

# *Saskatoon*

# *Skies*

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

Volume 29, Number 7/8  
July/August 1998



Another chain of craters caused by a comet impact – this time on Ganymede! These 13 craters are called Ekni Catena. As the unfortunate comet rounded Jupiter, gravity split it into bits, just the same as happened to Shoemaker-Levy 9 almost a decade ago. The crater chain is about 150 kilometers long. The photo was taken by the Galileo spacecraft from a distance of 27282 kilometers. This image and more are available at the excellent NASA web site at <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/galileo/sepo/atjup/newim.html>. My other favourite web sites are contained in an article in this issue.

## RASC Calendar Happenings

Jul. 18	Grasslands Star Party at Grasslands National Park - a writers workshop on astronomy	Rick Huziak	374-4262
Jul. 23 - 26	Sask. Summer Star Party at Cypress Hills	Bob Christie	931-2115
Aug. 12	Northern Prairie Star Party at Cypress Hills	Rick Huziak	665-3392
Aug. 14	"A Night Under the Prairie Stars" at Grasslands National Park - a writers workshop on astronomy	Rick Huziak	665-3392
Aug. 19	Mount Robson Star Party	Rick Huziak	931-2115
Aug. 21 - 22	RASC Comp Out at Whitetail Park	Bob Christie	931-2115
Aug. 21	Northern Prairie Star Party - Charles North Dakota	Rick Huziak	665-3392
Sept. 11	Public Starnight at Valley Manor - Martensville	Rick Huziak	665-3392
Sept. 15	Alberta Star Party - Caroline, AB	Darrell Chatfield	374-9278
Sept. 18 or 19	Observers Session at Sleaford	Darrell Chatfield	374-9278
Sept. 21	First General Meeting of Fall		

## Membership Update

Welcome: Brent Burlingham, 613 Temperance St. Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0M4, tel: (306) 244-9872

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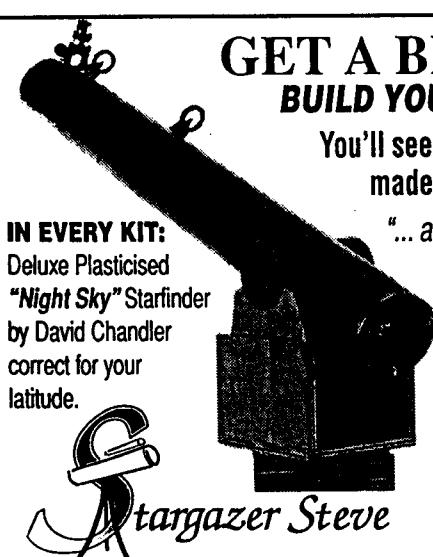
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"...an ideal project for a parent and child to work on together...I felt a tremendous sense of discovery."  
- Scott Barrie in Nov/Dec'97 Sky News

"...exquisite craftsmanship... a great school science project...  
...veterans will have fun with it too."  
- Glenn Chaple in Dec'97 Astronomy

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# Saskatoon Centre

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Copy, Collate, Stuff - Sandy Ferguson



# IN THIS ISSUE

	page
Calendar of Events & Membership Update	2
President's Report by Erich Keser	4
Possible Asteroidal Meteor Shower - by Zhu and McNaught (from RASCLIST)	5
An August RASC Camp Out at Whitetail Resort - by Bob Christie	6
A Busy Summer for Saskatoon Centre Members' Awards	8
The 4th Annual Northern Prairie Star Fest by John Leppert	9
Rick's Favourite Astronomy Web Sites - by Rick Huziak	11
The Sleaford Page - by Rick Huziak	12
Messier, FNGC and Herschel Club page	13
The Junior Astronomers/Youth Groups Season Wrap-Up - by Sandy Ferguson	14
Minutes of the June Executive Meeting - by Al Hartridge, Secretary	14
Minutes of the June General Meeting - by Al Hartridge, Secretary	15

*Saskatoon Skies* is published monthly by the Saskatoon Centre of the RASC. Distribution is approximately 135 copies per issue. *Saskatoon Skies* welcomes unsolicited articles, sketches, photographs, cartoons, and other astronomy or space science articles. Articles can be sent by mail in any format to the Centre's mailbox. Submissions may also be sent by e-mail - preferred as plain unformatted ASCII text files without line breaks. Images sent by e-mail should be UUEncoded or as attached .GIFs. Send e-mail submissions to the editor at [huziak@SEDSystems.ca](mailto:huziak@SEDSystems.ca). Submitted materials can be returned upon request. A separate subscription to *Saskatoon Skies* is available for \$12.50 per year. Articles may be reprinted from *Saskatoon Skies* without expressed permission (except where otherwise stated), but source credit is requested. DEADLINE for submissions is the 1st of each month. *Saskatoon Skies* accepts commercial advertising. Please call the editor for rates. Members can advertise non-commercial items free of charge.

