Saskatoon Skies

The Newsletter of the Saskatoon Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Volume 56, Number 10

November 2025



Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Saskatoon Centre Incorporated Box 31086, RPO Broadway Saskatoon, SK S7H 5S8

WEBSITE: https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/
E -MAIL: sk_centre@rasc.ca
FACEBOOK: RASC Saskatoon Centre
INSTAGRAM: @RASCYXE

To view *Saskatoon Skies* digitally, see our website: https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/newsletters.html

In This Issue:	
Membership Information / Officers of the Centre	2
Newsletter Info / U of S Observatory Info	3
Calendar of Events & Meeting Info	4
Books and Equipment For Sale	5-6
Nov Night Sky Events & Info / Reimbursement for Centre Expenses	6-8
Clear Sky Chart / Weather Info / Light Abatement Info	9
Telescopes for Rent / Christmas Party	10
Minutes of October Meetings	11-15
November Speaker	16
Observing Certificates & Clubs	18-19

MEMBERSHIP? JOIN TODAY!

Regular: \$111.00 /year Youth: \$61.10 /year

Family: \$105.50 + \$42.90/additional adult + \$22.20/additional youth

The Saskatoon Centre operates on a one-year revolving membership. You will be a member for the next 12 months no matter when in the year you join. Members are encouraged to renew early to avoid disruption in publications. Renew through the National Office at http://www.rasc.ca/join.

Benefits of Membership in the Saskatoon Centre

- knowledgeable & friendly amateur astronomers
- use of the Sleaford Observatory
- use of the U of S Observatory (after training)
- Saskatoon Skies Newsletter
- Observer's Handbook

- borrow the Centre's projector to give astronomy outreach presentations contact Les Dickson at astrochem@sasktel.net
- rent the Centre's Telescopes https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/telescopes.html
- use of the Centre library
- Journal of the RASC (electronic format)

SASKATOON CENTRE'S MAIN OFFICERS:

President - John Takala
Vice-President - Nick Larsen
Secretary - Lorie Tedford
Treasurer - OPEN (Les Dickson to fill in until filled)
National Council Rep - Joelle Sheard-Patrick

Canadian Tire money - Darrell Chatfield

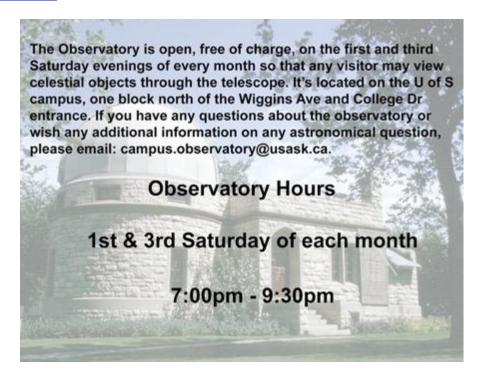
If you cannot attend a meeting but would like to donate your old Canadian Tire money please to assist with club purchases, email Darrell at novachat@sasktel.net.

NEWSLETTER & U OF S OBSERVATORY INFO

Newsletter Editor - Colin Chatfield Copy & Collate - Les & Ellen Dickson Labels & Temps - Mark de Jong Web Posting/Content Editor - Tenho Tuomi/Andrew Kostiuk/Brent Burlingham

Saskatoon Skies is published monthly by the Saskatoon Centre of the RASC. Distribution is approximately 80 copies per issue. Saskatoon Skies welcomes unsolicited articles, sketches, photographs, cartoons, and other astronomy or space science material. Submissions should be sent by e-mail to the editor at colorable.col

Saskatoon Skies is also posted on our Saskatoon Centre homepage as a .pdf file and can be downloaded free-of-charge. Members may choose to receive the newsletter by regular mail or via the Internet. Articles may be reprinted from Saskatoon Skies without expressed permission (unless otherwise indicated), provided that proper source credit is given. Saskatoon Skies accepts commercial advertising. Please email the editor at colcha@gmail.com for rates. Members can advertise non-commercial items for free.



Hours subject to change, so check below for more info -

Website - https://artsandscience.usask.ca/physics/community/observatory.php
Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/usaskobservatory/

RASC CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETING INFO

Nov 17	RASC Saskatoon Centre General Meeting	Brent Burlingham
Nov 22	Observer's Group - Sleaford Observatory	Nick Larsen

Observer's group viewing starts at dusk at the Sleaford Observatory dark site. Get there early and set up for a great night of observing! Members and their guests only.

