

A. L. P. O. LUNAR METEOR SEARCH

YEAR	MONTH	DATE	TIME	STATION	TELESCOPE	POWER	REMARKS
1958	JAN	24	30	5	4 1/4" RFL		
	FEB	22	45	5	4 1/4" RFL		
	APR	22	7	1	3 1/4" RFR	30	
	MAY	21	10	4	12" RFL	48	
	MAY	23	30	1	3 1/4" RFR	30	
	JUN	22	28	11	4" RFL	42	
	AUG	19	30	1	3 1/4" RFR.	30	
	OCT	15	25	1	3 1/4" RFR	30	
	NOV	13	31	5	4 1/4" RFL	37	
	DEC	13	45	5	4 1/4" RFL	37	
	DEC	14	38	5	4 1/4" RFL	37	
	DEC	15	43	5	4 1/4" RFL	37	
	1959	FEB	11	45	5	4 1/4" RFL	37
APR		11	45	5	8" RFL	50	
APR		12	50	5	8" RFL	50	
APR		13	50	5	8" RFL	50	
MAY		12	5	5	8" RFL	50	
JUN		11	5	5	8" RFL	50	
JUL		12	4	5	8" RFL	50	
JUL		13	30	5	8" RFL	50	
AUG		11	30	5	8" RFL	50	
SEP		8	30	5	8" RFL	50	
SEP		9	15	5	8" RFL	50	
NOV		5	10	5	8" RFL	50	
DEC		4	34	5	8" RFL	50	

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

LUNAR METEOR PROJECT

In this programme the Montreal Centre cooperates with the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers (the A.L.P.O.) by making systematic observations of the moon in an attempt to establish the origin of occasional bright flashes seen on the unilluminated portion of the crescent moon. It has been suggested that these flashes might be due to the impact of meteors on the moon's surface. Unconfirmed reports, however, are of little value and it is hoped that this programme will eventually provide enough statistics from which to draw conclusions.

Members participating in the programme are expected to observe for a period of one hour on two or three dates each month before the moon has reached the first quarter phase. They are notified in advance of the specified dates and times and are given a supply of forms on which to report observations. The flashes are few and far between and the observer must not become discouraged if he observes for many hours without seeing any. Reports should be completed for every period of observation, though, even when there are no flashes to report, for the value of negative reports cannot be over-emphasized. For instance, if two persons observing from widely separated points both report a flash seen at the same time and in the same location on the moon's surface, their reports would support the meteor impact theory. If, however, a flash reported by one observer is not seen by a person observing from another location, the negative report would indicate that the flash was of terrestrial origin. From the scientific viewpoint, it is just as important - though possibly not as much fun! - to prove that the flashes are not due to meteor impact. A number of factors, such as seeing conditions, size of telescope, experience of observer, have to be taken into consideration, of course, in analysing reports.

Most people find it difficult to stay at the eyepiece of a telescope for a solid hour. Any time off to rest the eyes, change position, adjust telescope, etc., should be noted on the report form. Some observers prefer to work in pairs. If so, the time at which observers change should be noted, too, for it might be at that exact moment that a flash is seen by an observer in another location. Interruptions due to clouds and seeing conditions should also be noted. In short, the report form must give the exact periods when the moon was under observation. While split-second timing is not a requirement, clocks or watches used should be checked to some reliable source. The report form also indicates the details required if or when a flash is seen.

Please mail completed reports as soon as possible to the undersigned who will forward them to the A.L.P.O. after first making notes for the Centre's own records.

(Miss) Mary MacKenzie, Chairman
Lunar Observations Section,
Observation Committee,
24 Easton Avenue, Montreal West,
Montreal 28, Que.

Telephone: HU.1-3738.

~~George Diedrich,
653, Weller Rd.,
Elyria, Ohio,
U.S.A.~~

x

~~Marc Choquette,
1930, Bedard St.,
Jacques-Cartier, Que.~~

OR 7-1256

x

~~Roger Goudreau,
517, Plessis,
Montreal, Que.~~

LA 5-1304

~~Ronald Jessup,
361, Melrose Ave.,
Verdun, Que.~~

PO 6-2809

x

ROBERT M. ADAMS

~~ADAMS~~

VIC

~~CONSTANTINE~~

LUNA METEOR SCHEDULE 1958

JAN 22, 23,	WED. THUR.	6	TO	7	P.M.	STANDARD TIME	EDT
FEB 21, 22,	FRI. SAT	6	"	7	"	"	"
MAR. 22, 23,	SAT. SUN	7	"	8	"	"	"
APR. 20, 21	SUN, MON.	7	"	8	"	"	"
MAY 21, 22	WED. THUR.	7	"	8	"	"	" 8-9
JUNE 20, 21	FRI. SAT.	7	"	8	"	"	" 8-9
JULY 19, 20	SAT. SUN.	7:30		8:30		"	" 8 1/2 - 9 1/2
AUG. 17, 18	SUN. MON.	7	TO	8		"	" 8-9
SEPT. 16, 17	TUES, WED.	6	"	7		"	" 7-8
OCT. 15, 16	WED. THUR.	6	"	7		"	" 7-8
NOV. 13, 14	THUR. FRI.	5:30		6:30		"	"
DEC. 13, 14	SAT. SUN.	6	TO	7		"	"

JAN. 14, 15	TUES, WED.	3	TO	4	A.M.	STANDARD TIME	
FEB. 12, 13	WED. THUR.	3	"	4	"	"	"
MAR. 14,	FRI.	3:30		4:30		"	"
15,	SAT.	4	"	5		"	"
APR. 13,	SUN.	3	"	4		"	"
14,	MON.	4	"	5		"	"
MAY 14, 15	WED, THUR.	3	"	4		"	"
JUNE 13,	FRI.	2:30		3:30		"	"
14,	SAT,	3	"	4		"	"
JULY 13, 14	SUN, MON.	3	"	4		"	"
AUG. 11, 12	MON, TUES,	3	"	4		"	"
SEPT. 10,	WED.	3	"	4		"	"
11,	THUR.	4	"	5		"	"
OCT. 9,	THUR.	3	"	4		"	2"
10,	FRI.	4	"	5		"	"
NOV. 6,	THUR.	4	"	5		"	"
7,	FRI.	4:30		5:30		"	"
DEC. 7, 8,	SUN, MON.	5	"	6		"	"

IT IS ASSUMED THAT IN THE A.M. SCHEDULE THE TIME IS THE A.M.

FOLLOWING THE P.M. OF THE DATE GIVEN, i.e 5:00 A.M. DEC .7 IS THE NIGHT OF DEC.7 TO 8 AND 5:00 A.M. DEC, 8 IS THE NIGHT OF DEC. 8 TO 9.

(DATED AS ABOVE WE DO NOT FAIL TO SET THE ALARM CLOCK)

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

January 20, 1958.

