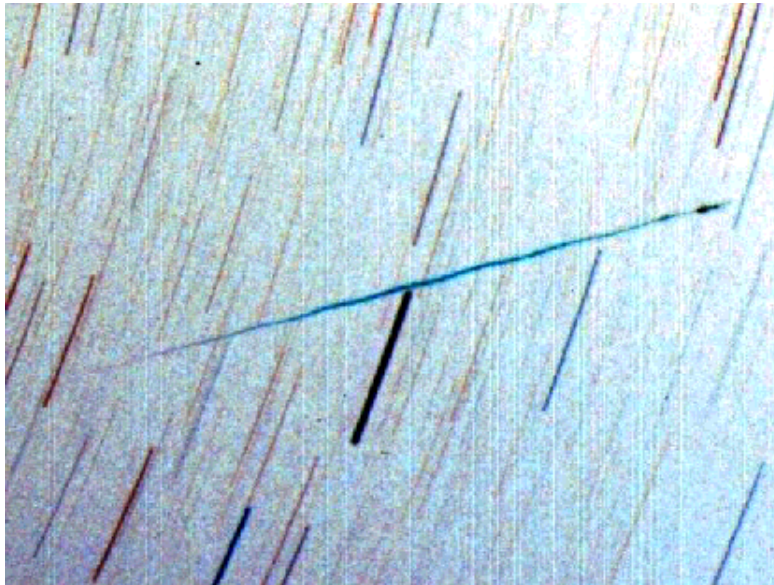


Saskatoon Skies

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

Volume 32 May 2001 Number 05



This image shows a Perseid meteor tumbling as it enters the Earth's atmosphere, resulting in a sinuous trail.

Photographed after midnight UTC on the morning of August 13th, 1993 about 15km northeast of Neuchatel, Switzerland, on Kodak Ektar 1000 film with an ancient Nikkormat with a Nikon f/1.4 50mm lens at full aperture in a multi-minute exposure. The meteor is travelling left to right. The image is courtesy John Walker, kelvin@fourmilab.ch. A colour version is visible on Gord Sarty's website.

RASC Calendar Happenings

Date (2001)	Event	Contact	Telephone
May 14	NOTE EARLY DATE & TIME of BYOT General Meeting - Forestry Farm Auditorium - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Les Dickson	249-1091
May 22	Noctilucent Cloud Season begins	Rick Huziak	665-3392
May 26	Sleaford Obser'y RASC BBQ - 4:00 pm	Les Dickson	249-1091
June 18	Executive Meeting - Room 8313 - 6:30 pm	Les Dickson	249-1091
June 18	General Meeting - Room 8313 - 7:30 pm -	Les Dickson	249-1091
June 23	Solstice at Jeffrey's - Laird, SK - 5:30 pm	Dale Jeffrey	223-4447
Aug. 17 -19	Sask. Summer Star Party - Cypress Hills	Les Dickson	249-1091
Aug. 18 - 25	Mt. Kobau Star Paryy - BC	Guy Mackie	(205) 861-3074

Sky Buys and Mirror Sells

The Saskatoon Centre's Swap and Sale Page!

For Sale: Televue 5x Powermate \$200 obo, contact Andrew Krochko at 664-4409.

For Sale: Tasco Model D6 60mm refractor. Brand new c/w accessories. \$170.00 Call Carl Reinhalt, #5 - 644 Heritage Lane, Saskatoon, S7H 5P8, tel: 374-2237.

Wanted: Telescope. Mike Clancy, a co-worker of Les Dickson, is looking to buy a used 6" or 8" Dobsonian telescope for himself and his two sons. If you have one for sale, contact him at (306) 384-2643.

For Sale: Brass lined trunk for SC-8 or SC-10, 9 mm Kellner eyepiece, 0.965 "6x30" eyepiece with crosshair for a spotter, 3-D Saturn V Rocket puzzle (3-feet tall), and some very good astronomy books: *The Pocket Guide to Astronomy* by I. Ridpath, *Astronomy* by Menzel, *Introduction to Practical Astronomy* by Jones, *Burnham's Celestial Handbook* (3 vol. set, hardcover). All books are in excellent shape. Call Darrell Chatfield for prices at 374-9278.

Wanted: 25mm Orthoscopic or Plossl eyepiece, spider and 2" - 2-1/4" diagonal for 10" scope. Will buy or trade. Call Rick Huziak at 665-3392.

