



Photo: Luca Vanzella



## November 23 to November 29, 2020 RASC Weekly: Lowell Observatory and Making Gold (Astrophysically)

Monday, November 23, 2020 - 20:30 to 22:30 EST  
The Research Legacy of Lowell Observatory

**RASC History Committee - Presented by Klaus Brasch**  
Abstract:

Percival Lowell founded his observatory in 1894 and commissioned the famed firm of Alvan Clark & Sons, to build a 24-in aperture refracting telescope among the largest in private hands at the time. Clark himself deemed it as one of his best. Both Lowell and his great refractor soon gained notoriety with reports of putative canals on Mars, allegedly the work of a dying civilization to channel water from the planet's poles to its desert equatorial regions. Amid all the ensuing controversy, the Observatory's many other scientific achievements are not as widely known as they should. This talk will review some of those and also current research and educational efforts at this historic institution.

*Klaus Brasch Bio:*

Klaus Brasch is a retired biomedical scientist and a volunteer at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, AZ. Born in Germany, his family emigrated to Canada in 1953, where Klaus got hooked on astronomy in his teens, joined the Montreal Centre of the RASC in 1958 and has been an avid amateur ever since. He earned his BSc at Concordia and Ph.D. at Carleton University, before joining the biology faculty at Queen's University in Kingston. In 1990 he joined California State University, where he served as department chair, dean of science and director of campus research. Klaus has translated popular French astronomy books into English, lectured widely on topics ranging from life in the universe to astrophotography and published articles in *Astronomy*, *Sky & Telescope*, *SkyNews*, *JRASC* and elsewhere. Asteroid 25226 Brasch, was recently named for him by Lowell Observatory.

*The Following Panelists will be joining Klaus Brasch:* Clark Muir, Randall Rosenfeld, and Chris Beckett

[Register for The Research Legacy of Lowell Observatory](#)

## Wednesday, November 25, 2020 - 19:30 to 20:30 EST How to make Gold (Astrophysically Speaking) - RASC Toronto Centre Speaker's Night Meeting (ONLINE)

Join us for our monthly Speaker's Night where a professional astronomer gets to tell us about their latest research.

<https://rascto.ca/content/speakers-night-and-annual-meeting-1>

How to make Gold (Astrophysically Speaking) by Daniel Siegel, Assistant Professor, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo.

<http://www.perimeterinstitute.ca/people/daniel-siegel>

Gravitational-wave observations have revolutionized astronomy. They represent an entirely new 'messenger' that tells us about enigmatic phenomena in the universe never 'seen' before, such as collisions of neutron stars and black holes. This talk will be a journey to such violent cosmic collisions and explosions. It will discuss how we can use gravitational waves and 'light' to learn about them, and how these distant events produce exquisite star dust loaded with heavy elements like silver, platinum, and gold that we find right here on Earth.