Dear *Geoffery*

Lunar Meteor Schedule for the first three months of 1958 is enclosed. Sorry to be so late in sending you this but Miss MacKenzie is ill and I am pinch-hitting for her.

You may find that for your particular location the moon sets too early on the first dates shown for January and March for you to observe for the full hour. If that is the case, just get in as much of the hour as you can and then concentrate on the next two dates.

Please mail your reports to Miss MacKenzie in the usual way. Would you make a special point of sending them in promptly as Miss MacKenzie doesn't feel up to doing a lot of telephoning.

Yours sincerely,

Steve

LUNAR METEOR SCHEDULE

Jan. 22, 1958	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00 P.M. E.S.T.
23	Thursday	6.00 - 7.00
24	Friday	6.00 - 7.00
Feb. 21, 1958	Friday	6.00 - 7.00
22	Saturday	6.00 - 7.00
23	Sunday	6.00 - 7.00
Mar. 22, 1958	Saturday	7.00 - 8.00
23	Sunday	7.00 - 8.00
24	Monday	7.00 - 8.00

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

March 13, 1958.

Mr. M. Greenspon,
1, Main Street,
Hawkesbury, Ont.

Dear Mr. Greenspon:

Miss Williamson has asked me to take over the job of forwarding the Lunar Meteor reports to Mr. Robert Adams of the A.L.P.O. In future would you please mail your reports to me at the address below?

This letter is also to remind you that the observing dates for March are the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. (Next Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.) Also, please note that the times are from 7 to 8 P.M. due to the sun's setting later. I hope that you will be able to observe on these dates.

I don't know whether you have been informed that all our observers have been assigned station numbers. Your number is 9, so would you please mark 'Station No. 9' on all your future report forms.

In the latest issue of 'The Strolling Astronomer', the journal of the A.L.P.O., Mr. Robert Adams had some nice words for the Montreal Centre's observers. It is nice to know that our hours spent out in the cold are contributing to the advance of science.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Caherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Que.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Montreal Centre

April 11, 1958.

Dear

The lunar meteor schedule for the next few months is as follows:

April 20, 1958	Sunday	7:00 - 8:00 P.M. E.S.T.
21	Monday	7:00 - 8:00
22	Tuesday	7:00 - 8:00
May 21, 1958	Wednesday	8:00 - 9:00 P.M. E.D.T.
22	Thursday Thursday	8:00 - 9:00
23	Friday	8:00 - 9:00
June 20, 1958	Friday	8:00 - 9:00 P.M. E.D.T.
21	Saturday	8:00 - 9:00
22	Sunday	8:00 - 9:00

Please try to observe on as many of the above dates as possible and send your reports promptly to me. Do not bother converting the Daylight times given for May and June back to Standard as this only leads to confusion and errors.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Bydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Montreal Centre

April 13, 1958.

Mr. Robert Adams,
324, S. Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I have been asked by the Montreal Centre of the R.A.S.C. to take over our Lunar Meteor Search section.

Enclosed you will find two reports for the month of January and five for February. These, as far as I know, will bring the observations up to date. Unfortunately, we were clouded out completely in March. However, with Spring apparently here, and clear skies for a change, I hope the April dates will be clear.

I am afraid that I, personally, will not be able to observe for the next few months. I sent my 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch mirror away to be refigured and have been informed that it may take ten weeks. This leaves me with only a 2" refractor to observe with. On top of this, I find that the new moon sets behind a tree at my house! I am now trying to find a partner who is better set up than me.

I have not been able to get a copy of the July-October issue of 'The Strolling Astronomer' but I hear that you have said some nice words about your Montreal observers there. On behalf of the rest of us, I would like to thank you for this.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Caherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

April 30, 1958.

Dear

On checking the Lunar Meteor schedule given to us by the A.L.P.O., it was found that the times had been chosen without reference to time of sunset. Hence, a new schedule has been made up. PLEASE IGNORE THE SCHEDULE DATED APRIL 11th AND USE THIS ONE INSTEAD. All times are E.D.T.

May 21, 22, 23 (Wed., Thur., Fri.) 9:00 - 10:00 P.M.

June 20, 21, 22 (Fri., Sat., Sun.) 9:30 - 10:30 P.M.

July 20, 21 (Sun., Mon.) 9:00 - 10:00 P.M.

Please try to observe on as many of these dates as possible. Let's hope that the weather will be better than for March and April.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty Jr., Chairman,
Lunar Meteor Search Section,
Observation Committee.
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
Telephone: DE. 2402.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

May 1, 1958.

Mr. George Diedrich, Chairman,
A. A. V. S. O. Nova Search Division,
653, Weller Road,
Elyria, Ohio,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Diedrich:

In your letter of April 15 to Mr. Robert M. Adams, the A. L. P. O. Lunar Meteor Search Section Chairman, a copy of which was received by the Montreal Centre of the R. A. S. C., you stated that you would like to observe for lunar meteors at the same time as the Montreal Centre. Therefore you will find enclosed a copy of our schedule for the next three months.

I am certainly glad to hear that you observed on one of the March dates as we were completely clouded out on these, as well as the first two for April. On the third April date, Miss Williamson and I managed to get in 17 minutes between clouds.

I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you how much I enjoy participating in your Nova Search programme. I am at present studying for exams and do not have much time to devote to astronomy. However, I can always spare the few minutes required to check over my areas.

I hope you will be able to watch for lunar meteors in the months to come.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Montreal Centre

June 20, 1958.

Mr. Robert Adams,
324, S. Valley,
Neesho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed please find Lunar Meteor reports for April 22 (1), May 21 (3), and May 23 (3). I am sorry to be so late in sending them in but I have just finished writing exams and have had very little time for astronomy.

Unfortunately we were completely clouded out on all the April dates, except for the last one, on which Miss Williamson and I managed to observe the moon for 17 minutes between cloud banks. At that time we were surprised at the brightness of the sky and on checking times of sunset for the next few months discovered that the times on your schedule were much too early, the sun being above the horizon for three-quarters of the hour in one case. Therefore, a new schedule was made up and sent to my observers. A copy was also sent to George Diedrich who wanted to observe at the same time as the Montreal Centre. The May dates were changed to 9:00 to 10:00 E.D.T.; the June ones to 9:30 to 10:30; and the July dates to 9:00 to 10:00.

Two of the nights in May were fairly good. On the 21st K. Brasch, I. K. Williamson, and myself observed with the 12 inch reflector belonging to the Montreal Centre. This telescope is located at the Centre's observatory and is normally not used much as it has a poor mounting and requires two people to set it up and operate it. We will try to use it as often as possible in the future. I will try to use it tonight if the sky stays clear, and possibly on the next two nights. The observations for May are complete as far as I know except for two reports from Tom Roseworthy which seem to have been lost in the mails. I phoned him last night and he cannot remember the times he observed.

Robert Adams, June 20, 1952, page 2.

