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Spring Constellations: Looking north out of our galaxy is the Virgo group including M64, Black Eye galaxy at mag. 9.2. Also M64, Sunflower galaxy at mag. 9.3. Other deep sky objects to look for include M13 and M92.

Comet Elenin (C2010X1) is expected to be mag. 6 by end of September to October.

Meteor Showers: Eta Aquarid at ~10 per hour and Delta Arietids 5-10 per hour June 9th

Paul Pratt, Centre President, thanked the presenters and members for attending.

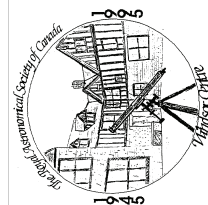
The Meeting was **adjourned at 10:30pm.**

Reported by Arthur Rae, RASC Windsor Centre Secretary.

New Meeting Location!

During the June 14, 2011 Council Meeting it was approved that the RASC - Windsor Centre will be moving our regular meeting location back to the newly completed Ojibway Park Nature Centre at 5200 Matchette Road. Our group met in the old Nature Centre for a short period of time but quickly outgrew the facility. Council met in the new Nature Centre and received a tour of the facilities and they are first rate. The building is very modern with built in computer projection equipment, a large projection screen and sound system hooked into multiple sources (PC, DVD players, etc.) The facility has public Wi-Fi access so we will be able to make presentations with live internet connections.

The best news is we will be saving \$300 per year in meeting space rental fees. See photo below of the new Nature Centre and we will see you there beginning with our meeting on Tuesday September 20, 2011.



AURORA



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The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre

June 2011

Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

7:30 p.m.

at

Ojibway Park Nature Centre

5200 Matchette Road

Speaker: TBA

Topic: "TBD"

Upcoming Events

Summer Solstice: Summer in the Northern Hemisphere officially begins on June 21, 2011 at 1:16 p.m. EDT.

Neptune: On Tuesday July 12th Neptune will have completed 1 revolution around the Sun (returning to Ecliptic Longitude 329.1022) since its discovery on September 23, 1846 by Johann Galle at the Berlin Observatory.

Meteors: The Perseids peak on the morning of Saturday August 13th unfortunately this is also just 13 hours before the Full Moon. The Southern Delta Aquariids two weeks earlier on July 29th are a better bet with the New Moon.

Winery Event: The RASC plans to have another event at the Aleksander Winery. The proposed date is Saturday August 6 but is not final. Watch for further updates at www.rascwindsor.com.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2011

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre, Maidstone Recreation Centre.

Windsor Centre **President Paul Pratt** chaired the Meeting. Paul called the Meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and welcomed members and guests.

Motion to accept the **Minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2011**. Moved by Greg Mockler and Seconded by Steve Mastellotto. MOTION CARRIED

President Paul introduced the speaker for the night, Dr. Dale Partin of the Warren Astrophysical Society, Michigan, USA and his talk on Gravitational Waves.

Main Talk: Gravitational Waves by Dr. Dale Partin

The brief history of astronomical research on the subject of gravity waves was presented showing how the studies started using visible light spectrum energy then x-rays and other charged particles such as neutrinos in the attempt to detect these energy bursts. Gravity waves were predicted as ripples in space-time by Einstein's General Theory of Relativity. The waves are produced only from an exploding sphere that is asymmetric.

Starting in 1955 theorists proposed different types of gravity wave detectors. These detectors advanced in size and expense through the 1970s and 1980s. Many nations have built detectors including the US, France, Italy and Japan. The first reported possible detection was claimed in 2009 from supernova 1987A. Possible other sources may include NGC6397 and it's collapsed core globular cluster. This may be an new field of astronomy.

Dr. Partin took questions from the audience and Paul Pratt thanked the speaker.

Break

Notices, Paul Pratt: Council Meeting June 14, 2011, 7:29 pm at Ojibway Park Nature Centre

Science City talk May 18 on Bio-diversity.

Monthly **50/50 draw**: \$7.50.

Business

Secretary, Arthur Rae: Nothing to report.

Treasurer, Greg Mockler: Current bank balance is \$5,150. Windsor Centre membership stands at 100.

Newsletter Editor, Steve Mastellotto: Thanked the members of the Astro-photography Group for all the photos supplied. Next big issue is in September and would like to publish more of them.

Public Education Director, Randolph Groundwater: After three attempts the **Belle River Beavers** finally got to see the observatory on April 21st.

Earth Day was a successful participation despite the poor weather on May 1st.

The **Science Rendezvous** was very busy and a good turnout including at the Observatory Open House.

Next week will be attending **Essex High School** for a lecture for the Grade 9 Astronomy Unit.

Will be presenting in June to a **Ti Chi group** at Hallam.

Public Events Director, Peter Bondy: Paul Pratt reported for Peter on the upcoming Windsor Centre annual picnic to be held on June 8, 2011.

Light Pollution Abatement Director, Dan Taylor: Dan reported his report is posted on the Windsor Centre web page.

National Council Representative, Mike Mastronardi: From the National council Meeting:

There will be **no fee increases** this year due to a grant of \$25,000.

Motions to give RASC President **funding to attend a conference**.

The RASC now has an official **Green Laser Pointer (GLP) policy** document. RASC is working with Transport Canada to decriminalize GLP use.

There will be **affiliations** for discounts for RASC members.

Mike suggests checking the National website for copies of reports in the Reports section.

Director of Observing Report, Steve Pellarin: Solar activity remains low. Four planets put on a show in the morning sky this month. In the evening sky Saturn is approaching within 1.5° of a star and is showing seasonal changes including white areas from storms in the north tropical zones.

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