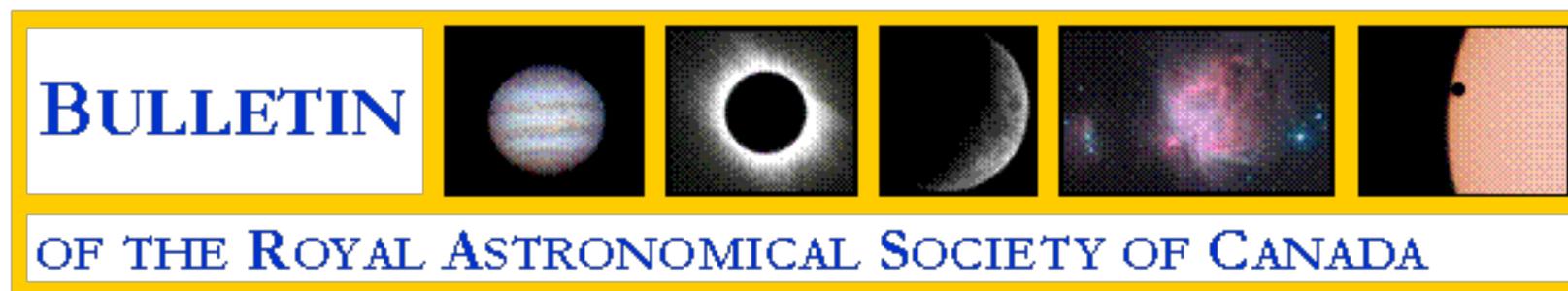


# 2011-11



November 2011 - Volume 6, Number 11

Ian Levstein, Editor

We welcome your comments on the *Bulletin*. Email them to the Editor at [bulletin@rasc.ca](mailto:bulletin@rasc.ca) <sup>[1]</sup>.

A **PDF** version of the *Bulletin* is available at: [Bulletin-2011-11.pdf](#)

A **text-only** version of the *Bulletin* is available at:

<http://www.rasc.ca/im/bulletin/201111.txt> <sup>[2]</sup>

► [Editor's Notebook](#)

by [Ian Levstein](#)

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## Bill Broderick (1931-2011)

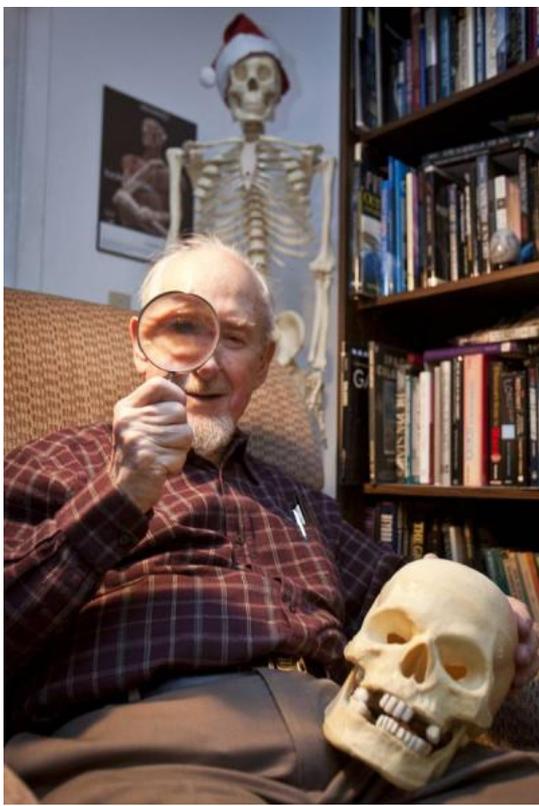
With regret, we note the passing of **William (Bill) E. Broderick** on October 10. Bill was a long-time member of the Kingston Centre and, more recently, also a member of Belleville Centre. Bill was the editor of KC's newsletter *Regulus* from 1990-1994, and also served as VP of the Centre. In 1991, he was the recipient of the KC's highest honour - the A. Vibert Douglas Award for service.

### One of Bill Broderick's Legacies

by [Robert Dick](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

The RASC is composed of individuals, and its history primarily resides in the minds of our members. The loss of any member diminishes the memory of our rich history.