I am afraid that there will be a delay in the mailing of the June reports as I am sailing for England on the 24th. I will mail you any reports received by then, and the rest when I return in a month's time.

As I finish writing this letter the skies are still clear except for some light clouds. I hope that they will stay that way for at least three more days.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
June 23, 1958.

Dear Miss Williamson:

Here are the Lunar Meteor Reports from Mrs. Yane and myself with file copies. You may also find some more reports enclosed if any arrive tomorrow morning. (That is one of the strangest sentences that I have ever seen. I hope you can figure out what it means!)

The addresses of the stations not on the list are as follows:

Station No.	Location	Observers	Tel. No.
10	1930, Bedard St.,	Jacques-Cartier M.Choquette R.Goudreau	OR 7-1256 LA 5-1304
11	361, Melrose Ave.,	Verdun R.Jessup	PO 6-2809
12	8545, L'Acadie Blvd.,	Town of Mt. Royal K.R.Brasch	GR 6-4238
13	4655, Cavendish Blvd.,	Mtl. 28 D.Sands	DE 7293
14	49, Point Cyr, Ste. Rose de Laval	Mrs. M.I.Yane R. LeMarier	HU 8-8333 / ???

Mr. Warren is in Europe but will be back July 2. I seem to remember Mr. Jessup saying that he was going into the hospital for an operation. The Sundells will try to observe the July dates from Vermont. If you would try to notify the others a few days before the July dates, I would appreciate it very much.

Try to get David to observe next month. I found that his telescope performed very well. His main difficulty is his lack of a finder and the fact that his lowest power is 65x. I used one of my own eyepieces to get a lower power for lunar meteors.

Copies of last month's reports and my letter to Bob Adams are in the file at the observatory. In case you want to get in touch with me while I am in England, my address will be the Savoy Hotel in London. Thanks again for taking over my duties for the month I am away. My sister will send you any reports that come in.

Yours sincerely,

		Sun	Moon
Aug	17 7 -8	7:05	8:15
	18	7:03	8:49
	19	7:01	9:26
Sep	16 6 -7	6:11	8:04
	17	6:09	8:49
	18	6:07	9:39
Oct	15 6 -7	5:17	7:29
	16	5:16	8:23
	17	5:14	9:22
Nov	13 5½-6½	4:34	7:06
	14	4:33	8:08
	15	4:32	9:12
Dec	13 6 -7	4:19	7:58
	14	4:19	9:03
	15	4:20	10:07

~~7:00-8~~

7:15-8:15

6½-7½

✓

✓

✓

$$\frac{500}{20} \times \frac{20}{100} = \frac{3}{100} = 13.3$$

6+6
 10BE
 10.20
 8.52
 15.42
 8.52
 10.20
 8.52

$$\frac{8.52}{3} = 2.84$$

$$\frac{500 \times 20}{100} = 100$$

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Montreal Centre
Lunar Meteor Search Section

July 29, 1958.

Dear

Here is the Lunar Meteor Schedule for the next few months:

Aug. 17 (Sun.)	8:00 - 9:00 P.M. E.D.T.
Aug. 18, 19 (Mon. Tue.)	8:15 - 9:15 P.M. E.D.T.
Sep. 16, 17, 18 (Tue. Wed. Thu.)	7:30 - 8:30 P.M. E.D.T.
Oct. 15, 16, 17 (Wed. Thu. Fri.)	7:00 - 8:00 P.M. E.D.T.

In future any reports not received by one week after the last date for the month will be forwarded with the next month's reports.

In closing, I'd like to quote the following from Bob Adams' last letter to me: "Not being critical of anyone but I still repeat that the reports of your group are still the best...I only wish we had another group like yours!"

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

August 28, 1958.

Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed please find 13 Lunar Meteor reports: 5 for June 22 from stations 7, 9, 10, 11, 12; 3 for July 21 from stations 1, 2, 8; and 5 for August 19 from stations 1, 2, 10, 11, 13. Also enclosed is a copy of the form letter which I sent out to my observers which shows the changes in times which were necessary for the August and September dates. The times for the rest of the year are satisfactory. (Please excuse me quoting from your letter!)

You will notice that I have added 4 more stations, bringing the total number to 13. Here are the details of the various additions:

10: Location: 8545, L'Acadie Blvd., Town of Mt. Royal, Montreal.

Location on map: In section H6 on De L'Acadie Blvd. between Sleane & Revere Aves. on right hand side of street.

11: Location: 4655, Cavendish Blvd., Montreal 28.

Location on map: In section D5 on Cavendish Blvd. between Somerled and Terrebonne, $\frac{1}{4}$ of block from Somerled on right side of street.

12: Location: 49, Point Cyr, Ste. Rose de Laval, Quebec.

Location on map: Not on map. This is Mrs. Yaneb summer home. It is approximately 15 miles NW of the centre of Montreal.

13: Location: Montgomery Centre, Vermont, U.S.A.

Location on map: Long. & Lat. are on the report form and are taken approximately from the U.S. Geodetic Survey map. This is the Sundell's summer home.

Stations 10 & 11 will be in use all year round while 12 & 13 will be only in the summer.

Robert W. Adams, August 28, 1958, page 2.

I am sorry to be sending the reports in so late but with my trip to England and all things were a bit disrupted. You will notice that I have put a one week deadline on observer's reports. This should speed things up considerably, and in future I hope that any month's reports will be in your hands within two weeks at the most.

Incidentally, I had a very good time while in England. I visited the London Planetarium, Greenwich Observatory, the new Royal Observatory at Herstmonceux, and toured the Sir Howard Grubb, Parsons works at Newcastle where I saw the 48" mirror for Victoria (described in the latest R.A.S.C. Journal) being rough ground and a 76" mirror for Japan being edged. Unfortunately, I did not have time to visit the Continent.

I am still unable to observe the new moon from my house due to a beautiful old maple tree which unfortunately is on our neighbours' property. However, we are building a new garage and I should be able to set up on its roof. I think this will give me a better western horizon.

I think that we have done quite well as far as numbers of reports go in the last few months, considering that most people are away on vacation. Things should really perk up as soon as people start coming back to town. I'll send the September reports in as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

Lunar Meteor Search Section

Annual Report to Director of Observations (October 1957 - September 1958):

In the Lunar Meteor Search project, K. Brasch, E. Danson, E. Fraser, G. Gaherty, M. Greenspon, R. LeMarier, M. MacKenzie, T. Noseworthy, B. Rawlings, D. Sands, R. Sundell, S. Sundell, F. Vickerson, W. Warren, I. K. Williamson, D. Yane, G. Yane, and K. Zorge observed on sixteen of the nights assigned by the A.L.P.O. for a total of 37 hours and 16 minutes, during which 5 lunar flashes were observed. The reports of these observations have been forwarded to Mr. Robert Adams of the A.L.P.O. who has often said that he considers the Montreal Centre's observations as the best that he receives.

