

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

OBSERVER'S CALENDAR

2004



JANUARY

Auroral Fire and Ice

Here is a study in contrasts that join the Sun's energy to Earth's soil and air. Dark foreground trees point to high thin clouds, which glow like ice backlit by an aurora's red flames. As the recent solar maximum subsides, these displays will become rarer in the next few years.

Photo by Rod Innes

J · · ·				Photo by Koa Innes		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible in second half of month low in SE in morning twilight Venus: low in SW in evening twilight, sets in SW by 8pm Mars: high in SSW after dark, sets in W near midnight Jupiter: rises in E after 9 pm, visible for rest of night Saturn: in E after dark, very low in WNW at start of morning twilight	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	"Somewhere, In The Centre of Night A Plasma Explosion, Of Sun Kissed Flight. "Ions, Charged Magnetically Right She Waits; She Receives A Curtain of Light!" G. Holsten	40°N 50°N 1:51 2:06 Rise 12:52 12:34]	Set 2:51 3:15 Rise 13:17 12:50 2	Set 3:52 4:25 Rise 13:46 13:11 Sunrise 7:22 7:58 Sunset 16:47 16:10
40°N 50°N Set 4:53 5:34 Rise 14:19 13:38 Quadrantid meteors peak Earth at perihelion (147,094,300 km) 1 am Earth at perihelion (147,094,300 km)		Set 6:50 7:40 Rise 15:48 14:58	Set 7:42 8:31 7 Rise 16:43 15:55 Full Moon 10:40	Set 8:27 9:11 Rise 17:45 17:02	Set 9:05 9:42 Rise 18:50 18:14 Ceres at opposition	Set 9:37 10:06 Rise 19:56 19:30 10 Sunrise 7:22 7:56 Sunset 16:53 16:19
Set 10:05 10:25 Rise 21:02 20:45	Set 10:30 10:42 Rise 22:09 22:01 12	Set 10:54 10:57 Rise 23:16 23:18 13	M.W. Burke-Gaffney, Professor Emeritus of Astronomy, SMU, dies 25 years ago	Rise 0:25 0:37 0:37 11:44 11:28 15 Einstein Observatory begins examining sky in X-rays, 25 years ago	Rise 1:37 2:00 16	## April 1
Rise 4:10 4:52 Set 13:32 12:48	## A0°N 50°N Flise 5:25 6:14 19 Rise 5:25 6:14 19 Hartin Luther King Jr. Day (USA)	Rise 6:33 7:24 20	Rise 7:30 8:16 Set 16:47 16:02 New Moon 16:05	Rise 8:16 8:53 22 Set 18:03 17:28 22 Chinese New Year	Rise 8:52 9:20 23	Rise 9:22 9:40 Set 20:27 20:12 Sunrise 7:15 7:45 Sunset 17:09 16:40
Rise 9:47 9:56 25 Set 21:33 21:28 25	Rise 10:10 10:11 26	## 40°N 50°N 10:32 10:24 27 Rise	Rise 10:54 10:38 28	Set 0:41 1:02 29 Rise 11:18 10:54 First Quarter 1:03	Set 1:42 2:12 30	Set 2:43 3:21 Rise 12:17 11:38 3 1 Sunrise 7:10 7:36 Sunset 17:17 16:52

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FEBRUARY

Greetings from the Deep South

Only thirty degrees from the South Pole, the Large Magellanic Cloud on the right is drifting as a satellite galaxy to our own Milky Way, whose central disc of dark nebulae, stellar furnaces, and new starclouds flow as a great river of light. At the left, the dark Coal Sack sits under the Southern Cross; and the brilliant Carina Nebula dominates this sweep of the Milky Way. Photo by Alan Dyer

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Set 3:44 4:29 Rise 12:55 12:09	Set 40°N 50°N Rise 4:42 5:31 13:40 12:51	Set 5:36 6:26 Rise 14:34 13:44	Set 6:23 7:10 Rise 15:34 14:48	Set 7:04 7:44 Rise 16:38 16:00 5	Set 7:38 8:10 Rise 17:45 17:16 Full Moon 3:47	Set 8:08 8:31 Rise 18:53 18:33 Sunrise 7:03 7:25 Sunset 17:26 17:04
Set 8:34 8:48 O	\$\frac{40^0N}{8.58} \frac{50^0N}{9:03}\$\$\$	First flight of Russian cosmonaut, Sergei Krikalev, on U.S. spacecraft, 10 years ago Challenger launches for 1st untethered space walks, 20 years ago 40°N 50°N Set 9:22 9:18	Set 9:47 9:34 1 1 Rise 23:28 23:48	Mariner 10 returns photos of Venus's cloud cover, 30 years ago 40°N 50°N Set 10:15 9:52 1 7 Rise	Rise 0:42 1:11 Set 10:47 10:15	Hise 1:56 2:36 1
Rise 20:01 19:51	Rise 21:09 21:08	Rise 22:18 22:27	Rise 23:28 23:48]	Rise 1	Rise 0:42 1:11 Set 10:47 10:15 Last Quarter 8:40 13	Set 11:27 10:45
Fritz Zwicky, who introduced morphological	Zodiacal Light visible in W after		Yuri Schwebler turns Washington Monument into largest gnomon on record, 30 years ago			Valentine's Day
Classification of galaxies, dies 30 years ago	Rise 40°N 50°N 4:19 5:11 Set 13:15 12:24	Rise 5:19 6:08 Set 14:24 13:37	Rise 6:08 6:50 Set 15:38 14:59	Rise 6:47 7:20 Set 16:53 16:23	Rise 7:19 7:42 Set 18:05 17:46 New Moon 4:18	Rise 7:46 8:00 Set 19:14 19:04 Sunrise 6:46 7:00 Sunset 17:42 17:28
	President's Day (USA) Winter Star Party, Florida Keys www.scas.org (through Feb. 24)					
Rise 8:10 8:15 Set 20:20 20:20 20:20	Rise 8:33 8:29 23	Rise 8:55 8:43 24	Rise 9:19 8:58 25	Rise 9:45 9:15 26	Set 0.31 1.06 Rise 1.114 9:37 First Quarter 22:24	Set 1:33 2:15 Rise 10:50 10:05 28 Sunrise 6:36 6:46 Sunset 17:50 17:40
Islamic New Year	Georges van Biesbroeck, Professor Emeritus of Astronomy at Yale, dies 30 years ago Venus 3° to right of Crescent Moon best in E of N. America 7 pm		Mars 1.1° N of Crescent Moon best in S of N. America 10 pm			
Set 2:32 3:20 Rise 11:32 10:42		"The River of Heaven wheels round at night Drifting the circling stars, At Silver Bank, the floating clouds Mimic the murmur of water."		The planets this month Mercury: not easily observed Venus: low in WSW after dark, sets in W near 9 pm Mars: high in WSW after dark, sets in WNW before midnight Jupiter: rises in E near 7 pm, in WSW at start of morning twilight Saturn: high in SE after dark, sets in NW before start of morning twilight	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Columbus impresses natives with lunar eclipse, 500 years ago		Li Ho 790 AD, A Ballad of Heaven				20 29 30 31



MARCH

The Tarantula Nebula

The Large Magellanic Cloud (see February) boasts one of the most extensive H-II regions in the universe. Here in close-up, the stupendous Tarantula Nebula, which dwarfs the Orion Nebula thirtyfold, creates stars in its red cauldrons of hydrogen. These new-born stars of blue-white intensity then drift away in loose clouds and open clusters. Photo by Rajiv Gupta