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Saskatoon Centre

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

P. O. Box 317, RPO University

Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4J8

URL: <http://prana.usask.ca/~rasc/>

E-mail: lcdickson@sk.sympatico.ca

Telephone: (306) 249-1091

Newsletter Editor - Richard Huziak

Copy - Brian Friesen & WBM



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The BYOT* General Meeting of May 14th

(*Bring Your Own Telescope)

by Les Dickson, Presedent

May's General Meeting is at the Forestry Farm Park, in the auditorium. This is the large structure facing the parking lot. **The meeting proper goes from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Note the early start date and time for this month only!** Set-up starts at 6:30, and takedown is from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. We must vacate the park by 9:00 as they close the gates then.

To get the facility, we have to make the meeting open to the public, which really is no problem for us, as our meetings are open to the public anyway. However, we can take advantage of this: we can make it a mini-Astronomy Day display. We have permission to put up our large Saskatoon RASC banner up outside the building while we are there, to entice people to come in. I suggest that we put out brochures and handouts as we had last Saturday, and put up the Sleaford display and the SSSP display up on tables inside the auditorium. We would then do our little talks about our 'scopes as we did last year, and talk about the RASC to any public that comes by. Our meeting has been announced in the park's newsletter.

Since we have to do a bit more set-up for the displays, I would ask anyone who is able to come earlier than 6:30, especially to help put up the banner. We will have coffee going well before 7:00.

There will be no Executive Meeting that night and no business meeting (unless we have it at Tim Horton's later).

All members are encouraged to bring their telescopes and equipment for display, and be prepared to give a 5- or 10-minute talk about what your equipment can do. We'd like new members to participate so that we do not get only the scopes that we had last year! And come out even if you do not have a scope. It's always nice to see our members at the meetings!

ASTRONOMY DAY 2001 - A Report

by Sandy Ferguson

On Saturday, April 28th astronomers all over the world celebrated International Astronomy Day. This year our Centre set up display tables and scopes in the Confederation Mall. We were given a huge area near the food court, which meant that we wouldn't go hungry and there would be a good chance of getting lots of traffic.

In addition to the usual table set up, which included lots of brochures, books and other material for people to scan, Al Hartridge, Bob Christie, Scott Alexander and Les and Ellen Dickson set up their telescopes. We also had our panels with plenty of posters and pictures showing our activities, astrophotography by members and youth group projects. Ken Noesgaard brought along his award-winning Sleaford Observatory display, and we also provided slide presentations off and on over the course of the day.

As the day was very warm and sunny, we set up the youth group's Stargazer Steve 4-1/4" scope outside on the sidewalk, so that we could show sunspots to anyone who came by. We used projection to show the sun, rather than solar filters. There was a terrific display of spots, some in large groups, and a few youngsters stopped by to *ooo's* and *ahhh's* at their first look at the sun. Eventually, we brought the scope inside, as the heat became uncomfortable, and set it up under one of the skylights. This was a much better place for it, and we had a lot of interest from shoppers throughout the day, who were fascinated by the view of the sun.

This year we were a bit disappointed in the number of people who dropped by our display. The weather was so beautiful that the public was probably more interested in enjoying the sunny day than shopping in the mall. The morning was quite slow, but by mid-afternoon the mall was a lot busier and passers-by began to sign up for our temporary memberships.

We packed up around 5:30 p.m. and those of us who were still around trotted off to Smitty's for our annual Astronomy Day gastronomy event. In the evening we had planned the usual public starnight at Beaver Creek, but it was cancelled due to poor skies.

Many thanks to everyone who helped out by hauling gear all over the place, manning tables and equipment, and dropping by to lend support: Scott Alexander, Barb/ Jim Young, Al/Graham Hartridge, Dale /Wendy/Aiden/Rickie/Reiker Jeffrey, Tyrone Klassen, Les/ Ellen Dickson, Bob/Rosemarie Christie, Ken Noesgaard, and Rick/Amy Huziak. Thanks also to Mike Stephens for organizing the day. See everyone again next year!

