

The  
2009  
RASC General Assembly  
&  
Saskatchewan Summer Star Party

Galileo discovers the moons of Jupiter - interpretive artwork for GA/SSSP'09 pin by Kathleen Houston



Cypress Hills Inter-Provincial Park  
& Dark-Sky Preserve  
August 13 - 16, 2009

# The 2009 RASC General Assembly & Saskatchewan Summer Star Party



PREMIER OF SASKATCHEWAN

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
REGINA CANADA S4S 0B3




## Royal Astronomical Society of Canada General Assembly *"Discover Saskatchewan's Living Skies"*

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, it is my pleasure to offer greetings to everyone attending the 2009 Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) General Assembly and 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Saskatchewan Summer Star Party.

As Premier of Canada's "Land of Living Skies" province, I warmly welcome you to Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park – our nation's largest Dark-Sky Preserve. Created in 2004, this breathtaking area protects the natural darkness of our prairie sky and provides a valuable sanctuary for our nocturnal environment.

With some 400 amateur and professional astronomers attending from across Canada and the USA, our province is proud to host this significant event in this, the International Year of Astronomy. My special thanks to the guest speakers, as well as the host Saskatoon Centre RASC, for your dedicated contributions to this event's success.

Once again, welcome. I encourage you to continue to explore Saskatchewan and discover the natural riches found in our province.



Brad Wall  
Premier

pcu-regina



**GA/SSSP 2009 August 13 – 16 Our 13<sup>th</sup> Year!**

# The 2009 RASC General Assembly & Saskatchewan Summer Star Party



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
DONALD J. ATCHISON  
MAYOR

As Mayor of Saskatoon, I am very pleased to extend a warm welcome to delegates attending the General Assembly of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. I am delighted your event is being held in Saskatchewan during the International Year of Astronomy and invite you to "Discover Saskatchewan's Living Skies".

It is my sincere hope that your gathering will afford you many opportunities for insight and knowledge as you share astronomical expertise. I extend a thank you to all organizers who have contributed their time and talents to ensure a successful assembly.

For those of you travelling through Saskatoon, I invite you to enjoy the experiences which our city has to offer including tours of the Canadian Light Source. Our vibrant city is home to wonderful cultural and recreational amenities, scenic trails along the river valley, diverse shopping and dining establishments, and world-class hospitality.

On behalf of the City of Saskatoon, best wishes for a very successful event.



Donald J. Atchison  
Mayor



Welcome! I am very pleased that you have chosen the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park for your General Assembly, especially during this International Year of Astronomy. We are very proud of our Park, and the work that has been done here to preserve the dark sky. Astronomy has been a valued science in this area for many years.

Please take the opportunity to explore the Park, the surrounding area and the Town of Maple Creek. There are many interesting activities, attractions, and shopping opportunities to keep you occupied in your free time. I hope you enjoy your visit to Maple Creek and the Cypress Hills. Do come back to see us again!

**Mayor Anne Weisgerber**  
Town of Maple Creek

### **GA/SSSP at Saskatchewan's Skies!**

I would like to welcome everyone to our combined *GA/SSSP*. (I really like that play on words -*gasp!*) It is my hope that this is the first of many GA's to be held in combination with a star party. Thank you to Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park and Dark Sky Preserve for your support of this event. There is no better place to celebrate IYA than right here. Many thanks to the planning committee for their many hours put into preparation. We have endeavoured to address each of Canada's goals for IYA packed into this weekend. Here's wishing *Galileo Moments* for us all this weekend.

**Barb Wright**  
*GA/SSSP chair*

**GA/SSSP 2009 August 13 – 16 Our 13<sup>th</sup> Year!**

# The 2009 RASC General Assembly & Saskatchewan Summer Star Party

## Registration & Info.

If you have this brochure, then you've already completed registration, and you can spend the rest of the weekend enjoying yourself at this year's RASC General Assembly & Saskatchewan Summer Star Party. If you'd like to change what you've registered for, we are quite flexible. Just see us at the registration table in the Meadows or Wapiti Room, Cypress Park Resort Inn, during the talks. **Need Information?** See whoever is at the Registration Tent. They will know what is going on! If no one is around, read the information whiteboard located there.



## You Are Here!

Centre of the Meadows campground is:

**Latitude: 49° 39' 16.1" N**

**Longitude: 109° 31' 20.2" W**

**1279m (4196') above sea level**

**Time Zone: Central Standard (CST)  
minus 6 hours from UT**

## Flags on Vehicle Lites

We will be taping red flags to your car lights if you are entering the Meadows after dark on Thurs., Fri. & Sat. We use masking tape that may leave a glue residue on your vehicle's paint if you keep the flags on all weekend in the sun. This residue can be removed with WD-40 or Goo-Gone. **Note that driving with red headlights elsewhere in the park is a violation of the Saskatchewan Traffic Act** (headlights have to be white) and you might get a ticket! So remove them when you are driving around the park, and replace them when reentering the Meadows.

## Security & Liability

The GA/SSSP Committee will attempt to provide reasonable security for telescopes that are set up for the duration of the GA/SSSP. However, this security cannot be absolutely guaranteed, and registrants should make provision for the safety and security of their own equipment throughout the event. In particular, keep your small, easily lost valuables (eyepieces, etc.) in a secure location when not using them. *The Saskatoon Centre, Regina Centre, and the GA/SSSP Organizing Committee do not assume any liability or responsibility for personal injury, equipment loss, damage or theft of personal property during the Saskatchewan Summer Star Party.*

Registrants should be aware that since much of this event occurs during darkness, that they, themselves, should take whatever precautions are necessary to ensure their safety and security and the security of guests near their telescopes and equipment.



## First Aid

First line first aid and emergency CPR is available at the Star Party. Point of contact is the Registration tent at the Meadows or the Park Emergency Service.

## IN AN EMERGENCY call:

**Barb Wright SSSP cell: (306) 227-6710**

**Les Dickson cell: (306) 270-9184**

**Darrell Chatfield cell: (306) 222-0515**

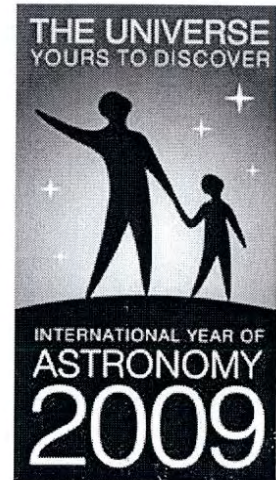
**Park Switchboard: (306) 662-4411**

**Maple Creek Hospital: (306) 662-2611**

**Star Party First Aid:** contact Registration Tent or SSSP cell - ask for **Barb Wright**.

## Posters, Quilts, Poems, Pictures, Contest & Other Display Items

Take these to the Resort Moose Room between 9 am and noon on Thursday, and someone there will help you get these items on display. You will need to pick your items up immediately following the Saturday afternoon session before the banquet, between 4 pm and 5 pm.



## RASC National Council & General Assembly

RASC National Council meetings and the RASC General Assembly Annual Meeting (Sunday, Aug. 15, 9:00 a.m.) are held in the Wapiti Room at the Resort.

## Camping & AC Power

Although the Meadows is reserved for Star Party participants, you are still required to pay regular park camping fees for the duration of your stay whether you are camped in a numbered site or not. Per park rules, no more than 2 tents are allowed per site, if the tents are from the same group. **Register for camping at the Park Campground Office.** The park may check permits. If you are setting up a tent in the Meadows that will not be occupied but used to store equipment, leave a note on it marked "**Equipment Tent – No Occupants**". Equipment tents cannot occupy numbered sites. **The Meadows** offers very basic, rustic camping facilities, with outhouses, water taps, some fire pit, picnic tables and a few shady camping spots. **Two new toilet facilities** with flush

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toilets and running water taps have been installed at the east end of the Meadows.

**AC power is available for campers or for powering telescopes and computers. To plug into a pole you MUST have a camping permit for a powered site. You are allowed to sublet your power to others to share cost.** Even if you rent a specific site, please allow others to tent on the same site as space can be limited. Those who are tenting in the Meadows and are not self-contained will have to use other campgrounds for general self-keeping. The closest showers are at the Terrace and Rainbow campgrounds – a 6-minute walk on the gravel road across from the entrance.

## Astrophotographers & Sketchers!

We are making every effort to keep the white lights off in the Meadows, but to assure no stray light, we suggest that astrophotographers set up at the extreme southeast end of the Meadows, nearer to the radio tower. This is the farthest location from the entrance. Remember the **photo contest** - prizes will be awarded for the best photographs in tripod, prime focus solar system, prime focus deep sky, piggyback & sketching categories! Only one photograph or sketch per category can be entered by the same individual. A photograph or sketch can be entered in only one of the four categories. Winning photographs or sketches entered in the contest from previous years cannot be entered again.

## Red Light Restaurant

For the first time, we will have a Red Light Restaurant in the Meadows, between 9 pm and 2 am for late-night snacks. The restaurant is run by Paul & Karen Petriew They will have the following items for sale:

- hamburgers
- hotdogs
- cold drinks
- hot drinks
- other goodies

## Dry Conditions?

Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park is known for its dry conditions. Check with the park about campfire allowances. As far as we know, campfires are allowed in approved facilities like fire pits in campsites – but follow the advice of the campground office!