## President's Report

by Erich Keser

~~SSSP~~ Registrations: 212 and counting! Exactly a year ago, in an article entitled "*Why Star Parties...and Why Our Star Party*" I wrote:

*"For an increasing number of the citizens of our ever more crowded world, the opportunity to view star-spangled skies no longer exists. This is why star parties are becoming so popular with more than three weeks to go until SSSP, registration is already over a hundred! Our very success with SSSP poses a BIG challenge.. 150 or more people may be coming."*

It is now one week before SSSP, and we must have done something right last year, because registrations have already topped 220. Going by last year's experience, we may attract over 300 participants. Giving them all the best possible star party experience will pose quite an organizational challenge, but the odds are on our side. The natural beauty of the Park, the many facilities, and the outstanding cooperation of Park staff will all help us. As well, we won't be doing a breakfast, and the dinner will be completely catered. Instead, in accordance with the wishes of some participants last year, we will be providing a larger program of presentations and activities.

We will also have more people helping. We had 58 members last year, we have 80 members plus many associate members this year. Also, a larger proportion of our members will be participating; some of them in very special ways. Rob Keir, for example will be bringing a Canadian Forces truck loaded with equipment and a helper! Nevertheless, keeping 300 people happy will be quite a job for us and for our Regime colleagues. So please do come, and please pitch in! We'll even extend the early registration deadline for Centre members (and others) who pitch in and do a shift as volunteers. Please call Volunteer Coordinator Rick Huziak (665-3392) to put yourself on the list of the people who will make it all happen.

Raffle: Thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of all of you who have sold--and bought--raffle tickets, most importantly Raffle Chairman David Cornish, who got the prizes, distributed and kept track of tickets and sold a record number of tickets himself, we are nearly sold out. The development of our new Sleaford Observatory site will receive a huge boost from the over \$3200 collected from ticket sales so far. David is presently away on vacation, so please contact me if you have tickets or money to return. Do sell (or buy) your tickets if you can, but please do turn in your stubs and any tickets you feel are extra well before SSSP. This is because we should be able to put them to good use there, and also because David and I must account for every single ticket before the Saturday, July 25th draw can take place at the Cypress Hills Recreation Hall.

Other Fund-raisers: Book Sales Project: The other, less lucrative but also much more pleasant little fundraising activity, becoming a vendor for Firefly Press, the distributor for Terence Dickinson's great Astronomy books is underway. I have placed our first order after receiving commitments from members for about a dozen of the twenty books needed. You'll find a more complete description of what's available in the Firefly Books ad in this newsletter. Please contact me immediately if you are interested in taking advantage of this unique opportunity to obtain these great books at a substantial discount (15% if prepaid). After this first prepaid order, then we should have an account with Firefly, and be able to use this as a continuing fundraising and educational activity. Please note, after selling over 250,000 copies, Terry

Dickinson is again revising and updating **NIGHTWATCH**, and the new edition will be out in September, so you may want to wait until then, for this particular book. Also, **EXPLORING THE SKY BY DAY** and **EXPLORING THE NIGHT SKY** are now available as durable hard covers, for \$17 each.

**BINGOS:** The Bingo project, which Dr. Al Hartridge has pursued so enthusiastically may have suffered a setback. Al recently learned that we will be allotted afternoons or the wee hours of the morning (12-4 AM). It may still be possible to conduct a limited number of such sessions. Certainly, the prospect of funding our Junior and Young Astronomers programs, enhancing our library and archives, extending our observing and loaner telescope resources and providing further funds for site development is attractive. Then too, too much stargazing may have transformed some of us into nocturnal creatures. Also, each session should only require about eight people, once a monthly at most. However, the well-being of each and every member must come first. Al is currently assessing the feasibility of the whole projects, and will be contacting those who signed up for bingos. Please consider your commitment carefully.

**SITE:** Our Partnership Agreement with the University of Saskatchewan is also finally nearing completion and the Physics department has begun constructing its 70 foot long roll-off. PLEASE EXERCISE CARE IN DRIVING OR WALKING ABOUT THE SITE, ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT. The Site Committee has also met, and its Chair, Bill Hydomako and Construction Coordinator, Darrell Chatfield have been making preparations to continue our move and to begin on new construction after SSSP as funds from the Raffle, SSSP and designated donations make this possible. Please let Bill or Darrell know if you want to help, or have particular concerns or suggestions.

