



41 YEARS!  
1981-2022

RASC  
SUDBURY  
CENTRE

*Up Above, The Heavens Await*



**RASC SUDBURY CENTRE ASTRO-NORTH | Friday Oct 14th, 2022**

[www.sudburyastronomyclub.com](http://www.sudburyastronomyclub.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/RASCsudbury/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/RASCsudbury/)



## Meeting Agenda, 7:00PM

1. Sudbury RASC President Address – Alan Ward
2. Matt Considine - Imaging with a Spectroheliograph
3. Break - (10min)
4. Show & Tell (10min)
5. Closing Comments/News/Open Forum/Starlight Lounge

**Hybrid Meeting!! This is the first of its kind for our club/RASC Centre. We hope that you'll be able to join us in person at the Science North Planetarium!**

## This Month's Presentation:

**Matt Considine, Springfield Telescope Makers,  
Antique Telescope Society**



### Imaging with a Spectrohelioscope

Matt Considine, a member of the Springfield Telescope Makers and Treasurer of the

Antique Telescope Society, has worked to restore, install, and make operational the 1930's era Hale spectrohelioscope (which are quite rare as there are very few in operation) now running in the Simoni Observatory at Stellafane. This presentation will give us a glimpse into the world of what it's like to image with a spectrohelioscope as he shows us his latest results, while leveraging the work of amateurs in France.

**- ==Join us!== -**

**Friday Oct 14th @ 7PM**

**A Hybrid Meeting on Zoom and at the Science  
North Planetarium**

**Next Month: Bart Fried, Founder and Past President of  
the Antique Telescope Society, with a presentation  
titled: 'Who Put That Hole in The Telescope?'**

## Editor's Voice

Apologize for not getting an issue out for September! September tends to be a very busy month for this editor and wouldn't have been able to give it the attention it deserves.

We unfortunately lost Linda Pulliah this summer, just as the summer Star Party season was getting into gear. She has done so much for us and we owe her a debt of gratitude. The star party season this year hasn't felt the same without her. Of note this summer, was the bench dedication at Halfway Lake in her honour.

**Please Note:** Any submissions should be sent no later than two weeks before the meeting date.

## Centre News

This Space reserved for news directly impacting the Sudbury Centre, whether it be membership renewal notices.

### Linda Pulliah Bench Dedication at Halfway Lake

Linda Pulliah was such a huge part of the club. She'd been doing the job of more than 3 people at a time. This is how passionate she was about astronomy. It was decided then, with the permission of Halfway Lake Provincial Park, to erect a bench in her honour. The park was her favourite, having been a mainstay with her family for decades.



**Note: You must be on the mailing list to receive the Zoom meeting invitation. The meeting links will not be posted in the newsletter. This is for security purposes. To request being on the mailing list, please contact us via our website via the Contact form on the Contact Us page. Note that replying as a comment on the website will not get that request seen through the proper channel.**

## Solar System Walk Dedication

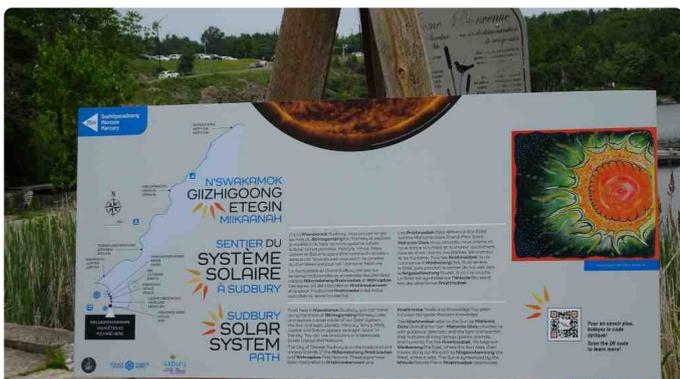


On Tuesday, June 21st, National Indigenous People’s Day, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the unveiling of Sudbury’s Solar System Path, a joint effort held by Science North, Sudbury RASC and the City of Greater Sudbury.

The Sun, the first of many to be featured along the Jim Gordon Boardwalk representing the Solar System to scale featuring a tri-language (English, French and Anishnaabe) information plaque, was revealed.

The Solar System Path, beginning at Science North, and spanning the length of the entire boardwalk to end at Bell Park, has been done as way to showcase the solar system to scale, and is expected to be fully completed before the first snowfall.

If anyone remembers the signs along the skating rink on the lake, these were a prototype to the larger project. Soon, visitors to the boardwalk will be able to learn about the solar system while enjoying their stroll, in a manner that puts everything into perspective.



## Community Contributions

### The Wizard Nebula

by Norm Hey

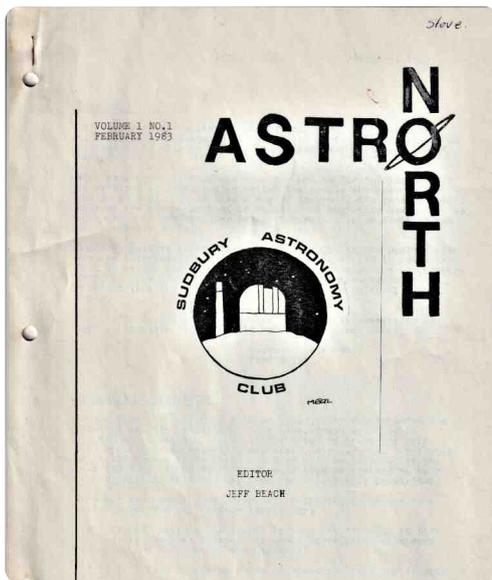
Hi folks. Here is my first image using my new whiz-bang camera and its special filters. It is known as the Wizard nebula, catalogued as NGC 7380. It is an emission nebula in the northern constellation of Cepheus, barely visible if you know precisely where to look even with a modest sized telescope. It is pretty large and bright as these things go and relatively close to us, at 8500 light years. It is about 20 light years across and about 5 million years old, forming stars throughout. At that size and distance, It is not quite as large as the full Moon as seen here on Earth.