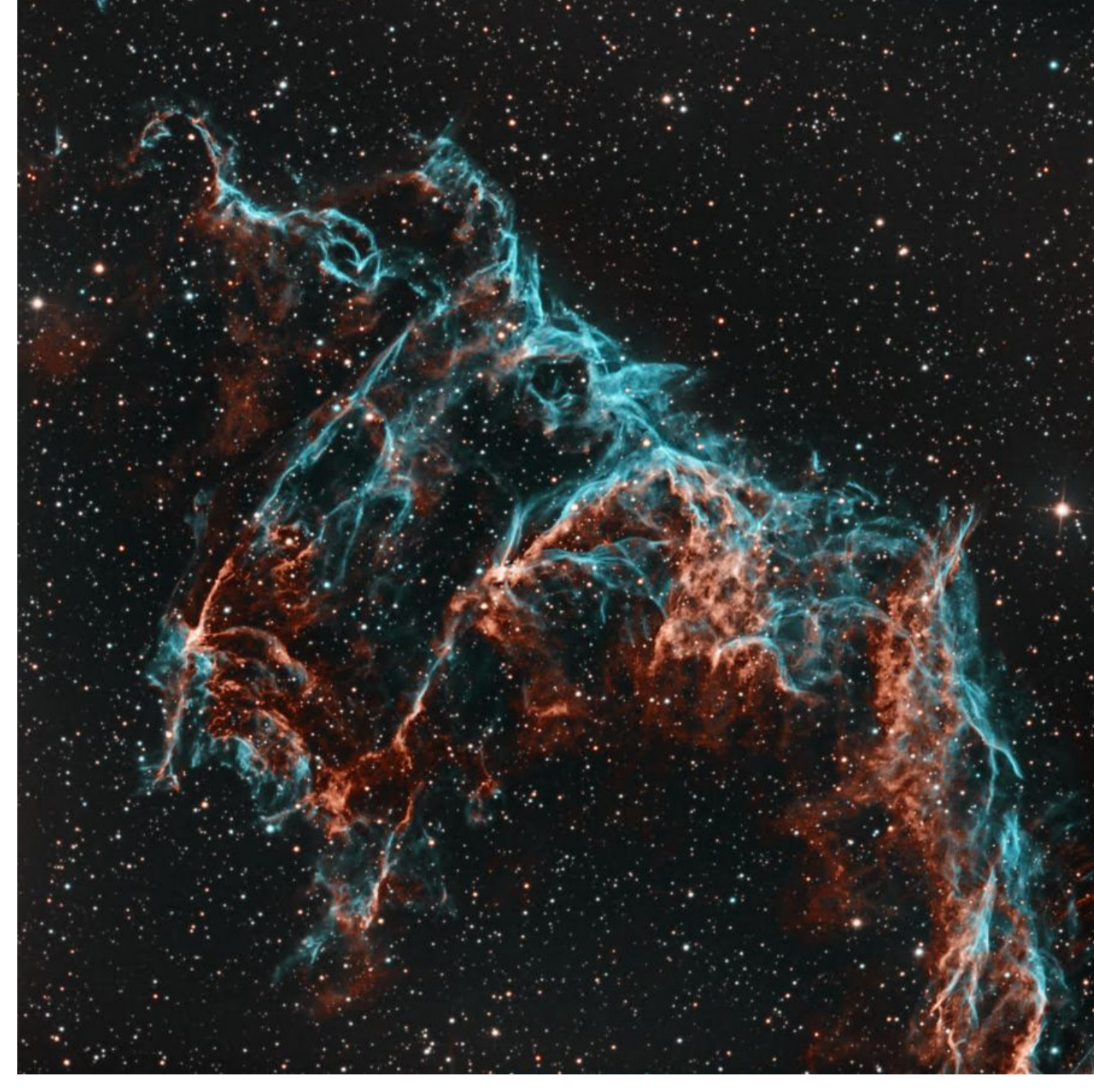
Who can attend: Everyone

Fee: Free

Registration: Not required

[Join How to Make Gold \(Astrophysically Speaking\)](#)

## SkyNews and RASC Robotic Telescope Image Editing Contest Winner for October 2020



Congratulations to RASC Toronto Centre member Jeff Dutton on his processed image of the Veil Nebula! Jeff's image was selected by the Robotic Telescope Team as the winning image for the RASC and SkyNews Magazine October Processing contest. Read the full article [here](#).

Data from the Robotic Telescope will be available for purchase soon. Stay tuned!

## Astro-image of the Week

**Luca Vanzella**

We are featuring winners of RASC's AstroImaging Certificate. Winners will be featured in the banner of RASC Weekly. More information on the RASC AstroImaging Certificate is available [here](#).

LATE HARVEST MOONRISE: *I don't often shoot the rising last quarter Moon, but in the interest of keeping to the category name, here's one of the Late Harvest Moon rising over downtown Edmonton, 2h 10m after Last Quarter. Composite of two images.*



To see the large image, check out the [RASC AstroImaging Zenfolio page](#).

