenings from December 8th to the 23rd and given decent skies I will try to get out to Sleaford on the weekend of the 22/23rd. Happy Holidays everyone.

Happy Holidays

Observing Clubs and Certificates

Join the Club! Observe all 110 Messier, 110 Finest NGC, 400 Herschel I or II, 140 Lunar, 154 Sky Gems or 35 Binocular objects, or Explore the Universe and earn great OBSERVING CERTIFICATES!

MESSIER CLUB

Certified at 110 Objects:

*R. Huziak, G. Sarty, S. Alexander,
S. Ferguson, D. Chatfield, T.
Tuomi, L. Scott, G. Charpentier,
B. Johnson, L. Dickson, B.
Burlingham, Norma Jensen*

Ron Waldron	108
Wade Selvig	75
Marcel Müller-Goldkühle	54
Wayne Schlapkohl	43
Ellen Dickson	34
Graham Hartridge	9

Chatfield BINOCULAR CERTIFICATE

Certified at 35 to 40 Objects:

T. Tuomi, R. Huziak

Jim Goodridge	12
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FINEST NGC CLUB

Certified at 110 Objects:

*R. Huziak, G. Sarty,
D. Chatfield, T. Tuomi*

Larry Scott	110
Scott Alexander	97
Norma Jensen	83
Sandy Ferguson	23
George Charpentier	13

EXPLORE the UNIVERSE

Certified at 55 to 110 Objects:

T. Tuomi,

Wayne Schlapkohl	55
Jim Goodridge	35

Isabel Williamson Lunar Observing Certificate

Certified at 140 Objects:

T. Tuomi, N. Jensen

HERSCHEL 400 CLUB

Certified at 400 Objects:

R. Huziak, D. Chatfield, T. Tuomi

Gordon Sarty	251
Scott Alexander	117
Larry Scott	45
Sandy Ferguson	18

HERSCHEL 400-II CLUB

Darrell Chatfield	400
Tenho Tuomi	378
Rick Huziak	246

LEVY DEEP-SKY GEMS

Certified at 154 Objects:

Tenho Tuomi	150
Darrell Chatfield	70



The Messier, Finest NGC and David Levy's Deep-Sky Gems lists can be found in the *Observer's Handbook*.

The Explore the Universe list is available on the National website.

On-line Messier and Finest NGC lists, charts and logbooks: <http://www.rasc.ca/observing>

On-line Herschel 400 List: <http://www.astroloague.org/al/obsclubs/herschel/hers400.html>

Binocular List is at: https://www.usask.ca/rasc/Chatfield_Binocular_List.pdf

"Isabel Williamson Lunar Observing Program Guide:

<http://www.rasc.ca/sites/default/files/IWLOP2015.pdf>

Program details can be found at: <http://www.rasc.ca/williamson/index.shtm>