## Other Items for Sale

These items will be sold at the Registration Desk in the Meadows or at the Wapiti or Moose Room Book Sales desk during talks:

- GA/SSSP'09 souvenir pins - \$7.00
- GA/SSSP'01-'08 pins - \$4.00
- Lots of Books from McNally Robinson
- Cold drinks at presentations
- Coffee (Friends of Park) - donation

**The Regina and Saskatoon Centres use the GA/SSSP as a yearly fund raiser – please check with GA/SSSP organizers before selling competing items.**

## Image Pacific Filming

The GA/SSSP has been chosen as a featured event for Image Pacific filming of a 3-minute clip to be used during the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games. As a result, a film crew is expected to be in attendance at GA/SSSP/09 events on Friday and Saturday, including evenings. We may have the occasional call to allow filming at night in certain areas of the Meadows. This is an important opportunity for the SSSP and we will warn everyone of any pending “bright light session”. Please be on your best behaviour and please do not shout at the film crew and the producer if their lights come on – we need to show only enthusiasm for the wonder environment at the GA/SSSP.

## Recycling of Bottles, Cans & Badge Holders

Recycle bags for aluminum cans, bottles & juice boxes are provided in the Wapiti room and at the Registration Tent in the Meadows. This will help the environment and keep our costs down. If we have any cases of pop left on Sunday, we will fire sale them at cost.

**The plastic identification necklaces are a large expense to us. Please remember to return these after the Fr. Kemble Memorial Talk.**

## Free “Taxi” Rides

If you need a ‘taxi ride’ to and from your place of accommodation, please check with the Registration Tent at the Meadows or the Wapiti Room. We will try to get you a free ride when you need it so that you can attend the talks and the viewing at the Meadows. Please do not be shy to ask!

## T-shirt Sales

Prepaid T-shirts can be picked up at the time of registration. If you have not signed up for one, a limited number of shirts may be offered for general sale on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## Vendors On-site

The GA/SSSP invites equipment and astro-gadget vendors to participate in the star party. The following vendors have registered and are on site. Please support their businesses. The vendors (and others who cannot attend) have graciously donated numerous door prizes (listed elsewhere).

**the SCIENCE shop – Greg & Elaine Blundell (Edmonton)** – tonnes of telescopes, eyepieces & accessories

**All-Star Telescope – Ken From (Didsbury, AB)** – tonnes of telescopes, eyepieces & accessories

**William Optics – Gary Barton & Ed Wosney (Calgary)** – tonnes of telescopes and accessories

**Phoenix Greeting Cards – Rena Woss (Lethbridge)** – astro greeting cards

**Friends of Cypress Hills Park – Gerald Gartner** – Buy-a-Star fundraiser for the future Cypress Hills Observatory, outdoor planetarium and dark-sky campground.

## Cypress Observatory

The *Friends of Cypress Hills Park* have initiated an exciting new project in conjunction with CHIP and the Saskatoon and Regina RASC Centres. The Horseshoe campground will be converted to a true dark-sky campground with NO night lighting of any kind. In the plans, an outdoor planetarium and an observatory with a 16” Meade telescope will be built for use by the Park, school groups and interested astronomers. Fundraising has begun with a goal of raising over \$350K for construction. We hope that GA/SSSP participants will contribute by buying stars or planets. **The Friends will be selling coffee to raise funds in the Meadows by donation from 2 pm to 9 pm each day.** See the Friends web site at: [http://www.friendsofthepark.ca/My\\_Homepage\\_Files/Page10.html](http://www.friendsofthepark.ca/My_Homepage_Files/Page10.html)

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## "Starry, Starry Night..."

Come celebrate the night sky experience and see the Art display, in conjunction with GA/SSSP star party. Photography, drawing, painting, quilts and more, created by those who love the night sky experience. This is an *International Year of Astronomy* initiative, a world wide event. 400 years ago Galileo discovered the four brightest moons of Jupiter and 40 years ago the first person walked on the moon. Cypress Hills Resort Inn, Moose Room, August 13 - 15, 2009. Organized by Kathleen Houston

Thursday 1 pm - 4:30 pm  
Friday 10 am - 5 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

## THURSDAY

### Welcome Barbecue

**Amphitheatre, near Campground Office. Thursday, 5:00 pm.** We will provide bison burgers, hot-dogs, drinks, salads and goodies for \$8 per person. If you haven't prepaid, tickets may be available at the registration tent. It's time to eat and socialize. We'll bring the burgers, dogs and most of the roasting sticks. Please bring extra sticks if you have them. In the event of inclement weather, the BBQ & subsequent events will be held in the Wapiti Room.

### GA Song Contest & Sing-a-Long

**Amphitheatre near Campground Office, Thursday, 6:00 pm** following directly after the barbecue and open to the GA/SSSP participants.

#### Song Contest – A GA Tradition!

May the best new song earn the bragging rights that can only be had from singing around a summer's campfire! Bring your best astronomy song and impress us all! No talent (obviously!) required!

#### GA Sing-A-Long

We hope to be able to re-sing all of those great and awful GA songs of the past! We will have song-sheets available for you. Bring your best voice, and have fun!

## Ruth Northcott Lecture

**Amphitheatre, Thursday, 7:30 pm** The Northcott Lecture is open to the general public.



**Alan Dyer: *Celebrating the Sky*** - All over the planet this year astronomers are bringing the stars to the public during the *International Year of Astronomy*, a global celebration of the 400th birthday of the telescope. In a multimedia presentation Alan Dyer presents images of the amazing sights and events in the sky this year, and illustrates how the telescope helped us map not just the sky above but also the land below as explorers, such as David Thompson 200 years ago, used the stars to map western Canada.

Alan Dyer is a planetarium show producer whose programs have played in theatres across Canada, and is co-author with Terence Dickinson of the book *The Backyard Astronomer's Guide*, available in a new third edition. He is a contributing editor to *SkyNews* and to *Sky & Telescope* magazines and appears frequently on local and national news media explaining astronomy and space science news. Asteroid 78434 is named for him. We are so pleased to have Alan do the Ruth Northcott Lecture. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the SSSP for almost 10 years, and in this time has given us a dozen amazing talks!

**This talk is co-sponsored by the RASC, and the Cypress Hills Provincial Park.** In the event of inclement weather, the presentation will be held in the Wapiti Room.

## FRIDAY

### Paper Sessions

**Wapiti Room, Friday, 10:00 a.m.** See the description of these talks elsewhere in this brochure.

10:00 - 10:50 – **Dr. Martin Beech**  
(Paper Session Keynote)  
10:50 - 11:10 - Coffee  
11:10 - 11:30 - **Bruce McCurdy**  
11:30 - 11:50 - **Gerald Gartner**  
11:50 – 13:30 - Lunch Break  
13:30 - 13:50 - **Dave Chapman**  
13:50 - 14:10 - **Remi Lacasse**  
14:10 - 14:30 - **Gordon Sarty**

### Public Solar Viewing

**Park Swimming Pool, Friday, 11:00 a.m.,** Members of the Regina & Saskatoon Centres will have solar scopes set up for the general public park users to view the sun. You are welcome to set up with us and help out for the next hour and a half.

### RASC Awards

**Wapiti Room, Friday, 3:00 p.m.** Annually, the National RASC awards are given to members who have made significant contributions to the society and to astronomy. Traditionally, the awards are presented at the banquet, but because the banquet is necessarily split between two rooms, the awards will be given in the Wapiti Room just prior to the Supper Social. **Bold names** are in attendance to receive their awards. The Plaskett Medal is co-sponsored by the Canadian Astronomical Society (CASCA). The 2009 RASC award winners are:

#### Plaskett Medal

Catherine Lovekin

#### Ken Chilton Prize

Brian Battersby (Prince George)

#### Simon Newcomb Award

James Edgar (Regina)

#### Service Awards

Robert Duff (London)

Kim Hay (Kingston)

Richard Huziak (Saskatoon)

Walter McDonald (Kingston)

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**Patrice Scattolin** (Montreal)  
Al Seaman (Ottawa)  
Clint Shannon (Halifax)  
Alan Whitman (Okanagan)

## IYA Music:

### **On the Shoulders of Giants**

**Wapiti Room, Friday, immediately following RASC awards.** Ron Waldron has put together an excellent visual presentation set to the IYA music **On the Shoulders of Giants**.

## Friday Supper Social

**Wapiti Room, Friday, 5:00 pm.** This is a pre-paid event. If you do not have a ticket, some might be available at the Registration Tent. The Supper Social gives you time to meet and greet old friends while munching on a light supper. Alcohol is available at additional cost. This event replaces the traditional GA *Wine & Cheese*. A *Toast to the Queen* will be included.