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr., Chairman.

636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

HU. 4-2402.

September 29, 1958.

Station No. Give station number assigned to you. If this is your first observation, leave this space blank. Station numbers are only assigned after first report is handed in.

Date of Observation Do NOT give the double date required for most other programmes. The single date is preferable.

Time Used Give abbreviation of time zone to which your clock is set. E.g.: E.S.T. (Eastern Standard Time); E.D.T. (Eastern Daylight Time).

Telescope Used Give diameter of objective or mirror and type of instrument (Refractor or reflector)

Power Give magnification of eyepiece used. A low power, between 30x and 50x is desirable.

Time Mark beginning and end of each period of observation. The 24 hour system should ~~not be used as it is obvious from the date whether it is A.M. or P.M.~~

Transparency Indicate visibility of moon by ~~any of~~ these words: Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, and Excellent.

Remarks Note whether earthshine is visible or not, also visibility of easily identified craters like Aristarchus. Give more detailed description of weather conditions if necessary.

Details of Flashes Seen Time of Appearance: Give time as accurately as possible *and state approximate accuracy*

Direction of Trail: Give direction in relation to moon. Horns of crescent point East in evening, West in morning, *Louk is at top in most telescopes.*

Duration: in seconds.

Brightness: Compare with star of known brightness as seen in telescope using same magnification.

Lunar Position: Try to get Long. and Lat. of flash. Failing this, make a sketch on back of form *and write P.T.O. in the space*

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Montreal Centre
Lunar Meteor Search Section

October 26, 1958.

Dear Dear

Here are the Lunar Meteor dates up to the end of the year:

November 13, 1958	Thursday	5:30 - 6:30 P.M. E.S.T.
14	Friday	5:30 - 6:30
15	Saturday	5:30 - 6:30
December 13, 1958	Saturday	6:00 - 7:00 P.M. E.S.T.
14	Sunday	6:00 - 7:00
15	Monday	6:00 - 7:00

Please try to observe on as many of these dates as possible and send your reports promptly to me.

In the year ending September 30th, 18 observers observed for a total of 37 hr. 16 min. on 16 nights during which 5 flashes were seen, none of which were confirmed by other observers. All this may seem a bit discouraging, but we must remember that most scientific theories can only be tested by a long period of research.

If any unusual lighting effects are seen on the moon during these observations would you please make a note of them as Bob Adams is interested in receiving such reports.

A number of observers have been forgetting to put their station numbers on their reports. Your station number is . (Note: When submitting reports for the first time, leave this space blank as station numbers are not assigned until at least one report has been received.)

There still seems to be some confusion over 'Time Used'. All that is required in this space is either E.S.T. or E.D.T. as the case may be. No attempt should be made to convert from one time to the other. In giving the actual periods of observation please use 24 hour time, 0 hr. at midnight.

theories can only be proved or disproved through much long and patient research.

I would like to clear up a couple of ambiguous points concerning the report forms. A number...

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

tel: 40. 4-2402

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Montreal Centre

Lunar Meteor Search Section

October 26, 1958.

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If any unusual lighting effects are seen on the moon during these observations, would you please make a note of them as Bob Adams is interested in receiving such reports.

I would like to clear up a few ambiguous points concerning the report forms. A number of observers have been forgetting to put their station numbers on their reports. Your station number is . (Note: When submitting reports for the first time, leave this space blank as station numbers are not assigned until at least one report has been received.)

There still seems to be some confusion over ~~Time Used~~ ^{Use} All that is required in this space is either E.S.T. or E.D.T. as the case may be. No attempt should be made to convert from one time to the other. In giving actual periods of observation, please use 24 hour time, 0 hr. at midnight.

In the year ending September 30th, 18 observers observed for a total of 37 hr. 16 min. on 16 nights, during which 5 flashes were seen, none of which were confirmed by other observers. All this may seem a bit discouraging, but we must remember that most scientific theories can only be proved or disproved through much long and patient research, *the meteor impact theory being no exception.*

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
Tel.: HU. 4-2402.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Montreal Centre

Lunar Meteor Search Section

October 29, 1958.

Mr. R. M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Mo.,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I received your card this morning. I am very sorry to have been so delinquent in writing to you, but the truth is that I have had very little to report. Nonetheless, you will find enclosed four Lunar Meteor reports.

In September, we were completely clouded out on all three nights. (One of these was supposed to be our annual Star Night, a great disappointment for all concerned.) Through an error on the part of Mrs. Yane, she and Mrs. Zergo observed for three-quarters of an hour on the 19th. She got the dates mixed up, and it was especially unfortunate because had I known, I could easily have arranged to have another team observing at the same time.

On the October dates, we had one second-grade night for which three reports are enclosed. The other two nights were of ~~third~~ that particularly annoying variety in which you can never be quite sure which way they are going to turn out. On the last night in particular, I had my telescope all set up with the WWV times signals going and the moon in the clear. However, exactly 30 seconds after the hour began a solid bank of clouds moved in and that finished that!

As you can see we have not been having very good weather in these parts. We have not had any snow yet but it has been raining continuously for the past week, almost without a break. It is unfortunate that we are essentially limited to observing only two or three days a month, but there seems to be very little we can do about it. (I can't seem to work up enough enthusiasm for one of the morning sessions!)

I have enclosed a copy of my report to the Director of Observations of the Montreal Centre, Mr. F. J. DeKinder (who is an A.A.V.S.O. Solar observer; we seem to be grooming two more of these, one of whom is Klaus Brasch), because I thought you might be interested in the statistics in it.

R. M. Adams, October 29, 1958, page 2.

I thought you might be interested in learning a little about the new observers who have recently begun observing Lunar Meteors. Miss Elspeth Fraser is in her second year at MacDonald College where she is studying education. Klaus Brasch, David Sands, and Bryan Rawlings are all attending high school. All are enthusiastic and their observations can be considered reliable. I have also been sending schedules to several others, but so far with no results.

I think that is about all for now, ~~except~~ ~~the~~ except that I would like to apologize again for not writing you sooner. I have been rather snowed under for the last couple of months with the intricacies of being a freshman at McGill University. I am now getting settled down and should be a bit more regular in my correspondences.

Yours truly,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

December 7th, 1958.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed please find 5 Lunar Meteor reports for November 13. The other two nights in November were completely clouded out. The reports for the 13th overlap nicely which is remarkable seeing that the observations were so early in the evening.

You will notice that I am now able to observe from my house again. I am observing at present from a second floor verandah which is a bit on the wobbly side, but, in the spring, I hope to be able to set up an observatory on the roof of our new garage. Incidentally, I have just ordered an 8-inch reflector from Cave which should be dandy for pulling in the faint lunar meteors.