**SUMMER SPECIAL EXECUTIVE (COUNCIL) MEETING:** As proposed at our 15 June meeting, we will be holding a special executive meeting in mid or late August to review the many things we are doing and to prepare for the fall. Al Hartridge has generously invited us to make this a BBQ at his (swimming pool-equipped!) acreage. Council members are requested to call me with a weeknight date which would suit them. Please note that our Council meetings are open to all interested members.

## Possible Asteroidal Meteor Shower of Jul. 19

Jin Zhu <Beijing Astronomical Observatory> & Rob McNaught, at the AAO<[rmm@aaecbn.aao.gov.au](mailto:rmm@aaecbn.aao.gov.au)>

(Adapted from the 'RASClst')

Zhu: [I have sent] a message to [the] meteorobs [discussion list] before Jul. 19 asking for help to observe possible meteors around Jul. 19 from 1997 BR, which is the first NEO (near earth object) discovery of my group, and is an very interesting object. (It was the most frequently observed asteroid in 1997). The predicted radiant by Rob McNaught is RA=175 degrees, Dec=+65 degrees. Please check my web page at: <http://vega.bac.pku.edu.cn/~zj/scap/special/neo/1997br/1997br.html>.

McNaught: Any meteors from this asteroid would occur around the descending node at Solar Longitude (2000) = 116.8 deg (-July 19) from a theoretical radiant near RA 175 deg Dec +65 deg (2000), [Ursa Major]. Atmospheric velocity = 16 km/sec. Such a low velocity could result in up to 19 deg of zenithal attraction to place the observed radiant on the horizon. This would be an evening shower for northern latitudes with a solar elongation of ~60 deg.

Observations of this possible and precedent setting shower are greatly encouraged.

## An August RASC Camp Out at Whitetail Resort

(Members and families only)

by Bob Christie tel. 931-2115 <[christie@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:christie@sk.sympatico.ca)>

After the meeting last night some of us met at the Tim Horton's Donut Shop. It was generally agreed that we should have some sort of local gathering of members to have a fun star night with our families. The weekend of the August new moon ( Aug. 21 to 23) was proposed. The location is the Whitetail Resort near North Battleford.

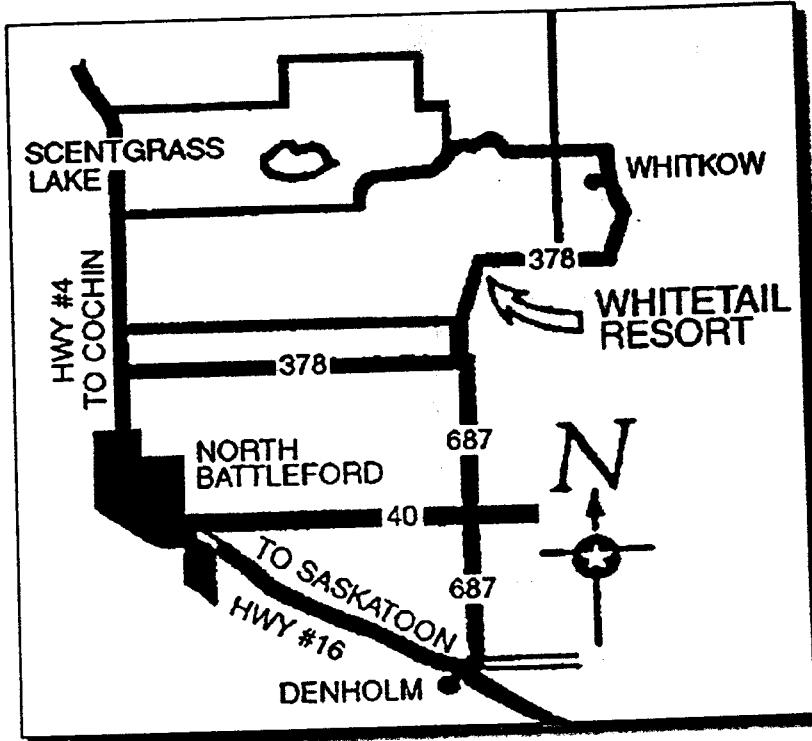
There are camping facilities (20 sites - no hook-ups), 2 cabins, and a hostel for group accommodations. Meals can be made available by discussing our needs with their caterer.