For a complete list of club events, please visit: https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/activities.html

November RASC General Meeting

for all members and guests

Join us on November 17th, 2025, at 8:00PM (Executive meeting at 7:00pm) Webinar (info below)

Please note: the meeting will be at the U of S Observatory at 108 Wiggins Ave (on the U of S Campus)

7:00pm - **RASC Executive Meeting** (Members may attend the executive meeting as observers if they wish)

A Zoom registration link and phone-in numbers will be emailed to Members. After that, the procedure to register and join the meeting is the same as for the webinar (explained below).

NOTE: links to register to attend the webinar will be emailed out as well so we know who is planning to attend. After registering, an email invitation will be sent with a link to join via computer or a number to phone in. When joining via computer, participants will have to first download and install the Zoom app, if they have not done so already.

8:15pm - Main Program -

"Light, the Universe, and (Almost) Everything" - Les Dickson

Info about talk below

BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

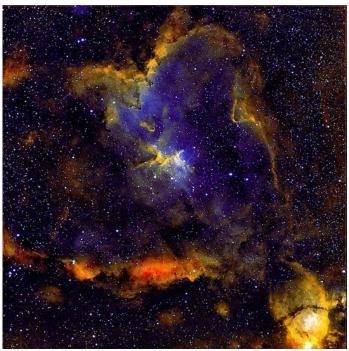
All books are in either new, or like new condition. Retail price in brackets. Please email at novachat@sasktel.net or text/call 306-222-0515 if you want a particular book or to make arrangements. All books being sold by Darrell Chatfield.

"Deep-Sky Observers Handbook" Volume 1-5 Enslow-Lutterworth	\$40.00
"International Encyclopedia of Astronomy" 1987 Patrick Moore Color	\$10.00
"Backyard Astronomers Guide" T. Dickinson & Alan Dyer 2008 Color	\$25.00
"Atlas of Deep Sky Splendors" 1978 H. Verhenberg B & W	\$22.00
"Amateur Astronomers Catalog of 500 Deep Sky Objects" Vol 1 1980 B	
R. Morales	\$15.00
"Observing the Constellations" 1989 J. Sanford Color charts	\$10.00

Please email me if you want to see any items - novachat@sasktel.net. Darrell Chatfield

- 2 1.25" rack and pinion focusers for refractor type telescopes. Brand new. Never used. Inset diameter is 57mm. Heavy duty type with metal knurled knobs. All have boxes. \$20.00 each.
- Original Celestron orange tube C5" scope with tangent arm. Fork arms. SCOPE ONLY. No tripod or wedge. 5 x 30 finder, 1.25" visual back, diagonal, eyepiece, lens cap, metal case. Was used as a spotter scope. Not a mark on the tube. Clean looking. \$250.00
- 1 1.25" eyepiece extender 3" long \$20.00
- 1 1.25" Celestron off axis guider c/w 12.5mm ep. Can be illuminated. New. \$45.00
- 1 Celestron 1.25" reticle. Can be illuminated \$20.00
- 1 3.5" long 1.25" tele-extender \$20.00
- 3 1.25" visual backs new \$10.00 each
- 1 1.25" to 0.965' visual back \$10.00
- 1 Camera to visual back adapter Lightly used \$10.00
- 1 Threaded visual back to 16mm male threads camera adapter \$10.00
- Original orange tube Celestron finder. $10 \times 40 \text{mm}$. 304 mm (12") long. Comes with bracket meant for a C8" telescope but would fit other scopes. Not a mark on these items. \$65.00
- 6" primary mirror in a 3- point adjustable mirror cell. Some mirror spots. Nice condition. \$85.00 (came from the following tube).

