

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA OBSERVER'S CALENDAR







## JANUARY

### Multi-Coloured Lunar Eclipse

Not all lunar eclipses are merely dark or monochromatic. Here, the angle of the Sun's light and dust in Earth's atmosphere shadow the Moonscape in varying hues: crimson, red, orange, yellow, and white. The range of colours gives the illusion of converging on the rayed crater Tycho at lower centre. Photo by Alan Dyer

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock.	Bise 11:40 11:32 Set 23:15 23:20 1	Rise 12:00 11:58 Set 77 1st Quarter 17:31 2	Set 0.23 0.21 Rise 12.20 12:25 3	Set 1:33 1:24 Rise 12:42 12:55 4	Set 2:47 2:29 Rise 13:07 13:27 5	Set 4.03 3.38 Rise 13.38 14.06 Surrise 7:58 7:22 Surrise 15:56 16:50
Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages.						Sunser 16.15 16.50
Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	New Year's Day					
	Giuseppe Piazzi found the first asteroid, Ceres, 200 years ago		Quadrantid meteors peak 7 am	Earth at perihelion (147,100 Mm) 4 am	Saturn 2°N of Moon 8 pm	
Set 521 4.49 Rise 14:18 14:52 7	Set 6:37 6:00 Rise 15:09 15:47 8	Set 7:45 7:07 9 Rise 16:14 16:52 Full Moon 15:24	Set 8.42 8.06 10 Rise 17.29 18.04	Set 9:27 8:57 Rise 18:51 19:19	Set 10.02 9:40 Prise 20:14 20:33 12	Sunrise 7:54 7:21 Sunset 16:24 16:57
2 Shadows on Jupiter, visible in all of N. America 10:14 pm		Total Lunar Eclipse, beginning vis. in N of Canada and Alaska 2:50 pm	Robert Wilson, Nobel Laureate, born 65 years ago			
Set 10.55 10.49 Rise 22.52 22.54 14	Set 11:17 11:19 Rise 15	Rise 0:07 0:01 Set 11:39 11:48 3rd Quarter 7:35 16	Rise 1:19 1:05 17 Set 12:01 12:18 17	Rise 2:29 2:08 18 Set 12:26 12:49 18	Rise 3:37 3:09 Set 12:54 13:23 19	Rise 4:42 4:09 20 Set 13:27 14:02 20 Sunrise 7:48 7:18 Sunset 16:35 17:05
	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (USA) 2 Shadows on Jupiter,			A 7 meter asteroid approached at	Jacobus Kapteyn, founder of	
50°N 40°N 21	visible in all of N. America 1:37 am	Bien 7.22 6:45 72	Venus greatest elong. E (47°)	0.0011 AU 10 years ago	statistical astronomy, born 150 years ago	Charles and Charles
Set 14:07 14:45 Z1	Set 14:54 15:32 ZZ	Set 15:48 16:25 23	• Sold 12 120 New Moon 8.07	Set 17:49 18:17 25	Pise 9:02 8:38 26	Rese 9.25 9.20.4 Left / Sunrise 7.40 7.13 Sunset 16.46 17.13
			Farthest Lunar Apogee of 2001 2 pm			
Rise 9.46 9.35 Set 21:05 21:12 28	Rise 10:05 10:01 29	Rise 10:25 10:28 30	Rise 10:45 10:55 31		DECEMBER SMTWTFS 12	FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3
					3 4 5 6 7 8 9	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
					10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 94
				"With how sad steps, O Moon, thou climbst the skies! How silently, and with how wan a face!"	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28
Challenger explosion 15 years ago Mercury greatest elong. E (18°), favourable 2001 evening view				Philip Sidney, Astrophel and Stella		



## FEBRUARY

### The Great Orion Nebula (M42)

Rarely does an image of Orion's great stellar nursery reveal its delicate wisps and curtains of glowing clouds as well as its young, hot stars, such as the Trapezium in its bright core. Irradiating the entire region, the energy of these new stars calls forth subtle expressions of blue, magenta, crimson, and red light. Digital composite of images by Kevin Black, John Mirtle, and Jack Newton

