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We welcome your comments on the *Bulletin*.
Email them to the Editor, David Garner at
bulletin@rasc.ca

► [News @ RASC.ca](#)

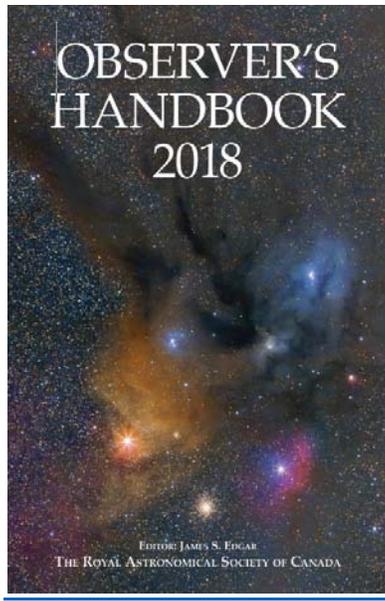
News from the Society Office

by [Randy Attwood](#), RASC Executive Director



NEW Item: **Observer's Calendar 2018**

A beautiful calendar showcasing RASC members' astro-images with information on what's up in the sky tonight. A perfect gift for the beginner and a must-have for the experienced observer. **Now available for pre-order!**



NEW Item: **Observer's Handbook 2018**

The *Observer's Handbook*, a 352-page guide published annually by The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, has come to be regarded as the standard North American reference for data on the sky. The Handbook material is of interest to astronomers, scientists, teachers, students, science writers, campers, Scout and Guide leaders, and interested readers. The Handbook forms the basis of many secondary and university astronomy courses, and it should be in every library.

The 2018 Handbook will be sent out to all RASC members late October/early November.

Volunteers wanted!

The office staff could use the help of volunteers to work on small projects. These would be accomplished at the volunteer's home. All that is needed is access to a computer and the internet. Projects would take 5 – 10 hours and could be worked on during the evenings over a period of weeks.

If interested please contact: Randy Attwood, Executive Director:

Execdir@rasc.ca 416 924 7973

Awards Deadline

by [Craig Levine](#), RASC Past President

The deadline for the RASC's National Awards Program, 2017 December 31, is rapidly approaching.

Here is an outline of the awards and their criteria:

CHANT MEDAL This award is based on a significant body of work of lasting value to the astronomical community and is named after C.A. Chant, a noted astronomer at the University of Toronto who helped to found the David Dunlap Observatory there.

KEN CHILTON PRIZE Established in memory of Ken Chilton, this prize is awarded for a specific piece of astronomical research or work carried out or published recently.

SERVICE AWARD Established in 1959, is awarded to RASC members who have made significant contributions at the National and/or the Centre levels.

SIMON NEWCOMB AWARD Established in 1979 for excellence in astronomical writing by an RASC member.

QILAK AWARD Established in 2011, this award is intended to recognize individual Canadian residents or teams of residents who have made an outstanding contribution during a particular time period either to the public understanding and appreciation of astronomy in Canada or to informal astronomy education in Canada and to promote such activities among the members of the sponsoring organizations.

FELLOWSHIP AWARD Established in 2013, this award is given to recognize long-term commitment to the Society.

Nominations for awards should be sent to the Awards Committee at awards20000@rasc.ca.

For more information on the awards nominations, see [RASC Awards](#).

RASC 2018 Working Group

by **Randall Rosenfeld**, RASC History Chair

The commencement of our sesquicentennial year is fast approaching, and the RASC 2018 Working Group invites you to engage in our year of celebrations. Diverse programs have been developed to help you connect with our heritage, as we engage in the astronomy of the present looking towards the future.

There are seven principal projects whose websites will be going live in the first week of this month: the Opening event: 1) the National Star Party 2018 January 27; 2) Cultural Connections; 3) RASC 2018 Podcasts; 4) RASC 2018 Mosaic; 5) RASC 2018 Imaging Competition; 6) Viewing the Moon across Time; and 7), A Shared Sky—the RASC 1868–2018. You can access the details of the individual projects by visiting their respective webpages at www.rasc.ca/2018.

Other exciting RASC 2018 initiatives will be announced in the upcoming months—stay tuned!