- 7" diameter x 48" long aluminum Newtonian style tube. Ivory exterior with blackened interior. Also has a focuser. Finder bracket supplied as is. There may be some packing tape on the outside that needs to be removed. \$75.00

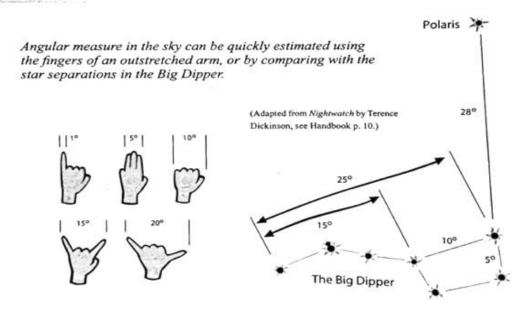


"The Heart and Soul nebula from my back yard in the city." Taken by Jeff Swick

NOVEMBER NIGHT SKY EVENTS AND INFO

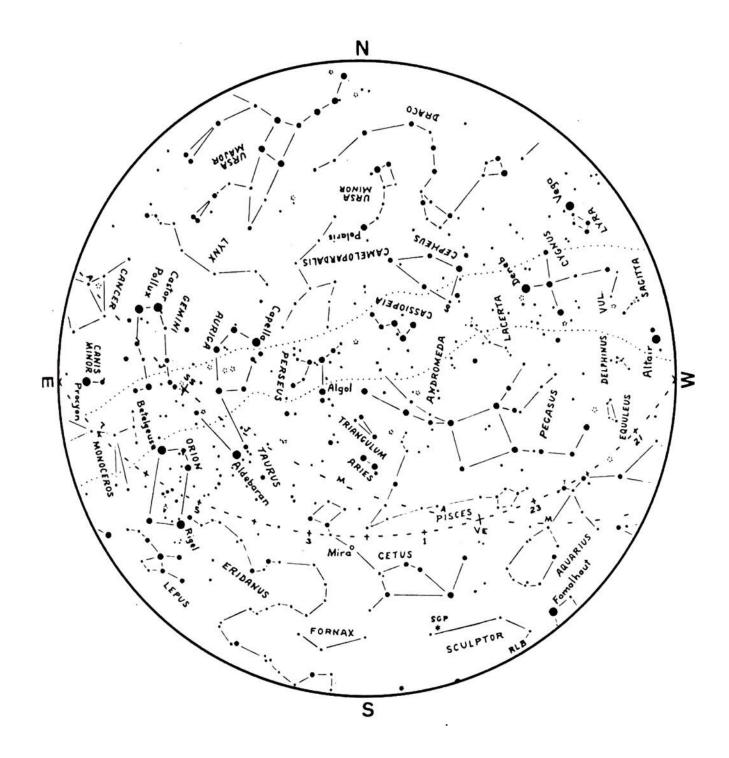
Images on the next few pages used, with permission, from the 2024/25 Observer's Handbook. It can be obtained by joining the RASC here http://rasc.ca/join or ordered from https://secure.rasc.ca/store.

HANDY SKY MEASURES



RASC OBSERVER'S HANDBOOK 2024 - STANDARD EDITION

Tir	ne (d	(UT) h m	NOVEMBER EVENTS	Jupiter's Satellite
			30 X 00 1	West East
Sat.	1	15 54	Double Shadows on Jupiter	1.0
	ا ـ	17 46	1 MIOUII at ascending node	
Sun.	2		DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME FAIRS	2.0
		6 24	Algol at minimum	Europa (/ /
		11	Saturn 4° S of Moon	3.0
		17	Neptune 3° S of Moon	lo Callist
Mon.	3			4.0 Ganymede
Tue.	4			5.0
Wed.	5	3 13	Algol at minimum	1/4
		5 12	Double Shadows on Juniter	6.0
		13	O Tauria meteors peak	
		13 19	full Moon (largest in 2025)	7.0
		22	I MICOLI AL DEFICE A 156 022 1 \ T	11. 1 11/
Thu.	6	16	Moon 0.8° N of Pleiades (M45)	8.0
Fri.	7	(8)	Work Flelades (M45)	9.0
Sat.	8	0 02	Algol at minimum	
Sun.	9	23	Mercury stationary	100 + 1
Mon.	10	8	Jupiter 4° S of Moon	
		20 51	Algol at minimum	11.0
Tue.	11	6	Moon 1.7° N of D	√1 ()
		20	Moon 1.7° N of Beehive (M44) Jupiter stationary	12.0
Wed.	12		lest quester	13.0
		12	last quarter	13.0
		19	N Taurid meteors peak	14.0
Thu.	13	ó	Mercury 1.3° S of Mars	(1/2)
	13	17 40	Regulus 1.0° S of Moon, occultation	15.0
Fri.	14		Algor at Hillimum	
Sat.	15	0 30	Moon at descending node	16.0
		14 29	Alaslatic	17.0
Mon.	17	11 29	Algol at minimum	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
wion.	17	18	Spica 1.2° N of Moon, occultation ²	18.0
Tue.	10	10	Leonid meteors peak	
Wed	10	11 18	Mercury at ascending node	19.0
Thu.	20		Algol at minimum	- (A)
I IIu.	20	3	Moon at apogee (406691 km)	20.0
		6 47	new Moon (lunation 1273)	21.0
D-:	21	9	Mercury in inferior conjunction	XX.
Fri.	21	1 33	Double Shadows on Jupiter	22.0
Cat	22	12	Uranus at opposition	
	22	8 07	Algol at minimum	23.0
	23		Mercury at perihelion	
Mon.		100 00000		24.0
Tue.	25	4 56	Algol at minimum	25.0
		14	Pluto 0.4° S of Moon, occultation ³	1250 X
Wed.	26	102		26.0
Thu.	27	23	Ceres stationary	
Fri.	28	1 45	Algol at minimum	27.0
		6 59	first quarter	//(//
		21 33	Moon at ascending node	28.0
Sat.	29	1	Saturn stationary	1000 - 101
		15		29.0
21 23		19	Mercury stationary	30.0
Sun.	30	2	Saturn 4° S of Moon	(/ th
- - 111	50	22 34	Neptune 3° S of Moon	31.0
		22 34	Algol at minimum	/ I