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Set 411 336 Rise 1252 1329 4	Set 522 443 5 Rise 13.48 1427 5	Set 624 5.46 6	Set 7:15 841 7 Rise 16:17 16:48 7	Set 7:55 7:29 Rise 17:41 18:05 Full Moon 2:12	Set 828 809 9	Set 8:55 8:45 Rise 20:28 20:34 Sunrise 7:19 6:59 Sunset 17:10 17:30
Set 50°N 40°N 9.19 9.17 Rise 21:47 21:44 11	Set 9.41 9.47 Rise 2303 22:52 12	Lunar golf debut, by Alan Shepard of Apollo 14, 30 years ago Set 10.04 10.18 13 Rise - 23:58 13	Closest Lunar Perigee of 2001 5 pm Pilee 0:16	Largest Full Moon of 2001	Flise 2.34 2.02 16	Rise 336 300 Set 1205 1242 17 Sunise 706 650 Sunset 17.22 17.38
Zodiacal Light visible in W after evening twilight for next two weeks	Rise 521 443 19 Set 13.41 14.19	Rise 6:03 5:27 Set 14:39 15:14 20	Valentine's Day Rise 6:37 6:06 21 Set 15:41 16:10 21	Mars 3°S of Moon 5 am Rise 7:06 6:40 Set 16:45 17:09 222	Plise 7:30 7:11 23 Set 17:51 18:07 3:21	Rise 7.51 739 24 Set 18:57 19:06 24 Sunse 6:53 6:40 Sunse 17:34
5224 4224	Sueberg Observatory, Gotha, Germany, destroyed by fire 100 years ago Winter Star Party, W. Summerland Key, FL (through February 25)		Anderson and Borissiak discovered Nova Persei 100 years ago	Daniel W. Morehouse, discoverer of Cornet 1908c, born 125 years ago		
Rise 8:11 8:05 25	₩ 830 831 <b>26</b>	Pise 8:50 8:58 27	₩ 9:11 9:27 Set 23:31 23:11 28		"an unformed fiery mist, the chaotic material of future suns."	
		Wilhelm von Biela discovered comet named for him 175 years ago			William Herschel	



## MARCH

### The LMC at Solstice

Due south of Orion, the Large Magellanic Cloud majestically rides at its highest in the southern summer sky. The young blue stars of this irregular companion galaxy to the Milky Way have emerged from emission nebulae such as the Tarantula at left centre, a stellar cauldron over 100 times larger than the Great Orion Nebula. Digital montage of photos by Doug George

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Set 3:06 2:28 Rise 11:33 12:11 4	Set 409 3.31 Rise 12.34 13.13 5	Set 5:03 4:27 G Rise 13:47 14:22 G	Set 5:47 5:17 7 Rise 15:08 15:36 7	Set 6:23 6:00 Rise 16:32 16:52 8	Set 6.52 6.38 Rise 17.56 18.07 Full Moon 12.23	Vsevolod V. Sharonov, known fix celestia: body photometry, born 100 years ago		
Set 7.417.43 Rise 20.38 20.31 <b>11</b> Mercury greatest elong. W (27°)	Set 8.04 8:14 12 Rise 21:55 21:40 12	Set 8.28 8.46 13	Set 8.54 9.20 Rise - 23.51 14	Rise 0.21 - 15 Set 9.25 9.56 15	Rise 1:27 0.52 16 Set 10.01 10.37 16 3rd Quarter 15:45 16	Rise 2.27 t-48 177 Bet 1044 t1:23 17 Sunriso 6:09 6:08 Sunset 18:08 18:09		
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APRIL

### Northern Star-Trails over Aurora

The stark trees of a Canadian prairie landscape frame a long exposure of star trails, whose colours denote their different spectral classes and temperatures. Bright Capella sweeps upward at lower right, Polaris dominates the middle, and the hotter, blue stars of the Big Dipper at left centre head for the green and yellow glow of the aurona. Photo by Alan Dyer





### MAY

### Stellar Nursery in Cassiopeia

When we look at the winter Milky Way, we are looking away from the centre of our galaxy and its great concentrations of bright nebulae. In the outer reaches of its spiral arms, we also find star-forming regions such as NGC281 in western Cassiopeia which presents dark pockets and lanes within the nebula's enveloping glow. Digital composite of photos by John Mirtle