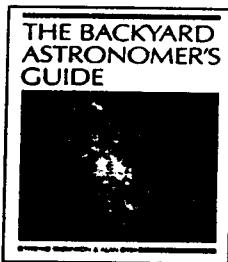
The location is ideal, not far from Saskatoon, with lots of opportunities for group activities including: hiking and biking trails, volleyball, ball diamond, wall climbing. There are fish in their lake, however, I was told they are too well fed and don't bite.

You can access their website at: <<http://www.w2d.com/whitetail/>> for details of their facilities and pricing.

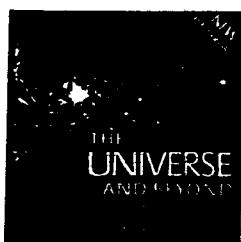
I need to know numbers, type of accommodation, and if you want meal catering. The cabins have full kitchen facilities. Do we want one meal catered to act as a social activity?

If you are interested in attending, please let me know ASAP. I have made the booking arrangements with the final number left open.




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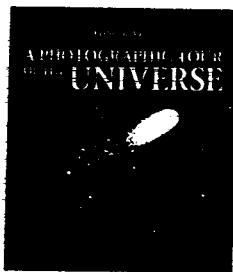
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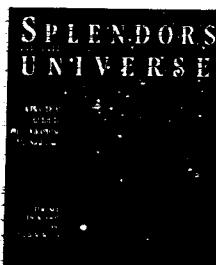
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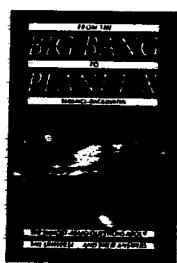
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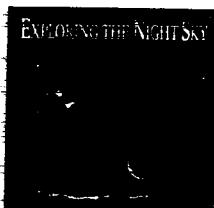
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## A Busy Summer for Saskatoon Members' Awards

### Ed Kennedy Honored for Life Achievement

RASC Life and Saskatoon Centre member, Past RASC National President and National Recorder, Founding Member of the Saskatoon Centre, Honorary President, Canadian Astronomy Historian, Professor Emeritus - University of Saskatchewan. All of these titles, and many we just don't know about, reflect the life-time work of the dedicated professional astronomer, Professor J. E. Kennedy, or just "Ed" to those who know him. In recognition of his work in Canadian astronomy and with the RASC at both National and Centre levels for over 50 years, Ed was presented with the first-ever National Life-time Service Award at this year's General Assembly in Victoria. Centre President Erich Keser accepted the award for Ed, who couldn't attend the GA. A Centre gathering to honor Ed will be held just following the SSSP.

### THANKS, SASKATOON CENTRE!

by Sandy Ferguson, Service Award Winner, 1998

**BEWARE, Centre members!** That innocent "meeting" at Tim Horton's following a monthly general meeting can prove to be a hotbed of madcap ideas. It was during one of these gatherings, I understand, that someone suggested a nomination for a Service Award be made to National Office on my behalf. This, I discovered to my absolute delight, at our March General Meeting. As a result, there is a wonderful bronze medal on its stand decorating my home!

Many thanks to Saskatoon Centre Council for the nomination. Thanks, too, to Erich Keser, who acted as Centre Representative at the recent GA in Victoria, for bringing the award home for me. This was just the BEST!!

### Messier Certificates to Members Presented at GA

The Saskatoon Centre is quickly becoming known for it's fine and dedicated observers for the most part in the large participation in the Messier, Finest NGC and Hershel 400 Clubs. To this end, three more members were honoured at the General Assembly in Victoria with presentations of their Messier Certificates. The certificates will be presented to the members themselves at the September General meeting or sooner. Congratulations to:

Darrell Chatfield  
Dale Jeffrey  
Sandy Ferguson

**Fourth Annual NORTHERN PRAIRIE STAR FEST (NPSF98)**

21-23 August 1998

**Deneb Observatory, Sarles, ND**  
**Northern Sky Astronomical Society**

Deneb Observatory (Sarles) and the Northern Sky Astronomical Society >(University of North Dakota, Grand Forks) is pleased to announce the fourth annual NORTHERN PRAIRIE STAR FEST under the dark pristine skies near the North Dakota-Manitoba border. It will be held at the John and Jill Leppert farm 21-23 August next to an amateur observatory that houses an 8-inch Meade 2080LX6 SCT. Space for telescopes and electricity for motor drives will be provided at the observatory several hundred yards south of the farm building site.

