



What'sup?

**The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Belleville Centre Newsletter**

Starfest 2018

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Joe S., Steve F., Bob B., Joanne B., John C., Debi B., Larry H., Greg L., Dave P., David B., Dave C. and "Boston" Richard.

Next Meeting

October 5th, 2018

Pioneer Building P13

Observing Night

7th & 8th September,
2018

RASC Belleville was well represented at this year's Starfest with twelve club members attending. They had 3 out of 3 clear nights, 2 rain showers, plenty of Perseids to see and a potluck dinner on Friday.

Starfest is Canada's largest annual amateur astronomy star party and conference which attracts hundreds of astronomy enthusiasts from across North America. It has been ranked as one of the top star parties in North America by Sky and Telescope magazine. Starfest is held at River Place Park, RR 3, Ayton, Ontario.

What'sup?



RASC Belleville's potluck dinner on Friday.



River Place Park, Ayton.

The Night Sky

September 7th – Neptune at opposition. Just in time for Fall'n Stars! Located in Aquarius with a magnitude of only 7.8 near the Lambda Aquarii.

September 10th – Comet 21/P Giacobini-Zinner is set to pass close to earth by a mere 58 million km.

September 13th – Conjunction of the Moon and Jupiter.

September 24th – Harvest moon rising almost due east. A popular object of photographers.

RASC Belleville's September meeting - Cancelled

This month's club meeting is cancelled due to Fall'n Stars starting on the 7th of September. We will be all out at the Vanderwater Conservation Area enjoying the stars. Our next meeting will be on the 5th of October.

Solar & Night Sky observing in the Park

Solar & Night Sky observing at Presqu'ile Provincial Park is now over for 2018. See you next summer!

What'sup?

Fall'N'Stars

Fall'N'Stars is only days away, starting on the 7th of September and closing on the 9th of September. Located at the Vanderwater Conservation Area Boy Scout Camp, this location has a lot to offer Fall'N'Stars participants in the way of comforts, but it's still a dark sky site.

We still have space available. Please go online and register at RASCBelleville.ca. The menu for this year's dinner is pizza, wings and salad. See you under the stars!

Fall'N'Stars Schedule of Events

Friday, 7th September

15:00 Registration Tent opens.

17:00 Flag Raising

17:30 Opening Rocket Launch / Meet and Greet

21:00 Registration Tent closes, Observing Session* begins.

Saturday, 8th September

09:00 Solar Viewing (All Day)

10:30 Swap Table

13:00 Afternoon Speakers Begin

16:30 Group Photo

17:30 Dinner

18:30 Prize Draws - You must be present during prize draws to receive a prize. All attendees, including Saturday Day Passes, and Fall'N'Stars organizers are eligible.

19:00 **Keynote Speaker – Malcolm Park**

21:00 Observing Session* begins.

Sunday, September 9th

09:00 Coffee/Gab Session in the Longhouse

10:30 Goodbye Rocket Launch

12:00 Fall'N'Stars organizers clean up, lock up, and go Home.

Help from volunteers is much appreciated.

Photo of the month



Mare Australe region taken by Club member.

What'sup?

Fall'N'Stars 2018 Etiquette

RED LIGHTS AT NIGHT

White lights are not allowed anywhere in the observing area at night. Please:

- Cover your flashlight with a red filter and keep the beam aimed at the ground.
- Cover your trunk and car interior lights with red filters if you are going to be accessing your car during the night.
- DO NOT USE propane or naphtha camping lanterns.
- NO CAMPFIRES
- Shield computer monitors, keep screen intensity to a minimum, and use night vision mode or a red filter.
- Red and green lasers are permitted. Do not point them horizontally at people or trailers! Lasers will not show on astrophotos unless they are held in the same place for many seconds. Use them sparingly.

Music – Fall'N'Stars IS AN ASTRONOMY CONFERENCE ... NOT A ROCK CONCERT. You are encouraged to share your interest in astronomy, not your taste in music. Please use headphones if you must observe with music.

Generators - Generators make a lot of noise as well: Please turn off all generators (including the generator servicing the longhouse) between 11pm and 9am to allow the astronomers to enjoy the beauty (and quiet) of the night sky and/or to sleep!

PETS - We love them, but would prefer you leave them at home.

Outa this world Humour

Q: Why didn't the Dog Star laugh at the joke?

A: It was too Sirius.

Q. What do you do if you see an aggressive alien?

A. Give it some space!

Q: If athletes get "Athlete's Foot" what do astronauts get?

A: Missile toe.

Q: How does one astronaut on the moon tell another astronaut that he is sorry?

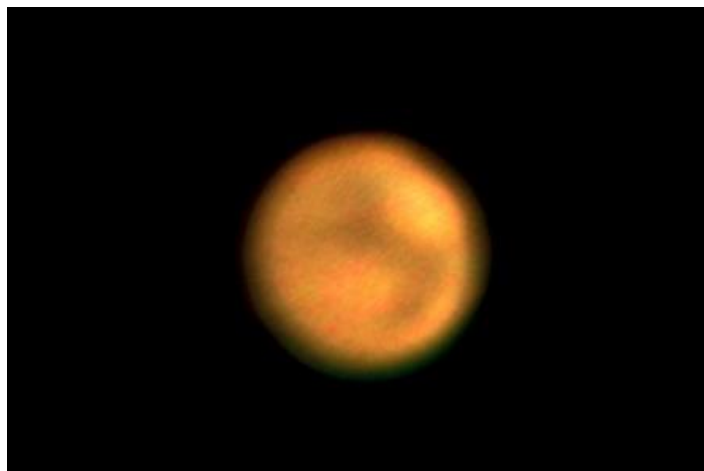
A: He Apollo-gises.

What'sup?

Club Minutes - August 2018

By Joanne Burns

- 10 people present – including one new face Isaac M.
- Donald Town presided over the meeting in the absence of President Dave C. who is attending David Levy's retreat in the Adirondacks.
- The club has purchased its own BenQ projector which will solve the problem of Loyalist College equipment not working.
- Steven Burr showed his photos of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.
- Robert Bates also showed his astrophotos of: Jupiter with Great Red Spot; LDN673 dark nebula; Markarian's Chain (galaxies); NGC 6559; M95 and M96; Tulip Nebula; IC 1396 Elephant Trunk; M5 globular; M71 and Harvard 20 open cluster.



Mars taken by a club member.

Interested in Astronomy?

Our club is always looking for new members to come out and enjoy the wonders of the night sky. If you are interested, please join us at one of our monthly meetings at Loyalist College. **The first Friday of the month except this September, we are away at Fall'N'Stars!** Meetings are held at 7:30 pm in the Pioneer Building, class room P13.

Facebook

Our club now has a Facebook page – RASC Belleville. Please support our group by “liking” and following our club. We post upcoming events, club member photos and astronomy related items.