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Calendar.	Set 5.51 6:10 7	Set 6.18 6.44 <b>Q</b>	Set 6.49 7.22 Q	Set 7.27 8.05 10	η-Aquarid meteors peak 7 pm	Rise 0.55 0.15 12		
Hise 1923 1907	Hise 20.39 20.15 Full Moon 9.52	Fise 21:52 21:21	Rise 23.01 22.24	Rise - 2322	Set 8:12 8:53	Set 9:05 9:45 12 Sunrise 5:18 5:48 Sunset 20:35 20:06		
Mother's Day Texas Star Party, Fort Davis, TX	Rise 2:13 1:40 Set 11:06 11:37 14	Rise 2:42 2:15 Set 12:10 12:36 3rd Quarter 6:11	Rise 3.06 2.45 16 Set 13.16 13.34 16	Rise 327 3:13 Set 14:22 14:34 17	Rise 3:46 3:39 Set 15:30 15:34 18	Rise 4.05 4.05 Set 16.39 16.35 19 Survise 5:09 5:41 Sunset 20:45 20:12		
(inrough May 20) Rise 50°N 40°N Set 17:50 17:38 20	Rise 4:45 5.00 21 Set 19.04 18.44 21 Victoria Day (Canada)	Fise 5:10 5:32 222 New Moon 22:46	Rise 5:40 6:10 23	Rise 6:18 6:54 24	Rise 7:08 7:47 25 Set 23:53 23:12 25	30 years ago Rise 8.09 8.49 2.6 Surrise 5.01 5.36 Sunset 20:54 20:18		
• Set 50°N 40°N 0.46 0.08 9.20 9.56 27	Set 1:27 0:55 28	Set 201 1:36 Net 11:58 1:29 29	Set 228 2:11 Rise 13:17 13:30 30	Set 2.51 2:43 31 Rise 14:35 14:39 31	Big bear, CA (through May 27)    APRIL    S  M  T  W  T  F  S    1  2  3  4  5  6  7    8  9  10  11  12  13  14    15  16  17  18  19  20  21    22  23  24  25  26  27  28    29  30  I  I  I  I  I  I	JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		
Pallas at opposition			30 years ago					



# JUNE

### The Heart of the Milky Way (M8, M20, M21)

It all comes down to stars. Here in Sagittarius, near the galactic centre, dark lanes wreathe around the fiery stellar furnaces of the Lagoon Nebula (M8). At upper right, the Trifid (M20) justaposes a red star-forming region with a blue reflection nebula of light glancing off dusty particles. Out of this, stars, as in the cluster M21, are born. Digital composite of photos by Stephen Barnes and Rajiv Gupta

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Set 505 4:11 Rise 18:22 18:01 3	Set 4:20 4:43 4 Rise 19:35 19:07 4	Set 4:48 5:18 Rise 20:45 20:11 Full Moon 21:39 5	Set 5:23 5:59 Rise 21:50 21:11 6	Set 6:04 6:44 <b>7</b> Rise 22:47 22:06 <b>7</b> Death of Joseph ven Fraunholer, known for dark absorption lines, 175 years ago	Set 6.54 7:34 Rise 23.35 22:55 <b>8</b>	Set 7:50 8:29 Rise - 23:38 Sunrise 4:51 5:31 Sunset 21:07 20:28
Rise 0.07 40 M 40	Rise 0.44 0.14 <b>11</b>	Rise 1:10 0.46 12	Rise 1:32 1:15 13 Set 1:207 12:21 13 3rd Quarter 23:28 13 Mars at opposition	Fise 1.51 1.41 14 Set 13:13 13:20 14	Fise 2:10 2:06 15	Fise 2:28 2:32 16 Set 15:29 15:21 16 Sunset 21:11 20:31
Tather's Day	Rise 3:10 3:29 18	Rise 3:37 4:04 19 Set 19:13 18:41 19	Rise 4:11 4:45 200 Set 20:28 19:51 20	Rise 4:56 5:35 21 Set 21:38 20:58 21 New Moon 7:58 21 Summer Solstice 7:58 3:38 am Total Solar Eclipse, visible in S of Africe	Rise 5.53 6.34 222	Rise 703 7/41 23 Set 23.25 22.51 23 Sunrise 4:51 5:32 Sunset 21:13 20.33
50°N 40°N Bet 8.21 8.53 Set - 23.36 24 StJean-Baptiste Day (Quebec)	Set 0.03 25	Set 0.32 0.13 26	Set 0.57 0.46 Rise 12:24 12:31 1st Quarter 23:19	Meteorite kills Egyptian dog 90 years ago	Death of three cosmonauts, returning from Salvut space staton, 30 years ago RASC General Assembly, London, ON (through July 1)	Set 201 214 Rise 16:10 15:52 Sunrise 4:54 5:34 Sunset 21:15 20:33



# JULY

The Eagle or Star Queen Nebula (M16) The Hubble Space Telescope has made famous the "Star Queen" pillar in this star-forming nebula north-east of the galactic core. That pillar is the small dusky "check-mark" at the centre of this image, whose field of view encompasses very hot and luminous stars that energize the region with ultraviolet light and elicit its fluorescence. Photo by Ben Gendre