SASKATCHEWAN SUMMER STAR PARTY 2001

by Les Dickson <ldickson@sk.sympatico.ca>

August 17-19 at the Cypress Hill Inter-provincial Park, Saskatchewan, Canada, 32 km S of Maple Creek,

Saskatchewan (for Americans, that is just north of the Montana border). This *year's Father Lucian Kemble Memorial Lecture* will feature Alan Dyer, a well-known amateur astronomer and associate editor of *SkyNews* magazine. For inquiries and registration information, contact SSSP Registrar Ellen Dickson at dickson@sk.sympatico.ca, tel: (306) 249-1091, visit our website at <http://prana.usask.ca/~rasc/sssp01.html> or write to: SSSP 2001, 11-103 Powe St., Saskatoon, SK S7N 1W5.

SSSP provides a delightful weekend for families, but can also meet the needs of the most expert observer with superbly dark skies and excellent chances of dry, clear weather. We offer astronomical activities for all ages and levels in a unique mile-high nature park setting with a wide range of recreational options. Presentations are held in comfortable, air-conditioned convention facilities. Besides the talks and the night viewing and the Saturday Night Banquet, activities include: a wiener roast on Thursday night, tennis courts, golf course (miniature for sure), outdoor swimming pool, hiking trails, ball diamonds, picnic grounds, and trail rides. On top of that there are programs at the Interpretive Centre, and Loch Leven offers various water recreational activities. The park offers certified weekend courses (swimming) for children as well as other programs.

Campsites are freely available, and reasonably-priced hotel, cabin, and condo units are available by pre-booking with the park. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Star Party when booking accommodations!) For accommodation information, call the Resort at (306) 662-4477 or the Park at (306) 662-5484.

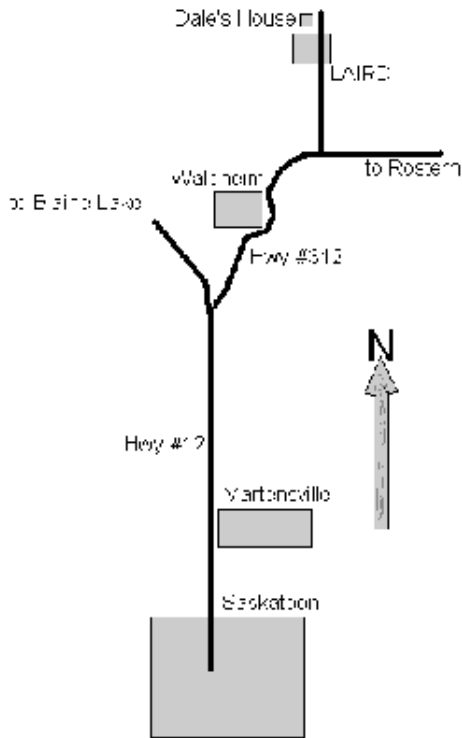
Galileo's Daughter - a Book Review

By Dale Jeffrey <dale.jeffrey@sk.sympatico.ca>

Galileo's Daughter, Dava Sobel, Penguin Books, New York, 1999

This New York Times Bestseller is an excellent read, currently available at bookstores and libraries all over the city. The author has researched Galileo very thoroughly, with the intriguing addition of letters which were written to him by his daughter, a cloistered

nun. While telling the overall story of Galileo's scientific discoveries, fame, infamy, and recantation, the author's addition of the letters from a loving daughter show us a Galileo who is steadfastly a devoted father, and a hurt, though faithful, son of the Church. It is an interesting approach. And for those who would like to see further into this epoch, it tells another side of the story of the prejudices and fears of a Church and a world all too comfortable with simple answers and all too afraid of a truth which might force a rethinking of the ancient doctrines.



Summer Solstice Barbeque at Living Skies Observatory, Laird

An Invitation from Dale and Whendi Jeffrey

Attention all members!

On Saturday, June 23rd, Whendi and Dale Jeffrey wish to invite you and yours to a Summer Solstice Barbeque at Living Skies Astronomical Observatory in Laird. Plan to arrive at 5:30 p.m. for barbequed farmer's sausage, perogies, and salads, followed by deserts, campfire and, the Druidic spirits willing, clear skies and observing.

Bring your own libations, lawn chairs, telescopes, or binoculars. Our house is located at the very north edge of town, just as you leave the paved main street for gravel.

