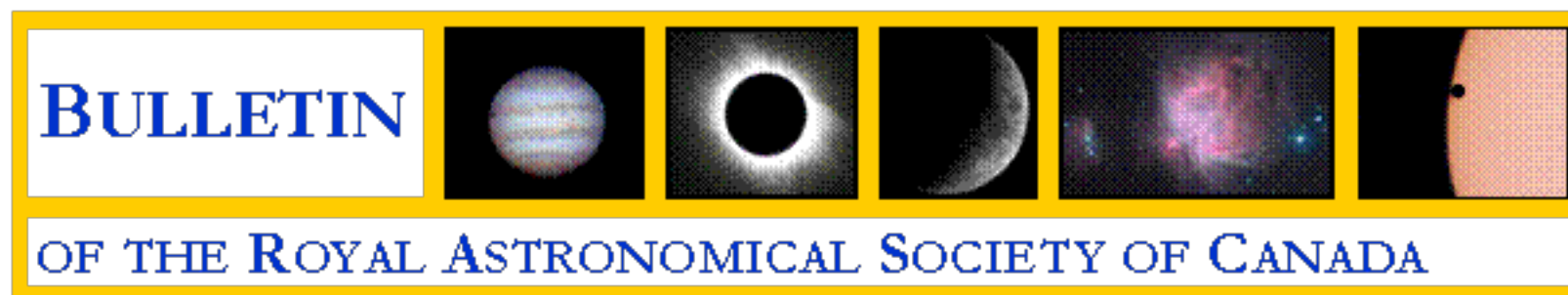


2009-07



July 2009 - Volume 4, Number 7

Ian Levstein, Editor

We welcome your comments on the *Bulletin*. Email them to the Editor at bulletin@rasc.ca [1].

Member: ~FULL_NAME~, RASC ID: ~ID~

► [News @ RASC.ca](#)

2009 RASC General Assembly and SSSP Registration Now Open

See the RASC [Web site](#) [2] for more details and registration information.

Kouchibouguac National Park DSP

by **Robert Dick**, Light Pollution Abatement Committee

On June 6, Kouchibouguac National Park was declared a Dark Sky Preserve - the first in New Brunswick. Read all about it [here](#) [3] and [here](#) [4].

Asteroid 74503 Madola (1999 DN4)

reported by **Hugues Lacombe**, Centre Francophone de Montréal

The IAU has named asteroid 74503 Madola after the three Canadian astronomers who have recently

discovered extrasolar planets, namely Marois (MA), Doyon (DO) and Lafrenière (LA). This asteroid (1999 DN4) was discovered in 1999 by Denis Bergeron, one of Quebec's leading amateur astronomers. Denis had previously discovered another asteroid that bears the name 45580 Racine (2000 CB81), after René Racine, the founder of the Mont Mégantic Observatory. The latest submission to the IAU was made by Quebec astronomer Yvan Dutil. Congratulations to Denis and Yvan.

Submit Your Ideas for the 2010 *Observer's Handbook* Challenge

by **Alister Ling** Please share with us a wonderful visual observing experience you've had (or want to have!) that might inspire hundreds of skygazers to try as well. Aim for an event or object that will leave observers thinking "that would be cool!". It can require a telescope or be visible to the unaided eye, just as long as it's not hopelessly beyond the reach of most amateur astronomers. Will you play a role in helping fellow observers achieve a personal best, and enjoy an experience out of the ordinary? Please send your ideas to [Alister Ling](#) [5] or [Pat Kelly](#) [6].

► **Across the RASC**

New Web Site for DDO Visits

by **Eric Briggs**

The Toronto Centre Council announces they have a new [Web site](#) [7] available for groups interested in visiting the DDO this summer for EPO activities.

Toronto Centre to Hold Public Viewings

by **Brian Ventrudo**

The 74-inch telescope at the DDO is back in business. Under an agreement with the owners of the property, the RASC Toronto Centre now operates the reflecting telescope and will begin providing public education and outreach programs. The first public viewing nights at the observatory will be held on July 18 and July 25, 2009. Read more about it [here](#) [8].