## First Nations Astronomy

Sponsored by the Government of Saskatchewan Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

**Amphitheatric, Friday evening, 7:30 pm.** Wilfred Buck and Rocky McKay will give a public talk on First Nations Astronomy. The talk is open to the public and GA/SSSP attendees. This was a very popular program when Wilf and Rocky gave the presentation at the SSSP'06. You can see some of their talk on the Saskatchewan Communication Network (SCN) *15 Minutes of Fame* series, Season 1, Episode 14, shot at the SSSP. See <http://www.scn.ca/scnonline.php>

## Observing Meteors Clinic

**Meadows, Friday, 10:00 pm.** Bruce McCurdy will give a clinic on observing meteors. With the *Perseid Meteor Shower* just concluding, Bruce will show you the joy of watching meteors, and you will learn why doing actual counts, and reporting these count to the International Meteor Organization or the Americal Meteor Association is so important in the study the meteor streams. Meet at the registration tent.

**Bruce McCurdy** is a member of the Edmonton Centre of the RASC. Bruce enjoys all kinds of observing, but is partial to naked eye observing of noctilucent clouds and meteors; observations of which he reports to the NLC Can/AM and IMO organizations. He has also observed every named feature on the moon during quieter times at the *TELUS World of Science Observatory*, where he conducts public tours several times a week. He enjoys writing about his astronomical adventures in his *Orbital Oddities* column in the *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada* where he often reflects on observing and orbital mechanics.

## SATURDAY

### Swap Table

**Registration tent, Saturday, 11:00 am.** Swap your stuff. Buy, sell or trade "your junk" for "good stuff". Best deals at the star party!

### Alan Dyer Book Signing

**Registration tent, Saturday, 11:15 a.m.** Alan Dyer will be signing copies of his new book, *The Backyard Astronomers Guide* (Dyer & Dickenson). This event is sponsored by *All-Star Telescopes*.

### Light Abatement Forum

*Engaging the Community through Light Pollution Abatement*

**Wapiti Room, Saturday, 1:30 p.m.** Paul Gray (RASC New Brunswick), Patrice Scattolin (CF de Montreal), Rena Woss (Lethbridge Astronomical Society) will sit on the panel of the Light Abatement Forum panel. The panel will be moderated by Richard Huziak (RASC Saskatoon). The panelists will introduce their programs and efforts to implement LPA programs from across Canada at all levels of government.

**Paul Gray** will talk about this year's signing of two new Dark-Sky Preserves in New Brunswick, with more to come!

**Patrice Scattolin** will introduce the Mont-Mégantic Dark-Sky Preserve and other LPA programs in Brossard, Quebec.

**Rena Woss** will talk about her efforts to curb light pollution in the City of Lethbridge, Alberta.

**Richard Huziak** will discuss the results of a legal challenge to Saskatchewan's *Environment Management and Protection Act* by the *Rural Environment Preservation Association of Saskatchewan* over six newly built casinos that employ up-facing billion candlepower stoplights in teepee shapes. (See his abstract under the 'Paper Session' section.)

There will be ample time for a *Question & Answer* period from the audience floor for the panels to discuss.

### Dr. JIM HESSER – the Father Kemble Keynote

Wapiti Room, Saturday, 3:00 p.m.

### *International Year of Astronomy in Canada: A 'Mid-Term' Report Card With An Eye On The Future*

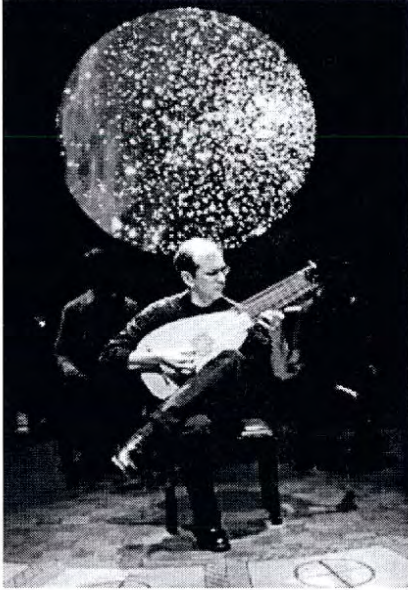
Jim Hesser (NRC-HIA), C. Bartlett (Cape Breton U.), K. Breland (Canadian IYA Project Manager), K. Hay (RASC), D. Lane (RASC), R. Lacasse (FAAQ), D. Lemay (FAAQ), P. Langill (U. Calgary), J. Percy (U. Toronto), D.L. Welch (McMaster U.), A. Woodsworth (Galaxy Consulting)

Our national IYA partnership is striving to secure education and public outreach legacies for Canadians, e.g., informal and formal educators, Aboriginal communities, parks system, etc. These legacies will ensure that the efforts of the past three years of the three partner organizations and our hundreds of collaborators will extend far beyond 2009. The materials developed for education and public outreach by volunteers from the amateur communities are being exceptionally well received by the public and by educators. Thanks in large measure to Canada's amateur astronomers, by mid-IYA 500,000 Canadians (representing every province and territory) had experienced a 'Galileo Moment of personal astronomical discovery' through participation in an IYA activity from our diverse palette. We are thus nicely on track to our (modest) target of engaging 1,000,000 Canadians during 2009. This presentation has two goals. First, to review how creative participation in astronomy education and public outreach by



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traditional and non-traditional partners is resulting in remarkable IYA successes. Second, to outline the latest developments, including the opportunities for fun, engaging events in fall and winter 2009, that will further secure the legacies of IYA in Canada.



*Tafelmusik's The Galileo Project: Music of the Spheres is just one of many Canadian IYA events [courtesy Tafelmusik/Banff Centre from IYA web site]*

**Jim Hesser** is Director of the National Research Council's Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at the Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics in Victoria, B.C. where he has been since 1977. He received his Ph.D. in Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University, and was on the staff of the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, La Serena, Chile for nine years prior to joining NRC. Over the years he has performed research on many different topics in astronomy and laboratory astrophysics, with particular interest in the properties of different types of stars and star clusters in the Milky Way galaxy and nearby galaxies that is reported in some 200 research papers. For 11 years he served on the Board of Directors of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope, and has been serving since 2002 as Canada's member on the Board of Directors for the Atacama Large Millimetre Array. He recently (2004-2006) served as President of the Canadian Astronomical Society. He is a Life Member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, and serves on the Victoria Centre Council. He has been honoured by a *Michael Smith Award* for Science Promotion from Industry

Canada (1997), naming of Asteroid 39179 after him by the International Astronomical Union (2002), and a Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal (2003). Currently he chairs the Canadian International Year of Astronomy 2009 committee.

## Dr. Carolyn Shoemaker

Dr. Shoemaker was scheduled to appear as the *Father Lucien Kemble Memorial Lecture*, but was forced to withdraw at the last moment due slow than expected recover from surgery. Dr. Shoemaker apologizes for not being able to be with us this weekend.

## New Brunswick 2010 GA

**Wapiti Room, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.** Paul Gray will invite you all to attend the 2010 General Assembly of the RASC to be hosted by the RASC New Brunswick Centre, July – July 4, 2010.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards

**Wapiti Room, Saturday, 4:15 p.m.** People are what make a star party, and there are none better than our finest supporters; the ones who have made the journey to at least 10 of the last 13 SSSP star parties! This year we honour these dedicated attendees:

*Scott Alexander  
Brent Burlingham  
Beverly Chatfield  
Alan Dyer  
Bill Hydromako\*  
Jennifer Petriew  
Vance Petriew  
Steve Szuta  
Jim Young*

\* Passed away Nov. 1, 2008. The 10-year pin will be given in absentia.

## Astro Photo & Sketch Contest Awards

**Wapiti Room, Saturday, 4:15 p.m.** Each year, the SSSP gives out awards for the finest photos by our participants. This year, we add a **hand-sketch category**, since we believe the sketching is important to learning the sky and seeing the objects within it!

## Door Prizes

**Wapiti Room, Saturday, 4:30 p.m.** Over 100 door prizes have been accumulated by Darrel Chatfield from our amazing and generous donors, sponsors and vendors. The list of door prizes appears elsewhere in this book. After 1 pm on Saturday, draws will be made for the small door prizes and the names will be posted by the astrophotography display. Please pick up your prizes from Darrell Chatfield. All names will be reentered for the draw of major door prizes to be held at 4:30 p.m. Children under 12 will have their names in a different draw.

### Rules for Major Door Prize Draw

- All GA/SSSP attendees have had their names placed in the draw drum regardless of whether or not they have previously won a minor door prize.
- **YOU MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE WAPITI ROOM WHEN THE DRAW IS MADE.** The time of the draw is posted on your schedule.
- **Only the exact person whose name is drawn can accept the prize** and that person must accept the prize immediately at the front of the room. No one else may represent the winner or "hold their ticket".
- If the person whose name is called does not claim the prize immediately the person will be declared a non-winner, and a draw for a new winner will be conducted immediately, and the same rules apply.
- There are **NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE RULES** for any reason or for any circumstance.

## Group Photo

**Volleyball Court near Resort, Saturday, 5:00 p.m.** Meet here to be in the official GA/SSSP'09 photograph. After the star party, the group photograph is posted on our website for downloading.

## The Dinner Banquet

**Wapiti Room & Moose Room, Saturday, 6:30 p.m.** You must have signed up for the banquet to attend. **Please wear your identification badges.** If you did not check off the meal box on your registration form but want the meal, check with the registration table to see if we can fit you in or put you onto the waiting list. *No guarantees – there was a deadline!* **Please bring your meal tickets with you for the banquet. If you have a banquet ticket and**

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**CANNOT ATTEND** at the last minute, call our registrar cell phone (306-280-9836) or go to the registration booth so we can find a buyer for your ticket. If your ticket is sold, we will refund your money. This year's banquet features a uniquely Saskatchewan menu. The banquet is split between the Wapiti Room and the Moose Room due to the very high demand of the combined GA and SSSP. **There is no entertainment at the banquet**, so choose either room.

