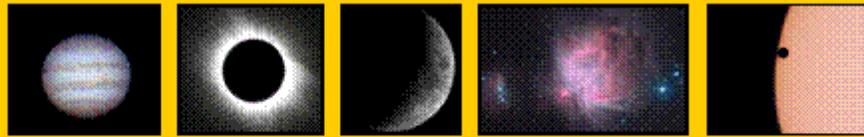


BULLETIN



OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

March 2014 - Volume 9, Number 3

David Garner, Editor

We welcome your comments on the *Bulletin*. Email them to the Editor at bulletin@rasc.ca.

A PDF version of the *Bulletin* is available [here](#).

A Web-based version of the *Bulletin* is available [here](#).

► Editor's Notebook

by David Garner

March's Sky

We have a New Moon on the 1st and again on the 30th of March. Mercury and Venus are in the dawn sky. Jupiter is well placed in the evening sky and can be easily viewed throughout the month. Saturn rises after midnight. Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 9th. For more details check the *2014 Observer's Handbook*. Don't forget to check out Gary Boyle's [Northern Skies](#).

► News @ RASC.ca

The 2014 General Assembly

by [Paul Schumacher](#), Victoria Centre, Co-chair of 2014 GA Organizing Committee



2014 GA : Victoria Centre : June 26 - June 29
The 2014 GA Web site is up and running for registrations!

Join the members of Victoria Centre as we celebrate 100 years of being a RASC centre at our 2014 RASC General Assembly. To add to the festivities, we will also be celebrating the 100th anniversary of

the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, located in Saanich, B.C., just to the north of downtown Victoria.

The 2014 General Assembly will showcase the DAO, University of Victoria's new observatory located on the campus, which is our assembly headquarters, a wide-ranging scientific and cultural program for your entire family, and all this conducted against the spectacular natural beauty of Canada's West Coast. Guest Speakers include Dr Laura Ferrarese, Bob McDonald of CBC's *Quirks and Quarks*, and RASC's own Peter Broughton.

Victoria is serviced by both of our domestic air carriers and can be reached by convenient car ferry service connecting Victoria to Vancouver, B.C. and Seattle, Washington.

From on-campus accommodation at the University of Victoria to nearby hotel and RV facilities, there are many lodging options available in the Greater Victoria for RASC members.

Please join us in Victoria, June 26 to June 29 for the 2014 GA.

RASC VICTORIA CENTRE

2014 General Assembly Organizing Committee

Mark Bohlman, Co-Chair mbohlman@shaw.ca

Paul Schumacher, Co-Chair docpschu@shaw.ca

Call for Nominations

by [Chris Gainor](#), Chair, Nominating Committee RASC

In 2013, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada made major changes to its governance structure to come into line with the provisions of the Canada Not For Profit Corporations Act. As of the Thunder Bay General Assembly in 2013, a Board of Directors is responsible for the running of the RASC, replacing the National Council.

Under our new By-Law, the RASC Board over the past year has been made up of the Executive and three Board members selected in a special election last year. In 2014, the members get to choose the entire Board of nine members in an election.

This will be the only year the entire Board will be up for election, unless an unforeseen situation should arise. Starting in 2015, three Board positions will come open every year.

In the 2014 election, the three candidates with the greatest number of votes will serve terms of three years expiring in 2017, the next three candidates in terms of votes will win terms of two years each expiring in 2016, and the following three candidates in terms of votes will get terms of one year each expiring in 2015.

This year, the RASC nominating committee is seeking at least nine candidates to run for the Board of Directors. Members of the Society Executive (President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer), will be drawn from the ranks of the new Board, and candidates for Board positions

should indicate if they wish to serve on the Executive and the position they wish to fill.

Our National Secretary, James Edgar, has announced that he wishes to step down from that position but will remain a candidate for the Board. The RASC nominating committee is therefore seeking a member interested in serving on the Board and the Executive as National Secretary. While many current members of the Board have indicated that they will seek election this year, there will be at least two vacancies due to Board members leaving the current Board and not seeking election.

Here are the rules for candidate eligibility as set out in the RASC Policy Manual:

Candidate Eligibility

The Nominating Committee will ensure that candidates for the RASC Board of Directors meet the following criteria:

Be a member in good standing of the Society;

Meet the requirements for being a Board member as outlined by the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, specifically:

- be over the age of 18 at the time of the Annual General Meeting (this year, June 29);
- be an individual person (i.e. not a body corporate);
- be solvent (not bankrupt);

Have agreed to stand for election in writing;

Have the support in writing of at least 3 people, one of whom is a member of the Society; and

Have agreed to abide by the Society's Directors and Officer's Code of Conduct and indicated their willingness to sign the Society's Board of Director's agreement prior to assuming office.