The late August weather is typically dry and pleasant: on average daytime temperatures reach 78°F (26°C) creating puffy cumulus clouds and an occasional late afternoon shower, while our evenings afford clear skies and temperatures before dawn near a comfortable 54°F (12°C). Astronomical twilight ends near half past ten o'clock (sunset occurs at 8:41 on August 21), while dawn begins breaking at have past four o'clock (sunrise occurs at 6:39). However, since we have virtually no light pollution, the hours of darkness display a rich sky ablaze with stars to seventh magnitude. Plans will include paper presentations, photo contest, swap meet and perhaps viewing the aurora borealis.

There will be guided day trips to Spruce Woods Provincial Park (Manitoba) on August 22 (hiking, horseback riding, swimming, golfing), and to the International Peace Gardens (North Dakota-Manitoba border) on August 23 Saturday evening there will be a barbecue at the farm. Paper presentations and the photo contest are open to everyone. Current planned presentations will include slides of the 1998, 1994, and 1979 solar eclipses. If you would like to present a paper we would appreciate your advising us of any audio visual or computer equipment needed for your presentation. The photo contest winner will have all fees refunded.

Electricity and space will be provided for tents, camper trailers, and motorized homes several hundred feet north of the observatory alongside the farm shelter belt. For those who would rather not camp, motel space is available in Rolla (27 miles southwest) at the Bilmar Motel (701) 477-3157, and the Northern Lights Motel (701) 477-6164. Sarles, approximately eight miles east, is the nearest town to the Deneb Observatory site. The town has a population of 50 a post office, and a bar/cafe.

A fee schedule, and registration form is attached. You need not submit payment in advance; however, we would appreciate your registering by post or e-mail in order for us to plan the barbecue. Those who pre-register by 1 August may use the discounted fee schedule. Further queries should be addressed to John Leppert, 1101 Westwood Street #209, Bismarck, ND 58405-6292; e-mail to <[denebobs@btigate.com](mailto:denebobs@btigate.com)> or you may phone us at (701) 222-3283. Beginning August 18 please address e-mail to <[73424.3533@compuserve.com](mailto:73424.3533@compuserve.com)> and phone directly to Deneb Observatory at (701) 697-5225.

# REGISTRATION FORM & FEE SCHEDULE

## NORTHERN PRAIRIE STAR FEST 21-23 AUGUST 1998

REGISTRATION		REGISTRATION	
(by 1 August)		(on site)	
US	CDN	US	CDN
\$13.50	\$16.00	\$15.00	\$18.00
\$18.00	\$21.50	\$20.00	\$24.00
\$ 9.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
\$ 3.50	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.00	\$ 5.00

Registration per individual

Registration per family

Barbecue per adult

Barbecue per child ages 6-12

Registration fees include use of camping, water, electricity, food and beverage refrigeration, and bathroom/shower facilities.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Individual \_\_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_\_

Society Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

I'm planning to bring the following telescope and/or binocular:

Telescope: \_\_\_\_ " or \_\_\_\_ mm (size) f/ \_\_\_\_ (focal ratio)

\_\_\_\_ Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Schmidt-Cassegrain \_\_\_\_ Maksutov-Cassegrain \_\_\_\_ Newtonian

\_\_\_\_ Dobsonian \_\_\_\_ Refractor \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Binocular: \_\_\_\_ mm X \_\_\_\_ mm \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to make a Presentation (check here) \_\_\_\_\_

Topic will be \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending & Fees:

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fees (see Fee Schedule)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Barbecue & Fees: (see Fee Schedule)

Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fees enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Will pay fees upon arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Remit Checks Payable to: NPSF98. Send along with Registration form to:  
John Leppert, 1101 Westwood Street #209, Bismarck, ND 58504-6292

## Rick's Favourite Astronomy Web Sites

Try these on for size - these are the astronomy sites that I have bookmarked. You will quickly see that these are observing-based sites - lots of information for the beginner and advanced amateur. Enjoy.....Rick Huziak

<http://www.stud.ifi.uio.no/~mikkels/astropics.html>

Best site on the Internet! Wonderful collection of catalogs and then can view on the Palomar Sky Survey!

<http://www.net1plus.com/users/syoung/nemaa/huziak.html>

Huziak's Variable Star - is it variable or not?

<http://www.aavso.org/>

AAVSO Home Page - 150 Variable star charts can now be downloaded for free.

<http://encke.jpl.nasa.gov/eph.html>

Comet ephemerides - all comets/ comets for small scopes.