You have probably read of the discovery of a lunar volcano by the Russians. I do not feel that this in any way invalidates the meteor impact theory. I feel that the lunar craters are formed through a combination of the two forces with the meteors being responsible for the larger craters. Let's hope that we get some positive evidence for our side.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

LUNAR METEOR SCHEDULE

Jan. 11, 1959	Sunday	6:00 - 7:00 P.M. E.S.T.
12	Monday	6:00 - 7:00
13	Tuesday	6:00 - 7:00
Feb. 10, 1959	Tuesday	7:00 - 8:00
11	Wednesday	7:00 - 8:00
12	Thursday	7:00 - 8:00
Mar. 12, 1959	Thursday	7:30 - 8:30
13	Friday	7:30 - 8:30
14	Saturday	7:30 - 8:30

Please try to observe on as many of these dates as possible and send your reports promptly to me. It was rather disappointing to note that in spite of three clear nights last month, reports were received from only four stations. Let's try to do better in the months to come since Bob Adams relies on us as the backbone of this programme.

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
Tel.: HU. 4-2402.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

January 24, 1959.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324, S. Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

First of all, I would like to apologise to you for not writing sooner. The last two months have been a seemingly endless series of exams and I am beginning to forget what a night sky looks like. However, things should be a bit lighter for a few months now, and I may get a chance to use my new telescope which a recent letter from Cave assures me will arrive this week.

Enclosed you will find ten reports for December. Please note that Mr. Warren's report for the 14th was made with binoculars; he observed away from home, and I included the report to show that the spirit was present. As your card implied, we had a miserable time with the January dates, heavy clouds making observations impossible on all three nights.

I have made up a schedule for 1959 following your suggestions in your Strolling Astronomer article. It is as follows:

January 11, 12, 13:	6:00 - 7:00 P.M. E.S.T.
February 10, 11, 12:	7:00 - 8:00
March 12, 13, 14:	7:30 - 8:30
April 11, 12, 13:	8:00 - 9:00
May 11, 12, 13:	8:30 - 9:30
June 11, 12, 13:	9:00 - 10:00
July 11, 12, 13:	9:00 - 10:00
August 9, 10, 11:	8:30 - 9:30
September 7, 8, 9:	7:30 - 8:30
October 6, 7, 8:	7:00 - 8:00
November 3, 4, 5:	6:00 - 7:00
December 2, 3, 4:	6:00 - 7:00

~~ALTERED (DEC 31 JAN 1 1959)~~ ~~5:30 - 6:30~~
You might be interested in the way I obtained this schedule. After trying various rather complicated methods I finally hit on one which is simple and practically foolproof. I used the Graphic Time Table of the Heavens in the January Sky and Telescope. I marked an index card with four half-hour

divisions and ran it down the Time Table choosing dates when sunset and moonset were clear of the outer pair of divisions and the twilight line was to the left of the centre mark. The inner pair of divisions gave the hour of observation. Thus there is always at least half an hour between the observations and moonset and sunset, and there is never twilight for more than half the observations. While this system is hard to describe, it is actually quite simple in practice.

I would like to thank you for the large amount of space you devoted to the Montreal Centre's observations in your Strolling Astronomer article. Except for one typographical error which called Mr. Sundell a 'she' the only other errors were on the part of my observers, in particular Mrs. Yane and Mrs. Zergo. Their correct names are Mrs. M. I. (Dorothy) Yane and Mrs. D. (Katherine) Zergo but they never write them the same way twice. Also, Mrs. Zergo's handwriting turns 'Yane' into 'Yeme'. G. Yeme is Gerald Yane, Mrs. Yane's son. Now that I am sending you copies of the forms I receive these errors will be prevented. (This is not supposed to criticize you, it was only through the help of the telephone book that I discovered the name of the person who observed with Mrs. Zergo on December 13!)

Thank you for sending Fred Garland's address. I will send him copies of our observing form, instructions, and schedule.

In closing, I will once more promise to be more regular in my correspondence. I hope that I will be able to keep my promise this time!

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

March 1, 1959.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed please find three reports for February 11. The first night scheduled, the 10th, was hopelessly overcast, and the third night unfortunately coincided with our monthly lecture meeting, weather conditions being poor also.

The same situation occurs this month, only to a higher degree. Once again the first night conflicts with the lecture meeting, and on top of this, the following two nights conflict with the R.A.S.C.'s annual meeting in Toronto to which four or five of my observers are going, myself included. I believe I would have great difficulty in persuading Dr. Heard to let me borrow the 74-inch for an hour!

Thank you for your card describing weather conditions in Neosho. I am sorry to say that none of us wept too hard for you. During a Montreal winter, if the thermometer rises above 20, the natives consider it a heat wave! (Incidentally, the temperature was 6° above between 7 and 8 o'clock on February 11.) I vividly remember last winter spending 2 hours observing meteors for the I.G.Y. at -10°. We decided to quit when Ursa Major actually began to look like a bear. However, I suppose that we here are used to the cold, and conditions such as you describe are certainly rather unusual in your part of the country.

Last week my 8-inch arrived from Cave. I should be able to use it for Lunar meteors in April.

You will notice that a new observer has joined our ranks. Vic Williams is a diligent observer who participates in the Montreal Centre's Lunar and Naked-eye sunspot programmes. I have not yet got his exact position on the city map, although I know that he lives near the eastern tip of Montreal Island, thus increasing our local baseline still more. I will send you his location when I obtain it.

This being "all the news that's fit to print" from Montreal at present, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.

APR - 5 1959

LUNAR METEOR SEARCH SCHEDULE

April	11, 1959	Saturday	8:00 - 9:00 P.M. E.S.T.
	12	Sunday	8:00 - 9:00
	13	Monday	8:00 - 9:00
May	11, 1959	Monday	9:30 - 10:30 P.M. E.D.T.
	12	Tuesday	9:30 - 10:30
	13	Wednesday	9:30 - 10:30
June	11, 1959	Thursday	10:00 - 11:00 P.M. E.D.T.
	12	Friday	10:00 - 11:00
	13	Saturday	10:00 - 11:00

Please try to observe on as many nights as possible and send your reports promptly to me. You will find the summer times to be considerably later in the evening than in past years; they are obtained by a new method which allows for the recording of possible faint flashes which might otherwise be obscured by twilight. I hope that these later times will not inconvenience you.

Geoffrey Caherty, Jr.
636, Bydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
Tel.: HU. 4-2402

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

April 5, 1959.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find two reports for March 14; fifty minutes of overlapping time. I find it remarkable that two observers many miles apart could choose exactly the same ten minutes to rest their eyes and warm up, but such is the long arm of coincidence. Fortunately, these observers held the fort while I was in Toronto.

The first two nights for March were hopeless in Montreal. This was not so in Toronto; I felt rather sick to see the crescent hanging in the West as I went into the nesting on March 13. The following night we went out to the David Dunlap Observatory, but clouds prevented us from getting a peek through the 74-inch. There is an instrument with which you could really see lunar meteors!

