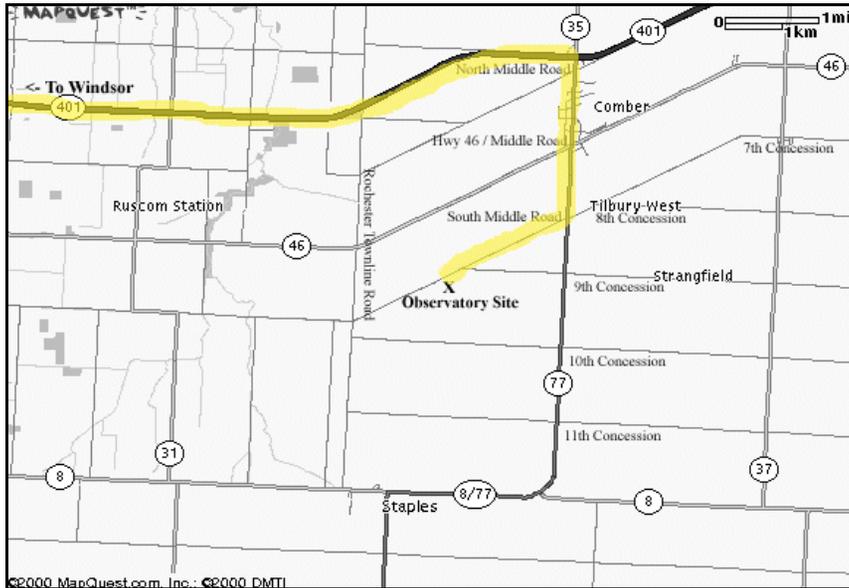


Map to Observatory Site



Above is a map showing the Comber area and it includes the major highways (401, 77, 8 and 46) that are in the area of the observatory. I "highlighted" the most direct route from Windsor on this map which is to take 401 East to Highway 77 South to South Middle Road. While on South Middle Road you will cross some railroad tracks (they just removed the tracks last week) and just after the barely discernable point where Concession 9 joins it you will find the observatory site on the South side of the road. If you hit the Rochester Townline Road (i.e. you come to a stop sign and have to turn left or right) you have gone too far.

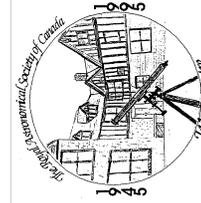
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# AURORA



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre Volume 27, Number 4 December 2001

## Flyer

Next Meeting

### *December Social*

Friday December 7, 2001

Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Setup at 7:00 p.m.

at

St. Stephen's Church

Howard Road, 1.4 kms. South  
of Highway #3

### *Upcoming Events*

**Public Observing Night:** Saturday November 24 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Malden Road and Forest Glade parks.

**Saturn Occultations:** On November 30 at 7:46 p.m. and again on December 28 at 3:56 a.m. Saturn will slip behind the nearly full Moon.

**Partial Eclipse:** On December 14 at 4:10 p.m. the Moon will begin to cover the Sun. Although a partial eclipse is not very spectacular you will have an opportunity to take a picture of the setting Sun, which occurs at 4:45 p.m., with a bite out of it. For Windsor the maximum eclipse of about 25% occurs at sunset.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2001

**President:** Randy Groundwater called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

Tim Bennett/Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu moved adoption of the Minutes of September 18, 2001 as printed. Carried.

Susan also re-capped her light pollution abatement process and current activity. There will be a public session at the Essex Civic Center on Wednesday October 17, 2001.

As Past President, Susan is Chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2002 Council. The proposed Nomination List for the 2002 Council of the RASC-Windsor Centre is shown in the November 2001 Aurora Volume 27, Number 3. This shows that the positions for a Recording Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and an Alternate National Council Representative are required. Interested parties are asked to speak with Susan or Randy.

### Reports

**Treasurer:** Frank Shepley announced that there are a few calendars left and reminded members to renew their membership asap. Just under 2,000 of the 5,000 raffle tickets were sold generating approximately \$1,600 towards the goal of a video projector.

**Librarian:** Tom Sharron has recovered some of the missing slide sets and announced that you will require a drivers license number to borrow significant items such as a telescope in the future.

**Newsletter:** Steve Mastellotto appealed for articles from the membership for the newsletter.

**Observatory:** Peter Bondy announced the approval of a zoning by-law for the building and structure of the Observatory near Comber. This was received enthusiastically. Tim Bennett and his committee are preparing the footings and diggers, a bricklayer, a backhoe with operator are welcome to come place the footings etc. Randy Groundwater is taking names to organize a work party. A brochure is being prepared by Steve Mastellotto which will be used to solicit donations from business and others in support of the Observatory.

**Public Relations:** Robin Smallwood reviewed a successful and well attended fund raiser at Pelee Island Winery where he made a presentation and \$400 was raised for the Observatory.

Saturday November 24, 2001 will be the RASC public observing night at Malden and Forest Glade parks. Please inform Robin if you plan to bring your telescope.

**Public Education:** Randy Groundwater announced that he will be at Camp Henry at Point Pelee on Thursday October 18, 2001.

### Business

Randy reminded us that the Leonids will occur on Saturday night November 17 and early Sunday morning November 18, the estimated best time at 5:01 a.m. on Sunday. A good show is expected as the Earth and North America will face Leo at that time for a premium orientation. Members are welcome to attend at the Observatory site.

The December Social will be December 7, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's church.

At 9:00 p.m. Peter Bondy introduced the process of our fund raising raffle. This was the first attempt ever for our group to raise money in this way. Dr. John Huschilt came forward to draw the winning tickets as follows:

*3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$150 - Amalia Grigorescu*

*2<sup>nd</sup> prize of Bausch & Lomb binoculars - D. A. Montrose*

*1<sup>st</sup> prize of a DVD Player - John Groundwater*

50/50 draw was won by Derek Baines who donated the funds toward the Observatory.

### Meeting Presentation

The presentation by Harry Bryden had to be postponed. Instead, personal observations such as the meteor confirmed by several members, sighted traveling west over Windsor was discussed. Robin Smallwood also explained that in order to use time as shown in the Observers Handbook, all you have to do is remember that 0 = 12 and 12 = 24 which cleared up a lot of things up for this secretary. John Beaudoin gave an excellent slide presentation on the Torrance Barrens Conservation Preserve near Gravenhurst, the mecca for dark sky observation in Ontario. Apparently there has never been any hydro in the area hence it is dark. Excellent access to the horizon from high ground is also available making it an ideal location.

Jack Moncur announced that Felice DesMarais' husband passed away.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 p.m.