

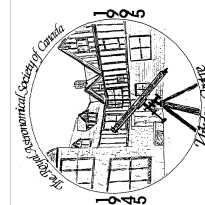
For Sale

Celestron CGEM Mount: This Computerized German Equatorial Mount comes with an adjustable stainless steel tripod, 12 VDC car battery adapter, NexStar hand controller, and a 17 lb. counterweight and can handle a telescope of up to 40 lbs. The mount weighs 41 lbs and the tripod is 17 lbs. I have also upgraded the saddle to the ADM Dual Saddle so it accepts both the Losmandy and Vixen style dovetail plates. Latitude can be adjusted from 15 - 70 degrees, it has nine slewing speeds and Sidereal, Solar and Lunar tracking rates. Alignment can use 2-Star, Quick, 1-Star, Last and Solar System procedures. Data-based of 40,000+ objects, 100 user defined and enhanced information on over 200 objects.

New this mount sells for \$1,299 USD + \$170 USD for the ADM Dual Saddle plus taxes and shipping. I am **asking \$1,000 CAD.** Contact Steve Mastellotto at (519) 735-9046.



Orion photo by Steve Mastellotto. 60 x 1 minute photos from February 18, 2017.



Aurora



Volume 42, No. 5

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre

February 2017

Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 2017
7:30 p.m.

at

[Ojibway Park Nature Centre](#)
5200 Matchette Road

Speaker: Nancy Ng

Topic: "Aboriginal Australian Sky"

Upcoming Events

Zodiacal Light: Starting in early March after sunset and from a dark location look for the faint cone of light in the West that follows the ecliptic.

Mars and Uranus: Are less than a 1/2 degree apart on Sunday February 26th. Look for them at the end of evening twilight.

Moon and Aldebaran: Occultation occurs on Saturday March 4th from 11:04 - 11:28 p.m.. A grazing occultation occurs in Central Ontario including the GTA where you can watch Aldebaran blink on and off as it passes behind mountains on the limb of the Moon.

Daylight Savings Time Begins: On Sunday March 12 at 2:00 a.m..

Spring Equinox: On Sunday March 20th at 6:28 a.m. EDT the Sun crosses the celestial equator heading North and marks the beginning of Spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

Monthly Meeting Minutes January 17, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre was held at the Ojibway Park Nature Centre.

Windsor Centre **President Randy Groundwater** chaired the meeting. Randy called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and welcomed members and guests to the Ojibway Park Nature Centre.

Motion to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting was made by Dr. Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu, seconded by Steve Mastellotto. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Main Presentation

Randy Groundwater welcomed everyone to the meeting. Randy gave a brief overview of the topics which were going to be discussed and introduced the feature presentation for the night which was a documentary "400 Years of the Telescope" hosted and narrated by Neil deGrasse Tyson.

The film chronicled the history of the telescope from the time of Galileo. It featured interviews with leading astrophysicists and cosmologists from around the world. They explained concepts ranging from Galileo's first use of the telescope to view the moons of Jupiter to the latest discoveries in space. New ideas about life on other planets and dark energy, a mysterious vacuum energy that is accelerating the expansion of the universe were discussed.

Break and 50/50 draw: \$8.00 went to **Dave Panton** who donated it back to the Centre.

Randy displayed a photo of Essex County during the night time taken on the ISS. A difference of light pollution colour from the blue white of LED lights to the yellow orange of high pressure sodium lights was noted.

Director of Observing Report

Randy Groundwater welcomed **Director of Observing, Nancy Ng** to the floor who started with a discussion of activities since the November 2016 membership meeting. Items discussed included the record turnout for the **Hallam Open House** events in October and November and a number of **photos and observations** were shared.

Planetary bodies for the next month included:

Moon phases: January 27, **New Moon**, February 10, **Full Moon** which rises at 5:23 p.m. and on February 21 (our next meeting) a waning crescent rises 3:03 p.m..

Planets: **Venus** at greatest elongation East on January 12 and greatest brightness on February 17 at magnitude -4.8. Also on the same date, **Jupiter** is at aphelion. On January 19, **Mercury** is at greatest elongation West and rises at 6:30 a.m.. On February 24, **Saturn** will rise at 3:30 a.m..

As **Orion** rises in the winter, it is an easy target for all astronomers. Objects to observe and photograph within the constellation include the **Horsehead Nebula, Flame Nebula, Orion Nebula (M42) which hosts the Trapezium Cluster, and lastly the Witch Head Nebula.** Some of these objects are easy to find (M42) when scanning the constellation, some will require a telescope (Trapezium) and some are photographic targets Horsehead and Witch Head nebulae.

On February 10, there will be a **penumbral lunar eclipse.** The moon will enter Earth's shadow at 5:35 p.m. and exit at 9:54 p.m..

Fun fact: **Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar (1910-1995)** at 19 years old he discovered the maximum mass of a stable white dwarf at 1.46M. Now known as the Chandrasekhar Limit. NASA named 2 items in his honor, first in 1999, the Chandra X-Ray Observatory and second in 1999, a neutron star found in a supernova remnant.

The last presentation of the night was provided by **Tom Sobocan** who played a video and gave a short biography on the life of American astronaut, John Herschel Glenn Jr..

Randy thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and reminded everyone that the **next regular membership meeting** would take place **February 21st, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.**

Randy **adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m..**

Recorded by **Dan Perissinotti, RASC Windsor Centre Secretary**