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Set 2:24 2:45 Rise 17:23 16:57 1	Set 2:51 3:19 Rise 18:34 18:01 2	Set 3:22 3:56 Rise 19:40 19:02	Set 4:01 4:39 4	Set 4:47 5:28 5	Set 5:41 6:20 6	SATURDAT
		<b>.</b>		Full Moon 11:04	Hise 22:12 21:35 U	Rise 22:46 22:14
						Sunset 21:10 20:31
Canada Day			Independence (Day (9159)			
opened 25 years ago 50°N 40°N		Ernst Mayer contributed 3,000,000th observation to AAVSO 30 years ago	Earth at aphelion (152,100 Mm) 10 am			Ceres at opposition
Set 7:44 8:15 Rise 23:13 22:47	Set 8:49 9:13 Rise 23:36 23:17 9	Set 9:54 10:12 10 Rise 23:56 23:43 10	Set 11:00 11:10 11:10 Rise 11	Rise 0:15 0:09 12 Set 12:06 12:08 12	Rise 0.33 0.34 13 Set 13.12 13.08 13	Rise 0.51 0.59 14
					Sto Guarter 14.45	Sunrise 5:07 5:43 Sunset 21.04 20:28
			Pons discovered his first cornet			
Rise 1:12 1:27 1 5	Mercury greatest elong. W (21°)	Bise 2:05 2:35 17	200 years ago	Mercury 1.9°S of Jupiter	Bire 4/20 5:10 20	Dire 645 601 31
Set 15:33 15:13	Set 16:48 16:20 10	Set 18:03 17:28 1/	Set 19:16 18:37 18	Set 20:21 19:41 19	Set 21:16 20:39 20 New Moon 15:44	Set 21:59 21:28 Z1
						Sunset 20.57 20:24
Venus 0.7°S of Saturn, separation < 3°Jul. 12 - 17 Aldebaran nearby		Saturn 0.6°N of Moon Venus and Aldebaran nearby 9 a	m	Mercury 1.0°S of Moon 9 am	Viking A landed on Mars in Chryse Planitia at 12:12:07 GMT 25 years ago	
Rise 7:19 7:47 2.2	P. Rise 8:43 9:03 23	Rise 10.07 10:17 24	Rise 11:27 11:28 25	Rise 12:45 12:37 26	Set 0.06 0:17 27 Rise 14:00 13:45 27	Set 0.29 0.48 28
Sei LLOR LEITO LL		-			1st Quarter 6:08	Sunrise 5:24 5:55 Sunset 20:48 20:18
						First daguerreotype of total solar eclipse, at Köninsbarn, East Prussia 150 years apo
	Death of Giuseppe Plazzl, discoverer of first asteroid, Ceres, 175 years ago				George Biddell Airy, 7th Astronomer Royal, born 200 years ago	S &-Aquarid meteors peak 2 pm
Set 0:54 1:20 Rise 16:25 15:55 29	Set 1:24 1:57 30 Rise 17:33 16:56 30	Set 2:00 2:38 3	1	Times in the upper half of the daily boxes	SMTWTFS	SMTWTFS
				half are given in the 12-hour clock.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
				set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages.	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
				Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this	17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
			-	Calendar.		
	Neptune at opposition					



## AUGUST

The Milky Way in Large Scale The centre of our galaxy lies just below the Lagoon (M8) in the middle of this image, which, from upper left to lower right, highlights the Eagle (M16), the Swan (M17), the great star-cloud M24, M8, and the red emission nebulae NGC6357 and 6334 ("Cat's Paw"). To the right of centre is the large dark nebula, the Prancing Horse. Photo by Ben Gendre