STILL MORE TALES FROM THE LUNATIC FRINGE

By Daphne Lowden

In November of 1969, a mere four months after Apollo 11 and its crew went to the moon, Apollo 12 landed on the edge of Oceanus Procellarum. (Procellarum? Is this where that rock group got its name? I mean, we all know the story of Iron Butterfly and "Inagottadavitta", don't we? And don't tell me that's not how it's spelled, because that's the whole point, isn't it? But I digress?) All three men were from the Navy, and as NASA allowed the astronauts to name their ships, Richard Gordon stayed aloft in the *Yankee Clipper* while Alan Bean and Charles Conrad landed in the *Intrepid*. Most of us don't even remember their names, and I imagine very few of us remember what Conrad said when he became the third man to walk on the moon. ("*That may have been a small step for Neil, but it's a great big one for a little guy like me!*")

Apollo 14 was launched in January of 1971. Stuart Roosa manned the *Kitty Hawk*, and Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell landed the *Antares* just a short distance away from where Apollo 12 landed. The Apollo 12 coordinates are 23.5° W, 3° S; Apollo 14 landed at 17.5° W, 3.5° S. Apollo 12 was actually within walking distance of Surveyor III (launched in 1967), and Apollo 14 landed in the Fra Mauro highlands, which was where Apollo 13 was supposed to land. This brings me, in a very round about way, to this month's stimulating trivia?

James Lovell, John Swigert, and Fred Haise manned Apollo 13. James Lovell had more hours in space than anyone else on the planet at the time of this mission, and one of the reasons was because he was a member of the Gemini VII crew. Gemini played the typical role of the middle child: it was useful, but nobody paid it much attention. In fact, Apollo would not have gone forward without Gemini, because Gemini was where NASA had to check out how to do all those things that they were going to do in Apollo but weren't actually sure how to do yet. If you recall from the article on Apollo 11, one of the big problems with LOR (lunar orbital rendezvous) was the fact that it required a docking procedure to take place in orbit around the moon, and no one thought that it could be done. Gemini VI and VII were launched to determine if this was, in fact, possible.

Walter Schirra and Thomas Stafford lifted off in Gemini VI on December 15, 1965. While in orbit around the Earth, Gemini VI successfully docked (under manual control) with Gemini VII, undocked, and then went back down. They were in space for about twenty-five hours. NASA wanted to do more than just test docking capabilities in space during this mission; it also wanted to test the effects of extended weightlessness on the human body. So Frank Borman and James Lovell stayed up in orbit for another three days after the docking experiment. They had already been in orbit for ten days before they rendezvoused with Gemini VI. These two brave souls spent fourteen days in a space vehicle the size of an SUV and about as comfortable as a VW Beetle (circa 1965) - with one book between the two of them! And no change of space suit. Apparently they whiled away the hours by singing that Nat King Cole song to each other. You know, the one that goes "*Put your sweet lips a little closer to the phone, let's pretend that we're together, all alone?*" Methinks that after day six or seven some liberties were probably taken with the lyrics. Ah well,

they survived, and apparently were still on speaking terms, because they went to the moon together in Apollo 8. Of course, that was three years later?

So where do we find the landing sites of Apollo 12 and 14? For both of these Apollo sites the moon should be at least eleven days old. I know most people aren't crazy about viewing the moon this close to full, so you might try doing what I do. Because of my vision problems (halo effect and extreme light sensitivity) I observe the moon while the sun is still above the horizon. I know this is anathema to all those people who think real observing doesn't start until 2:00 a.m., but it certainly cuts down on the glare, and makes observing much easier. Anyways, Oceanus Procellarum is part of that conglomeration of mares and sinuses that covers two-thirds of the Western hemisphere. It's the western most mare, and probably takes up about one third to one half of the whole area. Pretty much right in the middle of this grouping are the craters Kepler, with its rays fanning primarily westward, and Copernicus, which has rays fanning out in all directions. If you imagine a straight line coming out of both these craters, at about 40° from the perpendicular (310°) for Kepler and 20° from the perpendicular (250°) for Copernicus, where these two lines meet just below the equator was where the *Intrepid* landed. The Antares landed along the same latitude (just south of the equator) but pretty much directly south of Copernicus. The *Aquarius* landed in Hollywood 25 years later. And for all the time he spent in space, James Lovell never did land on the moon?the mission he was to command was cancelled due to budget cutbacks to NASA.

