



**July 2017 - Volume 12, Number 7**

We welcome your comments on the *Bulletin*.  
Email them to the Editor, David Garner at  
[bulletin@rasc.ca](mailto:bulletin@rasc.ca)

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## **News from the Society Office**

by [Randy Attwood](#), RASC Executive Director

### **Thank You to the Newest RASC Sponsors:**

**All-Star Telescope, Transcend Management Advisors and SkyShed Observatories** are among the newest sponsors of the RASC! Please join us in welcoming them and a big thank you for becoming sponsors of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada!

### **Canada Day Holiday Hours**

**Please note:** the RASC Society Office will be closed on Thursday June 29, re-opening Tuesday July 4 as our staff will be attending the RASC GA in Ottawa. Hope to see you there!

### **RASC 150th**

Next year the **RASC celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary**. Be sure to follow plans for the celebration on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary page <http://rasc.ca/2018>



### **NEW Products: RASC150th!**

We have many new items available on our eStore celebrating the RASC's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018! **Stop by our eStore today** and check them out!

### **2016 Annual Report**

A note to Centre Treasurers and Secretaries – the initial deadline for submitting Centre activity and financial information for the 2016 Annual Report is now past. Please make sure you submit your reports online or to Julia Neeser: [mempub@rasc.ca](mailto:mempub@rasc.ca). We invite Centres to include photos of Centre activities to be considered for publishing in the extended annual report.

### **National Star Party July 29**



To celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Society is planning for the first time ever, a National Star Party.

On Saturday July 29, all Society Centres and non-RASC astronomy organizations and clubs are encouraged to hold a star party – from coast to coast to coast!

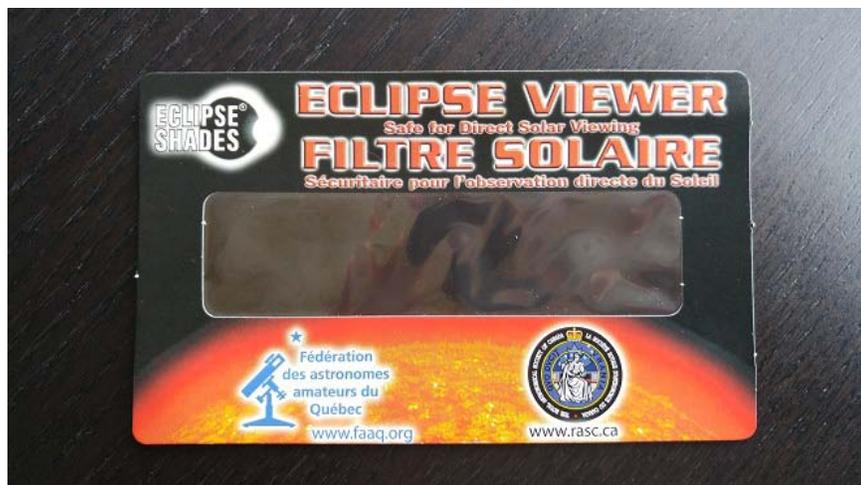
The first-quarter Moon as well as the planets Jupiter and Saturn will be perfectly placed for early evening observing. Special handouts to mark the occasion will be produced and distributed to all participating groups.

### **Total Solar Eclipse – Monday 2017 August 21**

The first total solar eclipse to be widely observed in North America since 1979 will take place this August. The eclipse will be total along a path spanning the continental United States. Hundreds of RASC members have already made plans to observe this event somewhere along the path.

The eclipse will be partial across all of Canada. There will be great interest in the eclipse.

The Society plans to support Centres holding public observing sessions of the partial phases. Solar viewers have been ordered and will be provided to all Centres.



Order your own Solar Viewer on our [eStore](#) for the upcoming eclipse!

## RASC Sponsors the Canada-Wide Science Fair/Expo-Sciences Pan-Canadienne

by **Andrea Misner**, Chair, Education and Public Outreach

Within the National Science Fair Program, the Canada-Wide Science Fair constitutes the national championship round, where finalists from Regional Science Fairs across the country meet and compete. This year's event in Regina awarded three students with our sponsored awards for Excellence in Astronomy.

The Intermediate Award was granted to Atanas Kolev, a grade 10 student from Campbell Collegiate in Regina, Saskatchewan for his project on Orbital Eccentricity and Solar Energy and the Junior Award was granted to a joint project offered by Rose Cloutier and Virginie Paquet, grade 8 students from Polyvalente Saint-François in Saint Georges, Quebec for their project.



Atanas attends Campbell Collegiate and is in grade ten. Atanas states “I used to go to Ecole Massey School and I have been in a French immersion program since

kindergarten. I'm also in several extracurricular activities, band, choir, chamber choir, and the improvisation club. I was also on the school soccer team and played competitive soccer in Regina. For several years I have wanted to do investigation or experimentation in astronomy. I find it very interesting and cool that we can discover planets and look at cosmic phenomenon light years away and know so much about them. I was doing a biology unit in school when it came time to make a science fair project and I decided to tie it into my experiment. The solar energy our planet receives is essential for life on Earth, without it we wouldn't be alive today, and when I found the definition of orbital eccentricity, I immediately asked myself 'how would that change our world?'. I wanted to know more about how the eccentricity of our planet affects the solar energy received and in turn how that affects life on Earth, and that's how my project started."

