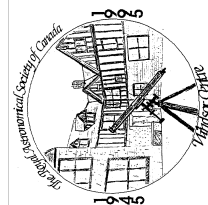


Science Rendezvous 2016 Photos



Photos from the Science Rendezvous 2016 event by Mahayarrahh-Starr Livingstone. The event this year will be held on Saturday May 13th from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the University of Windsor CAW Student Centre Auditorium.

We are looking for volunteers for any part of the day you are available including setting up the displays prior to the event start time and taking down the displays at the end of the day. Please see Elizabeth Ismail if you are able to help out.



AURORA



Volume 42, No. 7

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre

April 2017

Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 16, 2017
7:30 p.m.

at

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

Speaker: Tom Sobocan

Topic: "2017 Total Solar Eclipse"

Upcoming Events

Lyrid Meteor Shower: Peaks on the morning of Saturday April 22nd with a favourable moon phase for observing this shower.

Moon Occultation: The Moon occults Aldebaran in the afternoon (from 12:25 - 1:30 p.m.) on Friday April 28th.

Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower: Peaks overnight on Friday May 5/6 however moonlit skies will interfere.

Jupiter Double Shadow Transits: Season begins again with a brief event on Thursday May 11th at 10:00 p.m..

Science Rendezvous: On Saturday May 13th from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. we will be participating in the annual **Science Rendezvous** activities by hosting a table at the University of Windsor CAW Student Centre in the Auditorium. Weather permitting there will also be telescopes set up outside for safe Solar observing.

Monthly Meeting Minutes March 21, 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 7:29 p.m. and welcomed members and guests to the Ojibway Park Nature Centre.

Motion to accept the minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting was made by Steve Mastellotto, seconded by Mike Mastronardi. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Director of Observing Report

Randy Groundwater welcomed everyone to the meeting. Randy gave a brief overview of the topics that were going to be discussed and introduced Brian Thomas to the floor for the DofO report.

Brian showed 2 videos of the **Aldebaran occultation** shot by Starr. Both videos were taken at the Hallam Observatory with the Henry Lee telescope. A brief commentary and discussion was had post video.

Recently in the media, there are a lot of stories about the newly discovered **Trappist -1** Solar System. The system is located around a small red dwarf star, about 29.5 light years away (817,000 years away with today's technology). The star hosts approximately seven rocky planets, three of which are located within the habitable zone. The star is located in the Aquarius constellation, at magnitude 18.8.

In early April, the **Moon** will be in the first quarter, and full by April 11th. **Mercury** will be at its greatest elongation on April 1st. **Jupiter** is at opposition April 7th, with a magnitude of -2.5. **Saturn** rises around 1:30 a.m. in Sagittarius, with a magnitude of 0.4 located in Virgo.

Comet 41P/Tuttle-Giacobini-Kresak is going to be returning in 2017. Currently in Ursa Major, and will be closest to the Sun and Earth by April 13th, expected to max out at magnitude 3 to 5..

By 2018, almost all of the current **Iridium satellites** will be gone. The current models have about 12 sq. ft. of antenna which are directed towards Earth. These antennas produce what is commonly known as Iridium flares, a reflection of sunlight off the antennae. Soon to be replaced with "Iridium Next". They will have a new antennae arrangement limiting reflected light.

Al DesRosiers was welcomed to the floor to let everyone know about the new rules and regulations regarding **handheld laser pointers**. Documentation can be found on the Government of Canada website.

Break and 50/50 draw: \$5.50 went to **Al DesRosiers** which was donated back to the centre.

Main Presentation

Randy Groundwater welcomed **Nancy Ng** to the floor, to present the ***Australian Aboriginal Sky***. There is evidence that the Aboriginals were living there up to 50,000 years ago. Pre-European contact, there were 500K-700K people, with 600 individual tribes.

The Milky Way would have dominated the night sky, and constellations were named around the galaxy like, **Monster-Water, Hut-River**, and **campfires** along the edges. Stories around the Milky Way included a mystical **Canoe** that took the dead away and into **Baralku**, the spirit island. The Canoe would then return to the Earth via shooting star. **Emu** in the Sky is a recognizable constellation, shaped by the dark gas lines, and the **Coal Sack** as the head.

A common sight in the Australian sky are the **Magellanic Clouds**. They are two dwarf galaxies circling our own. Named after a Portuguese explorer 200 years after his death. To the Australian Aboriginals they were known as the **Prolggi** (cloud crane). As the **Emu** spirit was hunting them, they flew into the sky and found it as a nice place to live, and remained.

The constellation **Orion** is known as the **Three Brothers of the King Fish Clan (Nulkal)**. Seen as a canoe, with Rigel and Betelgeuse being the stern and bow, respectively, the three brothers are the three stars of the belt.

Prior to 1750, there was a very large constellation known as **Argo Navis**. Later in 1930, it was formally listed as 3 separate constellations; **Vela** (sails), **Carina** (hull), **Puppis** (deck)

Randy thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and reminded everyone that the **next regular membership meeting** would take place **April 18th, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**

Randy **adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m..**

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