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Venus 1.2°5 of Jupiter, separation < 3°Aug 3 - 8	Set 7:45 B:04 Rise 22:02 21:47 6	Set 850 902 7	Set 9:55 10.01 Rise 22:38 22:37 8	Set 11:01 10.59 9	Set 12:08 11:59 10	Set 1317 1300 11 Rise 2337 2357 11 Suntise 5.44 608 Surset 2025 2002
Perseld meteors peak 6 am	Rise 0.03 0.30 13 Set 15.42 15.10 13	Fise 0.36 1.10 Set 16.54 16.17 14	Rise 1:20 1:58 15 Set 16:02 17:22 15	Rise 2:16 2:57 16 Set 19:01 18:22 16 Starlest, Mount Forest, ON (through August 19) Venus 1:92 61 Moon 9 am	Rise 326 4.04 17 Set 19:49 19:15 17	Mount Kobau Star Party, BC (frough August 26)
Rise Set 20:58 20:40 19	Pise 7.39 7.53 20 Set 21:24 21:15 20	Rise 9.04 9.09 21 Set 21:47 21:46 21	Rise 10.25 10.21 22 Set 22.09 22:17 22	Bise 11:45 11:32 23	Flise 13.02 12.40 24 Set 22.56 23.20 24	Rise 14:16 13:47 225 Set 23:25 23:56 <i>1st Quarter</i> 15:55 Sunset 19:58 19:42
Rise 50°N 40°N 1525 1450 Set 2359 - 26	Voyager 2's closest approach to Saturn	Set 0.41 1.21 28	Set 1.30 2.10 Rise 18.11 17.32 29	Magellan's discovery on Venus of longest	Set 327 4.01 31 Rise 1920 1850 31	"They toiled and built a thousand years. In love's all powerful might: And so the Milky Way was made - A starry bridge of light." Topelius



### SEPTEMBER

### The Veil Nebula and a Bow-Shock

In this image, a remnant of the supernova explosion that produced the Veil Nebula is expanding towards a bright star (52 Cygni) and clearing away dust so that more background stars shine below the bow-shock in comparison to the area above it. The green strands of excited oxygen are observable, but the red appears only in photographs. Digital composite of photos by John Mirtle





## OCTOBER

Auroral Burst in Autumn

The vast area of this auroral display is suggested by the background constellations: Cygnus at upper right, Delphinus at lower right, and the Great Square of Pegasus rising behind the tree. A riot of purples, blues, greens, and reds emanates from solar particles bombarding atmospheric oxygen and nitrogen roughly 100 km overhead. Photo by Stephen Barnes

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Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages.								
Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Calendar.	Johannes Kepler succeeded Tycho Brahe as Imperial Mathematician 400 years ago Death of James Lick, benetactor of Lick Observatory, 125 years ago							
Set 00°N 40°N 12:32 11:57 Rise 21:09 21:46 7	Set 13:41 13:01 Rise 21:53 22:34	Set 14.43 14.01 Rise 22.49 23.31 9	Set 15.36 14:57 Rise 23.57 3rd Quarter 0:20	Rise - 0.36 Set 16:19 15:45 11	Rise 1:14 1:46 12 Set 16:54 16:27 12	Rise 2:36 3:00 13 Set 17.22 17.04 13 Sunset 18:13 18:23		
500 M 400 N	Thanksgiving Day (Canada)	2 Shadows on Jupiter, visible in W half of N. Amer. 7:23 am Jupiter 1.4°S of Moon 8 pm						
Rise 401 4:15 14	Rise 5.25 5:30 Set 18.09 18.09 15	Rise 6.48 6.44 Set 18.31 18.39 New Moon 15.23	Rise 8:11 7:58 Set 18:54 19:11 17	Rise 9:32 9:10 Set 19:20 19:45 18	Rise 10.51 10.20 Set 19.51 20.23 19	Rec 12.63 11.27 2.0 Set 2028 21.06 2.0 Sunrise 7:30 7:16 Sunset 17:59 16:13		
	Zodiacal Light visible in E before morning twilight for next two weeks	2 Shadows on Jupiter, visible in far W of N. America 9:16 am			2 Shadows on Jupiter, end vis. In Atlantic Canada 10:13 nm			
Fise 50°N 40°N 1229 Set 21:13 21:54 21	Rise 14.06 13.24 22 Set 22.05 22.47 22	Rise 14.51 14:11 Set 23.05 23:43 1st Quarter 22:58 23	€ Rise 15:27 14:52 24	© Set 0.08 0.42 25	Set 1:13 1:41 26	O Sot 2:19 2:39 Rise 16:39 16:24 Suntise 7:42 7:24 Sunset 17:45 18:04		
			William Lassell discovered Uranus'					
Orionid meteors peak 10 pm		Mars 0.1°N of Moon 4 pm	Death of Tycho Brahe 400 years ago	Discovery of Ra-Shalom, smallest-orbit asteroid, 25 years ago		2 Shadows on Jupiter, vls. In N. Amer. except far W 12:06 am		
Set 2:26 2:38 Rise 15:57 15:49 28	Set 3:32 3:37 Rise 16:15 16:13 29	Set 4:39 4:37 Rise 16:32 16:38 30	Set 5:48 5:37 Rise 16:50 17:04 31		SEPTEMBER SMTWTFS	NOVEMBER SMTWTFS		
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Daylight Savings Time Ends 2 am	Mercury greatest elong. W (19°), best morning view in 2001		Hauoween					