Atanas created a program to simulate a planet orbiting around its star, and by using different eccentricities and keeping either the time average distance or the angular momentum constant he demonstrated how eccentricity can affect the amount of solar energy a planet receives.

The RASC awarded Atanas with a Celestron NexStar 5SE telescope and a 1 year Youth Membership in the RASC. Atanas is now a member of the Regina Centre of the RASC.

In addition to the Intermediate Award from the RASC, Atanas received a Bronze Medal (Intermediate) from Youth Science Canada and a \$1000 Entrance Scholarship from Western University (Bronze Medallist)

Rose and Virginie presented their project "The Exoplanets" dealing with what is an exoplanet, current methods of detection and the possibility of living elsewhere. They address subjects such as coronagraphy, transit spectroscopy, Radial velocity method, light spectra, spectral lines and much more.

Rose and Virginie spoke highly about their passion for science and engineering, the value of their mentors and their desire to pursue the sciences further.

Rose and Virginie are now members of the Montreal Centre of the RASC

A thank you also to All-Star Telescope's Ken From for his special consideration, supplying the Celestron telescope within the confines of the Education Committee budget.

The RASC has been a proud sponsor of the CWSF/ESPC since 1962. Next year's Fair will be held in Ottawa, ON.

## **RASC Montreal Centre Upcoming Events for July**

by **Carl Jorgensen**, Secretary, Montreal Centre

Saturday, July 1, 7:30 – 10:30pm: RASC Montreal Centre Canada Day Free Public Star Party at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9. Doors Open at 7:30. Presentation by Carl Jorgensen at 8:00 pm. Public observing after presentation if the skies are clear.

Wednesday, July 5, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9. Only if the skies are clear.

Thursday, July 6, 7:00 – 9:30 pm: RASC Montreal Centre Library Clubhouse at RASC Montreal Centre Library, John Abbott College, 21275 Rue Lakeshore, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3L9.

Saturday, July 8, 7:00 – 11:00 pm: Members Arbo Clubhouse at the Morgan Arboretum. 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9.

Wednesday, July 12, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9. Only if the skies are clear.

Saturday, July 15, 7:30 – 11:00 pm: Members Observing at Woody – Woods, 45 Rang Saint Antoine, Saint-Chrysostome, QC, J0S 1R0. Only if the skies are clear.

Wednesday, July 19, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9. Only if the skies are clear.

Friday, July 21, 7:00 – 11:00 pm: Members Arbo Clubhouse at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9.

Saturday, June 22, 7:30 – 11:00 pm: Members Observing at Thompson Park, 726 Rue Main, Hudson, QC J0P 1H0. Only if the skies are clear.

Wednesday, July 26, 7:30 – 11:30 pm: Members Observing at the Morgan Arboretum, 150 Chemin des Pins, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 3V9. Only if the skies are clear.

## **Asteroids with a Canadian Connection**

by **Eric Briggs**, RASC, Toronto Centre

The following have been added to the list of asteroids with Canadian connections:

(31556) Shatner = 1999 EP5

Discovered 1999 March 13 by R. A. Tucker at Goodricke-Pigott.

William Shatner (b. 1931) is a Canadian actor. Best known for portraying Captain James Tiberius Kirk in “*Star Trek*”, he has attained the status of cultural icon. His character has inspired people to become writers, researchers, pilots and astronauts. Shatner is also a well-known author and director.

Orbit Type: Main Belt

MPC 105277

<http://rasc.ca/asteroids/31556>

(40776) Yeungkwongyu = 1999 TA21

Discovered 1999 October 7 by R. A. Tucker at Goodricke-Pigott.

Canadian amateur astronomer William Kwong Yu Yeung (b. 1960), is one of the world’s most prolific amateur discoverers of asteroids. He has also found comets and J002E3, believed to be the Apollo 12 S-IVB stage.

Orbit Type: Main Belt

MPC 105279

<http://rasc.ca/asteroids/40776>

## CASCA Summer Solstice 2017 Newsletter

by **Eric Briggs**, RASC, Toronto Centre

<http://casca.ca/?p=8908>

The Canadian Astronomical Society/Société Canadienne d'Astronomie, the national society of academic and professional astronomers, recently published its 2017 June Solstice '*Cassiopeia*' newsletter. The highlight of this edition is likely the Report from the CASCA/ACURA TMT Advisory Committee, with news considering the official Canadian position on the siting choice for the next-generation Thirty-Meter Telescope. This facility will either be built at the summit of Mauna Kea or, if protests against the project persist, at the Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos on La Palma in the Islas Canarias. In April 2015, the Prime Minister announced that Canada would commit \$243.5 million over a period of 10 years to the TMT Project, joining the United States, Japan, India and China.

## Thank You to our Sponsors!

by **Julia Neeser**, RASC Marketing Coordinator

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada has a unique partnership with our friends in the astronomy industry. We are offering companies the distinction of becoming a sponsor of the RASC, Canada's pre-eminent amateur astronomy organization. This offer is available only to those industry leaders who recognize the value in being associated with the amateur astronomy community. [www.rasc.ca/rasc-sponsors](http://www.rasc.ca/rasc-sponsors).





## What's New in the Sky

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



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