As a founding member of what is now the RASC Light Pollution Abatement

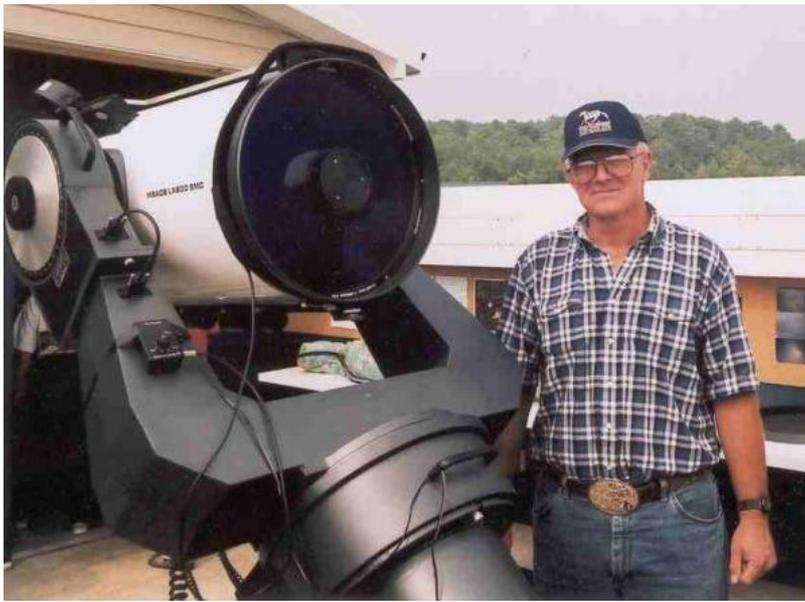


Committee he helped to organize and promote the idea that the increasing light pollution we experience as amateur astronomers can be reduced, and perhaps even reversed.

This activity was not central to the perceived role of the RASC and was not supported as much as the work of our other Committees that were focused on astronomy. However, he persisted in the belief that we could work with governments to reduce light pollution. His contribution helped form the foundation on which our current success now rests.

After I succeeded him as Chair of the Committee, he continued as a member of the LPA Committee, and later as a quite adviser on various matters. He made a difference with his contributions, and we are the better for it.

## Cliff Carr (1952-2011)



With regret, we also note the passing of **E. Clifton (Cliff) Carr** on October 27. Cliff was a Life Member of, and major benefactor to, the RASC's Toronto Centre. He made a substantial donation to the Toronto Centre that led to the founding of the Carr Astronomical Observatory (CAO) near Thornbury, ON. He will be greatly missed by his many friends in the Society.

Cliff joined the Society in 1988 and became more actively involved in astronomy after his retirement from the Canadian Forces where he worked as a tactical helicopter pilot. He was passionate about astronomy and developed his own personal observatory on land located near the CAO shortly after his retirement.

In 1996, he approached the Toronto Centre and offered to donate a house and 43 acres of land for the purpose of establishing an observatory. In a "giant leap," the Centre was transformed into a much more active observing centre and the property became the focus of building and observing activities that have led to its transformation into one of the finest amateur observing facilities in North America.

Cliff was not only a benefactor, he was also an active participant in the programs offered at the

observatory complex that bears his name. Since 1997, the CAO has hosted thousands of people who have enjoyed dark skies, comfortable accommodations, and first-class equipment. Thousands more will have an opportunity to discover or enhance their appreciation for astronomy as a result of his generosity and foresight.

► [News @ RASC.ca](#)

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## Call for Nominations for RASC National Awards

by [Dave Lane](#) [4], Awards Committee Chair

The RASC sponsors several annual [national awards](#) [5] that recognize achievement or service by our members. The awards include: the [Ken Chilton Prize](#) [6], the [Chant Medal](#) [7], the [Service Award](#) [8], and the [Simon Newcomb Award](#) [9]. The deadline for nominations is **2011 December 31**. Send the nominations or questions about the awards program to [Dave Lane](#) [10].