A Unique Way to Experience Astronomy

by Vicky Alten, Sirius Travel, <www.siriustravel.com> <alten@siriustravel.com>



I am involved in leading a tour to see the astronomical sites of the American (US) Southwest and I am mailing you today because I thought that you might find this interesting. Although Sirius Travel normally concentrates on leading tours to see total solar eclipses, this year we are debuting the "*Astronomical Highlights of the American Southwest*" tour. Leaving from Los Angeles on August 10, we will spend ten days visiting all of the top astronomical sites of the American southwest. In addition to modern astronomical facilities we will be visiting ancient Indian ruins, the Navajo and Hopi Indian reservations, and many of the astounding geological features throughout the region. I would like to draw your attention to my favorite part of this tour - the night of August 11. Coinciding with the Perseid meteor showers, we have arranged to use the historic 60" telescope at Mt. Wilson Observatory for the whole night

with only our group, an eyepiece, and a devoted operator who will let us look at anything we can think of! When you aren't using the scope you will be able to look for meteors under a clear dark sky, high in the mountains of Southern California.

I would like to invite you to visit our website to find out more about this extraordinary tour - <http://www.siriustravel.com> or please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who you feel might be interested in a unique way to experience astronomy. This is a wonderful getaway for any astronomy enthusiast! If you have any questions about this tour or any others that we have in the planning stages, please email or call us in the US at: 303-544-9540.

Please note - I am writing you today after finding your email in the "astro directory" on the *Sky and Telescope* site. Clear Skies.

The Planets this Month - May 2001

by Murray D. Paulson, Edmonton Centre <mpaulson@ecn.ab.ca>

Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, I wonder where the planets is? Well, they abound and May offers more than perpetual twilight! Mercury puts on a good evening show and the lord of the underworld and the war god rise to their respective oppositions. Yes, it will be a fine month for planets.

Mercury has been rising in the evening sky as it heads to its May 21st greatest eastern elongation. Dichotomy actually occurs on the 16th, and on this date you can see its 50%-illuminated disk which will subtend 7.16". The 16 -17th are a bonus, because we are treated to a conjunction of Mercury and Jupiter. A 7" half phase Mercury will sit about 3 degrees north of the 33" Jupiter. It is interesting to note that Mercury appears just over 5 times as big as Jupiter's moons Ganymede and Callisto, but is actually slightly smaller in physical size. On the evening of May 23, Mercury, Jupiter and the one day old moon form a nice line up with the moon lying lowest on the pole. The thin crescent moon will lie 5 degrees west of Jupiter and slightly below the ecliptic. This will be tough, because the moon lies only 11 degrees from the sun. If you can find the -2.2 magnitude Jupiter in the twilight about 10 degrees south of where the sun sets, look one binocular field below it to find the thin crescent moon. The trick will be to see the moon naked eye. One evening later, the moon will switch ends on the pole, coming out on top, 5.0 degrees east from Mercury. At sunset, this direction is exactly horizontally south of Mercury. Jupiter will lie 7 degrees below and to the north of Mercury.

Venus has just crossed the ecliptic it on May 10, and is quickly gaining distance on the sun. The big problem though is that the morning ecliptic in the springtime is just about

horizontal, so although Venus is over 40 degrees from the sun, it is only 10 degrees above the horizon at sunrise. Venus is mostly lost to the morning twilight glare. It rises 3/4 hr before the sun and look for it 42 degrees to the southwest of the sunrise position. It is a -4.5 magnitude fat crescent with a 33" diameter at the beginning of the month and shrinks to 22.5" gibbous disk in early June. Venus rises out of the morning ecliptic while most of the other planets bunch together around the sun. On the morning of May 19th, you can find a slim crescent moon almost 5 degrees below Venus. At this point, the moon is 6 degrees below the ecliptic, a bit of a double whammy with that morning ecliptic!

Mars has turned the corner of its retrograde motion and is slowly making its way to the lowest point on the ecliptic. Which by the way, it will save for opposition! Its altitude will decline from 11 degrees in early May to about 9 degrees in early June. At the same time, it's disk will swell from 16" to just over 22" by early June and it will brighten as we close in on it as well, going from -1.4 magnitude to -2.5 as it nears opposition. Despite it's poor altitude, it is worth having a look at now. By the June opposition, it will drop to only 9 degrees altitude, and June is traditionally our poorest observing month. So the point is do it now. Mars culminates at 4:00 am in early May and 2:50 am by the end of May. Have a look after you find Pluto in the morning sky! The nearly full moon will join Mars on the nights of June 6 and 7th, so this would not be a good night to hunt Pluto down, but should make for a decent photo opportunity.