## Park Astronomy Play

**Amphitheatre, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.** The Cypress Hills park interpreters will introduce their newest play featuring an astronomical theme. Those who are not attending the banquet, or who get out early might want to attend this excellent production. This is not an official GA/SSSP activity and is meant for park users, but GA/SSSP members are welcome to attend.

## Unveil Your Scope Social

**Meadows, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.** Once you return from the banquet or park play, please uncover your scope to show others. It is a chance to see all of the equipment, take photos and discuss how things work before the sky gets too dark.

## First Nations Astronomy Workshop

**Meadows, Saturday, 10:00 p.m.** Wilfred Buck and Rocky McKay will take us in a night time journey where First Nations stories and legends about the sky are told under the stars! Accompanied by drums, this program is a unique and powerful experience. Meet at the registration tent.

# SUNDAY

## RASC Annual General Assembly

**Wapiti Room, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.** Once a year, members of the *Royal Astronomical Society of Canada* meet and discuss the business and status of the society. The meeting starts early so that it can conclude in time for the tour to proceed. The meeting should last about 2 hours. Members are

encouraged to attend to support the society, learn about the year in review and participate in the Society's future.

## Winery - Ft. Walsh Tour

**Leaving from Cypress Hills Resort Inn, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.** A tour will be conducted to the *Maple Creek Winery* and *Fort Walsh National Historic Site* on Sunday following the RASC Annual Meeting. The tour also includes a visit to the scenic *Conglomerate Cliffs*, a supper at the *Star Café* and a historical walking tour of Maple Creek. The tour will return to the Resort at about 7:30 p.m. Transportation, fort entry, lunch and supper are included in the cost. Space is limited. The cost of the tour is **\$60/person**.

## Potluck Supper

**Meadows, Sunday, 5:30 p.m.** A potluck supper is planned for those who are not on tour. Bring your left-over camp food and enjoy it with the whole crew. Also bring chairs and your own plates and utensils.

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## Future GA/SSSP/GA Dates

Same place next year - the beautiful Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park.

**2010: August 12 - 15\*\***

**2011: August 25 - 28**

**2012: August 16 - 19**

**\*\*We have changed the dates of the SSSP 2010** - Note that we have changed to dates to August 12 - 15, 2010 so that we got our dark sky back. Previously we had a major conflict with the resort facilities and NO accommodation that caused us to have to choose a bad weekend. This has been resolved! Accommodation is still compromised due to renovations, but we will have ample space anyway, and facilities as normal. If you are one of the three who have booked the 2010 star party with the resort, change your booking now! More at: <http://homepage.usask.ca/~ges125/rasc/starparty.html>

## Thanks Park & Resort!

We couldn't have done it without CHIP being right behind us! Cypress Hills Park administrators, Brant Siefert, Melody Nagel-Hisey, Mimi Rogers, and their crew put up with our numerous demands and constant bugging, and still come out smiling! The Cypress Hills Resort Inn spends a good portion of their time making Star Party arrangements for us. Thanks for a wonderful park facility to hold our Star Party in! We owe you!

## William Hydomako Memorial Fund

William "Bill" Hydomako, well-known to many of our SSSP attendees as a tireless and cheerful Star Party organizer, passed away from brain cancer on November 1, 2008. To honour Bill and his work, the Saskatoon Centre, RASC, has set up and will administer a fund in his memory, dedicating the monies raised to the building of a new observatory at the site of Saskatoon's current Sleaford Observatory. Bill, that facility's Building Coordinator for many years, designed, built, and maintained much of the existing structure. An ardent SSSP supporter and enthusiast, Bill served on its organizing board for almost ten years, overseeing the Star Party's birth and nurturing its subsequent growth. If any of his many friends would like to make a contribution in his memory, Bill's family would very much appreciate donations to the William Hydomako Memorial Fund. Contributors can send these cheques to the Saskatoon Centre, RASC, PO Box 317, RPO University, Saskatoon, SK., S7N 4J8. Cheques should be made payable to the *Saskatoon Centre, RASC*.

## FRIDAY, August 14, PAPER SESSIONS

**10:00 – 10:50 am: Keynote Talk: Meteorites in the Land of Living Skies – Dr. Martin Beech**  
(Campion College, University of Regina)

Saskatchewan, *The Land of Living Skies*, is one of the best locations within all of Canada for finding meteorites and large impact structures. At least five multi-kilometer diameter impact craters are presently known in the Province and a total of 15 distinct meteorite falls are currently recognized. The first meteorite find was made in 1916 at Annaheim, to the east of Saskatoon; while the most recent fall was that of the spectacular and high-yield Buzzard Coulee meteorite which landed to the south-east of Lloydminster. In this talk I will review the rich history and circumstances behind the collection of meteorites within Saskatchewan, and I will present an overview of some of the research relating to these extraterrestrial interlopers.

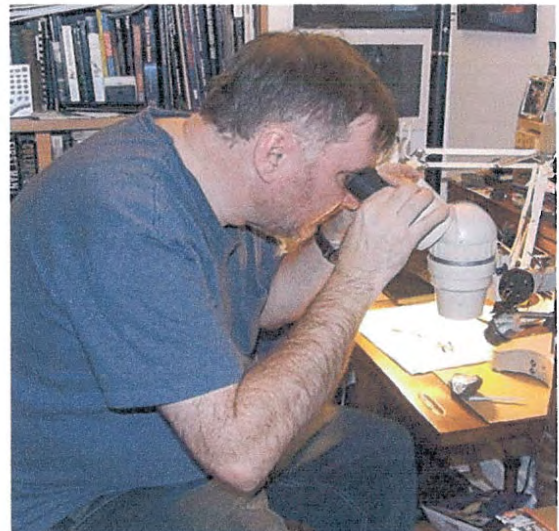


*A small fragment of the Buzzard Coulee Meteorite is held aloft shortly after being found on November 29, 2008.*

**11:10 – 11:30 am: Amateur at Buzzard Coulee**  
Bruce McCurdy (Edmonton Centre)

Avid meteor observer Bruce McCurdy saw the fireball of his life through his picture window last November 20. The brilliant spectacle lured him into pursuing the proverbial pot of gold at the end of the

rainbow, which had fallen to earth in a shower of meteorite fragments 300 km away. In an eventful 24 hours, Bruce attended the media scrum of the initial find by University of Calgary scientists; got a hands-on look at the largest recovered specimen in the Marsden Hotel pub; and found a couple of fragments himself on a frozen beaver pond. Bruce's presentation will follow those specimens through their subsequent scientific analysis at the University of Alberta and the public outreach that followed. He will also discuss the spring search that yielded the largest number of meteorite fragments from a single fall in Canadian history, and the important relationship between the amateur and professional science communities.



*One often gets the opportunity to view astronomical objects through a telescope, but a microscope also reveals plenty of interest and of beauty. Here Bruce McCurdy examines the largest of our recovered specimens. (Photograph: Murray Paulson)*

**11:30 – 11:50 am: The Cypress Hills Observatory - Gerald Gartner**  
(Friends of Cypress Hills Park Inc.)

In 2007, the *Friends of Cypress Hills Park* proposed the idea of an educational observatory to

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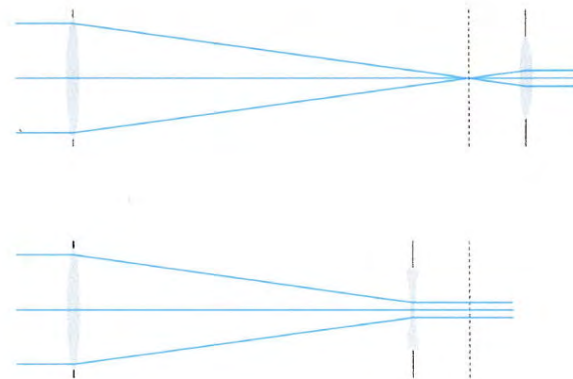
be built as part of the Dark-Sky Initiative at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. This observatory, along with an outdoor (under-the-stars) planetarium, is planned to be co-located within the park's Dark-Sky Campground. When built, the facility will sport a 16-inch telescope and a large classroom where schools, community groups and astronomers can learn about the universe under the very dark skies of Cypress Hills. Fundraising for the project has advanced through a *Buy-a-Star* program and through the request for corporate funds. This talk will discuss the design of the observatory facility and goals of *The Friends and the Park* in this project.



