

Light Pollution Abatement: Dan Taylor

Point Pelee recently designated a "Dark Sky Preserve" will host lots of bird watchers in May. On Saturday May 12th, a small star party in the park has been planned by Dan and park staff. Randy and Pierre offered assistance.

Full cutoff lighting fixtures have replaced the bright glaring fixtures shining from the exterior walls of the new Princess Auto store on Lauzon road. The effect at night is very tasteful. Dan thanked all who placed calls to the city's 311 line to have these lights changed to comply with the new Lighting Standards.

Lighting Standards for the town of Lakeshore are on a council agenda for attention in three to four weeks time.

The International Dark Sky association people are holding their annual meeting Sept. 18,19,20 in Montmagny Quebec.

Shots taken from Casey Masterson's 20th floor condominium in downtown Windsor showed an perfect example of light pollution. A parking lot light at the School Board illuminates the ceilings of rooms facing the lot.

Good and bad examples were illustrated by Steve Pellarin. New areas in Forest Glade are much more attractive at night with their FCO lighting fixtures.

Bad examples are everywhere. A bad one is found on a used car lot's lighting at Campbell and Tecumseh. Randy will follow up on 311.

Ken Rounge suggested sending notarized letters of complaint to offenders with copies to the City might be a very effective tool.

Photogallery

Tom Sobocan showed some "people shots" he took at prior meetings and the Christmas party.

Director of Observing this month: Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu

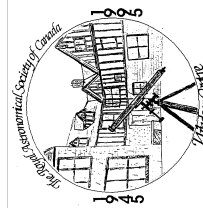
Susan outlined a number of celestial splendors easily located and seen in binoculars. Saturn is a great target as is the Moon as its phases highlight the area between light and dark. For solar observers there is little to see for the time being until the Sun moves into it's next 11 year solar cycle.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

David J. Panton, Recording Secretary

CENTRE WEB CHANGES

Please note that any reference (mail and web) to mnsi.net will end on June 24th. Please make sure you are using www.rascwindsor.com and the appropriate email address.



AURORA



Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 19, 2007
8:00 p.m.

Maidstone K of C Hall
10720 County Road 34
(Old Talbot Road)

Speaker: Paul Pratt

Topic: Bird Migration at night via
astro-navigation

Upcoming Events

Hallam Observatory Open House:

			Moon Age
May	19	9:30 p.m.	3 days
June	23	9:45 p.m.	9 days

Celestial Events:

June 4	Mars at perihelion
June 5	Jupiter at opposition
June 21	Solstice (2pm EDT)

Centre Events:

June 12th	Council at Harry Brydon
June 16th	Annual Centre Picnic (Plus?!)
Oct 9th	Council at Dave Panton
Feb 2008	Council at Donna Ronconi

General Assembly:

June 28 - July 1 Calgary, AB
<http://www.calgary.rasc.ca/ar2007/>

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Apr 17th, 2007 compiled by Dave Panton

Chaired by Dr. Pierre Boulos

Pierre welcomed members and visitors and called for reading of the March meeting minutes. K.C. Masterson made the acceptance motion, Randy Groundwater seconded and the motion was carried.

Coming meetings will bring these programs

May: Possible mining sites on our Moon and a short talk by Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu.

June: Bird Migration at night via astro-navigation by Paul Pratt.

Main Presentation:

Pierre introduced our Honorary President Dr. William Bayliss noting he has kindly done a presentation annually to Windsor Centre members.

A Brief History of Life on Earth by Dr. Willam Bayliss

Starting with the first instant of the "Big Bang" Dr. Bayliss took members on an expedition through time to the present. At each stage of both evolution of our known universe and life on Earth he explained the best known theories of how each stage began and evolved to the next.

Intimate knowledge from several sciences was used to help explain how the various steps occurred. Giving scale to the process was done by imagining it all took place in little more than an hour. Many forms of life evolved over the final few minutes, periodic massive extinctions killed most leaving ecological niches open for new to evolve.

Human life, from our earliest ancestors to the present has been evident for mere seconds on the hour scale. Our growing numbers and effect on Earth are cause for concern as to our future.

A question period followed, allowing members the opportunity to comment on portions of his presentation and ask for further details.

Pierre thanked Dr. Bayliss for his thorough and clearly presented annual talk. Members expressed appreciation via a round of applause.

Coffee Break and 50/50 Draw

After enjoying a brief break and refreshments brought and prepared by Tom Sobocan the 50/50 draw was made. Prizes were \$8 cash won and donated by Tina and a 2007 Calendar, won by a visitor.

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Astrophotography Group headed by Steve Mastellotto:

Randy groundwater explained the group's first meeting, to be held at the observatory later this evening had to be cancelled. Steve's travel schedule at work caused him to miss his first RASC Windsor Centre meeting in seven years.

Secretary: David Panton

Nothing to report

Treasurer: Ken Garber

Our bank balance is \$3435.32, and all bills are paid. There are currently 88 paid up members.

Newsletter Editor: Ken Garber

Advertisements are welcome as are articles by members. Ken Rong has a 3 inch solar filter for sale. One more ad space is available.

Librarian: Rick Marion

The main item to report was the heavy tubular tripod mount for the club 8 inch equatorial telescope has been found. One more year was concluded in Rick's life on meeting night. "Happy Birthday Rick" came from all in song.

Director of Public Education: Randy Groundwater

Two events at Hallam observatory are scheduled:

1. King Edward Public School grade six class, teachers and guiding parents are expected Tuesday April 24th. Approximately 60 persons will visit.

2. Saturday May 5th about 100 family members of Windsor Mosque will be hosted at Hallam in a theme involving astronomy and their faith.

Help will be needed to host both groups. Members with telescopes and others able to assist in any way are welcome.

On Thursday April 12th, "Earth Day" at the University of Windsor RASC Windsor Centre members Pierre Boulos, Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu, Randy Groundwater, Tom Sobocan and Robin Smallwood set up and staffed our light pollution display.

Director of Public Relations: Tina Chichkan

On Sunday April 22nd Earth Day a similar display will be set up and staffed by helpers from RASC Windsor Centre. Instead of Ojibway Park, displays will all be at Mic Mac Park. Tina asked members for assistance especially those with telescopes fitting with solar filters to observe the Sun.

Monthly Hallam Observatory Open House:

Pierre reminded members to come and bring friends and relatives to the March 24th open house starting at 7:30 p.m.

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