REIMBURSEMENT FOR CENTRE EXPENSES

The Centre has a reimbursement procedure on submission of expense claims. A writeable pdf claim form can be found on the Centre webpage under the Executive tab. The expense form **must** be submitted *along with original receipts* to the Treasurer within 30 days of the transaction. All expenditures must be preapproved by the Executive or be within allocated budgets.

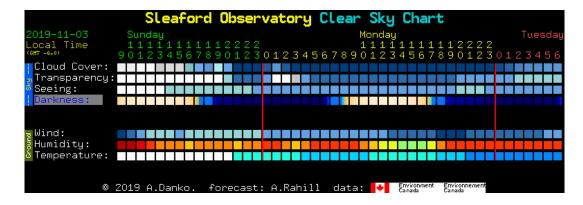
Please contact the Treasurer with any inquiries.

CLEAR SKY AND WEATHER INFO

To find clear skies, visit the Clear Dark Sky website -

https://www.cleardarksky.com/csk/

Once there, one can enter your location to find clear skies. The chart will appear as follows:



Environment Canada provides weather information for astronomy -

www.weather.gc.ca/astro



Saskatchewan Light Pollution Abatement Committee -

http://myotherlife.net/slpac/



www.darksky.org

TELESCOPES FOR RENT

Jeff Swick

Saskatoon Centre has made its telescopes available for rent to RASC members on a monthly basis. We have three Sky-Watcher 8 inch Dobsonian telescopes, each with a kit of eyepieces and Antares 8x50 right angle finder scopes. Also we have one Telrad Reflex Sight.



Visit the website for more info - https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/rent.html





Latest picture of comet C/2025 A6 (Lemmon) taken October 25 through an 800mm focal length telescope (80mm telescope with 2x teleconverter). The camera was rotated to the right to get more of the tail with north on right. Taken by Tenho Tuomi.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETINGS

Lorie Tedford

Minutes of the Monthly Executive Meeting of the RASC Saskatoon Centre Monday, Oct 20th, 2025 - 7:00 pm Hybrid: Online & In-person: U of S Observatory

Attending: Brent Burlingham, Lorie Tedford, Les Dickson, Joelle Sheard-Patrick, Darrell Chatfield, John Takala, Nick Larsen, Colin Chatfield, James Wood, Jeff Swick, Tenho Tuomi

- 1. Call to order 7:00 pm Brent Burlingham (President and Chair)
- 2. Approval of the Executive meeting minutes for September 2025 as printed in the October newsletter. Moved by Les Dickson, seconded by John Takala; carried.
- 3. Call for additional announcements/items to add to the agenda.
 - 3.1 Financial Report
 - 3.2 Fundraising
 - 3.3 Membership Coordinator Position
- 4. Announcements from the Chair None to present
- 5. Old Business Reports from the Executive Council
 - 5.1 President's Report Brent Burlingham
 - Thanks to Tim Yaworski and centre members who assisted at the Observe the Moon event on October 4th at W.W Ashley Park.