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible in second half of month low in W during evening twilight Venus: in W after dark, sets in W near 10 pm Mars: in W after dark, sets in WNW before midnight upiter: in E after dark, sets in WNW during morning twilight Saturn: high in SSW after dark, sets in	Set 3:27 4:18 Rise 12:22 11:31	Set 40°N 50°N 4:17 5:06 Rise 13:19 12:31	Set 5:00 5:43 Rise 14:22 13:40 3	Set 5:37 6:12 Rise 15:29 14:55 Voyager 1 discovers ring around Jupiter, 25 years ago	Set 6:08 6:35 Rise 16:37 16:13	40°N 50°N Set 6:36 6:53 Rise 17:46 17:32 Full Moon 18:14 Sunrise 6:25 6:32 Sunset 17:58 17:51
NW by about 2:30 am				George Gamow, popularizer of astronomy and physics, is born 100 years ago Jupiter at opposition	2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in all of N. America 2:22 ar	n
Set 7:01 7:09 Rise 18:56 18:52	Set 7:25 7:24 Rise 20:06 20:12	Set 7:50 7:40 Rise 21:18 21:34	Set 8:17 7:57 Rise 22:32 22:59	40°N 50°N Set 8:48 8:18 Rise 23:47 11	Rise - 0:25 Set 9:26 8:46 12	Pise 1:02 1:49 Set 10:11 9:23 Last Quarter 16:01 Sunrise 6:14 6:17 Sunset 18:05 18:03
	Alvan Clark Sr., maker of first achromatic lenses in U.S., is born 200 years ago	Zodiacal Light visible in W after evening twilight for next two weeks			2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in most of N. America 4:16 at	
Rise 2:13 3:04 Set 11:07 10:15	Rise 3:14 4:05 Set 12:12 11:22 15	Rise 4:05 4:50 Set 13:23 12:40	Rise 4:47 5:23 Set 14:36 14:02	Rise 5:20 5:47 Set 15:48 15:24	Rise 5:48 6:05 16:57 16:43	Agon 50°N Rise 6:12 6:20 Set 18:03 17:59 New Moon 17:41 Sunrise 6:03 6:02 Sunset 18:12 18:14
Einstein born, 125 years ago					2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in W of N. America 6:10 a	m Spring Equinox 1:49 a
Histell born, 123 years ago 40°N 50°N Rise 6:35 6:34 Set 19:08 19:13	Rise 6:57 6:48 Set 20:12 20:26 22	Rise 7:20 7:02 23	Rise 7:44 7:18 Set 22:18 22:50 24	Rise 8:13 7:38 Set 23:20 25	Set 0:01 Rise 8:45 8:03	Set 0:21 1:08 Price 1:
2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in all of N. America 12:38 am		Norman R. Pogson, who discovered asteroid and variable stars, is born 175 years ago	Venus 2.3° to right of Cr. Moon 9 pm	Mars 0.6° S of Crescent Moon best in NE of N. America 8 pn	1	
40°N 50°N Set 1:18 2:09 Rise 10:11 9:20 First Quarter 18:48	Set 2:10 3:01 29	Set 2:55 3:42 Rise 12:05 11:20 3 (Set 3:34 4:13 31 12:32 31		Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the low half are given in the 12-hour clock.	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
	Mariner 10 transmits first detailed				Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details	APRIL SMTWTFS
3 shadows on Jupiter,	Mariner 10 transmits first detailed photographs of Mercury, 30 years ago Mercury at greatest elongation E (19°) best evening view in 2004 Venus at greatest elongation E (46°) 2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in most of N. America 9:16 pm	Bernard V. Schmidt, inventor of the Schmidt telescope, is born 125 years ago	dt		Please see back pages for prioto details and additional information about this Calendar.	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30





The Ecliptic Crosses the Galactic Plane

The ecliptic or the plane of the solar system is here represented by morning twilight, Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn in a line extending just under the bright Pleiades star cluster, which Venus approaches closely on April 2. The Winter Milky Way lies along the galactic plane and rises vertically to the right of Jupiter, intersecting the ecliptic in western Gemini. Photo by Roland Dechesne

				Photo by Roland Dechesne		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible with difficulty early in month low in W in evening twilight Venus: in WNW after dark, sets in NW near midnight Mars: in W after dark, sets in NW near midnight Jupiter: high in SSE after dark, sets in WNW at start of morning twilight Saturn: high in W after dark, sets in NW after 1 am	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 MAY S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Set 4:07 4:38 Rise 14:17 13:48	Set 4:36 4:58 Rise 15:25 15:07 2	Set 5:01 5:14 Rise 16:35 16:26 Sunrise 5:40 5:31 Sunset 18:27 18:36
Set 6:26 6:30 Rise 18:46 18:47 Daylight Saving Time Begins 2 am	Set 6:51 6:45 Rise 19:59 20:11 Full Moon 7:03	Set 7:17 7:01 Rise 21:14 21:37 First Day of Passover Solar Max repaired in space, 20 years ago 2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in all of N. America 12:54 am	Set 7:47 7:21 Rise 22:32 23:06	Set 8:23 7:46 Rise 23:50 8	Filse 0:34 Set 9:07 8:21	Rise 1:04 1:55 Set 10:00 9:09 10 Sunrise 6:29 6:17 Sunset 19:34 19:47
Rise 2:10 3:02 Set 1:1:04 10:12 Last Quarter 23:46 Easter Sunday	Rise 3:05 3:52 12	Rise 3:48 4:28 13:26 12:49 13	Rise 4:23 4:53 4:53 Set 14:38 14:10 14	Rise 4:52 5:12 15 Set 15:46 15:29 15	Rise 5:17 5:28 16:52 16:45	Rise 5:39 5:42 Set 17:56 17:58 17 Sunrise 6:19 6:02 Sunset 19:41 19:58
Rise 6:01 5:55 Set 18:59 19:10	Rise 6:23 6:09 Set 20:02 20:22 New Moon 9:21	Visible in most of N. America 3:31 am 40°N 50°N 50°N 6:46 6:24 21:05 21:34 20	moon, Titan, is born 375 years ago 40°N 50°N 7:13 6:42 22:08 22:46 Annual Company of the compa	Rise 7:44 7:05 22	Rise Set 8:21 7:34 23 Mars 2.7° below the Crescent Moon with Venus nearby	Set 0:09 0:59 Pise 9:04 8:13 24 Sunrise 6:09 5:48 Sunset 19:48 20:09 International Astronomy Day www.astroleague.org/al/astroday/astroday.html
Set 1:03 1:55 9:55 9:03 25	not visible in North America 40°N 50°N 1:50 2:39 Rise 10:52 10:04 26	Set 2:31 3:14 Rise 11:54 11:12 First Quarter 13:32	Set 3:06 3:41 28	Lyrid meteors peak 12 am	Set 40°N 50°N 4:02 4:19 30 Rise 15:13 14:59	"Amid a transparent clear belt of ether yet left in the east, Ascends large and calm the lord-star Jupiter, And nigh at hand, only a very little above, Swim the delicate sisters the Pleiades." Walt Whitman, Leaves Of Grass





Upon Reflection, A Nebula

In the vicinity of the bright reddish-yellow star Antares and the impressive globular cluster M4 above it, massive clouds of dust-grains reflect light from hot new stars in "a rhapsody of blue," lilac, and purple. The nascent stellar winds are blowing dark clouds and dust grains to other parts of the galaxy for future acts of stellar creation. Photo by Stephen Barnes