*Future site of the Cypress Observatory and Planetarium.  
Construction start proposed for 2009.*

### **1:30 – 1:50 pm: The Galilean Telescope** *David M.F. Chapman (Halifax Centre)*

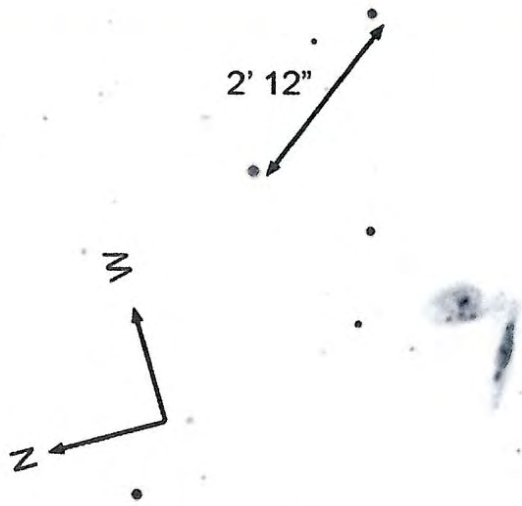
The International Year of Astronomy 2009 celebrates the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of the telescope to investigate the cosmos. But how many of us know how a Galilean telescope works? For instance, how do you get a magnified image using a negative eyepiece lens? This presentation uses ray diagrams to compare the conventional Keplerian telescope to the Galilean telescope and explains magnification, image orientation, field of view, and both real and virtual exit pupils. Finally, learn how to transform an ordinary refractor into a Galilean telescope simply using a Barlow lens.



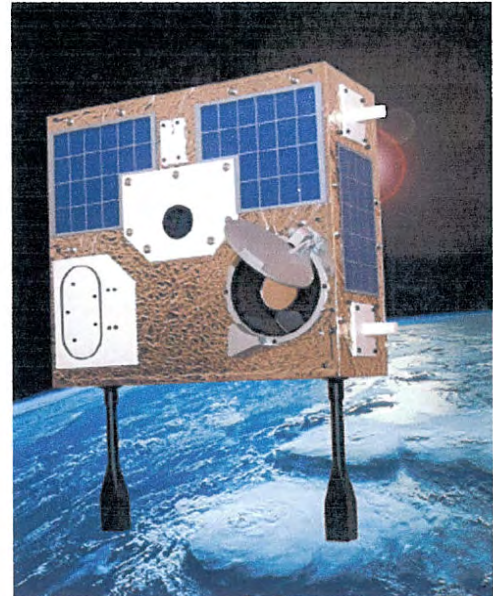
Kepler's telescope is shown above, Galileo's telescope is below.

### **1:50 – 2:10 pm: The ARP Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies** - *Remi Lacasse (Montreal Centre)*

In ten years of doing astrophotography, I went from imaging different objects to taking long exposures and was looking for a long-term challenge, which the Arp Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies provided me. Starting in the early fifties, Halton Arp conducted a photographic investigation of galaxies that did not fit into Edwin Hubble's "tuning fork" diagram. In November 1966, his Atlas was published. However, his observations had led him to believe that the red shift of many Quasars' radio source close to certain kind of peculiar galaxies was not due to the recessional velocity but to inherent properties. This controversial hypothesis led him to a number of difficulties. In April 2007, I decided to image the 338 galaxies in colour over a period of 5 years. Although some are spectacular, many are extremely small and challenging. Two years into the project, the 210 completed can be seen at: [www.astromirabilis.com](http://www.astromirabilis.com)



ARP 301 from Remi Lacasse's collection



An artist's conception of MOST – courtesy of the Canadian Space Agency

## 2:10 – 2:30 pm: Observing HMXBs with Professional and Space Telescopes Gordon E. Sarty (Saskatoon Centre)

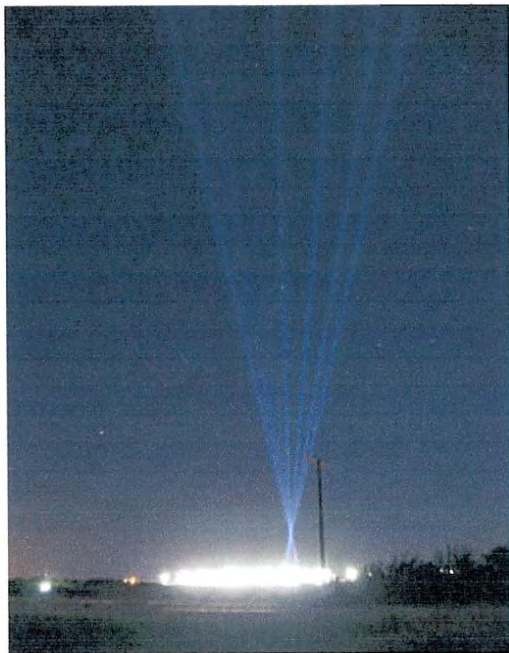
HMXBs are high mass X-ray binary stars. They are massive stars orbited by a neutron star or a black hole. HMXBs have provided a way for me to change my professional research interests from imaging brain function to astronomy. This is a story about how I “expanded” from an amateur to a professional astronomer. A major part of that expansion was learning how to write successful observing proposals for professional telescopes. I started with photometry on the 40-inch telescope at Siding Spring Observatory in Australia. Then I moved on to spectroscopy with the 72-inch Plaskett telescope at Victoria, B.C. (Yes, a very bad case of aperture fever). The data I got from those ground observations allowed me to propose observing time on the Canadian *MOST* space telescope. Now I’m analyzing data from *MOST*. My latest success is the award of time on NASA’s *Spitzer* space telescope. The talk will feature an overview of my professional observations and a discussion of “what it takes” to go pro. I will be especially interested to see teenagers in the audience who are now making critical career and life choices.

## Fighting Casino Spotlights through the Saskatchewan Environment Management and Protection Act - Richard Huziak (The Rural Environment Preservation Association of Saskatchewan) Given at the LPA Forum (Saturday, Aug. 15)

On August 10, 2007, the *Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Association* turned on 2.32 billion-candlepower up-facing spotlights on the first of what eventually became 6 casinos lit in this manner. A group of concerned local residents whose dark, country skies were directly affected by this light pollution formed an ENGO called *The Rural Environment Preservation Association of Saskatchewan*. REPAS mounted a challenge under *Section 63* of the *Saskatchewan Environment Management and Protection Act* charging that “the intentional discharge of excessively bright light from the *Teepee of Light* and parking lot lighting at the *Dakota Dunes Casino* is at an amount, concentration or level that has caused and is causing an adverse effect that impairs the environment contrary to the *EMPA, 2002*.” Although REPAS lost this challenge, during the investigation, hundreds, if not thousands, of

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migrating warblers died as a result of being caught in Yorkton's casino lights. This paper explores avenues that may exist to potentially ban these, and other, up-facing spotlights on environmental grounds.



*Now that's light pollution!*

performance that showcase astronomy in a captivating way for children and adults; an animated video narrated in English, French or Mi'kmaq of an Aboriginal story relating the seasons with circumpolar motions of stars; theatre events; image exhibits; improved science education materials linked closely to curriculum requirements; and many more.



*This cool radio image is a collage, showing a radio image of the supernova remnant Cassiopeia A in the sky, with a foreground showing the NRAO Very Large Array Telescope which made the radio image. [original image data courtesy of NRAO and R. Perley, image assembled by Michael Bietenholz and used as per the terms on the Canadian IYA web site]*

### POSTERS

**IYA 2009: A Pictorial Overview** Jim Hesser (NRC-HIA), C. Bartlett (Cape Breton U.), K. Breland (Canadian IYA Project Manager), K. Hay (RASC), D. Lane (RASC), R. Lacasse (FAAQ), D. Lemay (FAAQ), P. Langill (U. Calgary), J. Percy (U. Toronto), D.L. Welch (McMaster U.), A. Woodsworth (Galaxy Consulting)

Canada's IYA effort relies nearly 100% upon generous donations of time and effort by hundreds of people. Some of the striking accomplishments to date illustrated in this poster include new educational and outreach materials aimed primarily at youth that are distributed freely at IYA events; a new planetarium show being presented at four major science centres; original works of music and

**Solar Observing from 1999-2009** Kim Hay (Kingston Centre)

It takes approximately eleven years plus or minus a few months to complete one Solar Cycle. This cycle follows the activity of the sun. The time period also consists of Carrington Rotations, which is an average of 27 days, plus or minus two days. Our poster shows observations of sunspots by an amateur observer in white light and how they compare with the NASA/NOAA sunspot counts over the same period. It shows that amateurs can do Solar Science with modest equipment. As we enter the newest Cycle 24, it is interesting, as this has been the quietest time recorded in the history of the sun, and NOAA has just revised its time frame of Cycle 24.



*White light telescope used for solar observations*

## **Galileo Observing Challenge: Interim Report** Randall A. Rosenfeld, Kim D. Hay and the RASC Astrosketchers

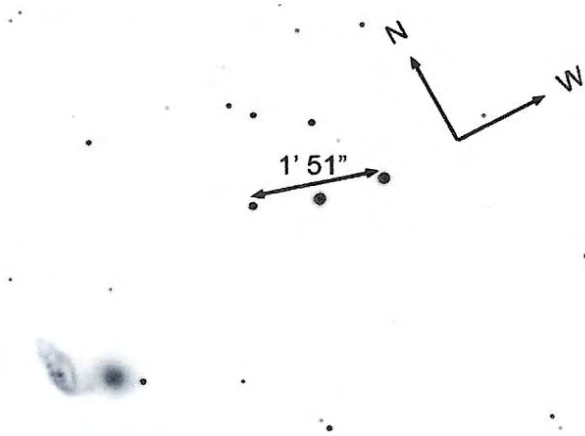
To mark IYA 2009 / 400th anniversary of the beginning of telescopic astronomy, the RASC Astrosketchers Group launched the "Galileo Observing Challenge". This experiment allows modern observers to re-create something of early 17th-century observing conditions by 1) using accessible equipment constrained in some features to that available four centuries ago (e.g. magnification from 3x to 30x); 2) observing the objects Galileo studied (as reported in *Sidereus nuncius* and elsewhere); 3) making a hand-drawn record of their observation(s); 4) and producing a short essay on their experience. The goal is to deepen the participants' IYA experience by providing a hands-on historical experiment that allows them to qualitatively and selectively assess the instrumental constraints under which the 17th-century discoveries were made. The contrast between then and now may even have lessons for the experienced modern observer. Case studies (equipment, techniques, results) presented on the poster illustrate progress to date.