## NC114 Highlights

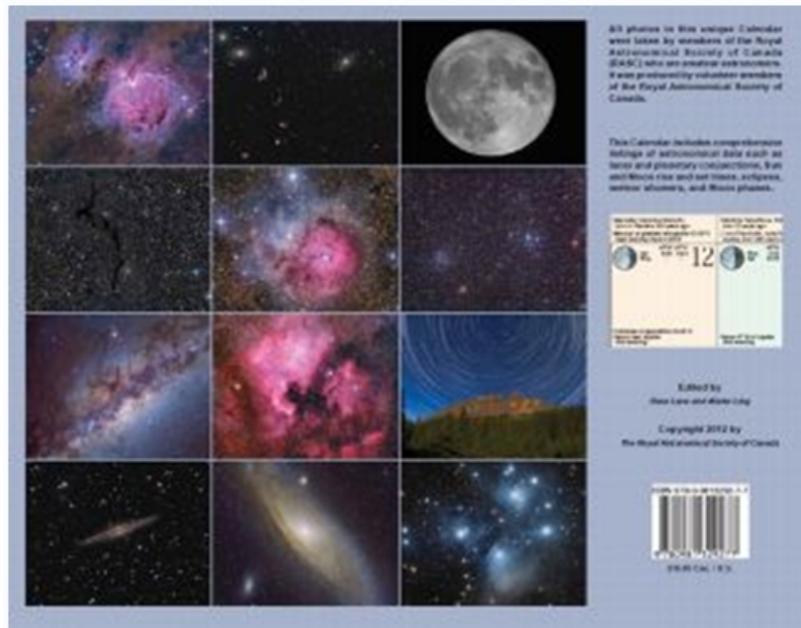
At the National Council meeting on October 29, **Professor Andrew Fraknoi** was appointed as an Honorary Member of the RASC. A letter of congratulations went out immediately thereafter. See [here](#) [11].

National Council also designated Fundy National Park (NB) as a RASC Dark-Sky Preserve.

Finally, Thunder Bay Centre will officially be playing host to the 2013 RASC General Assembly. As a reminder the 2012 GA will be hosted by Edmonton Centre.

## Observer's Calendar 2012 Now Available!

by [Deborah Thompson](#) [12], RASC Executive Director



The 2012 edition of the RASC Observer's Calendar is now available! It features 12 spectacular astro-images taken by our members along with unequalled astronomical information including lunar phases and librations, sunrise and sunset times, astronomical events such as meteor showers, occultations, and much, much more! It's the perfect gift for friends, family, co-workers and everyone who wants more from a calendar than the date and phase of the Moon.

## Library Bound Set of *Sky & Telescope*

by **Randall Rosenfeld** [13], RASC Archivist

In order to create much needed room in the Archives at National Office, we are de-accessioning our library-bound set of *Sky & Telescope* (this is unfinished business stemming from National Council Motion 08408). It has been replaced by the Sky Publishing DVD+CD set. The library-bound set is complete from the inception of *Sky & Telescope* in 1941 up to 2000. There is also a nearly complete run of unbound numbers of *Sky & Telescope* from 2001-2009. The bound and unbound numbers are free to any RASC Centre or member who wishes to acquire them. The member or Centre will have to arrange for their removal, and any incidental costs (should there be any). While preference will be given to requests for the lot, we will happily consider all requests. If you are interested, please contact the chair of the [History Committee](#) [14].

## Historical RASC Documents with Aerospace Connections

by **Eric Briggs** [15], Toronto Centre

Three historical RASC documents about joint activities with aerospace engineers in Downsview, ON in 1960 and 1961 are now located on the RASC [Web site](#) [16]. This is timely, bearing in mind the closure of the Canadian Air and Space Museum at that location in late September. The names on the program for the 1961 October 26 symposium (50 years ago last week!) read like a who's who of experts in Canadian aerospace history: **Gordon Patterson** founded the University of Toronto Institute of Aerodynamics (later [UTIAS](#) [17]); **Irvine Glass** later participated in the rescue of Apollo 13 as a member of UTIAS; and **P. A. Lapp** was systems engineer at the guided missiles division of De Havilland Aircraft. The flyer also mentions the Special Projects Division of De Havilland, which built the Alouette satellite and later the Canadarm (Alouette was built at the Downsview site). **J. T. Wilson** contributed to the theory of plate tectonics and later became the director of the Ontario Science Centre; **D. C. Rose** later produced the "Rose Report" post-mortem on the Queen Elizabeth 5-meter Telescope program for the Trudeau government; and **J. F. Heard** and **D. A. MacRae** should need no introduction.

A [petition](#) [18] to protect the site has been started by the Canadian Air and Space Museum - with a goal of 10,000 signatures.

## ► [Across the RASC](#)

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### [Open House at Saskatoon Centre](#)

by [Jeff Swick](#) [19], President, Saskatoon Centre



On October 22, the members of the Saskatoon Centre held their annual open house, with an observing session at the Sleaford Observatory and Research Facility.