<http://www.ngcic.com/ngcic.htm>

The NGC and IC Project Home page - newly revised NGC observation and lots of useful notes for serious observers of deep sky. Points out all those errors in RNGC and Uranometria as well!

<http://www.ggw.org/freenet/a/asras/supernova.html>

All supernovae and their newest images are reported here within hours of their discovery.

<http://www.ngcic.com/websites.htm>

NGC.IC Project's wonderful list of all kinds of great catalog sites.

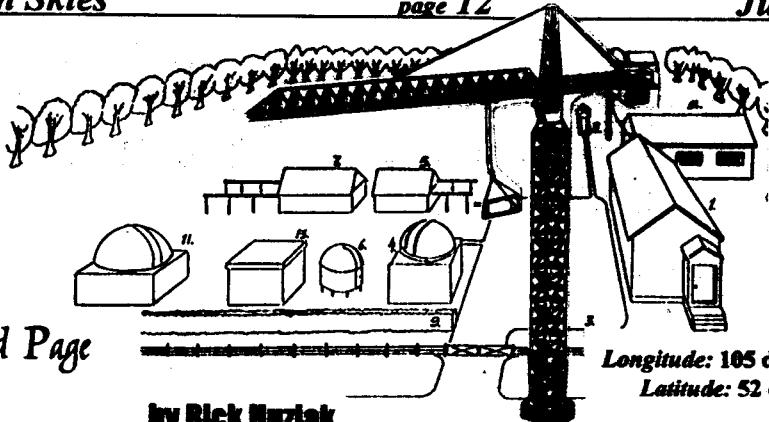
<http://www2.gsoc.dlr.de/scripts/satvis/satvis.asp?Lat=52.167&Lng=-06.7&Loc=Saskatoon&TZ=CST>  
IRIDIUM satellite, MIR and other satellite predictions for Saskatoon views (please do not alter the location at this site - if you want another location, please save your own bookmark!)

<http://dsaling.uQac.uQuebec.ca/~mhiggins/MIAC/MIAC.html>

Meteorites Impacts Advisory Council of Canada (Gord Sarty, Kim Mysyk and I are associate members)

<http://www.imo.net/>

International Meteor Organization - they have a GREAT meteor catalog downloadable for the entire year's activity.



## The Sleaford Page

by Rick Huziak

Longitude: 105 deg 55' 13" +/- 13" W  
Latitude: 52 deg 05' 04" +/- 8" N

### **Caution to users of Sleaford Site (and for the information of other members)**

Our Site Coordinator, Bill Hydomako <hydomako@SEDSystems.ca>, informs us that the U of S has started construction of their new roll off shelter. It will be located 30 feet south of the warm-up shelter. If you are going out to do some observing please be on the look out for the piles and grade beams that are being poured this week as not to run into them in the dark. The building will be installed sometime later this month. Once the building is in place, the U of S's machine shop assistant, Perry, will begin work on the interior, placing the wooden floor, piers and eventually the 5-inch Zeiss refractor, the two 8-inch Schmidt Cassegrains and the Celestron 14.

Earlier this month, we also took advantage of the drilling rig that was out at the site to dig the holes for the pier for the Rystrom 10-foot dome and the old outhouse drop shoot. Ron Shnor, Bill Hydomako, Darrell Chatfield and Rick and Amy Huziak moved the old outhouse to it's new location, just 8 feet to the east of the old site. Ron will be fixing it up a bit so we can use it this year, (and not barf), or until the new toilet facility is built. The Rystrom dome is scheduled for the big move right after the SSSP.

On-going maintenance of the Sleaford schoolhouse, has also started. The Friends of Sleaford society, with the blessing of the Joint Observatory Management Committee has hired a contractor to do minor repairs and to scrape and paint the school. This will spruce up the site a bit more!

Usage of the site was lower than normal over the last two months - mostly due to the summer solstice, poor new moon weather and increasing aurora. We expect use will pick up again in August. See you there!