VE7IYOA was On-the-Air during Field Day

by **Malcolm Scrimger**, VE7DAO, RASC Victoria Centre



On June 27 and 28, members of the Westcoast Amateur Radio Association and the RASC Victoria Centre participated in a North American-wide Ham Radio Field Day exercise in which radio operators made as many contacts as possible in a 24 hour period. The radio club members provided equipment, expertise in setup, and volunteers for the radio contest.

There were 8 radio operators using the VE7IYOA station callsign during the Field Day event which gave listeners a surprise as they normally expect a three letter suffix.

Operators had to repeat the callsign with an explanation as to what it was for. Once explained, listeners became interested in the International Year of Astronomy and the idea of promoting astronomy through ham radio.

Also in attendance were members from the Victoria Centre RASC and the public who happened to be visiting the Saanich Historical Artifacts Society in Victoria where the event took place. Approximately 400 radio contacts were made during the Field Day exercise. All HF bands ranging from 80 meters through 2 meters were used for the duration. The station consisted of 3 radio transceivers - two which were using phone on two separate bands, and one active with Morse code.

A Solar Telescope was setup on-site which provided fine views of some solar prominences. The telescope drew a good crowd of both members and the public who wanted to know what was going on. Many viewers were astonished to find that it was possible to look at the Sun. We explained that this was possible because of the special filters used.

A commemorative T-shirt with callsign, IYA logo and "ARRL Field Day" was made for the event.

100 Hours and More

by **Lauri Roche**, VP, Victoria Centre

We have had some busy and exciting months here in Victoria. The highlight was our very own "Mammoth Marathon" of sidewalk astronomy held for just over 100 hours from April 28 to May 2. I believe that we are the only RASC group in Canada to have had telescope viewing for the general public, day and night, for more than four full days. It was a wonderful experience setting up in front of the Royal British Columbia Museum and, on Astronomy Day, at our Centre of the Universe, talking to locals, school groups, and people from all over the world. We enjoyed good weather for most of the time, even if it was a bit cold in the evenings and through the night - but astronomers are used to that.

Thanks to all the volunteers who dedicated so much time and energy to keep it going - particularly **Sid Sidhu** who was responsible for coordinating the event.

Since then, we have continued with school programs and have set up at community events such as Esquimalt's Buccaneer Days and, on July 1, for Sidney Days also. We even had our first wedding as a bride-to-be invited us to set up telescopes at her reception. What a treat for the guests to have terrific views of Saturn on a clear Saturday evening at the end of June.



We are particularly pleased to have connected with the world famous Butchart Gardens this summer. Every Thursday evening from June 18 to September 10, we are setting up our telescopes



so that visitors can experience their Galileo Moments while listening to some great music and touring the beautiful gardens. If you are in Victoria this summer, come and join us!

We are also looking forward to our RASCals star party from July 17 to 19. What a fantastic year for Astronomy! Cheers from Victoria, B.C.

► International Year of Astronomy 2009

Astronomy on YouTube



by **Ron Jerome**, IYA Coordinator, Vancouver Centre Part 3 of the Vancouver Centre's SUPERnova program has now been posted on our [Web site](#) [9]. In this third installment, **Mark Eburne**, our Light Pollution Committee Chair, illuminates some of the issues of light pollution; **Howard Trottier**, Physics Professor at SFU and Centre Secretary, guides us through a Messier Marathon; and Discovery with **Bill Burnyeat** explores observable features of Böotes.

► The Sky this Month

What's New in the Sky

Readers are encouraged to check out the [Northern Skies](#) [10] section of the RASC Web site. Thanks to **Gary Boyle** for keeping us all in the know!

Rare Double Rainbow in Kentucky



In the aftermath of a storm that produced golf ball-sized hail and spawned numerous hurricanes in western Kentucky and along the entire Ohio River Valley, **Ian Levstein** took this photo of a double rainbow from his home in Ashland, KY as it appeared in the eastern sky just moments after the sun returned.

The photo was taken with a Kodak DX4530.

