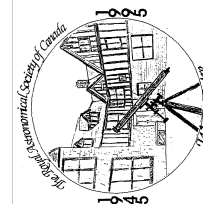


**RASC  
Windsor Centre**  
**Financial Statement  
for year ending September 30, 2016**

	Current	Last Year	Difference
<b>Balance Sheet</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash	4,536.29	5,384.08	- 847.79
Building & equipment	80,000.00	80,000.00	-
	<u>84,536.29</u>	<u>85,384.08</u>	- 847.79
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-	
Accumulated surplus, open	85,384.22	84,307.46	1,076.76
Earnings (loss)	(847.79)	1,076.76	- 1,924.55
Accumulated surplus, close	<u>84,536.43</u>	<u>85,384.22</u>	- 847.79
<b>Statement of Revenue &amp; Expenses</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue - Donations - receipted	934.79	450.18	484.61
Revenue - Donations - not receipted	707.81	378.40	329.41
Revenue - Sale of property or goods and services - scopes	-	350.00	- 350.00
Revenue - Membership fees - National	2,691.45	2,736.12	- 44.67
Revenue - Membership fees - Obs fee	700.00	1,030.00	- 330.00
Revenue - Fundraising - meetings	218.95	172.40	46.55
Revenue - Fundraising - 50/50 draws	145.00	105.75	39.25
Revenue - Fundraising - special events	185.00	418.00	- 233.00
Revenue - Fundraising - pubs	739.00	405.00	334.00
Total revenue	<u>6,322.00</u>	<u>6,045.85</u>	276.15
<b>Expenses</b>			
Expenses - Office supplies and expenses	2.15	199.15	- 197.00
Expenses - Occupancy costs - mtg rental	753.00	725.00	28.00
Expenses - Occupancy costs - obs rent	500.00	500.00	-
Expenses - Occupancy costs - obs utilities	480.00	480.00	-
Expenses - Occupancy costs - obs other	4,631.59	2,473.93	2,157.66
Expenses - Adv & promo	-	-	-
Expenses - Fundraising expenses - meetings	188.55	242.35	- 53.80
Expenses - Fundraising expenses - pubs	500.35	299.66	200.69
Expenses - Social	62.15	-	62.15
Expenses - Honoraria	52.00	49.00	3.00
Expenses - programs	-	-	-
Total expenses	<u>7,169.79</u>	<u>4,969.09</u>	2,200.70
<b>Net Earnings</b>	<u>(847.79)</u>	<u>1,076.76</u>	- 1,924.55

**Treasurer, Greg Mockler** reports that we had a Loss for the year of approximately \$850 although revenue was up about \$276 compared to the previous year due in large part to donations of \$900 following the request for assistance to pay for the repairs to the telescope mount. The unexpected expense to repair the telescope mount was about \$2,300 as of the end of September; if not for this expense we would have had earnings of about \$500 instead of a loss. Our current financial situation is not as strong as last year. If anybody has any questions or concerns about the statement please see Greg.

Please note that you can still make a charitable donation to help offset the unexpected cost to repair the telescope mount. Any donations made before the end of the year will be eligible for a charitable donation receipt which can be used on your 2016 tax return.



# Aurora



Volume 42, No. 3

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre

November 2016

## Flyer

### Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2017  
7:30 p.m.

at  
Ojibway Park Nature Centre  
5200 Matchette Road

Speaker: It's a Movie Night!

Movie: "To Be Determined"

### Upcoming Events

**December Social:** Our annual Holiday Party will be held on Friday December 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Ojibway Park Nature Centre. The dinner is "pot luck" style and will be served around 7:00 p.m.. Please contact Mike Mastronardi at ([michael.mastronardi@stantec.com](mailto:michael.mastronardi@stantec.com)) to coordinate what you will be bringing and confirm the number of people in your party.

**Open House Night at Hallam:** The next open house night at Hallam is on Saturday December 3rd at 7:00 p.m.. The January open house night also begins at 7:00 p.m. on January 7th.