				Photo by Stephen Barnes		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: not easily observed Venus: low in WNW after dark, lost in twilight by end of month Mars: low in WNW in evening twilight, sets in NW soon after dark Jupiter: high in SW after dark, sets in WNW near 3 am Saturn: low in W after dark, sets in NW near midnight	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this	APRIL S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30				Set 4:26 4:34 Rise 16:22 16:18 Sunrise 6:00 5:36 Sunset 19:55 20:19
Set 40°N 50°N Rise 17:33 17:40	Set 5:16 5:05 Rise 18:48 19:05	27 28 29 30 40°N 50°N Set 5:44 5:23 Rise 20:06 20:35 Full Moon 16:33	Set 6:17 5:45 Rise 21:27 22:07	Set 6:58 6:16 Rise 22:46 23:35	Set 7:49 6:59 Rise 23:58	Rise 0:51 Set 8:51 7:59 Sunrise 5:51 5:24 Sunset 20:02 20:30
Venus at greatest brilliancy 40°N 50°N Rise 0.59 1.49 Set 10:02 9:13	Rise 1:48 2:30 10	n-Aquarid meteors peak 1 pm Total Lunar Eclipse not visible in North America Rise 2:26 2:59 Set 12:29 11:58 Last Quarter 7:04	Rise 2:56 3:20 12	Rise 3:22 3:36 Set 14:45 14:34 13	Rise 3:45 3:50 Set 15:49 15:48	Hise 40°N 50°N 4:06 4:03 15 16:59 15 13 Sunset 20:09 20:40
Mother's Day Multiple Mirror Telescope is dedicated at Mt. Hopkins, Arizona, 25 years ago 40°N 50°N Rise 4:28 4:17 Set 17:54 18:10	Hise 4:51 4:31 7 Set 18:56 19:22	Rise 5:16 4:48 Set 19:59 20:33	Rise 5:45 5:09 Set 21:01 21:44	Rise 6:19 5:35 2 6 8 22:01 22:50	Mercury at greatest elongation W (26°) not easily observed 40°N 50°N 7:00 6:11 Set 22:57 23:49	Rise 7:49 6:57 77 Set 23:47 7
Texas Star Party, Fort Davis, TX www.texasstarparty.org (through May 23)	17		New Moon 0:52	Sidney van den Bergh, known for extragalactic nebulae and star clusters, is born 75 years ago	USSR Academy of Sciences opens Central Observatory, 50 years and	Sunrise 5:39 5:05 Sunset 20:15 20:49
Set 40°N 50°N 7:54 23	Set 0:29 1:15 Pisse 9:43 8:59	Set 1:05 1:44 10:46 10:10 25	Set 40°N 50°N 1:36 2:06 Rise 11:51 11:24 26	Set 2:03 2:24 Rise 12:56 12:39 First Quarter 3:57	40°N 50°N 2:27 2:39 Rise 14:03 13:54	Set 2:51 2:54 Rise 15:11 15:12 29 Sunrise 5:34 4:58 Sunset 20:21 20:58
Saturn 1.6° S of Mars 11 pm	Victoria Day (Canada)		David Gill reaches the Cape as Director of Royal Cape Observatory, 125 years ago		Riverside Telescope Makers Conference, Big Bear, CA, www.rtmc-inc.org (through May 30)	ia i
Set 3:15 3:08 Rise 16:22 16:34 30	Set 3:40 3:25 31 Rise 17:37 18:00 31 Memorial Day (USA)	**************************************	"Millions and whole myriads of millions of centuries will flow on, during which always new worlds and systems of worlds will be formed."			



The Moon Casts a Long Shadow
Why are the edges of this unusual portrait of a total solar eclipse so bright and sunlit? It is a visually extraordinary demonstration of how the Moon's conical shadow reaches Earth surrounded by the light of the Sun. The transit of Venus on June 8 is a much rarer example of a solar-system body crossing the Sun's disk. Photo by Alan Dyer

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: not observable Venus: slowly emerges in ENE morning twilight in second half of month Mars: visible with difficulty in evening twilight very low in WNW early in month Jupiter: low in W after dark, sets in WNW near midnight Saturn: lost in WNW evening twilight early in month		Set 4:10 3:44 Rise 18:56 19:30	Set 4:47 4:10 Rise 20:17 21:02	Set 5:34 4:47 Rise 21:36 22:27 Full Moon 0:20	Set 6:32 5:40 Rise 22:44 23:36	Set 7:41 6:50 Rise 23:40 5 Sunrise 5:32 4:53 Sunset 20:26 21:05
Rise 0:26 Set 8:57 8:13	Rise 0:24 1:01 Set 10:14 9:40	Rise 0.58 1:25 Set 11:27 11:03	Rise 1:26 1:43 Set 12:36 12:23 Last Quarter 16:02	Largest Full Moon of 2004 Closest Lunar Perigee of 2004 40°N 50°N Rise 1:50 1:58 Set 13:42 13:38	Rise 2:12 2:11 Set 14:45 14:50	Rise 2:33 2:25 Set 15:47 16:01 Sunrise 5:31 4:51 Sunset 20:29 21:10
Rise 2:56 2:38 Set 16:49 17:12	Rise 3:20 2:54 Set 17:52 18:23	Venus in inferior conjunction Venus Transits the Sun end visible after sunrise in central & eastern USA and prairie & eastern Canada 40°N 50°N Rise 3:48 3:14 Set 18:54 19:34	Hise 4:20 3:38 Set 19:54 20:41	Rise 4:59 4:11 7	Pluto at opposition A0°N 50°N	Rise 6:38 5:47 Set 22:28 23:15
361 10.49 17.12	J Set 17.32 16.23	10.54 15.54		New Moon 16:27 1		Sunrise 5:31 4:50 Sunset 20:32 21:13
Rise 7:36 6:51 20	Rise 8:39 8:00 Set 23:38 21	Set 0:11 Rise 9:42 9:12	Set 0:06 0:30 23	Set 0:31 0:46 Rise 11:51 11:39	Set 0.53 1:00 Rise 12:56 12:54 First Quarter 15:08	Set 1:16 1:14 Rise 14:04 14:11 Sunrise 5:33 4:52 Sunset 20:33 21:13
### Set	Set 2:07 1:46 28	Set 2:39 2:08 Rise 17:48 18:28 29	Jupiter 2.3° S of Moon 11 pm Set 3:20 2:38 Rise 19:07 19:56	"The Sun's rim dips; the stars rush out: At one stride comes the dark; With far-heard whisper, o'er the sea, Off shot the spectre-bark." Coleridge, Rime Of The Ancient Marine	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	Ulysses is first vehicle to fly over a solar pole, 10 years ago MAY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



JULY

The Trifid Nebula's Milky Way

At centre, the Trifid Nebula (M20) floats in a sea of stars and dark and emission nebulae. The larger Lagoon Nebula (M8) is also creating stars in its red clouds of hydrogen but lacks the Trifid's additional blue colour from one of the largest reflection nebulae in the night sky. The yellow colour in the surrounding star-fields is the result of obscuring dust near the galactic core.

