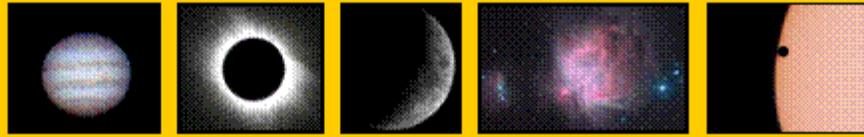


# BULLETIN



## OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

May 2015 - Volume 10, Number 5

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

A PDF version of the *Bulletin* is available [here](#).

A Web-based version of the *Bulletin* is available [here](#).

### ► Editor's Notebook

by David Garner

### May's Sky

We have a full Moon on the 4th and a new Moon on the 18th. Mercury is well placed in the evening twilight from the 1st to the 21st and Venus is also shining brightly in the western evening sky. Jupiter is in the western evening sky and moving slowly eastward. Saturn is visible most of the night as it moves from Scorpius to Libra.

For more details check the *2015 Observer's Handbook*. Don't forget to check out Gary Boyle's [Northern Skies](#).

### ► News @ RASC.ca

#### News from the Society Office

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

#### RASC Tours Update

##### RASC 2015 Southern California Tour

Join other RASC members on a trip to Los Angeles/San Diego in November 2015! The RASC is partnering with its sponsor MWT Associates, Inc. (melitatrips) – to run several astronomy-related tours in the next few years!

For more information see:

<http://www.rasc.ca/sites/default/files/RASC%20flyer%20email.pdf>.

##### RASC 2017 Total Eclipse Expedition

Have you made plans for 2017 yet? Join other RASC members and view this unforgettable event with the breath-taking Grand Tetons of Wyoming in the background. For more information on our Great American Solar Eclipse 2017 Tour see:

<http://www.rasc.ca/news/great-american-total-solar-eclipse-tour-book-now>.

## **General Assembly in Halifax**

The 2015 General Assembly will be hosted by the Halifax Centre. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Halifax Centre. The General Assembly will be held from Wednesday, July 1, to Sunday, July 5, at Saint Mary's University. Plan now to visit the Atlantic Coast this summer!

For more information see: <https://www.rasc.ca/events/>

## **2015 Board of Directors Election**

Nominations Deadline: **2015 May 15**

Campaign Period: **2015 May 20 - 2015 Jun 19**

Election Period: **2015 Jun 20 - 2015 Jun 30**

Participation on the RASC Board of Directors is a leadership experience that provides rich opportunity for personal and astronomical growth!

For more information: <http://www.rasc.ca/news/election-directors>

## **\*May RASC Promo Gear Sale\***

RASC Wordmark White T-Shirt is on sale for only \$5!! (Limited sizing: S, M, XL)  
Vintage RASC T-Shirt on sale for \$10!! (Limited sizing: S, L, XL) Available at the RASC store:  
[https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store\\_PROMOWEAR.aspx?Category=PROMOWEAR](https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store_PROMOWEAR.aspx?Category=PROMOWEAR)

## **Annual Report 2014/2015**

The RASC Annual Report (essential version) will be distributed to members 30 days before the Annual Meeting. A link to an online version will be sent out to members and to those who have not provided us with an email address, a print copy will be mailed. The extended version of the annual report will be available for download sometime in June.

## **The electronic Observer's Handbook**

by [James Edgar](#), RASC President

The *Observer's Handbook* is available in a downloadable version. For members only, it costs \$10 to download a copy of the Handbook to your computer, tablet, or smart phone.

To view the eBook you will need a special free PDF reader called Javelin, which is available from the site where you purchase the Handbook. Copies of the Handbook are available for mainstream Window PCs and Mac OSX computers (OSX 10.6 or later), and for iPADS (IOS6 and later) and Android devices (ideally OS4 and later).

You may order a copy here <http://www.rasc.ca/rasc-member-benefit-programs>

James Edgar, UE  
President  
The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

## 2015 Halifax GA Update

by [Patrick Kelly](#), National Advisory Council Representative, Halifax Centre, RASC

**GA Update:** The 2015 General Assembly will be hosted by the Halifax Centre. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Halifax Centre. The General Assembly will be held from Wednesday, July 1, to Sunday, July 5, at Saint Mary's University. Plan now to visit the Atlantic Coast this summer! For more information see: <https://www.rasc.ca/events/>

**Important Deadlines:** The deadline for ordering T-shirts and fleeces is the end of this month (May 31). There will be no on-site T-shirt sales. Registration is now at the regular rate. On June 15 it goes up an additional \$20. Don't forget that the only tour for the GA, the Wine and Tides tour on Friday, July 3, is a first-come, first-served event until the bus is full!

**New Events! Ode to Hubble:** The European Space Agency/Hubble Telescope had an international competition called Ode to Hubble, to mark the 25th anniversary of the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope. The winners were recently announced and two Nova Scotians, Halley Davies and Martin Hellmich (the latter is a Halifax Centre member) won the Under-25 category! Their prize included an actual piece of the HST which was brought back from one of the repair missions. On the pub night (Friday, July 3) you can have your picture taken with it! The following day at the barbecue there will be a screening of their winning entry as well as a short talk on how they came up with their idea and then made it a reality.

**Papers and Posters:** The paper sessions are now full, and a listing will be available on the GA website in the first week of May at <https://www.rasc.ca/events/speakers> We think you will find an interesting mix of topics and we would like to thank all members who submitted proposals. There is still room for poster papers so you can still submit those through the website. The final date for submission is May 31.

**Specialty Talk:** The information on this presentation will also be available on the GA website in the first week of May at <https://www.rasc.ca/events/speakers>

## Astronomy Workshop for Informal Educators: 2015 June 1st to 19th

by [Julie Bolduc-Duval](#), Coordinator, *Discover the Universe*

Discover the Universe invites all educators from parks, summer camps, youth groups or interpretive centres to register for this free online astronomy workshop. Participants will discover astronomy activities to do with their groups while learning about basic concepts in a fun and innovative way. Visit our website for more information and to register: <http://www.discovertheuniverse.ca>.

Discover the Universe is offered by the RASC in collaboration with CASCA (Canadian Astronomical Society) and the FAAQ (Federation des astronomes amateurs du Quebec).

For information, contact Julie Bolduc-Duval at [julie@discovertheuniverse.ca](mailto:julie@discovertheuniverse.ca)

## ➤ Across the RASC

---

### **News from the Ottawa Centre**

by [Charles O'Dale](#), RASC Ottawa Centre

The Smithsonian "Air&Space" magazine published an article on our exploration of the Pingualuit Crater entitled "A Crater of Cosmic Proportions".

<http://www.airspacemag.com/flight-today/crater-cosmic-proportions-180954664/?no-ist>.

Please enjoy!

Charles O'Dale  
RASC - Ottawa Centre

## ➤ Bulletin Photo of the Month

---

### **M101 The Pinwheel Galaxy**

by [Dan Meek](#), Calgary Centre



The image is a 510 minute LRGB image taken with an 11" EDGE SCT and QSI583wsg camera.

## 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.

<http://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.

Julia Neeser creates "The Solar System" monthly with data from James Edgar's "Skies" newspaper articles at <http://www.rasc.ca/observing>.



### **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: [nationaloffice@rasc.ca](mailto:nationaloffice@rasc.ca)

Visit Us at: [www.rasc.ca](http://www.rasc.ca)

The *Bulletin* of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is a benefit of membership in the Society.

© 2015 Royal Astronomical Society of Canada