5.2 Acting Treasurer - Les Dickson

- Motion by Les Dickson to have the profit of sales of the telescope equipment ear marked for future telescope upgrades and accessories for the rental program. Seconded by Nick Larsen, carried.
- Financial report as of October 20th is as follows:

Income (not including SSSP Account)

Membership	\$2,246.28	
Donations	\$135.00	
Coffee Fund	\$49.95	
SSSP 2023	\$2,625.00	a
Telescope Rental	\$365.00	
Sales of Equipment	\$7,600.00	b
TOTAL	\$13,021.23	

Expenses (not including SSSP Account)

TOTAL	\$4,473.53
Cairn)	
Misc. (includes donation to Petriew	\$1,530.53
Newsletter printing and mailing	\$69.85
Office and Admin	\$227.74
Repairs and Maintenance (Sleaford)	\$422.61
Insurance	\$2,071.34
Public Education	\$151.46

- a Transfer in from SSSP account for our portion of profit
- b \$4,500 from sale of C16, \$3,100 from sale of donated equipment

SSSP 2025

- Estimated profit (income expenses donations): \$2,885
- Profit statement for SSSP 2024 in preparation

Funds in Credit Union Accounts

Account	Start Oct 2024	End Sep 2025
General	\$21,618,22	\$30,165.92
SSSP	\$14,698.11	\$19,308.38
Term Deposit	\$2,310.36	\$2,379.67

1. National Council Rep - Joelle Sheard-Patrick

- Award nominations need to be in by December 31st. Need two members to sign off a nomination.

2. Activities Coordinator - Joelle Sheard-Patrick

- November 1st at Beaver Creek is a dark sky event with Tim Yaworski. If interested in helping, contact Tim. Set up is for 6 pm.
- For outreach activities, going to focus on Tim's events with Meewasin due to community involvement and manpower of the club.
- Possibility of hosting more events in the upcoming year for members.

3. Sleaford Update -Darrell Chatfield

- The grass has been cut. The weeds have been pulled and sprayed.
- Attempted to get the snowblower to work but couldn't get it to work.
- U of S. needs to contact the RM to fill out forms.
- Need a fire extinguisher for the warm up shelter. Motion made to give Darrell a budget of \$500 per year for upkeep and maintenance for Sleaford. Seconded by Joelle Sheard-Patrick, carried.

6. Old Business

6.1 Review and update the Centre executive and support positions in order to prepare for the elections at the following AGM. (See attached list of positions and members who have indicated and willingness to stand).

7. New Business

7.1 RASC Saskatoon Centre Property and Liability Insurance

- The property and liability insurance in the amount of \$1,693.88 was due and a cheque for that amount was submitted to Westland Insurance. Needs executive approval and motion moved.
- Motion to acknowledge the payment to Westland Insurance made by Les Dickson to approve the payment of \$1,693.88 to Westland Insurance. Seconded by Nick Larson, carried.

7.2 Fundraising

- Discussed the possibility of participating in giving Tuesday on December 2nd.
- The event would take place over social media with hopes of raising money for a specific project. Possibly a new telescope that members could use? If there are any ideas, bring to the next meeting.
- It would entail a series of emails being sent with information regarding what the donations would be contributing to.

7.3 Membership Coordinator

- **Motion** made by Nick Larsen to remove the position of membership coordinator as the duties have been allocated to other positions and it is no longer necessary. **Seconded** by Darrell Chatfield, **carried**.
- **8. Motion to adjourn** by Les Dickson; **carried**. 7:59 PM.

Minutes of the Monthly General Meeting of the RASC Saskatoon Center Monday, Oct 20th, 2025 - 8:00 pm Hybrid: Online & In-person: U of S Observatory

Minutes taken and prepared by Lorie Tedford.