Photo by Kevin Black

J				Photo by Kevin Black		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible with difficulty only near mid-month very low in WNW after sunset Venus: very low in ENE in morning twilight Mars: not observable Jupiter: low in W in evening twilight,	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time.	JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		Set 4:12 3:22 Rise 20:21 21:14	Set 5:16 4:23 Rise 21:25 22:14 Full Moon 7:09	Set 6:31 5:42 Rise 22:15 22:56 Sunrise 5:36 4:57 Sunset 20:32 21:12
sets in W less than 3 hours after Sun Saturn: not observable	Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Canada Day Saheki observes bright flare at Edom Promontorium, Mars, 50 years ago Cassini probe arrives today at Saturn after 7-year journey	RASC General Assembly, St. John's www.rasc.ca/ga2004 (through Jul. 4)	
Set 7:49 7:11 Rise 22:54 23:26	Set 9:07 8:39 Rise 23:26 23:47 5	Rise 23:52 6	Rise - 0:03 7	40°N 50°N 0:15 0:18 Set 12:35 12:37	90°N 50°N Rise 0:37 0:31 Set 13:39 13:50 Last Quarter 3:34	A0°N 50°N 1:00 0:45 Set 14:42 15:02 Sunrise 5:40 5:03 Sunset 20:30 21:08
Independence Day (USA) Crab supernova explodes, 950 years ago Venus 1.1° N of Aldebaran best in S of N. America 5 am 40°N 50°N Rise 1:23 1:00 Set 1:5:44 16:13	Earth at aphelion (152,095,300 km) 7 am 40°N 50°N Rise 1:50 1:18 Set 16:47 17:24	Rise 2:21 1:41 3 Set 17:48 18:33	Rise 2:58 2:11 Set 18:46 19:36	40°N 50°N Rise 3:41 2:51 Set 19:40 20:31	Juno at opposition 40°N 50°N Rise 4:33 3:41 Set 20:27 21:16	Mars 0.2° SW of Mercury best in S of N. America 40°N 50°N Rise 5:30 4:42 Set 2:107 2:150
Skylab 1 crashes to Earth in Australia, 25 years ago	12	Aristarch Belopolsky, discoverer of spectroscopic binaries, born 150 years ago	Sir Thomas Maclear, Director of Royal Cape Observatory, dies 125 years ago Venus at greatest brilliancy		Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 strikes Jupiter, 10 years ago	New Moon 7:24 Sunrise 5:46 5:10 Sunset 20:26 21:01
Rise 6:32 5:51 Set 21:41 22:16	Rise 7:35 7:03 19	Rise 8:40 8:17 20	Rise 9:44 9:30 21	Rise 10:48 10:44 22 23:20 23:20	Rise 11:54 11:58 23:43 23:34 23	## 40°N 50°N 13:16
Set 0:08 - 14:13 14:37 25	Set 0.37 0.09 26	Set 40°N 50°N Rise 16:44 17:29 27	Set 1:57 1:10 28	Set 2:54 2:02 29 Rise 19:06 19:59	Set 4:03 3:12 30	Set 5:21 4:37 Rise 20:47 21:23 Full Moon 14:05 Sunrise 5:58 5:29 Sunset 20:14 20:43
	Mercury at greatest elongation E (27°)	S. δ-Aquarid meteors peak 3 pm				Second Full Moon this Month sometimes called a "Blue Moon"



AUGUST

Star Trails, Meteor Trail

A Perseid meteor streaks through this beautifully composed juxtaposition of seemingly static Earth and moving stars. This month's Perseid meteor shower (August 12) should be particularly notable thanks to a new Moon and consequently dark skies, thereby enabling more accurate counts of the shower's intensity.

Photo by Ron Berard

				_								Photo by Re	on Berard						
SU	NDAY	<i>r</i>	M	ONDAY	7	TU	ESDAY		WED	NESD		TH	URSD		F	RIDAY		SATURDA	
Set Rise	40°N 50°N 6:40 6:07 21:22 21:48	1	Set Rise Civic Holiday	40°N 50°N 7:57 7:35 21:51 22:07	2	Set Rise	40°N 50°N 9:10 8:58 22:16 22:22	3	Set Rise	40°N 50°I 10:19 10:1' 22:39 22:39	4	• Set Rise		5	, Set Rise	40°N 50°N 12:30 12:47 23:25 23:05	6	40°N 50°N Set 13:34 14:00 Rise 23:51 23:22 Last Quarter 18:01 Sunrise 6:04 5:39 Sunset 20:06 20:32	
Set	40°N 50°N 14:37 15:12	O	Rise	40°N 50°N 0:21	0	Rise	40°N 50°N ¬	10	Rise	40°N 50°I 1:37 0:4	V 1 1	Neptune at op	40°N 50°	N 1 7	Rise	40°N 50°N . 3:21 2:32	12	40°N 50°N Rise 4:22 3:39	4/
Rise	23:43	8	Set	15:40 16:23	9	Rise Set	0:55 0:11 16:39 17:29	IU	Rise	1:37 0:4 17:35 18:2	711	Rise	2:26 1:3 18:24 19:1	4 12	Set	19:07 19:52	13	Set 19:42 20:20 Sunrise 6:11 5:49 Sunset 19:57 20:19	14
															www.stellafane.	rention, Springfield, com (through Aug. Star Party, Cypress	14)	Mount Kobau Star Party, Osoyo	os, BC
Di Di	40°N 50°N	1 /	Pier	40°N 50°N	1/	Piece	40°N 50°N -	17	Dies	40°N 50°I 8:41 8:3 21:25 21:2	110	Perseid meteo	40°N 50°	7 am		40°N 50°N 10:54 11:06 22:12 21:56	h Aug. 15)	Mount Kobau Star Party, Osoyo www.mksp.ca (through Aug. 22) 40°N 50°N Rise 12:03 12:25	01
Rise Set New M	5:26 4:51 20:13 20:42 loon 21:24		Rise	40°N 50°N 6:31 6:05 20:39 20:59	16	Rise	40°N 50°N 7:36 7:20 21:03 21:14	I/	Rise	8:41 8:3: 21:25 21:2i	§ 18	Rise	9.47 9.4 21:48 21:4	19	Rise	22:12 21:56	20	Rise 12:03 12:25 Set 22:39 22:13 Sunrise 6:18 5:59 Sunset 19:48 20:06	
									1										
				10011 50011		Venus at greate	est elongation W (46°)		40011 5001	N	Starfest, Mount	fest.com (throug		Nova East, Smi halifax.rasc.ca/i	ley's Provincial Par ne (through Aug. 22	rk, NS 2)	40001 50000	
Pise Set	40°N 50°N 13:16 13:48 23:11 22:36	22	Rise Set First	40°N 50°N 14:31 15:13 23:51 23:07 Quarter 6:12	23	Rise Set	40°N 50°N 15:44 16:35 23:50	24	Set Rise	40°N 50°I 0:42 16:53 17:40	25	Set Rise	40°N 50° ₁ 1:44 0:5 17:52 18:4	26	Set Rise	40°N 50°N 2:57 2:09 18:40 19:21	27	Set 4:14 3:36 Rise 19:18 19:49 Sunrise 6:24 6:10 Sunset 19:37 19:51	
	40°N 50°N			40°N 50°N			40°N 50°N		Hulse & Taylor d 30 years ago	iscover binary	pulsar,				Uranus at oppo	osition			
Set Rise Full Mo	5:32 5:04 19:49 20:10	29	Set Rise	40°N 50°N 6:47 6:30 20:16 20:26	9 0	Set Rise	40°N 50°N 7:58 7:52 20:40 20:41	31				low in ENE at Mars: not obse Jupiter: very lo half of month	bservable 5 hours before 8 start of morning rvable w in W after sun emerges in ENE	g twilight nset in first	are in the 24-ho half are given in Eastern time is set events whic Detailed instruc- for location are Please see bac	per half of the daily ur clock; times in th the 12-hour clock. used, except for ris h are given in local tions on adjusting t given in the back p k pages for photo o nformation about th	he lower se and time. times ages.	4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 18 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29 SEPTEMBER S M T W T	1 2 3 3 9 10 5 16 17 2 23 24 9 30 31 F F S 2 3 4 9 10 11 6 17 18 3 24 25
			from Saturn, 25	ins transmitting ph 5 years ago	- g. sp. 10									-					