Candidate's Statement

As part of the nomination process, candidates will be asked to provide a **Candidate's Statement**, including:

Their previous experience with councils and committees of the Society at both the National and Centre levels;

A suitable photograph in electronic format as well as contact information as required;

Committee work and experience outside of the Society that may be relevant to the Society; and

Their goals for the Society and how they would contribute to the Board if elected.

Anyone wishing to be a candidate should write or email the RASC Nominating Committee through its chair, Christopher Gainor. Each candidate should state that they understand the eligibility requirements and state that they meet those requirements. Candidates should agree to abide by the RASC Director's and Officers Code of Conduct. They should also indicate whether they intend to seek a position on the Executive, and if so, what position they are seeking. Candidates should also send a candidate's statement as set out above. The three supporters for each candidate should also write or email the committee. Candidates and their supporters must inform the Nominating Committee of their intention to run or support for a candidate by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

Candidates' statements will be posted on the RASC website no later than May 15, 2014. Candidates can campaign from May 1, 2014 through June 13, 2014. Voting will take place from June 14 through June 25, 2014, and results will be announced the next day, June 26, 2014. All members of the RASC will be eligible to vote, and facilities to vote on line will be available as well as paper ballots on request from the Society Office.

The nominating committee will be pleased to answer questions from any member of the RASC about this election process.

The Nominating Committee can be reached by mail through the Society Office of the RASC, 203 - 4920 Dundas Street W, Toronto ON M9A 1B7, or by email at cgainor@shaw.ca

Christopher Gainor, Ph.D.

Chair, Nominating Committee RASC

AstroCATS 2014 Trade Show

by [Gary Bennett](#), Chairman, AstroCATS, RASC Hamilton Centre

Saturday May 3 – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Sunday May 4 – 10:00 AM – 4:00 pm

David Braley Athletic & Recreation Centre, Mohawk College, 135 Fennell Ave W., Hamilton, ON L9C 1E9

Prize Update: Some of our Sponsors have announced prize contributions. In particular, MallinCam will be giving away 10 cameras (over \$ 6K worth). More to come...

Solar Star Party: Lunt Solar Systems and Stephen Ramsden of the Charlie Bates Solar Astronomy Project have teamed-up to put on a spectacular Solar Astronomy program.

Special Hotel Rates: For out-of-town attendees, Mohawk Residence & Conference Centre is offering 2-bedroom suites for only \$ 79.00/night. Includes continental breakfast, parking, WiFi.

Keep an eye on the Web site as more exhibitors, guest speakers, and prizes are added in the coming months:

<http://www.astrocats.ca>.

AstroCATS is hosted by RASC Hamilton Centre.

Call for Images for 2015 Calendar

by [Paul Gray](#), *Observer's Calendar* Editor

Astronomical images and sketches of all types are invited for consideration for publication in the 2015 RASC *Observer's Calendar* including: deep-sky, Solar System, and dramatic astronomically themed landscapes.

Images can be prime focus, piggyback, eyepiece projection, or fixed tripod; and recorded on a digital/CCD camera, film, or Webcam. Submitted images must be of sufficient quality and resolution to reproduce well at 9.5" x 12" and must be compatible with the "landscape" orientation of the *Calendar* images. Generally, this will mean a resolution of at least 1200 pixels tall. We will also consider making a quilt or mosaic of lunar/planetary Webcam captured images (so as not to over magnify an individual image for publication).

If you already have a gallery of images on your Web site, send me the link, but please also direct me to your favourites. Both well-known and obscure objects are published in the *Calendar*, so to avoid having the same objects used too often, I will be screening for those that may have appeared in recent years.

Please email submissions to me at snpgray@gmail.com. While I have a bottomless email box, it's best to send me jpegs first. If your image is selected, I will request a full resolution tiff version. Full resolution tiffs will be required for use in print. The deadline for submissions is 2014 April 30. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the above-mentioned email address.

► [News @ RASC.ca](#)

Hermograph Press

by [Dr. Larry Krumenaker](#), Publisher, The Classroom Astronomer Magazine

Hermograph Press publishes educational materials such as *The Classroom Astronomer*, a magazine about learning and teaching astronomy to improve astronomy education in schools. They also are producing a new peer-review journal on astronomy education that may be of interest to RASC members.

The *Classroom Astronomer* is a quarterly print, PDF and App publication designed as a practitioner journal for classroom teachers of astronomy. While centered at the high school level, it also provides tips, techniques and informative how-to articles for teachers of grades K-8 and undergraduate college "Astro 101" courses.

For more information visit: www.hermograph.com

What's New in the Sky

Members are encouraged to check out the [Northern Skies](#) section of the RASC Web site. Thanks to **Gary Boyle** for keeping us all in the know.



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

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The *Bulletin* of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is a benefit of membership in the Society.

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