I will ask my observers to keep watch for unusual phenomena of any description. I am sorry that my reports are always so negative, but if nothing is seen I certainly can't report anything!

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

April 5, 1959.

Mr. Fred Garland,
127, Park Place,
McKnight Village,
Pittsburgh 37, Pennsylvania,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Garland:

The lunar meteor observers of the Montreal Centre were very pleased when we read in The Strolling Astronomer of the formation of your group. We hope that you will have as much success in this programme as we have.

In Bob Adams' report in The Strolling Astronomer he suggested that you might be able to benefit from our experience. I am therefore enclosing samples of our mimeo instructions and report forms. The form covers just about every eventuality and makes sure that no vital information is left out. The reports are sent to me, I make copies which I forward to Bob, and the original reports are kept on file for future reference. In the past the originals were sent to Bob, but there were misunderstandings due to the illegibility of some of the observers' handwriting. The system of submitting copies avoids this and also assures uniformity in the reports.

I hope that this material will be of some use to you. I would also like to add that if you desire any further information, do not hesitate to write to me for it. I am also enclosing a copy of our timetable for the next few months in case you want to try to observe at the same time as us.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr., Chairman,

Lunar Meteor Search Section,
Observation Committee.
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

May 4, 1959.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324 South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

As you can see by the thickness of this report, we had very good luck here this month. On April 11th there were quite a few clouds near the moon which seem to have discouraged everybody except myself. These soon cleared, and the rest of the hour was excellent, as were the hours scheduled for the next two evenings. All in all, this was one of the best months we have had yet. I hope that other observers were as fortunate.

In your card of April 14th, you mentioned the use of larger apertures. There is rather a paucity of large telescopes in the Montreal area. To my knowledge, there are only two other 8-inchers and the 12-inch at the Montreal Centre's observatory besides my own 8-inch. One of the 8-inchers belongs to a member who lives out of town and never comes to our meetings. He very seldomly uses the telescope and has no desire to participate in any observations. The owner of the other 8-inch participates in a number of programmes but cannot be talked into observing for Lunar Meteors. The Montreal Centre's 12-inch is practically useless. It is of low quality professional make; one of our local ATMs, who attempted to refigure it, declared it the worst mirror he had ever seen, the mounting is a shaky and unbalanced altazimuth which has to be supported by hand. I am afraid that we will just have to use smaller instruments and hope for brighter flashes.

Incidentally, I'll thank you not to make any further comments about Canadian cold fronts in Missouri. Last week, we had some high winds which the Weather Office blamed on the tail-end of a Missouri tornado! My telescope, which is housed in the open, got blown about a bit, but no serious damage was done. I hope you were equally fortunate in Neosho.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

May 26, 1959.

Mr. Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find five reports for May, quite a few, considering how bad the weather was here on the three scheduled nights. May 11 and 12 were nights when the weather couldn't decide what to do; May 13 was a night when the weather decided to rain cats and dogs! But, wonder of wonders, on the 11th David Sands saw a flash during the seven-minute break in the clouds, the first flash we have had since Christmas Night, 1957!

I feel that honourable mentions should go to Miss Williamson and myself. Miss Williamson watched for the whole hour on the 11th, to be rewarded with only a 15-second break in the clouds. On the same night, David Sands came over to observe with me, and, since he was a guest, I let him begin the observations. He observed for the seven-minute break in the clouds, got a flash, while I didn't even get to put my name on the report!

I am trying to arrange for a team to man the 12-inch reflector at the Montreal Centre's observatory, which I mentioned in my last letter. The observatory is marked on your map as Station Number 4. Its location was chosen because it is central. In other words, it is just as hard to get to from one end of the city as the other. Like all large cities, Montreal has an atrocious public transportation system. It normally takes me about 35 minutes to get from my house to the observatory, and most of our observers live farther away than me. In spite of this, I will try to work something out. (Incidentally, someone told me recently that they had read that Montreal had the best transportation in the world. I feel sorry for the rest of the world!)

You will notice that Mrs. Zorgo has moved to Montreal North, thus extending the area of observation. I have given her Station No. 15 for Cobourg Avenue. I will retain her old S.N. in case Mrs. Yane ever observes from there. (She lives just across the street from where Mrs. Zorgo used to live.) I have a bit of a problem with stations that have gone inactive (3, 6, 7, 9). Probably the simplest thing would be to leave them blank and add new stations above 15, thus eliminating confusion over two stations having the same number.

Mr. Robert M. Adams, May 26, 1959, page 2.

About the AAVSO meeting, I do not know whether any of our members are attending. Mr. Good may possibly be, as he is a member of the Council. We Montrealers are rather inactive in the field of variable stars, Mr. Morgan being our only observer. However, we do participate in a number of non-variable programmes, such as the Solar Division, the occultation section, and the Nova Search section (one month last year, I was the world's champion Nova Searcher!). If I hear of any Montrealers going to Chicago, I'll ask them to be on the look-out for you.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

~~JUL - 1 1959~~

Lunar Meteor Search Schedule

JUN 30 1959

July	11, 1959	Saturday	10:00 - 11:00 P.M. E.D.T.
	12	Sunday	10:00 - 11:00
	13	Monday	10:00 - 11:00
August	9, 1959	Sunday	9:30 - 10:30 P.M. E.D.T.
	10	Monday	9:30 - 10:30
	11	Tuesday	9:30 - 10:30
September	7, 1959	Monday	8:30 - 9:30 P.M. E.D.T.
	8	Tuesday	8:30 - 9:30
	9	Wednesday	8:30 - 9:30

I am pleased to report that on May 11, David Sands observed a flash in the region of Aristarchus using an 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch reflector at Station No 5 (636, Sydenham Ave., Mtl 6). This flash was not confirmed by other observers (including Mrs Zorgo of the Montreal Centre), therefore it must have been a terrestrial meteor.

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
HU. 4-2402.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

July 2, 1959.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, S. Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find 6 lunar meteor reports for June 11. You will see that I have got our 12-inch into operation this month. It was operated by George Wedge and Claude Bedard, who are chairmen of the Lunar and Migratory Bird sections of our observation committee respectively. Our "straight" lunar section, under George's direction, is probably one of the most active groups in North America. In a little over a year, we have managed to amass a very thick file of drawings (I would guess at about 100 or so). Our work on Alphonsus has been highly praised by Walter Haas, and a report on it will probably appear in the next Str.A.

I hope you received your copy of our new expanded Skyward intact. We have discovered a few slips in the collating so that unless you received a full eight pages, you were gypped and should demand a refund! We are particularly proud of the masthead which shows our observatory. Incidentally, Cassiopeia and Polaris are placed in the correct positions. The only fault in the drawing is that the trees are too few and too small. We are considering quietly chopping some of them down late at night! A special advantage of the location is found during the autumn as Molson Stadium is only a stone's throw away and one gets a terrific view from the roof of football games! Any comments on Skyward will be forwarded to Miss Williamson.