SEPTEMBER

A North American Neighbour

At the far right is a portion of North American Nebula in Cygnus. Dominating this portrait is the nearby but relatively unknown H-II region Sharpless 2-119. Its elusive light is even fainter than the Pelican Nebula, which lies a few degrees to the west. Can it be detected visually with the aid of O-III or H-Beta filters? Photo by John Mirtle

				Photo by John Mirile		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible in E in evening twilight, except for last week of month Venus: rises nearly 4 hours before Sun in ENE, low in E at start of morning twilight Mars: not observable	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time.	AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Set 9:07 9:10 Rise 21:02 20:55	40°N 50°N Set 10:13 10:27 Rise 21:26 21:09	Set 11:19 11:42 Rise 21:51 21:25	Set 12:24 12:56 Rise 22:19 21:45 Sunrise 6:31 6:20 Sunset 19:26 19:37
Jupiter: not observable Saturn: rises after 1 am in ENE, in E at start of morning twilight	Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Harding discovers Juno, 3rd asteroid found 200 years ago Venus 2.0° S of Saturn 5 am			Elizabeth Roemer, who recovered 37 periodic comets, is born 75 years ago
40°N 50°N Set 13:28 14:09 Rise 22:52 22:09	Set 14:30 15:18 Rise 23:31 22:42 Last Quarter 11:11	Set 15:27 16:19 Rise 23:25	40°N 50°N Rise 0:17 Set 16:19 17:11	Rise 1:11 0:19 Set 17:04 17:52	Rise 2:10 1:23 10	40°N 50°N Rise 3:13 2:34 Set 18:14 18:47 1 1
	Labour Дау			Alberta Star Party, Caroline, AB www.syz.com/rasc/asp.htm (through Sep. 12) Mercury at greatest elongation W (18°) best morning view in 2004	Mercury 0.2° below Regulus 6 am	40°N 50°N
Rise 4:18 3:48 Set 18:42 19:05 12	Rise 5:24 5:04 19:06 19:21 13	Rise 6:30 6:19 Set 19:29 19:35 New Moon 10:29	Rise 7:36 7:35 15 15 Set 19:52 19:48	Rise 8:44 8:53 Set 20:16 20:03 16	Rise 9:54 10:13 17	Rise 11:07 11:36 Set 21:12 20:40 Sunrise 6:44 6:41 Sunset 19:03 19:06
	Vesta at opposition Zodiacal Light visible in E before morning twilight for next two weeks			Rosh Hashanah	4004 5004	40041 50041
Rise 12:22 13:02 19 Set 21:50 21:07	Rise 13:36 14:25 20	Rise 14:46 15:39 Set 23:35 22:41 First Quarter 11:54	Rise Set 15:46 16:38 22	Set 0:42 0:42 16:36 17:21 23	Set 1:57 1:14 Rise 17:17 17:52	Set 3:12 2:40 Rise 17:49 18:14 Sunrise 6:51 6:52 Sunset 18:51 18:50
	,		10.00			Yom Kippur
Set 40°N 50°N 268 4:27 4:05 Rise 18:16 18:31	Set 5:38 5:28 Rise 18:41 18:46 27	Set 6:48 6:47 Rise 19:04 19:00 Full Moon 9:09	Fall Equinox 12:30 pm Set 7:55 8:04 Rise 19:27 19:14	Set 9:02 9:20 30 Rise 19:51 19:29		
		Dr. John Chapman, a founder of Canadian space program, dies 25 years ago	1			

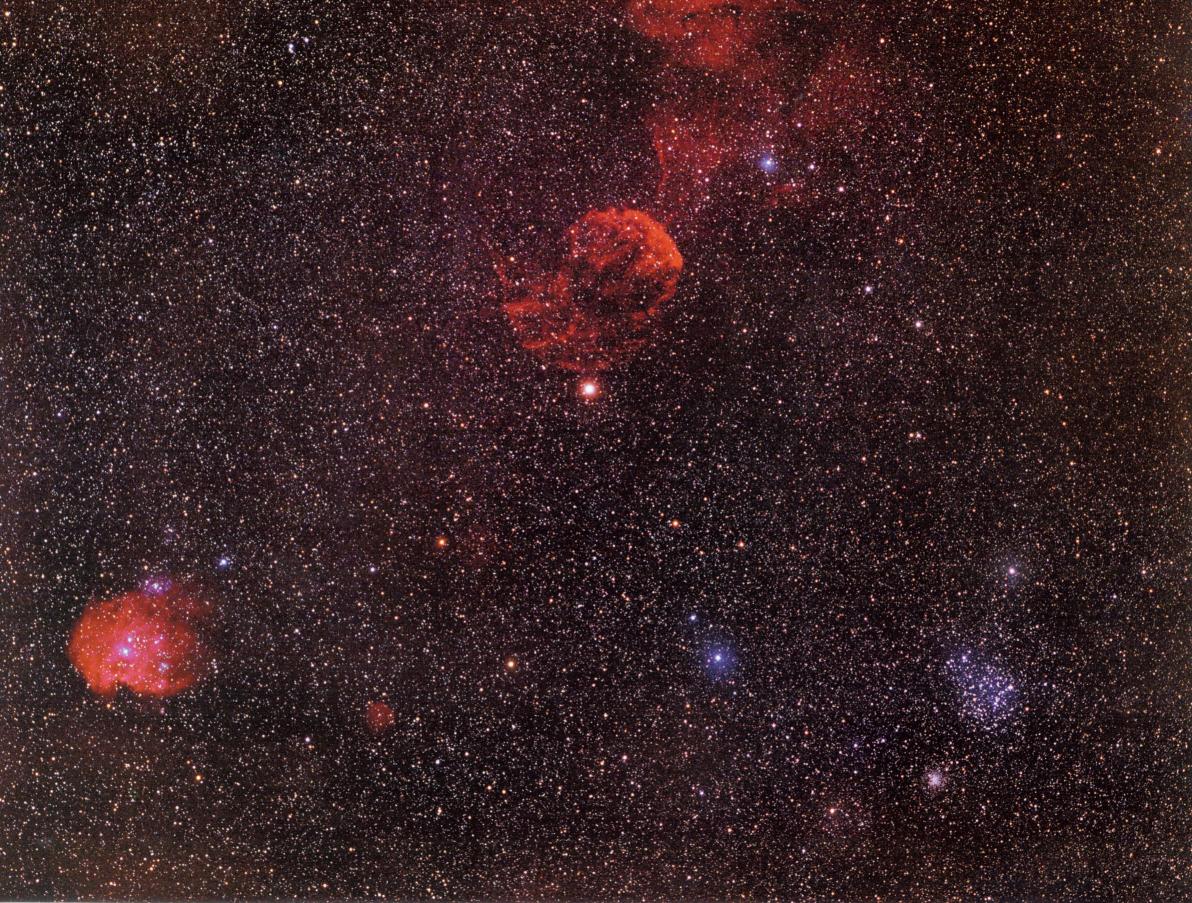


OCTOBER

M33 and NGC 604 Face-On

The galaxy M33 in Triangulum appears here in an observatory-quality image taken only with amateur equipment. Young Population I stars in the spiral arms contrast with the older yellow Population II stars in the nucleus. Red NGC 604 at the upper right, with a diameter of 1000 light years, is one of the largest H-II regions in the universe (see also March). Photo by Tony Hallas