- 1. Sharing/Networking Time 8:00-8:15 pm all members.
- 2. Call to Order 8:16pm Brent Burlingham (President and Chair)
- 3. Call for additional announcements/items to add to the agenda.
 - 3.1. Financial Report see Executive Minutes for Report
 - 3.2. Christmas Party Lorie Tedford to plan Christmas Party
- 4. Call out to new members/guests: None
- **5.** Adoption of the September General meeting minutes as printed in the October newsletter. Moved by Jeff Swick, seconded by Lisa Caldwell, carried.
- 6. Executive Meeting Summary Brent Burlingham
 - See Executive Meeting Minutes
- 7. Resignation of Outgoing Directors and Appointment of New Directors 7.1.Resignation of Outgoing Directors
 - 7.2. Appointment of Incoming Directors
- 8. Election of Officers
 - **President:** John Takala
 - Vice President: Nick Larsen
 - National Council Rep.: Joelle Sheard-Patrick
 - **Secretary:** Lorie Tedford
 - Treasurer: OPEN

Support Positions

- Past President: Brent Burlingham

- Librarian/Archivist: Darrell Chatfield
- Activities Coordinator: Joelle Sheard-Patrick
- Newsletter Editor: Colin Chatfield
- Web Master: Andrew Kostiuk
- Web Content Editor: Tenho Tuomi
- Sleaford Maintenance Coordinator: Darrell Chatfield
- Observers/Imaging Group Coordinator: OPEN
- Speaker Coordinator: Jeff Swick
- Telescope Rental Coordinator: OPEN
- **Photographers:** George Charpentier, Colin Chatfield
- Social Media Coordinator: Colin Chatfield
- Observing Certificate Coordinator: Darrell Chatfield
- Fundraising Coordinator: Verity Moore-Wright

Board of Directors (contacted, waiting a response).

- George Charpentier
- Mark De Jong
- Norma Jensen
- Yannis Pahatouroglou

Saskatchewan Summer Star Party

- Chair: OPEN
- Rick Huziak
- 3 Support Positions Lorie Tedford, Nick Larsen, Verity Moore-Wright
- George Charpentier
- Andrew Kostiuk
- Greg Fusick
- Joelle Sheard-Patrick

Sleaford Joint Committee

- Yannis Pahatouroglou (RASC)
- Darrell Chatfield (RASC)
- Daryl Janzen (Usask)
- TBD (Usask)

Constitution Committee

- Les Dickson

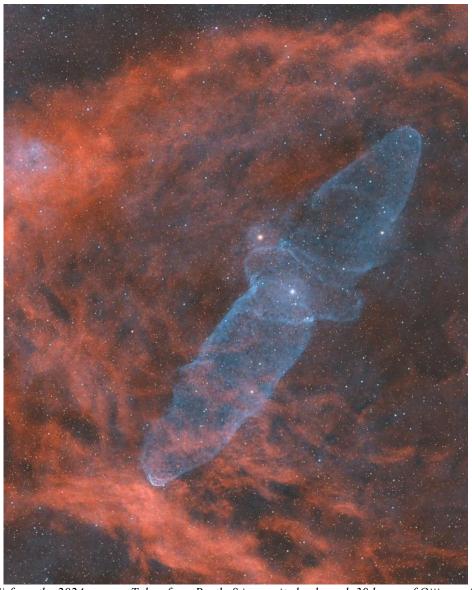
9. Program

- 9.1. "Astronomy Rig Upgrades and Improvements" presented by Jeff Swick
- 10. Call to adjourn Moved by Nick Larson, seconded by Lisa Caldwell; carried.

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Les Dickson

How do we know anything about the objects in the sky other than their position and movements? By studying the light we receive from them. Spectroscopy is the field of study that measures and interprets the properties of light and what it tells us about the composition and structure of matter. This presentation will be a once-over-lightly introduction to spectroscopy as it pertains to astronomy and how it is relevant to amateur astronomers.



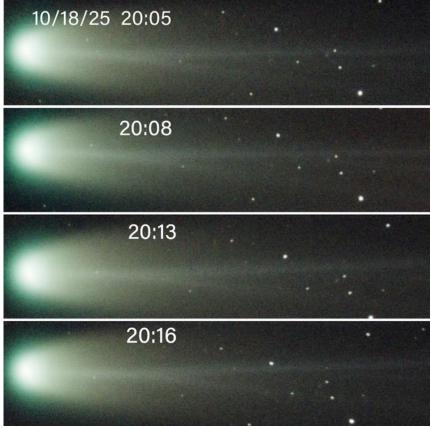
Squid nebula (Ou4) from the 2024 season. Taken from Bortle 8 inner city back yard. 30 hours of Oiii acquisition and a single hour of Ha data for the Bat (Sh2-129). This faint target is super challenging even from darker skies. Shot with Sharpstar 94 EDPH Triplet, ASI 533 mono camera, ZWO Ha and Oiii 7nm filters, ZWO EFW/EAF/AM3 and ASI AIR mini. Stacked in Siril, processed in PixInsight and Photoshop. Taken by Nick Larsen.