In early May we loose Saturn to the twilight glare and Jupiter will follow suit at the end of the month. Saturn goes into conjunction with the sun on May 25 and then moves into the morning sky. Jupiter will provide the viewer with a few more last looks before the month is out and then moves into conjunction with the sun in mid June. From Jupiter's vantage, the Earth and Mars would be in superior conjunction with the sun.

As a consolation prize, Pluto is well placed for late night/morning viewing. It amazes me how high it sits above the ecliptic. While we watch Mars decline to 3 degrees below the ecliptic, Pluto sits over 10 degrees above it! Consult the charts in *Sky and Telescope*, *Astronomy* magazine or *the Observers Handbook* for finder charts to locate it. To verify that you have actually seen it, you need to observe it, draw it against the field stars and then return to the same field on another night to see that it has in fact moved against the stars. Fortunately it doesn't take much artistic talent to draw the field and it is fun to have documented that you have captured this distant wanderer. One cheat on making the drawing that I commit is to get a printout of the field down to magnitude 14 -15 and plot your observation on it. To get the most out of your scope, you will need to use fairly high power. I use 170 to 220 power. This will maximize the sky background contrast and make Pluto's faint mote more visible. An entertaining pastime is to try your luck and see how small an instrument you can use to see Pluto. I challenged Alister Ling many years ago when he owned a 125 mm refractor and I owned a 94 mm Brandon. We both found

it, but not without some serious scrutinizing! My effort took just over an hour and my eyes were very tired afterward from the strain to see the few photons that were trickling by. If you miss Pluto in this window, don't despair because it is easily visible in the early evening sky at the summer star parties.

Till next month, clear skies!

International Space Station Evening Passes -May 14 to June 21, 2001

Date Mag Starts Max. Altitude Ends

Time Alt. Az. Time Alt. Az. Time Alt. Az.

05 Apr 1.5 20:54:16 10 S 20:55:16 12 SSE 20:55:16 12 SSE
29 May 1.7 23:53:38 13 E 23:53:38 13 E 23:54:07 10 E
31 May 0.1 23:26:52 10 SW 23:29:42 31 SSE 23:32:32 10 E
01 Jun 0.7 22:28:32 10 SSW 22:30:54 20 SSE 22:33:16 10 E
02 Jun -0.3 23:04:31 10 SW 23:07:31 43 SSE 23:10:31 10 E
03 Jun 0.3 22:05:45 10 SSW 22:08:29 28 SSE 22:11:14 10 E
03 Jun -0.8 23:41:06 10 WSW 23:44:13 73 S 23:47:21 10 E
04 Jun -0.6 22:41:56 10 WSW 22:45:01 56 SSE 22:48:06 10 E
05 Jun -0.8 23:18:27 10 W 23:21:35 81 S 23:24:44 10 E
06 Jun -0.7 22:19:04 10 WSW 22:22:11 68 S 22:25:19 10 E
06 Jun -0.8 23:55:00 10 W 23:58:07 76 SSW 0:01:14 10 ESE
07 Jun 0.7 22:55:29 10 W 22:58:37 83 S 23:01:46 10 E
08 Jun -0.7 23:31:51 10 W 23:34:58 66 SSW 23:37:31 14 ESE
09 Jun -0.7 22:32:10 10 W 22:35:19 79 S 22:38:26 10 E
10 Jun -0.5 23:08:21 10 W 23:11:25 53 SSW 23:13:52 15 ESE
11 Jun -0.7 22:08:30 10 W 22:11:38 71 S 22:14:45 10 ESE
11 Jun 0.6 23:44:37 10 W 23:47:17 26 SSW 23:48:04 23 S

12 Jun 0.1 22:44:32 10 W 22:47:31 41 SSW 22:50:06 13 SE

13 Jun 1.1 23:20:48 10 W 23:23:07 19 SW 23:24:13 16 S

14 Jun 0.5 22:20:24 10 W 22:23:13 31 SSW 22:26:01 10 SE

[Data taken from "Heavens-Above" website (<http://heavens-above.com>) for location Saskatoon (52.133N, 106.667W)] and compiled by Les Dickson

Astronomical Events Calendar for May & June

By Les Dickson

Date (2001) Event

May 14 Neptune 3° N of Moon

May 15 Uranus 3° N of Moon

Last Quarter Moon

May 16 Mercury 3° N of Jupiter

May 19 Venus 4° N of Moon

May 20 Vest 0.6° S of Moon (occultation)

