

by Peter Bondy and carried.

Appointed Positions:	Honorary President	Dr. William Baylis
	Past President	Randy Groundwater
	Librarian	Milica Rakic
	Recording Secretary	David Panton
	Public Education Director	Randy Groundwater
	Public Education Assistant	Michael Ethier
	Public Relations Director	Peter Bondy (2nd VP)
	Newsletter Editor	Ken Garber
	Assistant Newsletter Editor	Dan Anzovino
	Director of Observing	Steve Pellarin
	Assistant Dir. of Observing	Open
	Webmaster	Steve Mastellotto

Awards: The "Windsor Centre Service Award" for 2004 was presented by Steve Mastellotto to Steve Pellarin for his 25 years of very enthusiastic service to Windsor Centre. Steve served well in a variety of positions.

Telescope Bids: Henry Lee's widow donated a brand new Nexstar 8 inch computerized telescope owned but never used by Henry Lee. It was offered to the highest bidder over \$1,000. Art Ray presented the best sealed bid and became its new owner.

Pelee Island Winery: The 2005 event will be held on March 19th. The winery people in conjunction with the Windsor Centre and Dave Ainslie have planned to have a combined winery tour and tasting event featuring a visit and astronomical observations from our observatory. This event will be widely publicized by the winery and visitors can be expected from several states and provinces.

December Social: Steve announced the date and time for the December Pot Luck Social. It will be held at the Maidstone K of C hall on Friday December 3rd, setup starting at 6:30 p.m. and dining at 7:00. Please indicate what you plan to bring on the sign-up form at the desk.

Telescope for Sale: On display and for sale by V. John Beaudoin one 8 inch reflecting telescope on a German mount. It is too large for his new home.

Coffee Break and 50/50 Draw: Tina Chichkan won the draw and turned the prize money back into the club.

Visitors and New Members: Steve introduced and welcomed visitors and new members to the Windsor Centre:

Ken Duncan Rick Marion Ken Beaudreau Joe Lucas

Main Presentation, David Sobocan: David is a highly accomplished photographer and showed a wide variety of astronomical color slides. Best of all he related some of the neat techniques used in capturing them on a single film using multiple exposures. Incredibly, from total recall he related all the camera equipment, exposures and other settings for each shot. The use of tracking devices and various filters, film types and the choice of film developers was included. The final results were stunning photographs, any of which would delight the best photographer.

Steve thanked David for his impressive presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

David J. Panton
Recording Secretary



AURORA



January 2005 The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre Volume 30, Number 4

Flyer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 2005
8:00 p.m.
at
Maidstone K of C Hall
10720 County Road 34 (Old Talbot Road)

Speaker: Dr. Pierre Boulos

Topic: "Einstein"

Upcoming Events

Comet Machholz: Continue to watch this comet through the end of February while it occupies our Northern skies and remains brighter than 6th magnitude.

Saturn: We are now in the prime viewing season for observing Saturn (opposition was on January 13). The ringed planet rides high in our sky next to Castor and Pollux in Gemini.

Council Meeting: The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday February 8 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Steve Mastellotto's house.

Pelee Island Winery Fundraising Event: Saturday March 19, 2005. The evening will include a tour of the Winery with wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, a souvenir and transportation to and from the Hallam Observatory in Comber for an evening of observing. You will also have a chance to win a Gift Basket valued @ \$200.00. Tickets are \$55/person.

General Meeting Minutes November 16, 2004

President, Steve Mastellotto: Steve asked members present to read the minutes from the last meeting. A motion to accept the minutes from the October meeting was made by Peter Bondy, seconded by Kevin Masterson and carried.

Steve reviewed the typical pattern of meetings and noted this meeting was a bit different as it was the Annual Meeting with committee reports and elections.

Reports

Correspondence Secretary, C. Joady Ulrich: Joady had nothing to report.

Treasurer, Ken Garber: Ken produced copies of his annual financial report. He noted he also has to present it in two more formats, one for our National organization and another as a charitable organization to the Ontario Government. A feature of this year's report was large donations from Henry Lee's family, Advantage Engineering and earnings from the Riverside Sportsmen's Club July "all you can eat pasta dinner" event. Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu made a motion to accept Ken's report. Her motion was seconded by C. Joady Ulrich and carried.

Librarian, Milica Rakic: Milica reported she will be able to move all the books to the newly completed bookshelves/cabinets at the observatory. She also mentioned she has four club telescopes available for loan to members at any time.