			Proto by Tony Hallas		
SUNDAY MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: not observable Venus: rises nearly 3.5 hours before Sun, low in E at start of morning twilight Mars: slowly emerges in ESE morning twilight in last week of month Jupiter: emerges in E morning twilight during month SE at start of morning twilight Times in the upper half of the daily box are in the 24-hour clock; times in the low half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 1 4 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13			Set 10:08 10:36 19:47	Set 11:13 11:51 Rise 20:49 20:09 Sunrise 6:58 7:02 Sunset 18:40 18:35
Set 12:17 13:02 3 Set 13:17 14:08 Rise 21:25 20:38 3 Rise 22:09 21:17	40°N 50°N Set 14:12 15:05 Rise 22:59 22:07	Set 14:59 15:50 Rise 23:56 23:07 Last Quarter 6:12	Set 15:40 16:24 7	40°N 50°N Rise 0:58 0:15 Set 16:14 16:50	Hise 2:02 1:28 Set 16:43 17:10 Sunrise 7:05 7:13 Sunset 18:29 18:20
and their orbits, is born 150 years ago Venus 0.3° W of Regulus 6 am	Mark Garneau becomes first Canadian in space, 20 years ago				
Rise 3:07 2:42 10 Rise 4:13 3:58 Set 17:32 17:41 1	$1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{40^{\circ}N}{\text{Rise}} & \frac{50^{\circ}N}{5:19} & \frac{50^{\circ}N}{5:14} \\ \text{Set} & \frac{17:54}{17:54} & \frac{17:55}{17:55} \end{bmatrix} 2$	Rise 6:27 6:32 Set 18:18 18:09 New Moon 22:48	Rise 7:38 7:53 Set 18:43 18:24	Rise 8:52 9:17 Set 19:12 18:43	Rise 10:08 10:45 Set 19:48 19:09 Sunrise 7:12 7:24 Sunset 18:18 18:06
Thanksgiving Day (Canada) Columbus Day (USA)	Magellan mission ends after orbiting Venus	3		First day of Ramadân	
Kepler discovers supernova in Ophiucht 400 years ago	for 4 years, 10 years ago Sodiacal Light visible in E before morning twilight for next two weeks	Partial Solar Eclipse not visible in North America, except western Alaska		Asaph Hall Sr., who discovered Mars's two moons, is born 175 years ago	Siding Spring Observatory in Australia is dedicated, 30 years ago
Rise 11:25 12:12 Rise 12:38 13:31 Set 21:28 20:34	Rise 13:42 14:36 Set 22:34 21:41	Rise 14:36 15:23 Set 23:46 23:00 First Quarter 17:59	Rise Set 15:18 15:56 21	Set 1:01 0:25 Rise 15:52 16:20	Set 2:14 1:49 Rise 16:20 16:38 Sunrise 7:20 7:36 Sunset 18:08 17:52
		Orionid meteors peak 11 pm			
Set 3:25 3:11 Rise 16:44 16:53 24 Set 4:34 4:29 Rise 17:07 17:07 25	Set 5:40 5:45 26	Set 6:46 7:01 Rise 17:52 17:34 Full Moon 23:07	Set 7:52 8:16 Rise 18:18 17:51	Set 8:58 9:32 Prise 18:47 18:11	Set 10:03 10:45 April 10:03 Ap
		Total Lunar Eclipse			
Set 10:05 10:55 Alse 19:02 18:12 31	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Total Lunar Eclipse most of the umbral phase visible in all of North America			
Halloween					



NOVEMBER

A Deep-Sky Trio in Gemini
In the generous field given here, IC 443 is the supernova remnant just above centre. A challenging visual object, it is

In the generous field given here, IC 443 is the supernova remnant just above centre. A challenging visual object, it is detectable with the help of an O-III filter. At lower left is the H-II region NGC 2174, where stars are being formed. At lower right, M35, one of the finest of all open clusters, lies above NGC 2158, a similar cluster six times farther away. Photo by Matt BenDaniel

_ , _ , _				Photo by Matt BenDaniel		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: visible with difficulty low in SW after sunset in second half of month Venus: rises about 3 hours before Sun, very low in ESE at start of morning twilight Mars: low in ESE in morning twilight Jupiter: rises 4 hours before Sun in E, low in ESE at start of morning twilight Saturn: rises by 9 pm in ENE, high in SSW at start of morning twilight	Wind is launched to detect magnetic fields,	Set 11:53 12:45 Rise 20:45 19:53	Set 12:36 13:23 Rise 21:44 20:58	Set 13:12 13:52 Rise 22:46 22:08	40°N 50°N 50°N Set 13:43 14:14 Rise 23:50 23:21 Last Quarter 0:53	40°N 50°N Set 14:09 14:32 Rise 6 Sunrise 6:35 6:59 Sunset 16:52 16:28
	particles and waves, 10 years ago Charles W. Tuttle, who computed cometary orbits, is born 175 years ago		Isaac Newton demonstrates that comets are subject to gravitation, 325 years ago	S. Taurid meteors peak 11 pm	Jupiter 0.6° to right of Venus 6 am 2 shadows on Jupiter, visible in W of N. America 6:28 am 40°N 50°N	40°N 50°N 4
## 40°N 50°N 7 14:33 14:47 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	Rise 1:59 1:49 Set 14:55 15:00	## April	Rise 4:15 4:25 Set 15:42 15:28	Rise 5:27 5:48 Set 16:10 15:46	Rise 6:44 7:16 Set 16:43 16:08 New Moon 9:27	Rise 8:03 8:46 13 Sunrise 6:43 7:10 Sunset 16:45 16:18
	Anna Fisher, first mother in space, is launched in Discovery, 20 years ago	Jupiter 1.2° below the Crescent Moon best in NW of N. America, corresponds to a daytime occultation 8:00 am		Remembrance Day (Canada) Veteran's Day (USA) Comet van den Bergh, first comet discovered by a Canadian, 30 years ago N. Taurid meteors peak 10 pm		
Rise 9:21 10:12 Rise 9:21 17:25 14	Rise 10:32 11:26 Set 19:21 18:28 15	Rise 11:31 12:21 Set 20:34 19:46	Rise 12:18 12:59 Set 21:50 21:11	Rise 23:05 22:37 18	Rise 13:24 13:46 Set - 23:59 First Quarter 0:50	Set 0:17 Rise 13:50 14:01 20 Sunrise 6:51 7:21 Sunset 16:40 16:10
		First radio message to the stars is sent at Arecibo, Puerto Rico, 30 years ago	Leonid meteors peak 4:00 am			Mercury at greatest elongation E (22°)
Set 1:25 1:18 21	Set 2:31 2:33 22	Set 3:36 3:48 Rise 14:57 14:42 23	Set 40°N 50°N 4:41 5:02 24	Set 5:46 6:16 25 Rise 15:48 15:15	Set 6:51 7:30 Rise 16:20 15:39 Full Moon 15:07	Set 7:54 8:41 Pise 16:59 16:10 Sunrise 6:59 7:32 Sunset 16:36 16:03
				Thanksgiving Day (USA)		
Set 8:54 9:45 28	Set 9:47 10:39 Prise 18:36 17:44	Set 10:33 11:22 30 Rise 19:34 18:46			Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages.	OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 DECEMBER S M T W T F S
		Mrs. E.H. Hodges in Sylacauga, AL, struck by 4-kg meteorite, 50 years ago			Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



DECEMBER

Emission and Reflection Nebulae in Orion

The Great Orion Nebula (M42) at right dominates the H-II star-forming regions of the northern winter sky and is one of the most alluring objects for visual astronomy. Relatively neglected, the blue reflection nebula NGC 1973-75-77 has embedded red H-II areas and presents a complex interplay of bright stars and delicate tendrils of nebulosity. Photo by Jack Newton