### NOVEMBER

### The Horsehead Beholds Barnard's Loop

The close-up of the Horsehead discloses a startling cap of blue which is outlined by the brightest red regions of fluorescing emissions in the background. On the large scale, Barnard's Loop forms a semi-circle to the left of the bright Great Orion Nebula and the barely discernible "notch" of the Horsehead below the leftmost "belt" star. Photos by Peter Ceravolo and Jack Newton





### DECEMBER

The Propitious Pleiades

The poet Milton describes the Sisters as "shedding sweet influence." One of the nearest open star clusters, the Pleiades' young hot blue stars and painterly blue reflection nebulae seem to float in front of the cooler yellow background stars, yielding a three-dimensional effect. Merope, Maia, and Alcyone have starring roles in the nebulosity. Digital composite of photos by Rajiv Gupta

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
Times in the upper half of the daily boxes are in the 24-hour clock; times in the lower half are given in the 12-hour clock. Eastern time is used, except for rise and set events which are given in local time. Detailed instructions on adjusting times for location are given in the back pages. Please see back pages for photo details and additional information about this Caliendar.	NOVEMBER    S  M  T  W  T  F  S    1  2  3    4  5  6  7  8  9  10    11  12  13  14  15  16  17    18  19  20  21  22  23  24    25  26  27  28  29  30	JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				Set 8:21 7:43 Rise 16:46 17:25 Suntse 7:37 7:03 Sunset 16:01 16:35					
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Rise 108 1111 Set 1339 1340 9	Rise 2.26 2.21 Set 13.59 14.09 10	Rise 3.45 3.30 11 Set 14.21 14.39 11	Rise 5:03 4:40 Set 14:46 15:12 12	Rise 6:20 5:49 13	Rise 7:34 6:56 14 Set 15:54 16:33 14 New Moon 15:47 15:47 Death of Donald Menzel, a keading authority on the Sun, 25 years ago Annular Solar Eclipse,	Rise 8:40 7:58 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7					
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				Walter S. Adams, known for stellar spectra and distance, born 125 years ago	Winter Solstice 2:21 pm	Ursid meteors peak 7 nm					
Set 006 0.10 Rise 12.42 12.42 23	S Set 1:12 1:09 24	Set 220 209 25 Rise 13.18 13.32 25	Set 3.30 3.11 26	Set 4:43 4:16 27 Rise 14:05 14:34 27	Set 558 523 28	Set 7.11 6.31 2.9 Sunset 7.58 7.21 Sunset 16.06 16.43					
		Christmas Day	Boxing Day (Canada)		Saturn 0.2°S of Moon Occultation visible in U.S.A. and S half of Canada 3 am						
Set  50°N  40°N    Set  8.18  7.35  30    Full Moon  5.40  30    Penumbral Lunar Eclipse, visible in al of N. America Jupiter 1.25 of Moon  3.25 an 9 an	Set 914 834 31			*Many a night I saw the Pleiads, rising through the mellow shade, Glitter like a swarm of traflies tangled in a silver braid.* Tennyson, Locksley Hat							

### The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Observer's Calendar

### How to Use this Calendar

A pictorial representation of the Moon's phase at midday is given in each daily box. The size of the Moon in the Calendar varies from day to day reflecting the change in the apparent size of the Moon in the sky as it moves closer to or further from the Earth.

Daily Moon and weekly Sun rise and set times, and the times of Moon phases, are shown in the top portion of the boxes. If no Moon rise or set time is given, this event occurs the next day. Special astronomical events, such as eclipses, meteor showers, occultations, interesting planetary events, and equinoxes and solstices, are given at the bottom of the boxes.

The Calendar lists events observable in some part of Canada or the United States. Days on which particularly interesting phenomena occur are highlighted with light green shading. Detailed information on all events, including their visibility from particular locations, may be determined by consulting the *RASC Observer's Handbook*.

#### Adjusting Times for Actual Location

All times are adjusted for Daylight Savings Time. Moon phases and special events are given in Eastern time. The user's local time for events *other than* Moon and Sun rise and set may be determined by converting the given time to the user's time zone (e.g.. Pacific time is Eastern time minus 3 hours).

Two sets of rise and set times are given to accommodate North American observers in mid-northern latitudes. Times are displayed for locations  $50^{\circ}$  N latitude and  $75^{\circ}$  W longitude and for  $40^{\circ}$  N,  $75^{\circ}$  W. The actual times for a given location must be calculated using the tables at the right.