Ian Levstein took this photo of a double rainbow at 17:45 EDT on 2009 February 11

► Dates to Remember

- **2009 July 17-19** - [Island Star Party](#) [11], Southern Vancouver Island, BC
- **2009 July 17-21** - [Stargazing Manitoulin](#) [12], DSP in Gordon's Park, Manitoulin Island, Ontario
- **2009 August 13-16** - **[RASC General Assembly 2009](#)** [13], Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park
- **2009 August 13-16** - [Saskatchewan Summer Star Party](#) [13], Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park
- **2009 August 14-18** - [Manitoulin Star Party](#) [14], DSP in Gordon's Park, Manitoulin Island, Ontario
- **2009 August 20-23** - [Starfest 2009](#) [15], River Place Park, Mount Forest Ontario.
- **2009 August 21-23** - [Nova East Star Party](#) [16], DSP in Smileys Provincial Park, Nova Scotia
- **2009 September 15-20** - [Northern Prairie Starfest](#) [17], Black Nugget Lake, Alberta
- **2009 September 17-20** - [Huronian Star Party](#) [18], Duntroon, Ontario
- **2009 September 19-20** - [Alberta Star Party](#) [19], Starland Recreational Area, Alberta
- **2009 September 25-27** - [Fall 'N' Stars](#) [20], Vanderwater Conservation Area, Thomasburg,

Ontario

- o **2009 October 17** - Torrance Barrens Dark Sky Preserve Dedication, Muskoka, Ontario



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

203 – 4920 Dundas St W, Toronto ON M9A 1B7 CANADA

Tel: (416) 924-7973, Fax: (416) 924-2911

Member Service: mempub@rasc.ca [21]

Visit Us at: www.rasc.ca [22]

The *Bulletin* of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

is a benefit of membership in the Society.

© 2009 Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

(c) Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - All Rights Reserved

Source URL (retrieved on 2015/08/10 - 09:31): <https://www.rasc.ca/bulletin/2009-07>

Links:

[1] [mailto:bulletin@rasc.ca?subject=Bulletin Mail](mailto:bulletin@rasc.ca?subject=Bulletin%20Mail)

[2] <http://www.rasc.ca/news/regopen.shtml>

[3] <http://www.rasc.ca/drupal/system/files/private/KouchDSP.pdf>

[4] <https://www.rasc.ca/news/kouchibouguac-national-park-declared-nbs-first-dark-sky-preserve>

[5] [mailto:aling@telus.net?subject=Observer's Challenge](mailto:aling@telus.net?subject=Observer's%20Challenge)

[6] [mailto:patrick.kelly@dal.ca?subject=Observer's Challenge](mailto:patrick.kelly@dal.ca?subject=Observer's%20Challenge)

[7] <http://www.theddo.ca>

[8] http://www.astronomy2009.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=232%3Atoronto-rasc-to-hold-public-viewings-with-74-inch-telescope-at-david-dunlap-observatory&catid=1%3Alatest&Itemid=132&lang=en

[9] <http://rasc-vancouver.com/blog/2011/01/11/supernova-episodes-1-6/>

[10] <https://www.rasc.ca/news/northern-skies>

[11] <http://victoria.rasc.ca/events/rascals-star-party/>

[12] <http://gordonspark.com/wp-content/uploads/2014-SM-Brochure.pdf>

[13] <http://www.usask.ca/rasc/starparty.html>

[14] <http://gordonspark.com/wp-content/uploads/2014-MSP-Brochure.pdf>

[15] <http://www.nyaa.ca/index.php?page=sf09/sf.home09>

[16] <http://halifax.rasc.ca/ne/>

[17] <http://edmontonrasc.com/northern-prairie-star-party/>

[18] http://www.hsp-ssaa.ca/HSP-SSAA_1/Welcome_To_The_HSP_and_SSAA_Website.html

[19] <http://calgary.rasc.ca/asp2009.htm>

[20] <http://rascbelleville.ca/fallinstars/>

[21] [mailto:mempub@rasc.ca?subject=Request for Info](mailto:mempub@rasc.ca?subject=Request%20for%20Info)

[22] <http://www.rasc.ca>