

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

# Editor's Notebook

# by David Garner

## **November's Sky**

Venus, Mars and Jupiter continue to put on an excellent show in the dawn sky; look for them to be within 2° of the Moon on the 6th and 7th. We have a new Moon on the 11th and a full Moon on the 25th. Mercury puts in a brief appearance before sunrise whereas Saturn vanishes into the evening twilight in mid-month. For more details, check the 2015 Observer's Handbook. Don't forget to check out Gary Boyle's Northern Skies.

# ➤ News @ RASC.ca

# **News from the Society Office**

by Randy Attwood, RASC Executive Director

The 2016 Observer's Handbook and 2016 Observer's Calendar are now available on the eStore:

Order yours today!





### **November Sale!**

### Mary Lou's New Telescope on sale for \$5!

Full colour children's book telling the story of a young girl captivated by astronomy. Her interest is rewarded with a special birthday present of a new telescope.

### Makes a great gift for a child!

https://secure.rasc.ca/rasc/RASC/Store/Store\_PUB.aspx

### **Supernova Value Pack**

\*\*SAVE\*\* Buy this all-in-one pack: RASC vintage t-shirt, RASC toque, colour RASC sticker and RASC translucent sticker seal, 2 Star Finders and 2 Moon Gazer's Guides! Value of \$40 + for only \$29.

#### **Star Cluster Value Pack**

\*\*A CLUSTER OF SAVINGS!\*\* The Star Cluster pack includes the Observer's Handbook 2015, 2 RASC toques and 2 embroidered crests, 4 colour RASC stickers, 4 Star Finders and 4 Moon Gazer's Guides!

Value of \$81 + for only \$59.

Check out our Supernova Value Pack and Star Cluster Pack only \$29 and \$59!

## **SkyNews** Gift Subscriptions

As new owners and publishers of *SkyNews*, we have a great opportunity to help it grow. Each year, there is a campaign to sell gift subscriptions to the magazine. Sometime in November, every member will receive an email from *SkyNews* offering the opportunity to purchase gift subscriptions at the low price of \$17.

Give a gift of *SkyNews* and your name will be entered in a draw for a Celestron NexStar Evolution 6 telescope (value \$1,400).

SkyNews is a great gift for a family member, a friend or colleague, or for a local school or library. Let's support our magazine and give the gift of astronomy this year.

## **A National Fundraising Committee**

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada solicits donations from its members to support various projects that pertain to its mandate of promoting astronomy and allied sciences to the people of Canada. Our members are very generous. Last year the Society received over \$18,000 from members.

To expand these programs and generate new activities, we need to increase our revenues through donations and grants. To do this, at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, we have formed a Fundraising Committee. The chair is Heather Laird with members Craig Levine, President James Edgar (ex-officio), Executive Director Randy Attwood (ex-officio), and Marketing Co-ordinator Julia Neeser.

It is important in a not-for-profit organization such as the RASC for the Board, the Staff and volunteers to work together in finding these funds. First, we would have to determine for which areas we need to generate funding. To support our mandate, funding could pay for education and public outreach projects, publications or materials to support various programs being run at Centres across the country. The Society needs extra funds to expand its office space to support any additional projects or activities which may require bringing in new full-time or part-time staff.

The new committee will identify donors, make contact and start discussions with them, ask for contributions and recognize donor generosity.

We are looking to add a couple more members to the committee. We need members who have a strong background in fundraising. We have seen tremendous interest in RASC public outreach activities in the past. With your help, we can reach out to various donors who would like to see us continue and expand these activities.

If you would like to help out with the formation of a Fundraising Committee or would like to serve on the committee, please contact the chair of the Fundraising Committee Heather Laird (<a href="https://hierarc.ca">hlaird@rasc.ca</a>) or email me at the Society Office (execdir@rasc.ca)

Randy Attwood Executive Director



**Left to Right:** Journal Editor Nicole Mortillaro, Executive Director Randy Attwood, Office Administrator Renata Koziol, Marketing Co-ordinator Julia Neeser, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Chris Gainor, and National President James Edgar. **Visit to Society Office pre-Board Meeting, Oct. 2015.** 

The total membership of the RASC has surpassed 5000 for the first time! A Big Thank You to all of our Centres and Volunteers!

## The electronic 2015 Observer's Handbook

by James Edgar, RASC President

The 2016 electronic *Observer's Handbook* will be forthcoming before year-end, and recent developments with our associate at Drumlin Security will allow the Javelin software to work on an iPhone, as well as iPad (iOS 9), pending approval from Apple.

For Windows 10 users, this link gives access to updated software www.drumlinsecurity.com/javelindownloads.html

## **Call for Volunteers**

by Craig Levine, RASC Director

The RASC is looking for 4-5 volunteers for a Marketing Working Group. This project has a tight focus and a 6 week timeline. We're looking for "outside the box" thinkers to research and propose quality RASC branded products for our estore. We're thinking manufacture or brand-and-ship-on-demand products to avoid the cost of holding inventory. Marketing experience would be an asset, but not required. If you are interested in helping the Society, please send your expression of interest to <a href="mailto:mempub@rasc.ca">mempub@rasc.ca</a>.

# The Spider and the Fly

by Dan Meek, RASC, Calgary Centre



This is a 5-hour narrowband image of IC 417. The Spider Nebula (upper right) and NGC 1931, The Fly Nebula (lower left) with a Tele Vue NP127is telescope and a QSI583wsg camera.

# **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 now offering companies the distinction of becoming a charter 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. 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. Julia Neeser creates "The Solar System" monthly with data from James Edgar's "Skies" newspaper articles at <a href="http://www.rasc.ca/observing">http://www.rasc.ca/observing</a>.



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada 203 – 4920 Dundas St W, Toronto ON M9A 1B7 CANADA Tel: (416) 924-7973, Fax: (416) 924-2911

Member Service: nationaloffice@rasc.ca

Visit Us at: www.rasc.ca

The Bulletin of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

is a benefit of membership in the Society.

© 2015 Royal Astronomical Society of Canada