The tables give corrections in minutes to the tabulated rise and set times for selected Canadian and US cities. In the column labelled **Correction**, an entry such as  $50^{\circ}$ N + 25 means add 25 minutes to the displayed  $50^{\circ}$ N time. This computed time is an approximation. In the column labelled **Accuracy**, the approximate maximum error in minutes for Moon rise and set using this method is indicated. The error for Sun rise and set is less. These errors can be substantially reduced by interpolating according to latitude, as explained in the following section.

Note that the rise and set times calculated using the above method *will be local times*. It is not necessary to adjust them for time zone.

	Canadian Lo	cations	
City	Correction	Accuracy	Latitude
Calgary	50° N + 36	15	51
Edmonton	50° N + 34	25	54
Halifax	40° N + 14	25	45
Hamilton	40° N + 20	15	43
Kingston	40° N + 6	20	44
Kitchener	40° N + 22	15	43
London	40° N + 25	15	43
Montreal	50° N - 6	20	46
Niagara	40° N + 16	15	43
Okanagan	50° N - 2	10	50
Ottawa	50° N + 3	20	45
Quebec	50° N - 15	15	47
Regina	50° N + 58 (1)	10	50
St. John's	50° N + 1	20	48
Sarnia	40°N + 30	15	43
Saskatoon	50° N + 67 (1)	15	52
Thunder Bay	50° N + 57	10	48
Toronto	40°N + 18	20	44
Vancouver	50°N + 12	15	49
Victoria	50° N + 13	20	49
Windsor	40° N + 32	15	42
Winnipeg	50°N + 29	5	50

U.S. Locations											
City	Correction	Accuracy	Latitude								
Atlanta	40° N + 37	30	34								
Boston	40° N - 16	10	42								
Chicago	40° N - 10	15	42								
Cincinnati	40° N + 38	10	39								
Denver	40°N + 0	10	40								
Flagstaff	40° N + 27	30	35								
Kansas City	40° N + 18	10	39								
Los Angeles	40° N - 7	35	34								
Minneapolis	40° N + 13	25	45								
New York	40° N - 4	5	41								
San Francisco	40° N + 10	20	38								
Seattle	50° N + 9	20	48								
Tucson	40° N + 24	40	32								
Washington	40°N + 8	5	39								

#### Other Locations, and Improving Accuracy

For locations not listed in the tables to the left, the user should calculate a correction factor. This amount is +4 minutes for each degree that the user's location is west of the central meridian of the user's time zone or -4 minutes for each degree that it is east. This correction factor should be added to the displayed 50°N or 40°N time for the location whose latitude is nearest that of the user's site. The accuracy in minutes for Moon rise and set can be calculated by multiplying the difference in latitude between the user's location and that of the 50°N or 40°N site used by 4.5 and adding 0.2 times the difference in longitude.

Improvement in accuracy may be obtained for many sites by interpolating or extrapolating the  $50^\circ$ N and  $40^\circ$ N times depending on the user's latitude. For example, the latitude of Ottawa is approximately midway between  $50^\circ$ N and  $40^\circ$ N. An observer in Ottawa can improve accuracy to better than 5 minutes by averaging the given  $50^\circ$ N and  $40^\circ$ N times and then adding the correction factor for Ottawa, which is 3 minutes. Western observers may gain additional accuracy by adding about 10% of the difference between the listed time and the next day's time.

### The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Since it was founded in 1890, the RASC has filled a special role in both amateur and professional astronomy. Today, it has over 4200 members who share a passion for the night sky and make contributions to astronomy in many ways.

The RASC has a long tradition of high-quality, volunteerproduced publications. The RASC Observer's Handbook has been published since 1908 and is recognized worldwide as the leading handbook of its type. The *Journal*, now in its 94th year of publication, contains articles of interest to amateur and professional astronomers. The *Beginner's Observing Guide* is an introduction to the night sky for the novice observer, and the *RASC Observer's Calendar* is a forum for astrophotography by members of the Society.

For information on joining the Society, or to order an RASC publication, contact the National Office at:

136 Dupont Street Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5R 1V2 888-924-7272 (toll free) or 416-924-7973

rasc@rasc.ca

www.rasc.ca

#### The Photos and the Calendar

The majority of the images appearing in this Calendar are digital composites of two or more component photos. These images were registered and combined using Auriga Imaging's RegiStar and then further manipulated and enhanced using Adobe Systems' Photoshop.

Monthly grids with data were generated using special software written in the Fortran and Postscript programming languages.