I feel sure that it will be possible to keep the 12-inch in use as George is willing to use any excuse to go up to the observatory to do lunar work. That appears to be all the news for now.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Caherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

August 3, 1939.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find eight Lunar Meteor reports; three for July 12 and five for July 13. These reports may seem "old hat" after reading about them in our newsletter, but remember: "You saw it first in SKYWARD!" (Our slogan.) The only thing that wasn't in SKYWARD was that July 11 was also clear, but from the stations (nos 4 & 5) who had hoped to observe, the Moon was too low.

I don't know whether the Pittsburgh group sends you their newsletter, but, if so, you were probably amused to see that the second page of their last issue was copied almost verbatim from the last two pages of our June SKYWARD. You can imagine Miss Williamson's surprise when she found her own words reprinted as "news"!

You might be interested to hear that I have been devoting a great part of my observing time recently to making central meridian transit observations on Jupiter. These have been forwarded to Mr Reese as well as W. E. Fox of the B.A.A. I was very pleased to see in the latest Str.A. that I am among the top-rankers with 111 transits to my credit. (That is, assuming the observers listed there make the same number of observations this year.)

I should also mention another report for July which I received second-hand from Mrs Yane. Once again she is observing from Ste Rose, and the report was made by long distance telephone from there. My mother took the message as I was out at the time. Mrs Yane and a Mr Guy Kennedy observed from 22:20 to 23:00 E.D.T. on the 13th with negative results. I have no details as to changeover times or telescope used, except that Mrs Yane was using a new

Mr Robert M. Adams, August 3, 1959, page 2.

telescope. I am sorry that I have no further details, but I have no means of getting in touch with Mrs Yane.

That is about all that I have to report for the present, so I will close.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

August 22, 1959.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find one Lunar Meteor report for August 10 and six for August 11. All reports negative, as usual.

I am getting Mrs Yane's July report in bits and pieces. For whatever good it will do you, I will quote her last note to me:

"Observed with Mr Guy Kennedy on July 11th from

10:20 - Yane (Obs)

10:45 - Kennedy (Obs)

10:45 to 11:00 Yane (Obs)

no special remarks to make -

conditions perfect, reason for delay in starting on time - telescopes and eyepieces were recalcitrant."

I have no information as to what size of telescope or what magnification (telescope may be 4") she was using. The times are P.M. E.D.T. The location was Station No 12 (Ste. Rose de Laval). I will try again to get a proper report from her, but it may take months!

That is about all for this month, so I'll close.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Caherty, Jr,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.

SEP 19 1959

Lunar Meteor Search Schedule

October	6, 1959	Tuesday	20:00 - 21:00	E.D.T.
	7	Wednesday	20:00 - 21:00	
	8	Thursday	20:00 - 21:00	
November	3, 1959	Tuesday	18:00 - 19:00	E.S.T.
	4	Wednesday	18:00 - 19:00	
	5	Thursday	18:00 - 19:00	
December	2, 1959	Wednesday	18:00 - 19:00	E.S.T.
	3	Thursday	18:00 - 19:00	
	4	Friday	18:00 - 19:00	
January	1, 1960	Friday	18:00 - 19:00	E.S.T.
	2	Saturday	18:00 - 19:00	
	3	Sunday	18:00 - 19:00	

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec.
HU. 4-2402.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

Lunar Meteor Search Section

Annual Report to Director of Observations (October 1958 -
September 1959):

In the Lunar Meteor Search project 16 observers observed on 19 nights for a total of 44 hours and 18 minutes, 2½ hours more than the previous record for the year ending September 30, 1957. Participating were C. Bedard, K. R. Brasch, H. Brasch, F. Cadorette, S. Downing, E. Fraser, G. Gaherty, C. M. Good, B. Rawlings, D. Sands, W. A. Warren, G. Wedge, V. Williams, I. K. Williamson, D. Yane, and K. Zorgo. Only one flash was seen, and this flash was probably due to a terrestrial meteor. The reports of these observations have been sent to Mr Robert Adams of the A. L. P. O.

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr,
Chairman.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

September 20, 1959.

Mr Robert W. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find eight lunar meteor reports for KM September.

Thank you for your letter of September 6th. I was glad to hear you had a good vacation. Incidentally, the Montreal Centre's librarian, Charles Good, is a recent convert to the Cape. He went down to the AAVSO spring meeting in Nantucket last year and immediately fell in love with the Cape. He bought a house ~~XXXXX~~ and now spends all his holidays ~~at~~ there.

About the reports which don't say whether results were negative or not, you can assume that they are negative. I am trying to get my observers to write "nil" in the flash section of the form, but I doubt if I will succeed, as I have been trying for over a year to get them to use 24 hour time! With my C.M. transit work, I have got in the habit of recording observations directly in U.T., which really causes confusion if I don't wathh my step!

I have still been unable to straighten out Mrs Yane's report for July. I have heard rumours that her telescope is a 4-inch and that she has no idea what power her eyepieces are. I hope to get my hands on her soon and straighten the whole mess out!

I spent most of yesterday working on my own annual report and was pleased to discover that this year was a record-breaker as far as man-hours: 44 hr. 18 min.

Robert M. Adams, September 20, 1959, page 2.

That seems to be just about all I have to say for now, so I'll close.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Montreal Centre

January 30, 1960.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed are seven lunar meteor reports for January. We finally had some good luck on the weather; January 1 was beautifully clear, the only difficulty being that most of the observers were busy stuffing themselves with turkey etc. New Year's dinner at my house didn't start until seven o'clock so I was able to observe for the full hour less ten minutes for warming up.

January ~~xxxx~~ 2 was hopeless, January 3 was a bit better ~~xxxx~~ with highly transparent skys alternating ~~with~~ heavy clouds. In spite of these difficulties, it was a far better month than we've had for quite a while.

A bit more about Jan. 1: I noted on the report that the transparency was the highest I have ever seen. The earthshine was brilliant (so brilliant that Vic Williams rated the transparency as very good only, because he thought he might miss flashes because of the glare of the earthshine.) I was able to detect a great deal of detail on the dark part of the moon; for instance, the curve of The Sinus Iridium was easily seen, with the Alps dividing the Mare Imbrium and the Mare Frigoris.

Plans for the March lunar eclipse are still in the formative stage, but I can assure you that lunar meteors will have a prominent part. We will definitely have the Centre's 12-inch in operation as well as my 8-inch, and, I hope, most of the other active stations too. The next issue of SKYWARD will probably contain details.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaberty, Jr.,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec, Canada.

636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.
March 14, 1960.

Mr Robert W. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Please excuse the delay in my submitting the enclosed lunar meteor reports. Things have been rather hectic for me recently with college work, the eclipse, SKYWARD etc. On top of everything, Prof. Haas has asked me to take on the position of Mercury Recorder, which involves quite a bit of work as my first duty is to compile a report on the seventy-odd drawings unreported to date!