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The planets this month Mercury: slowly emerges in SE morning twilight late in month Venus: rises about 2 hours before Sun, low in SE in morning twilight Mars: very low in ESE at start of morning twilight Jupiter: rises by 2 am in E, in SSE at start of morning twilight Saturn: rises son after dark in ENE, high in WSW at start of morning twilight	are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages.	NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Set 11:11 11:54 Rise 20:35 19:54	Set 11:43 12:18 Rise 21:37 21:05 2	Set 12:11 12:37 Rise 22:40 22:17 3	Set 12:35 12:52 Asia 23:43 23:29 Last Quarter 19:53 Sunrise 7:06 7:41 Sunset 16:35 15:59
Set 40°N 50°N 12:57 13:06 5 Nenus 1.2° N of Mars best in S of N. America 7 am	Rise 0:47 0:42 Set 13:19 13:18 6	Rise 1:53 1:58 Set 13:41 13:32 Crescent Moon occults Jupiter visible in E of N. America 4 am	Rise 3:02 3:17 Set 14:06 13:47	Rise 4:15 4:41 Set 14:36 14:07	Rise 5:33 6:10 10 Set 15:13 14:33 10 Meteorite hits a mailbox in Claxton, Georgia, 20 years ago Helios 1 is launched to observe Sun and solar wind, 30 years ago	Hise 6:53 7:40 Set 16:00 15:11 New Moon 20:29 Sunrise 7:12 7:49 Sunset 16:35 15:58
Rise 8:09 9:03 12	Rise 9:16 10:09 13 Set 18:13 17:21 13	Rise 10:11 10:56 Set 19:31 18:48 14	Rise 10:53 11:28 15 Set 20:50 20:18	Rise 11:26 11:51 16	Rise 11:53 12:08 Set 23:16 23:06 17	## A0°N 50°N S0°N Set 12:17 12:22 Set 12:17 12:22 Set 13:17 7:54 Sunset 16:37 15:59 Sir William Huggins describes ultraviolet spectra of white stars at Royal Society, 125 years ago
Set 0:24 0:23 19	Set 1:29 1:38 20 Rise 13:02 12:49 Mount Wilson Solar Observatory is founded, 100 years ago	Set 2:34 2:52 13:25 13:04 21	Set 3:38 4:06 Rise 13:51 13:21 22 Louis F.C. Brequet, creator of device to measure speed of light, is born 200 years ago Ursid meteors peak 2 am	Set 4.43 5.19 Price 14:21 13:43 23	Set 5:46 6:31 Price 14:57 14:11	Set 6:46 7:37 Pise 15:40 14:49 25 Sunrise 7:20 7:58 Sunset 16:41 16:03
Set 7:42 8:34 Pise 16:30 15:38 Pull Moon 10:06 Boxing Day (Canada)	Set 8:30 9:20 Rise 17:26 16:37 Roberta Score finds meteorite containing controversial evidence of fossil life from Mars, 20 years ago	Set 9:11 9:55 Rise 18:27 17:44 28 Maarten Schmidt, known for quasar-red-shift—	Venus 1.2° S of Mercury best in S of N. America Mercury at greatest elongation W (22°)	Set 10:13 10:42 30	Set 10:38 10:58 31 Set 21:33 21:17 31	"A stunning complex of stars in the trauma of birth, swaddled in vortices and streamers of collapsing luminous gas, a star-cradle measured by light years and charged with the energy of Creation." Chet Raymo, The Soul Of The Night

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Observer's Calendar

How to Use this Calendar

A graphical representation of the Moon's phase at midday is given in each daily box. The depicted size of the Moon varies, reflecting the change in the apparent size of the Moon in the sky as it moves closer to or farther from Earth. The depicted face of the Moon also varies to reflect lunar libration, the rocking motion of the Moon, which means that over time approximately 59% of the lunar surface can be seen from Earth. A small dot of size proportional to the amount of libration appears near the lunar limb that is librated. The daily lunar graphics were prepared using data provided by Roger Fell, who generated the data using the Lunar Calculator computer program written by Alister Ling (see www.edmontonrasc.com/software/software.html).

Daily Moon and weekly Sun rise and set times, and the times of Moon phases, are shown in the top portion of the boxes. If no Moon rise or set time is given, this event occurs the next day. Special astronomical events are given at the bottom of the boxes.

The Calendar lists events observable in some part of Canada or the continental United States. Days on which particularly interesting phenomena occur are highlighted with light-green shading. Detailed information on all events, including their visibility from particular locations, may be determined by consulting the *Observer's Handbook*, which is published annually by the RASC.

Adjusting Times for Actual Location

All times are adjusted for Daylight Saving Time. Moon phases and special events are given in Eastern time. The user's local time for events *other than* Moon and Sun rise and set may be determined by converting the given time to the user's time zone (e.g. Pacific time is Eastern time minus 3 hours).

Two sets of rise and set times are given to accommodate North American observers in midnorthern latitudes. Times are displayed for locations 40° N latitude and 75° W longitude and for 50° N, 75° W. The actual times for a given location must be calculated using the tables at the right.

The tables give corrections in minutes to the tabulated rise and set times for selected Canadian and US cities. In the column labelled **Correction**, an entry such as 50° N + 25° means add 25 minutes to the displayed 50° N time. This computed time is an approximation. In the column labelled **Accuracy**, the approximate maximum error in minutes for Moon rise and set using this method is indicated. The error for Sun rise and set is less. These errors can be substantially reduced by interpolating according to latitude, as explained in the following section.

Note that the rise and set times calculated using the above method *will be local times*. It is not necessary to adjust them for time zone.

Canadian Locations					
City	Correction	Accuracy	Latitude		
Calgary	50°N + 36	15	51		
Charlottetown	40°N + 12	20	46		
Edmonton	50°N + 34	25	54		
Halifax	40°N + 14	25	45		
Hamilton	40°N + 20	15	43		
Kingston	40°N + 6	20	44		
Kitchener	40°N + 22	15	43		
London	40°N + 25	15	43		
Moncton	40°N + 19	20	46		
Montreal	50°N − 6	20	46		
Niagara	40°N + 16	15	43		
Kelowna	50° N − 3	10	50		
Ottawa	50°N + 3	20	45		
Prince George	50°N + 11	25	54		
Québec	50° N - 15	15	47		
Regina	50°N + 58 (1)	10	50		
St. John's	50°N + 1	20	48		
Sarnia	40°N + 30	15	43		
Saskatoon	50°N + 67 (1)	15	52		
Thunder Bay	50°N + 57	10	48		
Toronto	40°N + 18	20	44		
Vancouver	50°N + 12	15	49		
Victoria	50°N + 13	20	49		
Windsor	40°N + 32	15	42		
Winnipeg	50°N + 29	5	50		

City	Correction	Accuracy	Latitude	
Atlanta	40°N + 37	30	34	
Boston	40° N - 16	10	42	
Chicago	40° N - 10	15	42	
Cincinnati	40°N + 38	10	39	
Denver	40°N + 0	10	40	
Flagstaff	40°N + 27 (1)	30	35	
Kansas City	40°N + 18	10	39	
Los Angeles	40° N − 7	35	34	
Minneapolis	40°N + 13	25	45	
New York	40° N − 4	5	41	
San Francisco	40°N + 10	20	38	
Seattle	50°N + 9	20	48	
Tucson	40° N + 24 (1)	40	32	
Washington	40°N + 8	5	39	

⁽¹⁾ Subtract 60 minutes in the summer.

Other Locations, and Improving Accuracy

For locations not listed in the tables to the left, the user should calculate a correction factor. This amount is +4 minutes for each degree that the user's location is west of the central meridian of the user's time zone or –4 minutes for each degree that it is east. This correction factor should be added to the displayed 50° N or 40° N time for the location whose latitude is nearest that of the user's site. The accuracy in minutes for Moon rise and set can be calculated by multiplying the difference in latitude between the user's location and that of the 50° N or 40° N site used by 4.5 and adding 0.2 times the difference in longitude.