*A "Galilean" sketch of the Moon.*

## **The ARP Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies** Remi Lacasse (Montreal Centre)

Following on the talk, this poster will show more of Arp's galaxies.



*Remi's image of ARP 91: the apparently interacting  
NGC 5953, 5954 pair*

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## ISS Passes

There are no good visible passes of the ISS during GA/SSSP'09.

## Iridium Flares (times are local CST)

Aug.	Time (CST)	Alt.	Az.	Iridium
12	04:05:34	27°	ESE	46
12	22:13:47	49°	ENE	56
12	23:18:17	12°	NNE	41
13	03:59:27	27°	ESE	49
13	22:07:46	50°	ENE	84
13	23:22:24	13°	NNE	42
14	03:53:14	25°	ESE	22
14	22:01:43	49°	ENE	12
15	03:47:04	25°	ESE	25
16	23:14:21	18°	NE	18
17	03:44:03	28°	ESE	3

## Astronomical Events

Date (Aug.)	Event
12/13	Perseid Meteor Peak
12/13	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Moon
13/14	<b>Moon occults Pleiades</b>
13/14	Jupiter at Opposition
16/17	Neptune Opposition
19/20	New Moon

## Sun and Moon Data (Aug.)

12	13	14	15	16	17
Twi A: 3:44 Twi: 5:26 Sunrise: 6:03 Sunset: 20:42 Twi: 21:19 Twi A: 23:01 Moonrise: 22:42 Moonset: 13:46	Twi A: 3:47 Twi: 5:28 Sunrise: 6:04 Sunset: 20:41 Twi: 21:17 Twi A: 22:58 Moonrise: 23:14 Moonset: 15:04 Last Qtr: 12:56pm	Twi A: 3:50 Twi: 5:29 Sunrise: 6:06 Sunset: 20:39 Twi: 21:15 Twi A: 22:55 Moonrise: 23:59 Moonset: 16:19	Twi A: 3:52 Twi: 5:31 Sunrise: 6:07 Sunset: 20:37 Twi: 21:13 Twi A: 22:52 Moonrise: none Moonset: 17:27	Twi A: 3:55 Twi: 5:33 Sunrise: 6:09 Sunset: 20:35 Twi: 21:11 Twi A: 22:49 Moonrise: 1:00 Moonset: 18:21	Twi A: 3:58 Twi: 5:34 Sunrise: 6:10 Sunset: 20:33 Twi: 21:09 Twi A: 22:46 Moonrise: 2:15 Moonset: 19:03

Data from: <http://www.sunrisesunset.com/calendar.asp>

## GA/SSSP'09 Telescope & Observing Equipment List

We asked you to list your equipment so that others who might be interested can seek out telescopes & equipment that they might want to check out and buy in the future. Much of this equipment is stowed or covered up during the day, and nights here are dark, so one of the best times to check out this stuff is during the Saturday evening Unveil Your Scope Social.

Name	Observing Equipment
Alan Dyer	A&M 4" Apo refractor, 37mm Galileo Replica refractor
Alden Forai	10" Dob., 66mm refractor
Alicja Borowski	11x80 binocs, 15x70 binocs
Arlene Blair	Celestron NexStar 8SE, Bausch & Lomb 10x50 binocs
Barb Wright	8" Dobsonian
Barry Schellenberg	Meade LX200 10", Borg 45ED guide scope
Bob Betenia	Celestron 9.25; 25x100 Skymaster binoculars
Bob Christie	Celestron 5" SCT; 20x80 binoculars
Bob Drew	20" f/4 Altruss Dob.
Brenda Beaver	Meade LX90 Classic, Celestron Comet Catcher
Brian Cowan	Meade 8" reflector, binocs



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Bruce Brandell	Carl Wetzlar F900mm refractor, 10x50 Nikon binoculars
Bruce Kosugi	Orion XT8
Bruce McCurdy	Celestron Firstscope, 7x50, 10x50, 15x70 binocs
Buzz Crowston	16" Lightbridge, ETX 125
Carole Benoit	16" Dob, 10" Dob, 8" Dob travel scope
Chris Gainor	EXT-90
Chris Gibson	Meade ETX-90
Christine Kulyk	7x50 binocs
Craig Makarowski	C-8 SCT, binocs
Dan Barrera	William Optics 90mm & 66mm, ETX 125
Darrell Chatfield	12" Lightbridge Dob.
Dave Boyle	11" reflector, binoculars
Dave XVII Chapman	Televue Ranger, binocs
David Warren	TEC 140 Apo, EQ6 PRO Mount
David XIX Gallant	Meade LX10 8" SCT on EQ-6 mount
Dean Huxley	12.5" Dobsonian
Denis Fell	12" Newt. Dob., TU-102 4" Refractor PST
Denise Terpstra	4" Meade Apo refractor, 15x70 binocs, 25 x 100 binocs
Don Golka	Celestron ASGT 10" Newt., Skywatcher 80 Pro.
Don McDonald	16" Lightbridge
Donna-Lee May	8" Dob.
Doug Hube	TeleVue Pronto w/solar filter, Celeston 8" SCT, 5" Meade APO refractor
Doug Thorp	Meade D90 x2, Refractors, Canon DSLR 300, binocs
Dwight Hanson	10" Genstar
Ed Reddy	10" Newtonian Dob "Uncle Phil Special"
Elizabeth van Akker	10" Dob, 5" AP, binocs
Gary Finley	18" Obsession Dob.
Gary Florence	SE6, C90, 8" f/4 Newtonian
George Charpentier	Intes MN56, 90mm Stellarvue, 10x50 binocs
Gerry Rozema	8" Celestron SCT on EQ6 mount, Williams ED80 ZS on EQ5 Pro mount
Glen Bertrand	25" Obsession, Celestron CGEM 1100
Glen Herman	4-1/4" Celestron GoTo scope, 20x80 binocs
Glenn Hawley	Meade 8" 2080 SCT, 9 x 63 & 8 x 32 binocs
Gordon Sarty	8" Newtonian (home-made), 8" Newtonian
Graham Budd	Portaball 12.5"
Grant Ursaki	Meade 12" Lightbridge, 10x50 binocs
Greg King	6" Skywatcher
Harris Christian	17.5" Discovery Dob.
Jack Milliken	10" f/5.5 Dob
Jacob Garber	4-1/2" reflector, binocs
James Baillies	Televue 101IS on EQ5 mount
James Hill	16" Meade, binocs
Jay Anderson	25" Dob.
Jay Lavender	16" Lightbridge Dob.
Jeff Kerr	Coronado Solar Max 70mm
Jeff Swick	Celestron C8-NGT
Jim Laing	12" Dob., CPC 1100 GPS, binocs
Jim Weisert	12" Phil Johnson Dob.
John Childs	10" Dob., binoculars
John Payzant	16" f/5 telescope, 7x50 binocs