The full article can be found on page 4 [here](#) [20].

### [Morrissey Presentation](#)

by **Bette Chadwick** [21], Sunshine Coast Centre

On October 14, particle research scientist **David Morrissey** from the [TRIUMF facility](#) [22] gave a presentation “Our Universe and its Dark Side” to a packed house of 75 guests and members. He discussed recent developments in the research being done on Dark Matter and Dark Energy. Check our [Web site](#) [23] for the full presentation.

## AllSky Camera Snags Aurora



by **Kevin Kell** [24], Kingston Centre

The allsky camera has been up for many years now but, for the most part, it was solar minimum... not a lot of solar activity, CMEs or aurora. Monday night (October 24) however was quite special... the first aurora in some time, but one big and bright enough to really put on a show, and to be recorded on the allsky camera. You can see it [here](#) [25]. Images are 90 seconds exposure each and the aurora dances around a lot.

## Winnipeg Centre Participates in SAGE

by **Andrea Misner** [26], Winnipeg Centre

Manitoba’s Special Area Groups of Educators (SAGE) conference was held on October 21. This year, the Winnipeg RASC, **Stan Runge**, and I set up a table and volunteered our time to connect with local teachers. Thanks to the RASC National Council and the National Research Council (NRC), we had tons of posters, information, and Star Finders to hand out. Throughout the day, we had hundreds of teachers visit our table where we were promoting one of the best astronomy resources available: [Skyways](#) [27]. At the end of day, I felt we had helped bridge the gap between RASC resources and school teachers. There were many teachers who had never heard of the RASC or *Skyways*.

Astronomy, as we have discovered, is a fascinating and important science. With the assistance of volunteers at science conferences and in school classrooms, and with astronomy-related talks, we are giving students a unique learning opportunity. Thank you Stan for your energy and enthusiasm. Also, thank you to the RASC Education Committee and the NRC for sending resources.

## ► Bulletin Video of the Month

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### Fetter Captures Double Satellite Flyby

by Hank Bartlett [28], Kingston Centre



To catch one satellite having a close encounter with a distant star requires careful timing and a degree of luck. On October 28, **Kevin Fetter** of Brockville, ON caught two... at once! The [YouTube video](#) [29] shows the two spacecraft as they criss-cross Regulus in the constellation Leo.

The first satellite was SkyMed-2, part of a group of Earth-observing satellites deployed by the Italian Space Agency. SkyMed satellites are remarkable because they sometimes flare like Iridiums. The second, brighter satellite is

Tiangong 1, China's new space station. The 8.5-ton module was launched on September 29 on a two-year training mission. Chinese spacecraft and taikonauts will be visiting Tiangong 1 in the months ahead to practice rendezvous and docking maneuvers, to exercise space construction techniques, and to learn to live onboard an orbiting outpost. An unmanned probe, Shenzhou 8, is due to launch today for China's first remote docking exercise.

This means more double flybys are in the offing. Sighting times for Tiangong 1 and companions are available from Spaceweather's [Satellite Tracker](#) [30].

## ► The Sky this Month

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### What's New in the Sky

Members are encouraged to check out the **Northern Skies** [31] section of the RASC Web site. Thanks to **Gary Boyle** for keeping us all in the know.

## ► Dates to Remember

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- **2011 November** - Nothing reported
- **2011 December** - Nothing reported
- **2012 January** - Nothing reported
- **2012 February** - Nothing reported



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- [16] <https://www.rasc.ca/archives/1960s>
- [17] <http://www.utias.utoronto.ca/site4.aspx>
- [18] [http://www.activism.com/en\\_CA/petition/longterm-reprieve-and-protection-of-historical-site-at-65-carl-hall-road/9169](http://www.activism.com/en_CA/petition/longterm-reprieve-and-protection-of-historical-site-at-65-carl-hall-road/9169)
- [19] [mailto:skstars@shaw.ca?subject=Bulletin Article](mailto:skstars@shaw.ca?subject=Bulletin%20Article)

- [20] [http://issuu.com/saskatoon\\_express/docs/october172011](http://issuu.com/saskatoon_express/docs/october172011)
- [21] [mailto:bettechadwick@dccnet.com?subject=Bulletin Article](mailto:bettechadwick@dccnet.com?subject=Bulletin+Article)
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