### ***The University of Saskatchewan Observatory Hours***

During July , the U of S Observatory will be open to the public on Saturday evenings from 10:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. The observatory is located on campus one block north of the Wiggins Avenue entrance off of College Drive. Visitors may view a variety of objects through the 6" telescope. Admission is free. Group tours of the observatory can be booked for Friday evenings. For further information, phone the recorded Astronomy Information Line at 966-6429. ☺

**MESSIER CLUB****Certified at 110 Objects:****Rick Huziak, Gord Sarty, Scott Alexander, Sandy Ferguson, Dale Jeffrey, Darrell Chatfield**

Bob Christie	94
Wade Selvig	57
Erich Keser	51
Stan Noble	28
Brian Friesen	15
Les & Ellen Dickson	a great mystery!
Terry Nelson	11

**FINEST NGC CLUB**

Richard Huziak (applying)	110
Gordon Sarty	50
Scott Alexander	30
Dale Jeffrey	19
Darrell Chatfield	18

**HERSCHEL 400 CLUB**

Rick Huziak	311
Gord Sarty	some
Darrell Chatfield	beginning

*Join the Messier, Finest NGC and  
H-400 Club!*

**Observe all 110 Messier, 100 FNGC or 400 H-  
400 objects and earn your**

**CERTIFICATE!**

Now that many of us have complete our Messier Certificates, we've added the Finest NGC and Herschel 400 lists to our program. The lists can be found in the Observer's Handbook. Each month I'll be posting updates. E-mail in you new numbers! If your name is not on this list and you're observing the Messiers, FNGCs or H-400's, let me know & I'll add you

***The New Membership Year is Near  
Join the RASC***

Membership runs from Oct. 1 to Sep. 30. Please send payment to the Centre mailbox.

**Regular - \$40.00   Youth - \$22.50   Life - \$720.00**

## JR. ASTRONOMERS/YOUTH GROUPS SEASON WRAP-UP

by Sandy Ferguson

The March meetings of the Jr. Astronomers and Youth Groups were taken up with spring constellation identification. As the Juniors met on March 20, we celebrated the Equinox with a "Happy Equinox" cake. The Youth Group met the following Friday, where we heard about Amy Steven's trip to Costa Rica during the week of the Feb. 26th solar eclipse. We also celebrated with a "Happy Spring" cake!

The April 25th meeting was to have been a joint meeting of both groups with a BBQ at Sleaford Observatory. After 2 weeks of glorious sunshine the day turned out to be absolutely poisonous, so the BBQ was canceled and re-scheduled for May 30th.

On May 2nd, Astronomy Day, some of the Juniors came out to help with our display tables. The astrophotography done in March by Nathan Young, Nathan Quennell, Don Fentie and Greg Mason was displayed and a lot of comments on the quality were made by visitors to the tables. The May 22nd meeting was also a joint meeting of the two groups. We did some solar observing with Rick Huziak's solar scope (no spots that day), then came inside to watch a video on the summer constellations. Rick was also our "Guest Astronomer" and gave a demonstration of the use of his solar telescope.

May 30th was a cool, but sunny day and the BBQ planned at Sleaford was a success. About 25-30 young astronomers, their parents and siblings turned up to do some solar observing through Erich Keser's C-11, play some field games and indulge in BBQ fare and treats. Belated thanks to Sharon and Al Hartridge for the use of their BBQ and all their help toting gear and helping in other ways. Also to Erich Keser for bringing his C11 and solar filter. And thanks to everyone else who came and made the day a great one.

The first season of a joint Jr. Astronomers and Youth Group was a huge success. We ended up with 30 young people who were so enthusiastic, it was sometimes hard to keep up with them! We start again in September for another year--details will be in the September issue of *Saskatoon Skies*. Saskatoon Centre Mini Fun Star Party.

## Minutes of the June Executive Meeting

Monday, June 15, 1998  
held at NHRI, Innovation Place., Saskatoon

1. Fundraising Coordinator - Terry Nelson has resigned from this position.
2. National Business - Erich will be attending the GA and will give a talk on the SSSP. There also appears a National movement toward a Junior program.
3. Sleaford Site Partnership Committee Report - Points about abandonment, costing of labour input balance of infrastructure investment were discussed. Discussion regarding the need for a more proper toilet at the site continues.
4. Fundraising:
  - Raffle- Dave Cornish gave an up to date report. The sale of raffle tickets is going very well.
  - Bingo- Al Hartridge says the application for a license is in. We will be advised of dates shortly.