May 22 Mercury greatest elongation E (22°)

May 23 New Moon

May 24 Jupiter 1.3° N of Moon

Mercury 1.3° N of Moon

May 29 First Quarter Moon

May 31 Double shadow transit on Jupiter

June 6 Full Moon

Mars 4° S of Moon

June 7 Double shadow transit on Jupiter

June 8 Venus greatest elongation W (46°)

June 10 Neptune 3° N of Moon

June 11 Uranus 3° N of Moon

June 13 Mars at opposition

June 14 Last Quarter Moon

June 17 Venus 1.7° N of Moon

June 19 Saturn 0.9° N of Moon

Membership Update

by Bob "I'm Back" Christie <nebulachristie@home.com>

The following are changes to the Membership List published in the January issue of Saskatoon Skies.

Change of Address - Rick Huziak, 1409B Preston Ave., Saskatoon, SK, S7H 2V5; **mailing address** is PO Box 7491, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 4L4

Change of Address - Andrew Krochko, 109 Albert Ave., Saskatoon, SK., S7N 1E6 or 306-664-4409, <akrochko@hotmail.com>

Minutes of the April 9th Executive Meeting

April 9, 2001, Room 8313, City Hospital, 6:30 p.m.

recorded by Al Hartridge, Secretary <ahartrid@sk.sympatico.ca>

1. Approval of minutes: It was moved by Jim Young and seconded by Daphne Lowden and carried that the minutes of the last meeting be approved.
2. Membership: the membership of Dr. West needs to be declared paid even though the

paper work has been lost. He paid up his membership at the last SSSP.

3. Reimbursement of Expenses: to Murray Paulson for previous visits to Saskatoon. Eighty-two dollars and fifty cents has been received from National and will be sent to him.
4. Tax Receipt: for Terry Nelson's donation of a canvas tent has not been received from National. The value has been appraised at \$400.00. Les Dickson will contact National Office regarding this issue.
5. National's tax free number: is not for use by individual Centres. National will issue all receipts.
6. Next meeting will take place on May 14th. Les would like this to be a bring your own telescope event. We need to find a site to hold this.
7. Donations: these can be invoiced and then sent to National for a tax receipt.
8. Astronomy Day: will be held at the Confederation Mall on April 28th with a star night to follow at Beaver Creek. We need to be set up for 9:00 am. So should be there at 8:30 am. If the weather is poor a slide presentation will be given at Beaver Creek.
9. SSSP 2001: a meeting will be held for planning at Sandy Ferguson's on April 22nd at 2:00 pm. The contract with Alan Dyer is in the mail. Bob Christie and Les Dickson will work on a brochure to hand out on Astronomy Day promoting the SSSP 2001.
10. Barbeque: will be held at Sleaford site on May 26th at 4:00 pm to celebrate the completion of the warm up shelter. We will bring out barbeques. Bring your own food and drink.
11. Honorarium: of \$30.00 has been paid to Rick Huziak by Buena Vista school. This will be turned to the Centre.
12. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the April 9th General Meeting

April 9, 2001, Room 8313, City Hospital, 7:30 p.m.

recorded by Al Hartridge, Secretary ahartrid@sk.sympatico.ca

1. Approval of Minutes: it was moved by Daphne Lowden and seconded by Darrell Chatfield that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. This motion was carried.
2. Astronomy Day: see minutes of Executive meeting. A gastronomy meal will take place after the display at the mall is finished and before the star night at Beaver Creek.
3. SSSP Meeting will be held at Sandy Ferguson's on Sunday April 22nd at 2:00 p.m. Anyone interested in helping with the planning of this year's event is welcome to attend.
4. There will be a barbeque at the Sleaford Site on May 26th to celebrate the completion of the warm up shelter.
5. There will be a barbeque at Dale Jeffrey's living skies observatory on June 23rd.
6. Tax Receipts will be issued by National Office.
7. Treasurer's Report: the balance at present is \$11,183.72.
8. Membership Report: at the present time there are 70 paid members. National will now send a notice to renew and payment should be sent to the National Office.
9. Les would like to have another bring your own telescope meeting. We need however to find a meeting site for this event.
10. Presentation: the "*Physics of Long Decay Flares in the Solar Atmosphere*" by Dr. Konstantin Getman was very well received by the members. Especially spectacular were the videos showing the eruption of flares and mass ejection events.
11. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.