Improvement in accuracy may be obtained for many sites by interpolating or extrapolating the 50°N and 40°N times depending on the user's latitude. For example, the latitude of Ottawa is approximately midway between 50°N and 40°N. An observer in Ottawa can improve accuracy to better than 5 minutes by averaging the given 50°N and 40°N times and then adding the correction factor for Ottawa, which is 3 minutes. Western observers may gain additional accuracy by adding about 10% of the difference between the listed time and the next day's time.

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Since it was founded in 1890, the RASC has filled a special role in both amateur and professional astronomy. Today, it has over 4700 members worldwide who share a passion for the night sky and make contributions to astronomy in many ways.

The RASC has a long tradition of high-quality, volunteer-produced publications. The *Observer's Handbook* has been published since 1908 and is recognized worldwide as the leading handbook of its type. The *Journal*, now in its 97th year of publication, contains articles of interest to amateur and professional astronomers. The *Beginner's Observing Guide* is an introduction to the night sky for the novice observer, and the *Observer's Calendar* is a forum for astrophotography by amateur astronomers.

For information on joining the Society, or to order an RASC publication, contact the national office at:

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Toronto ON M5R 1V2
Canada
888-924-7272 (toll free in Canada) or 416-924-7973

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www.rasc.ca

The Photos and the Calendar

Details on the photos are given below and to the right. Monthly grids were generated using custom software written in the Fortran and PostScript programming languages.

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Digital Film Output

Copydot, Burnaby, B.C.

Printing

University of Toronto Press Inc.



Cover/December (Emission and Reflection Nebulae in Orion): Composite mosaic LRGB image formed using MaxIm DL and Photoshop from a total of 8 CCD images: 2 each at 6 minutes, 6 minutes, 7 minutes, and 7 minutes through L, R, G, and B filters respectively, on a Finger Lakes Dream Machine CCD camera using a 7-inch f/9 refractor (Jack Newton).



January (Auroral Fire and Ice): 30-second fixed-tripod exposure on Fuji Superia 400 colour negative film using a 35-mm lens at f/4; taken Mar. 23, 2002 from Powell River, British Columbia (Rod Innes).



February (Greetings from the Deep South): 15-minute piggyback exposure on Kodak Ektachrome E200 slide film using a 28-mm lens at f/3.5; photo taken from Australia (Alan Dyer).



March (The Tarantula Nebula): Composite image formed using RegiStar and Photoshop from 2 exposures, 130 minutes redfiltered and 165 minutes cyan-filtered on gas-hypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan black-and-white film using a 5-inch f/6 refractor (Rajiv Gupta).



April (The Ecliptic Crosses the Galactic Plane): 10-minute piggyback exposure on Kodak Elite 200 slide film using a 15-mm lens at f/4; taken Aug. 26, 2001 approximately 80 minutes before sunrise from Mount Kobau, British Columbia (Roland Dechesne).



May (Upon Reflection, A Nebula): Composite image formed using RegiStar and Photoshop from 3 exposures, each 7 minutes on Kodak Ektachrome E200 slide film using an 8-inch f/1.5 Schmidt camera (Stephen Barnes).



June (The Moon Casts a Long Shadow): 1/4-second fixed-tripod exposure on Fujichrome 100F slide film using a 50-mm lens at f/4; taken Dec. 4, 2002 from Ceduna, South Australia (Alan Dyer).



July (*The Trifid Nebula's Milky Way*): 33-minute medium-format piggyback exposure on Kodak Ektachrome E200 slide film using a 400-mm lens at f/4; original frame cropped (Kevin Black).



August (Star Trails, Meteor Trail): 35-minute fixed-tripod exposure on Kodak Supra 400 colour negative film using a 28-mm lens at f/3.5; taken Aug. 11, 2002 from Dinosaur Park, Alberta (Ron Berard).



September (A North American Neighbour): Composite image formed using RegiStar and Photoshop from 2 exposures, 40 minutes red-filtered on gas-hypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan film minutes and 8 minutes on Kodak Ektachrome E200 slide film, both using an 8-inch 1/1.5 Schmidt camera (John Mirtle).



October (M33 and NGC 604 Face-On): Composite image formed using RegiStar from 4 exposures, each 60 minutes on gashypersensitized Kodak RG200 colour negative film using a 14.5-inch f/8 classical Cassegrain (Tony Hallas).



November (A Deep-Sky Trio in Gemini): Composite mosaic image formed using RegiStar and Photoshop from two 120-minute exposures and one 90-minute exposure, all on medium-format Kodak PPF 400 colour negative film using a 5-inch f/6 refractor (Matt BenDaniel).

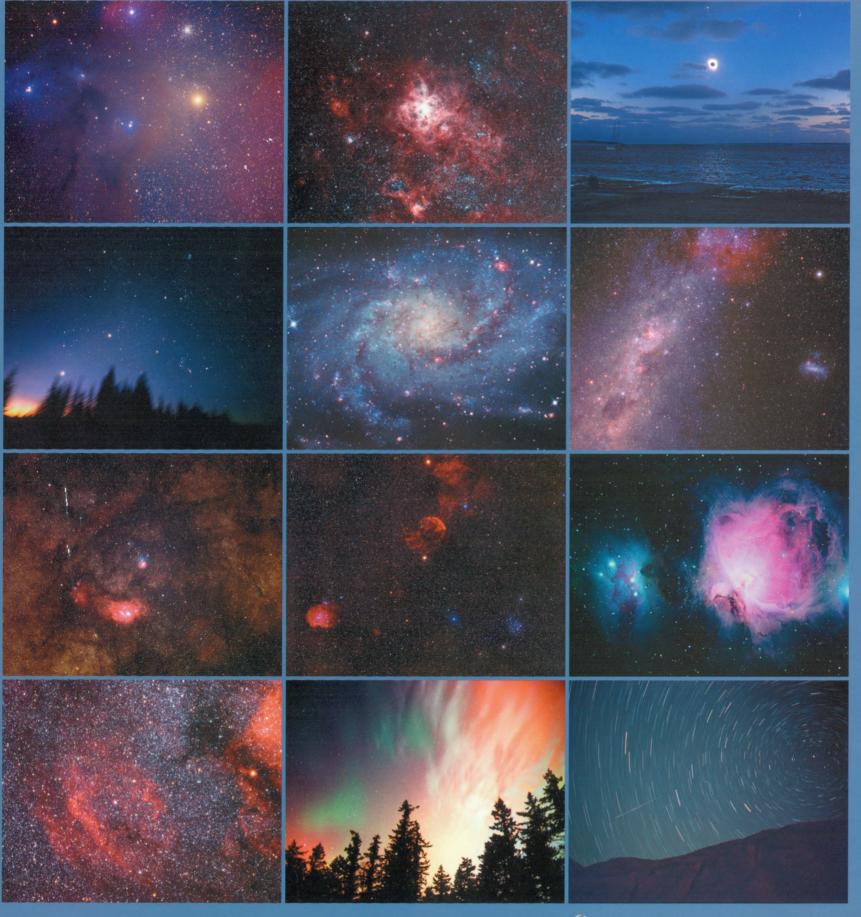
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New Moon dates are displayed in bold.

"We shall not cease from exploration And the end of all our exploring Will be to arrive where we started And know the place for the first time."

T.S. Eliot



All photos in this unique Calendar were taken by amateur astronomers using backyard telescopes or ordinary cameras. It was produced by volunteer members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

This Calendar includes comprehensive listings of astronomical data such as lunar and planetary conjunctions, Sun and Moon rise and set times, eclipses, meteor showers, and Moon phases.



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