All photographs were taken by members of the RASC, with details given at the right.

Image Compositing, Monthly Grids, Editing, and Production Rajiv Gupta (gupta@interchange.ubc.ca)

**Editorial Assistance** Lee Johnson

Anu Nayar

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Stephen Barnes (Hamilton) Kevin Black (Winnipeg) Peter Ceravolo (Ottawa) Alan Dyer (Calgary) Ben Gendre (Edmonton) Doug George (Ottawa) Rajiv Gupta (Vancouver) John Mirtle (Calgary) Jack Newton (Victoria)

**Captions and Literary Quotations** Lee Johnson

**Historical Anniversaries** Diane Brooks David Chapman

**Digital Film Output** Scan Art International Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.

Printing University of Toronto Press Inc.





January: Multi-Coloured Lunar Eclipse. 20-second exposure on Ektachrome E200 film using a 5-inch t/6 Astro-Physics refractor at t/12, taken January 20, 2000 (Alan Dver).



PJ400 film using a 5-inch f/6 Astro-Physics refractor (Kevin Black); 50minute exposure on chilled Kodak Gold 400 film with a Deep Sky Filter using an 8-inch f/6 Newtonian reflector (John Mirtle); colour CCD image formed with 3/6/6/12-minute L/R/G/B exposures on a Meade 1616XTE CCD camera using a 5-inch t/9 Meade refractor at t/5 (Jack Newton). March: The LMC at Solstice. Montage of eight 10-minute exposures on Ektachrome E200 film using a Ceravolo 300-mm f/2.2 Maksutov-Newtonian astrograph (Doug George), digitally combined using RegiStar.

April: Northern Star-Trails over Aurora. 4-hour exposure on Fulichrome Velvia film using a 15-mm ultra-wide-angle lens at f/8, taken from southern Alberta (Alan Dyer).



May: Stellar Nursery in Cassiopeia. Two exposures digitally combined using RegiStar and Photoshop: an 80-minute exposure on gas-hypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan black-and-white film and a 55-minute exposure with a Deep Sky Filter on chilled Kodak Royal Gold 400 colour film, using an 8-inch f/6 Newtonian reflector (John Mirtle).



June: The Heart of the Milky Way (M8, M20, M21). Three exposures digitally combined using RegiStar and Photoshop: a 70-minute exposure on medium-format gas-hypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan black-andwhite film using a 5-inch t/6 Astro-Physics refractor (Raiiv Gupta) and two 10-minute exposures on Full Super G 800 colour film using a Celestron 8inch f/1.5 Schmidt carnera (Stephen Barnes).

July: The Eagle or Star Queen Nebula (M16), 50-minute exposure on Ektachrome E200 film pushed one stop and transferred to an internegative, using a Celestron C-8 at f/6.3 (Ben Gendre).

September: The Veil Nebula and a Bow Shock. Two exposures digitally combined using RegiStar and Photoshop: a 70-minute exposure on gashypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan black-and-white film and a 50-minute exposure with a Deep Sky Filter on chilled Kodak Royal Gold 400 colour film, using an 8-inch f/6 Newtonian reflector (John Mirtle).

October: Auroral Burst in Autumn. 30-second exposure on Fuji Super G 800 film using a 50-mm Pentax lens at f/2.8, taken August 26, 1998 at Hardwood Lake, Ontario (Stephen Barnes).



November: The Horsehead Beholds Barnard's Loop. Barnard's Loop: three 10-minute exposures on Ektachrome E200 film, piggyback using a 50mm lens (Peter Ceravolo), digitally stacked using RegiStar. Horsehead: 10/10/10/20-minute L/R/G/B exposures on a Meade 1616XTE CCD camera using a 16-inch Meade LX200 at t/6.3 (Jack Newton)

December: The Propitious Pleiades. Three exposures digitally combined using RegiStar and Photoshop: 60-minute unfiltered and 110minute cyan-filtered exposures on medium-format gas-hypersensitized Kodak Technical Pan black-and-white film, and 60-minute exposure on medium-format Kodak PPF colour film, using a 5-inch f/6 Astro-Physics refractor (Rajiv Gupta).

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New Moon Dates are displayed in bold.

"Look at the stars! look, look up at the skies! O look at all the fire-folk sitting in the air! The bright boroughs, the circle-citadels there!"

Hopkins



Cover / August: The Milky Way in Large Scale. 25minute exposure on medium-format Kodak Pro PPF 400 film, piggyback using a Mamiya 645 camera with an 80-mm lens at f/4.5 (Ben Gendre).