RASC Yukon Events

by **Viktor Zsohar**, Yukon Centre, President

Aurora 360:

View the Northern Lights from the Air: Join with Tourism Yukon, the Yukon Astronomical Society and Air North, Yukon's Airline Partner, for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

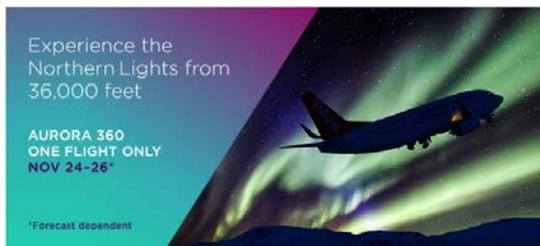
Tourism Yukon, the Yukon Astronomical Society and Air North, are partnering to offer a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the northern lights from the air. For the first time ever in Canada, this one-of-a-kind experience will offer spectacular and unmatched views of high altitude aurora at 36,000 feet.

Limited to just 78 passengers, ensuring an optimal viewing experience, the flight will depart from Whitehorse on either November 24 or 25, pending the aurora

forecast. Featuring guest speakers and entertainment, an invitation-only event will be held at the beautiful Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, centrally located along the riverfront in downtown Whitehorse, Yukon the evening of November 24.

For more information, or to book your seat:

www.flyairnorth.com/DealsAndNews/Aurora360.aspx



The 1st-Ever Yukon Star Party:

Well... that's a wrap for the 1st-Ever Yukon Star Party!!

A huge Thank you! to our Special Guests: Dr. Phil Plait, Dr. Christa Van Laerhoven, and Mr. Pierre Paquette for their incredible contribution to making this event a success!!

Also, our sponsors, supporters, and volunteers: Angelika Lange, Brian Stevens, Franco Gucciardo, Jim Gilpin, Corey Bolen, the Company of the White Wolf, Air North, Yukon Brewing, The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Research Northwest, Consulta Meta I.M., All-Star Telescope, Sky-Watcher, KW Telescope, Yukon Science Institute, Cafe Balzam, and Takhini Hot Springs.

This was an amazing event, where people from around the Yukon, and some from outside, came together to celebrate the Yukon skies, and share in the love of astronomy, science, curiosity, and knowledge.

We look forward to running this again in the coming years, and hope you will, once again, be there to share yet another magical moment with us.

RASC Montreal Centre Townsend Lecture

by **Carl Jorgensen**, Secretary, Montreal Centre

On October 16, Montreal-born and long-time RASC Montreal Centre Member as well as Honorary President, Dr. David Levy gave a lecture on his personal experience that spans many decades of astronomical observations of both lunar and solar eclipses. His first was on 1959 October 2, and culminating with his 90th this past August with the solar eclipse. David's speech was passionate and inspirational, as usual. There were 85 people in the audience.

Besides David's speech, he and I (Carl Jorgensen) received the first two RASC Montreal Centre's Double Star Bronze Certificates.



Carl Jorgensen (left), President Morrie Portnoff (centre), and David Levy (right)



Photos by Laurie Williams October 16.

RASC Montreal Centre Upcoming Events for October

by **Carl Jorgensen**, Secretary, Montreal Centre

Wednesday, November 1, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue. Only if the skies are clear.

Thursday, November 2, 7:00 – 9:30 pm: Members Library Clubhouse. John Abbott College, HO-107 21275 Rue Lakeshore, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.

Saturday, November 4, 7:00 – 11:00 pm: Members Arbo Clubhouse at the Morgan Arboretum.

Wednesday, November 8, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum. Only if the skies are clear.

Saturday, November 11, 7:30 – 11:00 pm: Members Observing at Woody Woods (Our darkest-out-of-town-site), 45 Rang Saint Antoine, Saint-Chrysostome. Only if the skies are clear.

Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum. Only if the skies are clear.

Saturday, November 18, 7:30 – 11:00 pm: RASC Montreal Centre Annual General Meeting (Members Only) Morgan Arboretum. The AGM is perhaps the most important meeting of the year, as it is time when members can voice their concerns and hear about the future path or direction their astronomy club is taking.

Saturday, November 25, 7:00 – 9:30 pm: RASC Montreal Centre's Annual Holiday Dinner. Moe's Bar & Grill, 840 Boul. Saint-Jean, Pointe-Claire.

Thank You to our Sponsors!

by **Julia Neeser**, RASC Marketing Coordinator

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada has a unique partnership with our friends in the astronomy industry. We are now offering companies the distinction of becoming a charter sponsor of the RASC, Canada's pre-eminent amateur astronomy organization. This offer is available only to those industry leaders who recognize the value in being associated with the amateur astronomy community.

www.rasc.ca/rasc-sponsors.



What's New in the Sky

Members are encouraged to check out the **Northern Skies** section of the RASC website. Thanks to Gary Boyle for keeping us all in the know.



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