To the matters at hand: enclosed are 13 lunar meteor reports, so, as you can clearly see, our luck has improved somewhat! Conditions were poor on Jan. 30, the moon being too low for me, and rather hazy as well, but Mr Warren saved the day. The 31st was also quite poor, with patchy clouds. Shortly after completing observations on that night I became violently ill and was taken to the hospital the following morning with a suspected appendix. Fortunately, it turned out to be a bad case of flu, but not taking any chances, the hospital ran me through a series of tests (tortures is a better word!). ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

By the next new moon, I was fully recovered, and a good thing too, as this month we hit the jackpot: 9 reports. Feb. 29 was rather hazy, and the moon again too low to reach from my house, but stations 1 & 2 reported. Incidentally, Mrs Yane is just recovering from an operation, and although she wasn't quite up to observing, she acted as recorder for Mrs Zorge on the first two nights. On March 1, 4 stations reported very good conditions, and on March 2, 3 stations, conditions not quite as good as the night before.

Robert M. Adams, March 14, 1960, page 2.

Two new observers have joined the "group"; Mrs Rita Prezament and Miss C. L. Drolet. Both have experience as meteor observers, and Rita has made some nice lunar drawings. She, incidentally, is a professional artist whose work has been exhibited widely.

Thank you very much for the kind words in the latest issue of Str.A. I was very disappointed to see that so few observations were made by the Pittsburgh group; we had such high hopes for them. Concerning the Montreal Centre's work, it is my sad duty to point out a few errors. The worst is the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ omission of Klaus Brasch, who was quick to point out that his name was not on the list of stations. I suspect that this was an error in typing of the copy for the printers, and not your fault. Your listing of Mrs Yane and Mrs Zargo as Station 3 was probably a typing error on my part. They never put their station number on their reports and my memory occasionally slips. Station 3 is now moved to Montgomery Centre, Vt, becoming station 13, and I don't think any observations were made from 3 during the period covered by your report. Also, stations 13 and 16 are considerably more than 10 miles from Montreal. I'm sorry to have so many complaints, but the observers jump down my neck and I naturally have to pass the buck!

Conditions here for the lunar eclipse were rather poor. I will delay reporting until all reports are in, but don't expect much.

I was glad to hear that you bought a Cave mirror. My eight-inch has paid for itself many times over in the infinite amount of pleasure and enjoyment it has given me. I have yet to see anything near its size which can compare with it. I hope that you will try observing transits with yours, and of course Mercury!

I will write you again shortly, to report on the lunar meteor phase of the eclipse.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr

636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.
March 22, 1960.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, South Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

I received your letter this morning and was very sorry to hear that you had such bad luck on eclipse night. We were very little better, ^{off} as you can see by the single lunar meteor report enclosed. What started as a hazy evening grew steadily worse with light clouds gradually increasing until things became utterly hopeless at 03:00 E.S.T. The whole agonizing story will be told in the next SKYWARD, due in about a week.

Had skies been clear, the following stations would have been observing: Nos 4, 5, 8, 10, 13, and 14. As it was, I was the only person to catch a couple of breaks in the clouds. I actually had to use 7x50's to find the moon! Local radio "hams" set up a network through which we heard of successful observations in Ontario. One "ham" reported a "lunar meteor" --- with a trail three times the diameter of the moon, a naked-eye observation!

Concerning other matters mentioned in your letter: I am enclosing an up-to-date list of stations to try to straighten things out. As to Hass' suggestion, I agree heartily. One has to be particularly interested to read through a long list of observations. The method I use to record observations locally is in the form of a graph; a sample is enclosed showing the observations for March 1, 1960. While it doesn't show much information, it demonstrates the overlapping times. Perhaps you could work out a more elaborate system for use in your reports.

That's about all I have to report for now. There will probably be some delay ~~xxxxx~~ before my next letter as exam time is coming around again and I'm going to be pretty busy between now and April 29.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr

P.S.: I received a copy of George Diedrich's report to you on the eclipse. Don't know why! G.G.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
Montreal Centre

Lunar Meteor Stations:

Station No	Address	Observers
1	5162 Belmore Ave., Montreal 6, Que.	Miss I. K. Williamson G. Gaherty C. M. Good Mrs R. Prezament Miss C. L. Drolet
2	5375 XXXXXXXX Cumberland Ave., Montreal 29, Que.	Mrs D. Yane Mrs K. Zorgo
3	Discontinued	
4	Centre's Observatory Long. 73°34'53" W./Lat. 45°30'42" N.	G. Wedge S. Downing & others
5	636 Sydenham Avenue, Montreal 6, Que.	G. Gaherty D. Sands
6	Discontinued	
7	Discontinued	
8	30 - 52nd Ave., Lachine, Que.	W. A. Warren
9	Discontinued	
10	8545 L'Acadie Blvd, Montreal 16, Que.	K. R. Brasch H. Brasch
11	Discontinued	
12	49 Point Cyr, Ste. Rose de Laval, Que.	XXXXXXXX Mrs D. Yane
13	Montgomery Centre, Vermont	S. M. Sundell Mrs R. G. Sundell
14	1857 Aird Ave., Montreal 4, Que.	Y. Williams
15	10133 Cobourg Ave., XXXX Montreal North, # 39, Que.	Mrs K. Zorgo
16	Weir, Que.	V. Williams

NO
STATION VISIBLE

STATION VISIBLE

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr,
636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.
March 26, 1960.

Mr George Diedrich,
653, Weller Road,
Elyria, Ohio,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr Diedrich:

Thank you very much for the copy of your lunar meteor report to Bob Adams. We were glad that you fared so well, we only managed to observe for a grand total of five minutes! Incidentally, my observers have asked me to chastise you for limiting yourself to ten-minute periods because of an 8° temperature. Our record is two solid hours of I.G.Y. meteor observations at -10!

Thank you also for your circular announcing Nova Herculis 1960. It came a little late; I had received notice of it in a B.A.A. Circular a week earlier. A subsequent Circular received yesterday said that if this nova was typical, maximum occurred in late February, the maximum being about 2nd or 3rd magnitude.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr

636, Sydenham Avenue,
Montreal 6, Quebec,
Canada.
May 16, 1960.

Mr Robert M. Adams,
324, S. Valley,
Neosho, Missouri,
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed you will find nine lunar meteor reports for April and May. The May 2/3 observations were especially good; triple overlapping for the full hour and quintuple overlapping 37 minutes! No positive results, as usual.

Some of our members, myself included, plan to attend the A.L.P.O. Convention at Haverford on the Labour Day weekend this fall. I hope that you will be there as we would like very much to meet you. Walter Haas has written me that he will be attending. I will probably be giving a paper on the transit of Mercury on November 7, 1960.

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Gaherty, Jr