



## August 2015 - Volume 10, Number 8

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

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#### August's Sky

We have a new Moon on the 14th and a full Moon on the 29th. The Perseid meteors peak on the 13th. Mercury and Jupiter form a tight pair setting just after the Sun from the 5th through the 8th. Venus is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 15th; later in the month it will appear low in the eastern sky just before sunrise. Mars emerges out of the solar glare and can be found low in the eastern twilight whereas Saturn is in the western sky in Libra, setting after midnight.

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

### ► News @ RASC.ca

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#### News from the Society Office

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

#### RASC Tours

##### 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>.

## \*August RASC Summer Sale\*

Planispheres on sale for \$8.00 !



Available at the RASC store:

[https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store\\_OBSAIDS.aspx?Category=OBSAIDS](https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store_OBSAIDS.aspx?Category=OBSAIDS)

## **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>

## First Light for the SCC Observatory

by [Charles Ennis](#), President, Sunshine Coast Centre RASC

In 2004 the Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club was founded with a dream of one day building an observatory in order to provide public access to skies and give local astronomers the ability to do useful scientific observations.

In 2013 we started construction of our observatory and we have completed it this year. The SCC Observatory houses a Celestron 14 inch SCT on a Sky Watcher EQ8 mount. Our observatory is off grid, using two solar panels to charge a battery system that supplies 12V to the telescope and power to the laptop we use to control it, as well as LED lighting for the observatory. Other features of the observatory include a Malincam Exterminator Pro camera with a video screen system and a web hub to give our observatory a wireless link.

If you're in the Sunshine Coast we hope that you'll drop by our observatory and experience it for yourself.

You can check it out on our website:

<http://www.coastastronomy.ca>

You can check out several photos of the building process on our website:

<https://sunshinecoastastronomy.wordpress.com/our-observatory/>

## Asteroids with a Canadian Connection

by [Eric Briggs](#), Toronto Centre

The following have been added to the list of asteroids with Canadian connections:

(30596) Amdeans = 2001 QQ65

Discovered 2001 Aug. 17 by the Lincoln Laboratory Near-Earth Asteroid Research Team at Socorro. Alexander Matthew Deans (b. 1997) was awarded second place in the 2014 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for his materials and bioengineering project. He attends the Academie Ste Cecile International School, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

<http://www.rasc.ca/asteroid-30596>

(31272) Makosinski = 1998 FE18

Discovered 1998 Mar. 20 by the Lincoln Laboratory Near-Earth Asteroid Research Team at Socorro. Ann Stasia Makosinski (b. 1997) was awarded second place in the 2014 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for her electrical and mechanical engineering project. She attends the Saint Michaels University School, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

<http://www.rasc.ca/asteroid-31272>

(31276) Calvinrieder = 1998 FG28

Discovered 1998 Mar. 20 by the Lincoln Laboratory Near-Earth Asteroid Research Team at Socorro. Calvin James Rieder (b. 1997) was awarded second place in the 2014 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for his environmental management project. He attends the Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School, Oakville, Ontario, Canada.

<http://www.rasc.ca/asteroid-31276>

(31282) Nicoleticea = 1998 FD35

Discovered 1998 Mar. 20 by the Lincoln Laboratory Near-Earth Asteroid Research Team at Socorro. Nicole Sabina Ticea (b. 1998) was awarded second place in the 2014 Intel International Science and

Engineering Fair for her medicine and health sciences project. She attends the York House School, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.  
<http://www.rasc.ca/asteroid-31282>

These are listed on the Web site, [www.rasc.ca/canadian-asteroids](http://www.rasc.ca/canadian-asteroids).

## ➤ Across the RASC

### **Kingston & Belleville Annual Star Party Fall'N'Stars 2015**

by [Greg Latiak](#), VP Kingston Centre, Chair Fall'N'Stars

The Kingston & Belleville Annual Star Party Fall'N'Stars 2015 the weekend of September 11th - 13th.

It will be held at Camp Sagonaska in the Vanderwater Conservation Area Boy Scout Camping Area, Thomasburg, Ontario.

Amateur astronomers are invited to join us for a rustic weekend of star gazing along with social events including astronomy presentations, a catered dinner Saturday night, walking trails and perhaps a bit of rocketry.

This year we are fortunate to have David McCarter presenting. Further information may be found at <http://rascbelleville.ca/fallnstars/>

## ➤ Bulletin Photo of the Month

### **IC1396**

by [Dan Meek](#), Calgary Centre



IC1396 is a dense globule within the ionized gas region IC1396 more commonly known as the Elephant Trunk Nebula.

This is a 9 hour narrowband image taken with an 11" EDGE SCT and QSI583wsg CCD 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>.



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