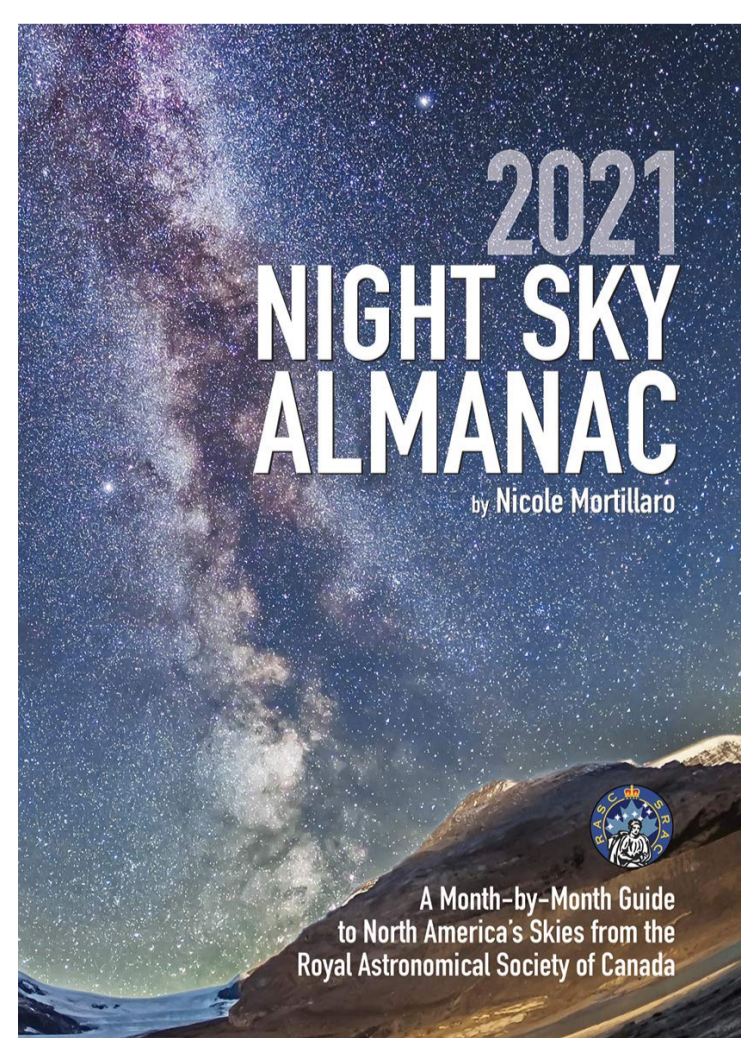
## Gift Memberships

This holiday season, give the gift of a RASC membership to your friends and loved ones! A RASC membership includes a wealth of resources and a chance to connect with a large community of astronomy enthusiasts. If you have a budding astronomer in your life, our annual membership makes an excellent gift! To purchase a membership, contact our Membership Coordinator, Adela Zyfi at [mempub@rasc.ca](mailto:mempub@rasc.ca) or (519) 783-1529 ext. 102.

## Shipping delays

We are so glad that you are enjoying RASC publications and ordering our products for yourselves and loved ones! In order to remain transparent and ensure communication with members is our top priority, we wanted to update you on the status of your orders and Handbooks for this year. As we all know, COVID-19 has significantly delayed all mailing this year, especially now as the holiday season is coming up. Unfortunately we have faced an additional delay in the past few weeks as our shipping house has been moving locations, so they had to temporarily pause order fulfillment to finalize their move. We are now back up and running and all orders are being dispatched as quickly as possible to you all. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to fulfill all orders in a timely manner. For any questions or concerns, please contact our Membership Coordinator, Adela Zyfi at [mempub@rasc.ca](mailto:mempub@rasc.ca) or (519) 783-1529 ext. 102.

## 2021 Night Sky Almanac Available now!



[Buy 2021 Night Sky Almanac](#)

## This Week's Observing Targets

Wednesday, November 25th, 2020  
Do you recall when we found water on sunlit parts of the Moon? Tonight's your chance to see the crater where that water was found! Clavius is down at the southern end of the Moon and will be alone! Clavius is dominant tonight. There are lots of other craters down there which can make it quite hard to find. If you have a telescope, look for a curve of smaller craters running right through Clavius! Tune in for next week's Full moon and Penumbral Lunar eclipse both happening on Monday, November 30, 2020!

## Member Highlights

Do you know a member who you think deserves a spot in our newsletter? Let us know! Email [communications@rasc.ca](mailto:communications@rasc.ca) with your submissions.

[view this email in your browser](#)

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