- Minor fund raising efforts such as the continued collection of refundable items (bottles, etc.) is bringing in an amazing amount. EVERYBODY please continue to save your empties!!
- 5. SSSP - At this point in time there are 114 registered well ahead of last year. We will need a large number of volunteers to help at the star party. Cypress Hills has also been suggested as a possible site for the GA in the year 2000. We will have RASC calendars and a few of Stan's Skywatcher's Trivia calendars for sale at the star party.
- 6. Proposal for special Executive meeting at Al Hartridge's place in Aug.
- 7. Presentations - Rick Huziak says there have been requests for presentations over the summer at Beaver Creek overnight camps July 22, July 29, Aug. 12 and Sept. 11th at Martensville pot luck dinner and star party.
- 8. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## **Minutes of the June General Meeting**

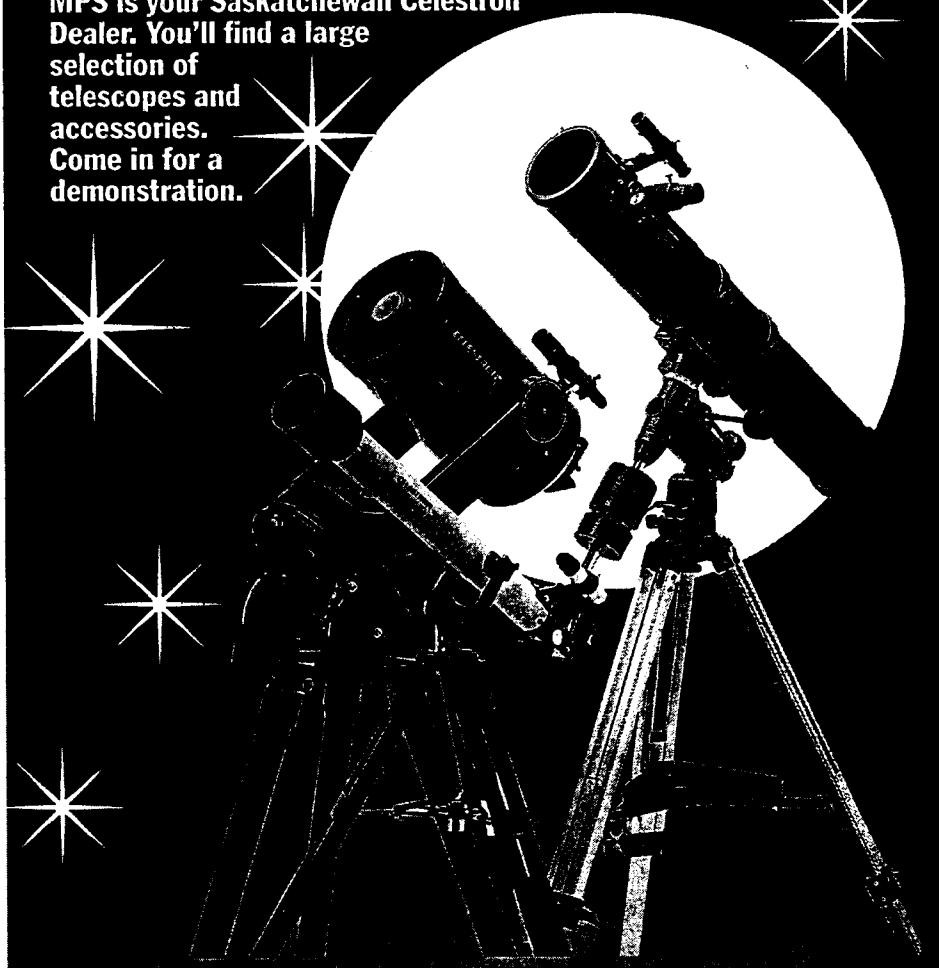
**Monday, June 15, 1998  
held at NHRI, Innovation Place., Saskatoon**

1. Program:
  - Building a Stargazer Steve Dobsonian - Dale & Richard Jeffrey
  - Star Parties - The good , the bad and the ugly- Erich Keser
  - Telescopes - Les Dickson brought his Meade in and Rick Huziak also brought his Solar scope in for the clubs perusal.
  - Special Announcement - people selling raffle tickets are asked to get unsold tickets and stubs in.
  - Books can be ordered from Firefly at a discount - by Erich Keser
2. Financial Report - Mike Williams, Erich Keser moved we adopt the report - carried.
3. SSSP Report - See Executive minutes
4. Sleaford development - See Executive minutes
5. Junior and Youth proposals -See Executive minutes
6. Observing Report- Darrell Chatfield - The mega-observing night May 23rd had a good turn out but after about one and a half hours was brought to a halt by a very bright auroral display.
7. The GA will be attended by Erich Keser, Jim and Barb Young, and Ken Nosgaard.
8. Raffle - Dave Cornish - over half of the tickets are sold so far.
9. Edmonton- Rick gave a talk to the Edmonton Club on variable stars and also promoted the SSSP. He feels there will be a very good turn out from the Edmonton Club.
10. Ed Kennedy - Presented a group of six questions at the meeting for members to try and answer. He will submit a Quiz to one of the future newsletters.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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