

## General Meeting Minutes (continued)

Rev. Harry Brydon thanked Dr. Boulos for his well researched and presented story of Kepler's work. Steve Mastellotto's aid via a laptop computer for the visual portions also received thanks.

**Additional donations:** Randy advised that there had been a very gratifying response to his request for more support. A total of \$1,100 was pledged during break period.

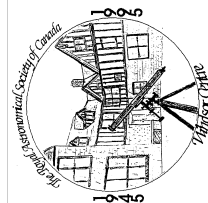
### They Will Be Missed:

Harry also noted the passing of two long time members, John McDermott and Dave Marchand. Randy Groundwater spoke of John's life and keen interest in astronomy. He also commented on how John's annual quiz for members help remind all of us how much diverse information is contained in the RASC Annual Observer's Handbook.

Frank Shepley spoke well of Dave Marchand saying "there goes another friend". Dave's many talents and interests were fondly enumerated by Frank.

Harry then read the 7th Psalm and ended the meeting with a prayer. He then dedicated the meeting in memory of John and Dave.

Meeting Adjourned.



# Aurora



Volume 27, Number 6  
The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Windsor Centre  
February 2002

## Flyer

### Next Meeting

Tuesday February 19, 2002

8:00 p.m.

at

St. Stephen's Church

Howard Road, 1.4 kms. South  
of Highway #3

Speaker: TBD

Topic: "TBD"

### Upcoming Events

**Council Meeting:** Tuesday February 12, 2002  
beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Steve Mastellotto's house.

**Saturn Occultation:** On Wednesday February 20, 2002 at 7:12 p.m. EST the first quarter Moon will occult Saturn. Watch Saturn as the Moon approaches with the dark limb leading and as it slowly disappears at about the 10 o'clock position.

**Asteroids:** January and February are good months to search out some of the brighter members of this group of objects with Juno, Vesta, Flora and Metis coming to opposition. See page 198 of the Observer's Handbook for details.

## UNIVERSAL SCIENCE

Windsor's Astronomy And More Store

*We are operating on a pick-up and delivery system  
Competitive pricing on MEADE, CELESTRON and SKY-  
WATCHER scopes and accessories*

Bausch & Lomb Legacy 7 x 50 binoculars. Regularly \$179. **Now \$139!!!**  
Adlerblick binoculars now available. Call for details.

Contact Robin Smallwood

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. - Noon, Closed Sunday

Telephone: (519) 967-1655 Fax: (519) 967-1657

Email: unisci@sympatico.ca



## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 21, 2001

**President:** Randy Groundwater opened the meeting and requested and received a motion to accept the minutes from last month's meeting. It was carried.

### Reports

**Secretary, Joady Ulrich:** Joady reported there was no correspondence during the past month.

**Treasurer, Frank Shepley:** Frank gave an income and expense statement for the period 10/01/2000 to 09/30/2001. Frank further noted the lottery had produce about \$1,600. The Comber Observatory project expenses to date have amounted to \$3,500, a portion of which is refundable from Lakeshore building permit costs. Generally finances are in good condition especially considering the observatory project was started during the fiscal year. The Trillium fund is hoped to assist in completing the project. A request to accept the financial report was made, seconded by Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu and carried.

**Newsletter Editor, Steve Mastellotto:** Steve commented he is in constant need of members notes and articles for the newsletter.

**Public Relations Director, Robin Smallwood:** Robin reported a public observing night has been organized for the night of November 24 between 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. at both Malden Park and Forest Glade locations. Volunteers were set to bring telescopes. No rain date was planned due to approaching winter weather.

**Director of Observing, Robin Smallwood:** Told about the adventures of several members trying to observe the Leonid meteor shower the night of November 17/18 from the Comber Dome site. Their efforts were especially frustrating, looking up into a cloudless sky through a surrounding and deepening layer of dense ground fog. From 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. large numbers of spectacular meteors were seen by sequentially moving to three further locations in the Leamington area each time escaping the slowly spreading dense fog blanket.

Robin, ably assisted by Steve Mastellotto on a laptop computer loaded with "Starry Night Pro" projected excellent simulations of the Moon-Saturn occultations coming in November and December.

**Light Pollution Committee, Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu:** Susan has had contact with the Essex County Planning Board's Len Doyle, suggesting full cutoff lighting fixtures be used in the plan for improvements to Hwy 3 intersections.

Earth Tech Canada Inc. is doing a "Class Environmental Study" on the highway.

### Business

**President, Randy Groundwater:** With agreement from members, Randy set the December 7 Social date and time at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church. Pot luck foods should be chosen keeping in mind the kitchen is not available for cleanup due to major renovations.

Randy reported that three major Public Education presentations had been held during the year. One was done at Camp Henry at two at the University of Windsor, one for Retirees and another for the Faculty of Education. Smaller events were held for Scouts. Randy reminded members to share their interests and enthusiasm with others as part of the obligations set out by the RASC.

**Elections:** The Nominating Committee headed by Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu presented a Proposed Nomination List for 2002 Council (see January issue of a Aurora for 2002 council). Elections were held and all positions filled per the list. No nominations from the floor were received.

The empty Recording Secretary slot in the Appointed Officers roles was filled by volunteer Dave Panton.

**Comber Observatory Name:** Randy Groundwater asked for suggestions to name the Comber Observatory. Assigning a name will be a task for the new year.

**Comber Observatory Funding:** Prior to break period, Randy told us about receiving \$4,500 in generous unsolicited donations. Then he asked if there were any way further such assistance could be made by members. They were asked to contact Frank Shepley during break.

**50-50 draw:** was won by Robin Smallwood. In turn Robin donated the prize money of \$9.50 back to the club.

**Speaker for the evening:** Dr. Pierre J. Boulous, Randy introduced Dr. Boulous from the University of Windsor. Dr. Boulous gave an excellent account about the efforts of Kepler in his "Attack on Mars" work in which he tried to solve the problem of apparent variations in it's orbit. His work, under very trying circumstances eventually led Kepler to work out "Kepler's Law" in orbital mechanics.

(Continued on page 4)