In October Tim Yaworski led a weekend "Introduction to Astrophotography" workshop through the Hawood Inn at Waskesiu in Prince Albert National Park. The two day event included a Friday evening sky tour, a Saturday morning class session and an evening photowalk to try out their new skills.



A three minute exposure (18x10 sec subs) of Comet Lemmon taken with the Seestar S50 smart scope by Tim Yaworski.



Four images of Comet Lemmon taken over 11 minutes to illustrate how far the comet moves across the background stars. Taken with Seestar S50 by Tim Yaworski.

OBSERVING CERTIFICATES AND CLUBS

RASC OBSERVING PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATES

The RASC offers four observing certificates for members who observe all objects in each of the following observing lists in this chapter:

THE MESSIER CATALOGUE (p. 312)

THE FINEST NGC OBJECTS (p. 316),

THE DEEP-SKY CHALLENGE OBJECTS (p. 320),

DEEP-SKY GEMS (p. 322).

See rasc.ca/certificate-programs for details and contact the RASC Observing Committee Chair at rasc.ca/contact/observing for further information.



The RASC also offers the Explore the Universe Certificate for novice observers (who do not have to be RASC members), the Explore the Moon Certificate for beginning members, and the Isabel Williamson Lunar Observing Certificate and the Double Stars Observing Certificate for intermediate to advanced members. In addition, Astroimaging certificates are available for those members with a photographic bent. See rasc.ca/astro-imaging-certificate

Join the Club! Observe all 110 Messier, 110 Finest NGC, 400 Herschel I or II, 140 Lunar, 154 Sky Gems or 35 Binocular objects, or Explore the Universe and earn great **OBSERVING CERTIFICATES!**

MESSIER CLUB Certified at 110 Objects:

R. Huziak, G. Sarty, S. Alexander, S. Ferguson, D. Chatfield, T. Tuomi, L. Scott, G. Charpentier, B. Johnson, L. Dickson, B. Burlingham, Norma Jensen, Donna-Lee May

Ron Waldron	108
Brent Gratias	104
Marcel Müller-	94
Goldkuhle	
Wade Selvig	75
Wayne Schlapkohl	43
Ellen Dickson	34
Graham Hartridge	9

CHATFIELD BINOCULAR **CERTIFICATE** Certified at 35 to 40 Objects:

T. Tuomi. R. Huziak

Jim Goodridge	12
---------------	----

FINEST NGC CLUB **Certified at 110 Objects:**

R. Huziak, G. Sarty, D. Chatfield, T. Tuomi

Larry Scott	110
Scott Alexander	97
Norma Jensen	83
Sandy Ferguson	23
George Charpentier	13
Brent Burlingham	97

EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE Certified at 55 to 110

Objects: T. Tuomi, B. Gratias Wayne Schlapkohl 55 Jim Goodridge 35

ISABEL WILLIAMSON LUNAR OBSERVING CERTIFICATE Certified at 140 Objects:

T. Tuomi, N. Jensen

EXPLORE THE MOON CERTIFICATE

T. Yaworski

Brent Gratias	37

HERSCHEL 400 CLUB Certified at 400 Objects:

R. Huziak, D. Chatfield, T. Tuomi

Gordon Sarty	251
Scott Alexander	117
Larry Scott	45
Sandy Ferguson	18

HERSCHEL 400-II CLUB

Darrell Chatfield	400
Tenho Tuomi	378
Rick Huziak	246

LEVY DEEP-SKY GEMS Certified at 154 Objects:

Tenho Tuomi	150
Darrell Chatfield	70

Messier, Finest NGC, and David Levy's Deep-Sky lists in the *Observer's Handbook*. The Explore the Universe list is available here http://www.rasc.ca/explore-universe Messier and Finest NGC lists, charts and logbooks: https://www.rasc.ca/certificate-programs Herschel 400 List: http://www.astroloeague.org/al/obsclubs/herschel/hers400.html Chatfield Binocular List is at: https://saskatoon.rasc.ca/Chatfield Binocular List.pdf "Isabel Williamson Lunar Observing Program Guide" program details can be found at: https://www.rasc.ca/isabel-williamson-lunar-observing-program