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John Ross	Lunt 200mm Solar, Meade ETX-LS ACF, Sky Scout
John Stonechild	10" Orion Intelliscope, Meade My Sky Plus
Judy Judkins	12.5" f/6 Dob, 10" f/5 Dob, 15x70 binocs
Katherine Peterson	8" Dob., binocs
Ken From	16.5" Truss tube Dob.
Ken Luciak	4-1/2" Newtonian
Kenneth Maynard	Celestron 8x56 binoculars, 8" reflector
Kevin Clayton I	10" Lightbridge Dob.
Kevin Lusty	12" Dob., C-11 CGE XLT
Kim Hay	8" Skywatcher Dob., 17x80 & 10x50 binoculars
Kingsley Blades	Binocs, spotting scope, small scope
Larry Funfer	Meade 12" Lightbridge, William Optics 110mm Megrez.
Les Dickson	80mm refractor, 8" SCT
Linden Lundback	Skywatcher Eqinox 120mm refractor, binocs
Lindsay Price	105mm refractor
Luca Vanzella	Celestron 8" SCT
Mark de Jong	100ED Refractor
Michael Clancy	90mm Maksutov-Cassegrain, 10x50 binocs
Michael Noble	C-14, C-8, FLT110 Apo on CGE mount, William Optics 66mm APO, Astrotrac 320
Mijo Samija	AP130 on LG11 mount
Mike Stephens	Celestron 8
Mimi Martin	12" Dob, 10" Dob, 20x80 binocs
Nigel West	Meade 8" SN
Norm Baum	Skywater 80ED Pro; Skywatcher HEQ-5 Pro mount; 12" Meade Lightbridge; Swarovsky binoculars
Norm Leier	12" Lightbridge Dob.
NormaKay Irish	William Zenithstar 80, 8x42 binocs
Patricia Gakis	Celestron Starhopper 12"
Patrick Wilson	Celestron 8" NGT
Paul Campbell	12.5" Newt. Dob.
Paul Gray	Canon Xsi
Peter MacKinnon	10" Orion XTi Dob, 5-1/2" Skywatcher Reflector
Phil Johnson	12.5" f/6 Dob, 15x70 binocs
Ray Wiens	12" Dob, 10" Newtonian
Richard Huziak	10" homebuilt Dob, 10" Meade Lightbridge
Rob Baron	Celestron C-14 on CGE mount, Skywatcher ED80
Rob Cruickshank	Skywatcher 190mm Mak.-Newt.
Rob Shepparel	Reflector, Refractor, binocs
Robert Somerville	12.5" Dob., 8x56, 11x70 binocs
Rockford McKay	Celestron 11" SCT
Ron Waldron	10" Skywatcher Dob., 80mm Antares refractor
Ross Sinclair	8" SCT, binoculars
Roy Beimuts	8" Dob, 4" Schmidt-Maksutov, binocs, Skyscout
Roy Ramdeen	Astrophysics 105 Traveler, Takahashi Mewlon/Discmount DM-4. Fujinon 10x70 binocs
Scott Alexander	14.5" Dob.
Sheldon Helbert	8" SCT, 15x70 binocs.
Shelley LePoudre	8" Dob.
Siegfried Dueck	Celestron Nexstar 80GTL, Celestron Skymaster 15x70

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Sig Giverhaug	Portable scope, binocs
Stephen Bedingfield	12.5" PortaBall, 10x50 binocs, 1x7 binocs
Steve Donaldson	12.5" Dob, 10.1" Dob, 10x70 binocs
Stuart May	Meade 8" ACF
Susan Yeo	Phil Johnson 10" Dob., binoculars
Tenho Tuomi	8" Reflector
Terry Potter	12" Dob.
Tracy Hendrey	20x80 binocs
Trevor Schaffer	Meade LX055 8"
Tyrone Klassen	120mm scope
Vance Petriew	20" Obsession Dob, Celestron 8" SCT
Wade Selvig	Stargazer Steve 6" Dob., 10x50 binocs

### Star Party Etiquette

**We hate rules, but some are necessary. Please observe and follow these guidelines during the nighttime observing sessions.**

- **White light flashlights are NOT allowed!** Use ONLY red filtered lights, and keep them as dim as possible.
- **Follow the directions and advise of the Star Party Security people at the Meadows entrance gate.** Cars are to use their park-lights ONLY, or be lead with their lights off by someone with a red flashlight (not advised for safety reasons and to be used only in an emergency). **Please make sure to have your car parked in its final resting position well before darkness sets in. If you do not intend to remain in the Meadows all night long, park and set up as near to the entrance gate as possible so you can leave without blinding everyone!** The security people have a limited supply of red flags to cover lights! Cover the following lights: interior, back-up, license plate, trunk and headlights. If white lights will come on, expect people to yell rudely in your general direction! Please cover windows on RVs that face the telescopes as not to accidentally have a family member flash the crowd (with white light, that is).
- **It is OK to walk around and visit other participants' telescopes;** indeed this is encouraged, but please respect their privacy if they do not want visitors. Some are here to visit; others prefer their own solitude. It is also OK to thumb your nose at any telescope or participant you don't like – after all, it's dark...who will know?
- **Please keep music to a personal level,** and keep unnecessary noise down as not to bother others or families who may be camped nearby (or heaven forbid, trying to sleep instead of observing!)
- **Red and green lasers are permitted.** Do NOT point them horizontally at people or trailers or we will come looking for you! Lasers will not show on astrophotos unless they are held in the same place for many seconds. Use them sparingly.
- **You must abide by the rules of the Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park.**
- **Have fun & tell wild stories about things you observed that are far too dim to have possibly been seen!**

## GA/SSSP'09 DOORPRIZES

We would like to thank all of the organizations and people listed below for their generous donation of door prizes. We would also like to thank Darrell Chatfield for all of his effort in getting the door prizes together and organizing the draws.

### **All-Star Telescope**

Antares 80mm refractor, AZ1 mnt, 2 eyepieces, diagonal  
Framed *Canada Post* IYA stamp press sheet  
Celestron *UpClose* 10 x 50 binoculars (2 ea)  
Celestron *UpClose* 7 x 35 binoculars (2 ea)  
Celestron *SkyMaster* 15 x 70 binoculars  
Celestron 8-24 x 25 zoom *Traveler* binoculars  
Firefly *2010 Astronomy Calendars* (T. Dickinson)(3 ea)  
Firefly *Stargazing with a Telescope* book  
Petersen's *First Guide, Astronomy* (2 ea)  
Optics cleaning kits (2 ea)  
Dual beam flashlights (2 ea)  
LE 7 mm eyepiece  
7 - 21mm zoom eyepiece

### **Alberta Premium Optics**

Door prize  
Celestron t-shirt

### **Astro Publications**

Astro cards

### **Mike Clancy**

*A User's Guide to Saskatchewan Parks* book  
Portable BBQ/cooler

### **Colin Chatfield**

Galileo telescope  
Buzzard Coulee meteorite

### **Darrell Chatfield**

*Glen Schrimshaw* print

### **Blair Colborne**

Door prize  
65 mm spotting scope

### **Terry Dickinson**

*Backyard Astronomer's Guide* book

### **Ellen Dickson**

Jewelry and suncatchers

### **Sharon Hartridge**

Books (4 ea)

### **Island Eyepiece and Telescope Ltd**

8-24 mm zoom eyepiece  
\$25 gift certificate

### **Island Eyepiece & Celestron**

20 x 85 *Skymaster* binoculars  
*Celestron* ball cap

### **Island Eyepiece & Skywatcher**

6 x 30 binoculars  
42 mm 2" eyepiece (2 ea)  
4 mm eyepiece  
6 mm eyepiece  
7 mm eyepiece  
dual angle diagonal (3 ea)

### **Khan Scope Centre**

Door prize

### **Lumicon**

\$25 gift certificates (2 ea)

### **Meade Instruments**

8.8 mm UWA eyepiece  
9 x 63 binoculars  
DSI II Pro CCD camera  
Laser pointer

### **McNally Robinson Booksellers**

Astronomy book  
Planisphere

### **Phase II Foto Source**

Coffee mugs

### **Pacific Telescope & Science Shop**

Laser pointer  
dual angle diagonal (5 ea)  
LE 9 mm. Eyepieces (5 ea)  
10 x 42 binoculars  
Heritage 76 mm scope  
Moon filters (8 ea)  
Olivon cleaning kits (5 ea)  
42mm eyepieces (2 ea)

### **RASC Saskatoon Centre**

*Images of the Universe* book c/w CD  
*Celestron* 76 mm *Firstscope*  
Camera tripod  
Stamps

### **TeleVue**

20 mm Plossl eyepiece

### **Glen Scrimshaw Gallery**

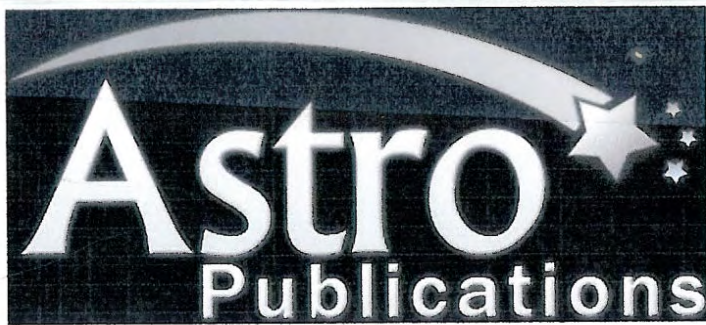
*Glen Scrimshaw* print

### **the SCIENCE shop**

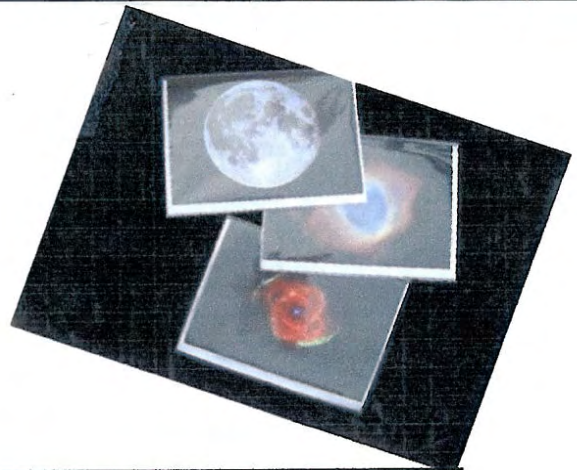
6" Dobsonian telescope

### **Barb Wright**

Observing hood

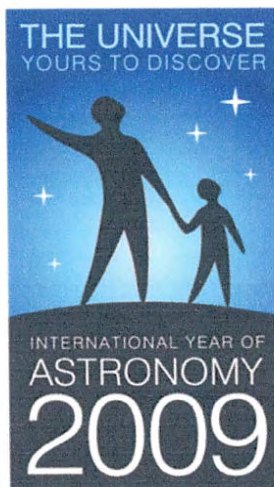


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# The 2009 RASC General Assembly & Saskatchewan Summer Star Party