**Geminid Meteor Shower:** Peaks during the full moon on Tuesday December 13th.

**Winter Solstice:** Winter officially begins for the northern hemisphere at 5:44 a.m. EST on Wednesday December 21st.

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2016

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 7:30 p.m. and welcomed members and guests to the Ojibway Park Nature Centre.

**Motion to accept the minutes** of the September 20, 2016 meeting was made by Dr. Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu, seconded by Brian Thomas. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Randy Groundwater** welcomed everyone to the meeting. Randy gave a brief overview of the topics which were going to be discussed and introduced **Brian Thomas** to provide his presentation of the D of O Report.

### Director of Observing Report

Brian started off with recent observations over the last month. **Hallam Open House** was very well received by the public with well over 60 visitors. Leo is visible in the early morning well into the east. Photo submissions from various members were shown. Susan had a few **solar images** with her new double stack Coronado 60mm solar telescope. The **aurora** were also visible throughout the week of October 14<sup>th</sup> in lower latitudes as far as Tilbury, Ontario.

**Rosetta spacecraft** orbiting the comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko along with its lander Philae, mission has ended. It had done so by an intentional de-orbit, resulting in a crash on the surface. One of the last images taken was at an altitude of 51 meters.

Facing south on November 1<sup>st</sup>, we are heading into “the void”. From city lights, the sky is easily washed out by the lights. Looking east a lot of the **winter constellations** are starting to rise. In the north, the big dipper is very low on the horizon, with **Cassiopeia** slowly rising. At dawn, as the sky just starts to brighten, the winter constellations are bright and high overhead.

We have a couple **meteor showers** coming up, as well as a **super moon** on November 14<sup>th</sup>. **Uranus** can be spotted with the unaided eye in Pisces (at a dark sky similar to Hallam).

A few highlights to lookout for in the next few weeks include; the **Owl cluster**, **Caroline's Rose (NGC 7789)**, and **M52** all within Cassiopeia. If you have a chance to look through a large aperture telescope, point towards **NGC 246** in Cetus, it is known as the **Skull Nebula**. It is a large, dim planetary nebula

around 1600LY away. This may be difficult to see due to it being only 35 degrees above the horizon.

**Rick Marion** was welcomed to the floor to present the upcoming 2017 elections. A proposal was shown with the **slate of executive and members of council** along with a number of open positions. Rick indicated that if anyone was interested in serving on council for 2017 so see him or Randy to have their name put forward at the **November Annual General Meeting**.

**Break and 50/50 draw:** \$6.50 went to Greg Mockler which was donated back to the centre.

### Main Presentation

Randy introduced **John Marn, Hallam Observatory Director**, to give a presentation on the repair of the Henry Lee telescope mount at the Hallam Observatory. A series of photos logged the **events and repairs** that took place over the summer. The mount started to show **intermittent problems** in the late spring when occasional errors would occur when trying to slew or move the scope. These were easily overcome by resetting the mount. By June the issues were getting much **more frequent** and the side pane of the mount was opened to inspect the internal wiring. A large **nest of mice** was discovered inside the mount. After removing the nest material and a thorough cleaning of the circuit boards and encoders it was thought the issue was resolved but the **intermittent issues soon returned**. After discussions with Software Bisque (the manufacturer of the mount) a replacement and **upgraded circuit boards were purchased** and replaced. Even though this included replacement of some of the internal wiring it did not include new wiring for the motors and encoders. During the installation it was discovered that those wires would also need to be replaced. After ordering the new parts John Marn created **new wiring harness for the motor** and after installation everything is back to great working order.

During this process everything was completely removed from the mount, cleaned and reinstalled, the mount was re-greased and re-leveled and polar aligned, the computer software was upgraded and new wiring was run to the mount. Although this was an **expensive repair** the mount has been **refurbished** and should continue to provide a **number of years of reliable service**.

Randy thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and reminded everyone that our **next regular membership meeting** would take place **November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.** and that it was also our **Annual General Meeting**.

Randy **adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m..**

Recorded by Dan Perissinotti, RASC Windsor Centre Secretary