Newsletter Editor, (Open Position): Steve Mastellotto is producing the Aurora "Flyer" on a temporary basis. Steve Pellarin suggested our Website should be updated to include the Flyer online. Steve Mastellotto will make the necessary updates.

Public Education, Randy Groundwater: All sorts of activities were reported by Randy. With focus on our Hallam observatory, several groups were taken to visits on site. Included were Leamington Girl Guides, a high school group and some public groups. The major event for the year was the very successful farm hiker tour to Dave Ainslie's farm. Several hundred visitors had a chance to visit the observatory. Randy has also made more presentations to schools as did Steve Pellarin and Steve Mastellotto.

Public Relations, Robin Smallwood: Steve Pellarin filled in for Robin. Steve reported lots has happened including two public observing sessions, one at Malden Park and the other at Forest Glade to observe a very spectacular October 27th Lunar eclipse. Others gathered at the observatory to view the eclipse under more ideal conditions. CBC radio's Paul Vasey interviewed Steve regarding astronomy and the coming lunar eclipse. They discussed the possibility of a brief weekly radio program featuring coming night sky events. Peter Bondy's wife used her PR skills to help spread the word and bring public attention to observing the eclipse.

Two very spectacular nights of Aurora Borealis occurred over Windsor separated by a night with only a moderate display.

Light Pollution Committee, Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu and Dan Taylor: Susan and Dan have been participating in a City Hall committee examining ways to reduce light pollution. The proposals being made are positive. Susan pointed out there will be detractors all the way from profit motivated developers to the lighting industry with it's old standards and a vested interest in lighting all that is dark. We can help make changes by supporting the City via contacting City Councilors. Dave Panton gave a brief, somewhat jaundiced presentation on his experiences dealing with the City in a matter involving the preservation of his Old Rose-land residential area. Changing anything at City Hall he said is very difficult. It is worse if

anyone has to spend money. Even if there is a payback as in full cutoff street lighting fixtures using less energy there will be resistance to change especially by developers. Several members made positive comments regarding the importance of better street lighting, cost savings and the fact Windsor has started working on the problem. Randy pointed out light pollution includes objectionable sideways glare from all manner of fixtures.

Near the observatory there are two concerns. Lighting at the planned 401 highway truck stop at Comber and the chance an environmentally desirable wind farm is built nearby. There were fears Transport Canada would require bright flashing lights on the towers or even the spinning blades. Dan Taylor explained many of the issues involving lighting concerns in our area would be handled by Lakeshore Council. They are in favour of reducing light pollution.

National Representative, (Position Open): Steve noted that National is looking for an insurer interested in a blanket policy available to all Centres for property coverage (like observatories). A similar policy is already in place for public liability concerns. He also mentioned the 2005 Observer's Handbook has been printed and mailed.

Observatory Committee, Peter Bondy: Peter enthusiastically described how nice the new Oak cabinets look in the warm room and what a great facility we have in the Hallam observatory. More improvements are on the way and ideas for more are requested. One we would like to do soon is to motorize the dome operation for improved convenience. Additional soil fill has been delivered and spread to help raise the ground on the North side of the driveway and around the building. Observing pads along the driveway, near the warm room will make the facility more user friendly.

Peter reminded members holding observatory access keys to renew their access or turn in their keys if they no longer wish to use the facility.

Director of Observing, Steve Pellarin: Steve reported the exciting events of the past two weeks especially the spectacular Auroral display, better than any seen in Windsor for a very long time. Steve shot 36 rolls of film! The Lunar eclipse was another fabulous event in near perfect skies. Steve reviewed the events coming in the rest of November and the month of December.

Business

Annual Election: As past president, Randy Groundwater presented a list of nominees for the elected positions. Commenting that this was the 60th year of annual elections Randy asked members to consider running for elected office or to volunteer for other positions.

Elected Officers:	President	Steve Mastellotto
	1st Vice President	Dr. Pierre Boulos
	2nd Vice President	Peter Bondy
	Treasurer	Ken Garber
	Secretary	C. Joady Ulrich
	National Council Rep.	Tim Bennett

There were no further nominations. Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu made a motion to accept the nominations as presented by Randy and Steve Pellarin seconded the motion and it was carried.

Councilors:	Rev. Harry Brydon	Steve Pellarin
	Ken Roung	Ellen Ryall
	Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu	Robin Smallwood

A motion to accept the nominations for councilors was made by Tom Sobocan and seconded