## Your GA/SSSP'09 Organizing Committee and Volunteers

Chairperson & Volunteer Coordinator	Barb Wright (President, Saskatoon Centre)
Master of Ceremonies	Ron Waldron (Saskatoon Centre)
Registrars & Registration	Kathleen Houston, Rick Huziak, Jeff Swick, Barb Wright, Christine Kulyk, Norma Janzen (Saskatoon)
Registration Collation	Kathleen Houston, Rick Huziak, Barb Wright, Norma Janzen, Mike Clancy, Anna Clancy, Chris Martin, Marael Houston-MacIntosh, Les Dickson, Ellen Dickson (Saskatoon Centre)
GA/SSSP Brochure, LPA Forum	Rick Huziak (Saskatoon Centre)
Meeting Place & Resort Liaison	Les & Ellen Dickson (Saskatoon Centre)
Meadows, Park Liaison, Winery Tour	Mike Clancy (Saskatoon Centre)
AV Equipment	Les Dickson, Brent Burlingham (Saskatoon Centre)
Teleconferencing Equipment	Jo Taylor (National RASC)
GA/SSSP Treasurer	Norma Jensen (Saskatoon Centre)
Door Prizes, Signage & Banners	Darrell Chatfield, Bev Chatfield, Jessica Chatfield (Saskatoon Centre)
Speaker Liaison	Les Dickson, Gord Sarty (Saskatoon Centre), Melody Nagel-Hisey (CHIPP)
Paper and Poster Sessions	Gord Sarty (Saskatoon Centre)
Speech Writing	Shelley Lepoudre (Saskatoon Centre)
Grocery Shopping, First Aid	Barb Wright, Ellen Dickson, Chris Martin (Saskatoon Centre)
Taxi Van Rides & Tour Driver	Chris Martin (Saskatoon)
Early-bird Barbecue	Barb Wright, Jim Young, Mark deJong, Murray Strankay, Norma Janzen, Mike Clancy, Wade Selvig (Saskatoon Centre), members of the RASC National Council
T-shirts	Darcy Kozoriz, Vance Petriew (Regina Centre)
Equipment & People Transport	Mike Clancy, Chris Martin (Saskatoon)
GA/SSSP Pins	Kathleen Houston (Saskatoon Centre)
Public Star Nights & Solar Observing	Regina Centre, Saskatoon Centre, CHIPP Interpreters
Astrophoto Contest & Awards	Al Hartridge (Saskatoon Centre)
Meadows Set-up & Teardown	Rick Huziak, Al & Graham Hartridge, Les Dickson, Jim Young, Darrell Chatfield (Saskatoon Centre) and others
Equipment Transport	Mike Clancy (Saskatoon Centre)
Books & Sales Items	Bruce Brandell, Darrell Chatfield, McNally Robinson Booksellers
GA/SSSP'09 Handouts	Rick Huziak, Kathleen Houston, Les Dickson, Barb Wright (Saskatoon Centre)
Registration Bags and Handouts	Mike Clancy (Saskatoon Centre), Town of Maple Creek
Photography	George Charpentier (Saskatoon Centre)
Canadian Light Source Tour	Mark de Jong (Saskatoon Centre)
Loaner Scopes & Tents	Barb Wright, Gordon Sarty (Saskatoon Centre), Vance Petriew (Regina Centre)
Meadows Nighttime Cafe	Paul & Karen Petriew, Vance Petriew (Regina Centre)
Security & Gophers	Ron Waldron, Barb Wright, Jim Young, Darrell Chatfield, Shelley LePoudre, Amy Huziak (Saskatoon Centre)
Other Unspecified Volunteers	Glen Herman, Marshall Herman (Swift Current, SK)
Starry, Starry Nights Display	Murray Strankay, Pat Gakis, Tenho Tuomi, Mary Rowan, Bev Chatfield, Cass Cozens, Scott Alexander, Roy Beimuts (Saskatoon Centre)
Media Contact & Liaison	Kathleen Houston, Marianne Hydomako (Saskatoon Centre), Joan Johnson (Calgary Centre)
Saskatoon Centre 35-year Newsletter	Wendy McDondald (Victoria Centre)
10-year Awards, Pen Boxes	Rick Huziak, Mike Clancy (Saskatoon Centre)
GA/SSSP Website	Christine Kulyk
	Barb Wright, Ellen Dickson (Saskatoon Centre)
	Les Dickson, Gord Sarty, Brent Burlingham (Saskatoon Centre)

**As always, we're sure we've missed someone – thanks anyway!! There is also a load of volunteers without whom we couldn't have come this far!**

## Donors

**Besides our vendors, we have others who have made donations to the GA/SSSP. We would like to thank them for their generosity.**

Loaner tents	Scouts of Canada
Galileo costume	Beverley Kobelsky, University of Saskatchewan Drama Department
\$300 for printing	SaskEnergy
\$100 cash donation	Mike Stephens (Winnipeg, MB)
\$200 cash donation	Raymond Auclair (Orleans, ON)
Hand-made wooden pens	Tom Wright (Saskatoon, SK - Barb's dad) - for astrophotography awards

## Schedule of Events

Events take place in the Resort's Wapiti Room (WR), Moose Room (MR), the Meadows Campground (MC), the Park Amphitheatre (Amph), the Tennis Courts (TC) and occasionally elsewhere where noted. Events open to the general public *and* GA/SSSP participants are marked (public). (Closed) means the meetings are for RASC National Council members ONLY. Every day ends with viewing in the Meadows Campground (MC). Note that the First Nations Astronomy presentation on Friday night and the CHIPP Astronomy Play on Saturday night are not official GA/SSSP events but put on by the Park for the public. GA/SSSP participants are welcome to attend if they wish – these are GOOD presentations! Remember these other events run all weekend:

First Nations storytelling throughout weekend (Interpretive Centre) (public)  
*Starry Starry Night Art Display* throughout weekend (Moose Room) (public)

### Thursday August 13

- 08:15 Registration opens (to 9:00) (WR)
- 09:00 National Council Meeting (WR) (closed)
- 10:00 Registration (to 16:30) (MC)
- 13:00 National Council Meeting resumes (WR) (closed)
- 13:00 **Starry, Starry Night Exhib.** (to 16:30) (MR) (public)
- 17:00 **Welcome BBQ** (Amph firepit)
- 18:00 **Song Contest & Sing-along** – (Amph)
- 19:30 **Northcott Lecture - Alan Dyer** (Amph) (public)
- 21:00 GA/SSSP Observing (MC)

### Friday August 14

- 09:30 Registration (to 16:00) (WR)
- 10:00 **Keynote Lecture – Dr. Martin Beech** (WR)
- 10:00 **Starry, Starry Night Exhib.** (to 17:00) (MR) (public)
- 11:00 **Solar Observing** (Interpretive Centre) (public)
- 11:10 **Scientific Paper Session** (WR)
- 13:30 **Paper Session** resumes (WR)
- 15:00 **RASC Awards** presentations (WR)
- 15:45 **IYA music: On the Shoulders of Giants** (WR)
- 17:00 **Friday Supper Social; Toast to Queen** (WR)
- 19:30 **First Nations Astronomy** (Amph) (public)
- 21:00 GA/SSSP Observing (MC)
- 21:00 Public Observing (Tennis Courts) (public)
- 22:00 **Observing Meteors Clinic - Bruce McCurdy** (MC)

### Saturday August 15

- 10:00 Registration (to 12:30) (MC)
- 10:00 **Starry, Starry Night Ex.** (to 17:00) (MR) (public)
- 11:00 **Swap Meet** (MC)
- 11:15 **Book Signing - Alan Dyer** (MC)
- 13:00 Registration (to 15:00) (WR)
- 13:30 **Light Abatement Forum** (WR)
- 15:00 **Father Kemble Lecture – Dr. Jim Hesser** (WR)
- 16:00 **Invitation to Fredericton, NB GA 2010** (WR)
- 16:15 **SSSP 10-Year & Photo Contest Awards** (WR)
- 16:30 **Door Prizes - You must be present to win** (WR)
- 17:00 **Group Photo** (Volleyball court by Resort)
- 18:30 **Banquet** (WR & MR)
- 19:30 **CHIPP Astronomy Play** (Amph) (public)
- 20:00 **Reveal Your Scope Walk-about** (MC)
- 21:00 GA/SSSP Observing (MC)
- 21:00 Public Observing (Tennis Courts) (public)
- 22:00 **First Nations Observing Clinic – Wilfred Buck and Rocky McKay** (MC)

### Sunday August 16

- 09:00 **Annual General Assembly Meeting** (WR)  
(RASC Members' AGM)
- 11:00 **Winery/Ft. Walsh Tour** (Resort parking lot)
- 11:00 National Council Meeting (WR) (closed)
- 11:30 Council members leave to join tour
- 17:30 **Potluck Supper** - those not on tour (MC)
- 19:30 Tour returns
- 21:00 Straggler's Observing