

from the University of Windsor presented a nicely documented chronology of Einstein's remarkable work. His initial inclination was to include a constant in his famous equation, and then dropped the idea. Over the century since, remarkable discoveries in diverse fields of physics, astronomy and cosmology have led to the belief his initial equation with the constant may have been correct.

During that time, cosmology has emerged from merely strange theories to a genuine science. It is based on many diverse developments and observations such as spectroscopy and the discovery of background radiation while searching for the sources of radio static.

Many people have worked on all manner of theories to arrive at the current state of knowledge. Dr. Baylis mentioned many and touched on their most important contributions to our knowledge of the universe today.

The best part is yet to come as new discoveries constantly add to knowledge and modify prior theories thought to be perfect in every way. Those who thought the end of discoveries in physics is near may be overconfident.

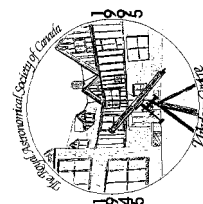
Steve thanked Dr. Baylis for his well researched and informative presentation. He also commented his presentations were becoming an annual event and hoped we might be favoured by another next year.

Further Information

Dr. Baylis' presentation contained a great deal of material, much of it difficult to treat even briefly in our minutes. Here is a suggestion from your recording secretary: For a taste of this important work take a shot at finding more information via an internet search engine. All of the following worked in my test search and led to all sorts additional ventures via numerous links.

Isaac Newton	James Maxwell, Electricity and Magnetism
Albert Einstein	Georges Le Maitre, Big Bang 1927
Sir Arthur Eddington	Harlow Shapely
Heber Curtis Great Debate	Edwin Hubble, Hubble Constant
Peter Higgs, Higgs field	Hans Bethe, Nuclear Reactions
Vesto Slipher, spectrometer	Edward Kolb, Early Universe
Alpher and Herman, 1944 microwave background radiation	
George Gamow & Ralph Alpher, Origin of Chemical Elements	
Saul Perlmutter & Brian Schmidt, acceleration of universe	
Minkowski, 1908 Space and Time Continuum	
End of Physics	

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. Dave Panton, Recording Secretary



AURORA



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Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 2005
8:00 p.m.
at
Maidstone K of C Hall
10720 County Road 34
(Old Talbot Road)

Short Talk: Tim Bennett

Topic: GA 2005 Report

Upcoming Events

Hallam Observatory Open House:

June 11, 2005	9:45 p.m.
July 16, 2005	9:30 p.m.

Council Meeting: Tues. June 7, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.
The meeting will be held at Pierre Boulos' house.

Annual Picnic: Sat. **June 11**, 2005 at the Hallam Observatory. The format will continue to be a BBQ with the club providing the meat and you bring a side dish, drinks (no alcohol) and some lawn chairs. The picnic is open to members and their families.

General Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2005

President, Steve Mastellotto: Steve asked members present to read the minutes from the March meeting. A motion to accept the minutes from the March meeting was made by Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu, seconded by Steve Pellarin and carried.

Reports

Correspondence Secretary, Joady Ulrich: Joady was unable to attend the meeting.

Treasurer, Ken Garber: Ken reported a bank balance of 6,800.38 and a paid up membership of 118.

Librarian, Milica Rakic: Milica, shortly to become a Mom, could not attend the meeting. Steve reported almost all the library books have been moved to the observatory. He also reminded members "Astronomy" and "Amateur Astronomy" magazines are now club subscriptions.

Other Centre newsletters are available on our website, managed by Steve as is our member's address listing.

Public Education, Randy Groundwater: Randy finished teaching his 9 week "Learning in Retirement Course" on Astronomy. In Essex he did a presentation to a Cub Scout group. More events are planned including a Point Pelee trip for Dougall Avenue school students. Also a group in Kingsville has asked for a presentation. Steve Pellarin reported that the Windsor Police Association is hosting two groups of children at Camp Henry this summer and have asked for an astronomy presentation. Steve requested help from members able to bring telescopes the evenings of Tuesday July 5th and Wednesday July 13th.

Dan Taylor had a cub group at Point Pelee and attempted to see Omega Centauri but it was masked by low haze on the Southern horizon.

Light Pollution Abatement, Dan Taylor: Dan was not available so Steve gave an update on Windsor City Council's acceptance of the Lighting Standards Committee presentation Monday night. Councilors were positive and its many recommendations will lead to regulating lighting in all new subdivisions. Over time it is hoped to reduce light pollution in other areas.

National Council Representative, Tim Bennett: Tim was unable to attend however, Peter Jedicke, National Council President visited and gave an extensive report on some of the issues facing National Council. They are primarily financial and result in all manner of efforts to serve members without raising annual dues. Past bylaws frequently complicate new ideas.

Peter suggested the City of Windsor should be given an award from National for adopting the lighting standards report noted above.

Observatory Director, Peter Bondy: Peter explained the next major task will be to motorize the hatch and later the entire dome. He is looking into the ways it could be done by using local materials and talent at lesser cost than the conversion kits from Ash Dome.

Membership Chairman, Pierre Boulos: Pierre indicated that welcome back letters will be sent by Pierre to members who have renewed memberships after an absence.

Director of Observing, Steve Pellarin: Steve did his usual stunning presentation with all sorts of images of interesting objects in spring skies. Saturn is still with us but in the light polluted sky to the West. Jupiter is rising and high enough to see significant cloud bands and occasional moon shadows.

Comet Machholz is still visible in binoculars. On April 24th our Moon will display a penumbral eclipse. Two meteor showers Lyrids and Aquarids should be worth a few hours observing. Mercury is low in our morning sky. Venus will pass near the Pleiades in May.

The Virgo cluster of galaxies includes a row called Markarian's Chain. It is an easy and spectacular sight in the club telescope.

Business

Earth Day at Ojibway Park, Peter Bondy: Peter needs some help this Sunday April 24th to set up the club displays, man them and others to bring telescopes with solar filters for public observing of the Sun. All telescopes must be supervised for the safety of both observers and equipment.

The **Pelee Island Winery** event was held entirely at the Winery. Rain washed out plans to bus guests to the observatory. Pocket sized planispheres were given to all 30 participants.

April's observatory open house was a success with nearly 25 visitors. Many had read of it in Rod Clark's astronomy article in the Tecumseh newspaper.

Coffee break and 50/50 draw: The draw was won by Dr. Dan O'Neill and it was donated back to the club. Steve introduced new members and guests.

Main Speaker, Dr. William Baylis: Honorary President, Dr. William Baylis