You will find an earlier version of this object in my AstroBin collection that was done with my one-shot colour camera and a dual band filter. This one is shot with a monochrome camera with more and smaller pixels and using three separate filters. Each of these filters only passes light of a specific wavelength and each of these sets of exposures are then processed then combined to yield these colours. This RGB image, or Red-Green-Blue, is actually made up basically of light from excited Sulphur, Hydrogen and Oxygen (R=Sii, G=Ha and B=Oiii), a combination known as the Hubble palette, from the way most of the Hubble telescope data is presented to the public.

This image comes from data collected over a couple of nights just after the full moon in August. In total it has nearly 8 hours of exposure that are then processed in sort of the "normal" way for these kind of images. As usual, it will benefit from additional exposure that I hope to eventually get around to, but other targets are calling....like the planets! So I may not get around to it for a while. Hope you enjoy this new version of the Wizard!

In honour of the club's 40th Anniversary, we are reprinting articles from the Sudbury Astronomy Club's very first newsletter, AstroNorth. All circa 1983.



## Stellafane: What is so special? (Part 2 of the ongoing series) - by Fred Boyer - AstroNorth October 1983.

As I told you in last month's Astro North, the first building to catch our eye at Stellafane was the Porter Turret Telescope. I'd seen pictures of the clubhouse and telescope but something intangible was missing. I was missing that feeling that Steve and Greg had. They both were excited and in awe of this place. Why??? It consisted of a fancy telescope and an old old clubhouse. What was so special about this place?

Greg and I left Gerry and Steve to set up the Phoenix while we went back to the campgrounds to set up housekeeping. Natalie, Steve's daughter, had set herself up with her friends she had met on her previous trips to Stellafane. After setting up the tents in 90°F temperate at 110% humidity, Greg & I found ourselves slightly thirsty. Finding some cold beverages in Steve's cooler, we sat down and gazed around the campsite. It was filling up rapidly. We could see some scopes being set up, both homemade and commercial types.

I was thinking at this time that there was going to be a good variety of scopes to look through this evening. If only this hazy weather would break! It didn't look good.

After a quick run to the town for some groceries, ice, and a stop at the local McDonald's (they are everywhere), we headed back up the hill to the clubhouse with some sustenance for Steve, Gerry, and Natalie. Breaking through the trees near the competition field I was stunned by the number of telescopes that had been set up already and more were being hauled out of car trunks, back seats and half tons.

We gave the guys their cheeseburgers and drinks, which they accepted gracefully, then pointed out the concession tent directly behind the clubhouse. (The concession made better burgers and cheaper too!). During this discussion of food I noticed a group of people had gathered around two men arguing near the Phoenix. I wandered over to

listen to an inpromptu debate on optics. The older of the two men was a crusty, grey haired gentleman with a curved pipe clenched between his teeth as he spoke. The younger of the two spoke with a distinct New York accent. I got there just as the older fellow conceded that the younger man probably knew more about eyepieces than he did. The principals of this debate were Walter Scott Houston and Al Nagler, the owner of Tele-Vue optics company.

When I found out who these two guys were I started looking for Greg and Gerry to tell them that I met Al Nagler and that he was willing to test the 9mm lens Greg and I bought from him. I found Greg talking to a young couple about a small telescope, I found out shortly was a comet catcher, built by the young lady. The man was introduced as Rolf Mier and his fiancée, Wendy. Rolf's name rang a bell somewhere in the back of my fuzzy brain. His nametag indicated he was a member of the Ottawa RASC Centre. I asked him pointblank if he was the guy who had discovered not one, but three comets with a 16" telescope. He said he was. Greg asked "How did you know who he was?" I answered "You told me". Greg hadn't realized who he was talking to.

In less than five minutes I had met and talked with some pretty heavy heavyweights in the world of amateur astronomy. If the rest of the weekend was going to be like this!!!

The weather at this point was starting to get worse. In fact, it started to rain and a slight disappointment was starting to set in because I was afraid we wouldn't be able to do any observing. The rain, however, didn't last very long so Greg, Gerry and I decided to go for a walk through the campsite. I would like to describe every telescope I seen in that walk but I wouldn't finish this for two years. Suffice it to say that almost every conceivable amateur and commercial telescope was there.

As the evening came we realized that there would be no observing that night because of the weather, but various people would be giving talks in a tent behind the clubhouse. One of the speakers was Steve, telling everyone how he developed his double Hammond cam siderial drive for the Phoenix. He asked the three of us to go up to the front to assist him and in doing so introduced the Sudbury Astronomy Club to Stellafane. While up at the front I was nervous at first but then a small feeling of pride began to creep in. Here we were with our club hats boldly telling these people from all over the U.S and Canada "There is an astronomy club in Sudbury, Ont."

After Steve's talk we walked to the back of the crowd to sit down and listen to the rest of the speakers. We noticed all of a sudden that

Gerry was missing. Later on he told us of a fantastic view of Jupiter he got through a 6" folded refractor. There was only one hole in the clouds that night and Gerry managed to see something.

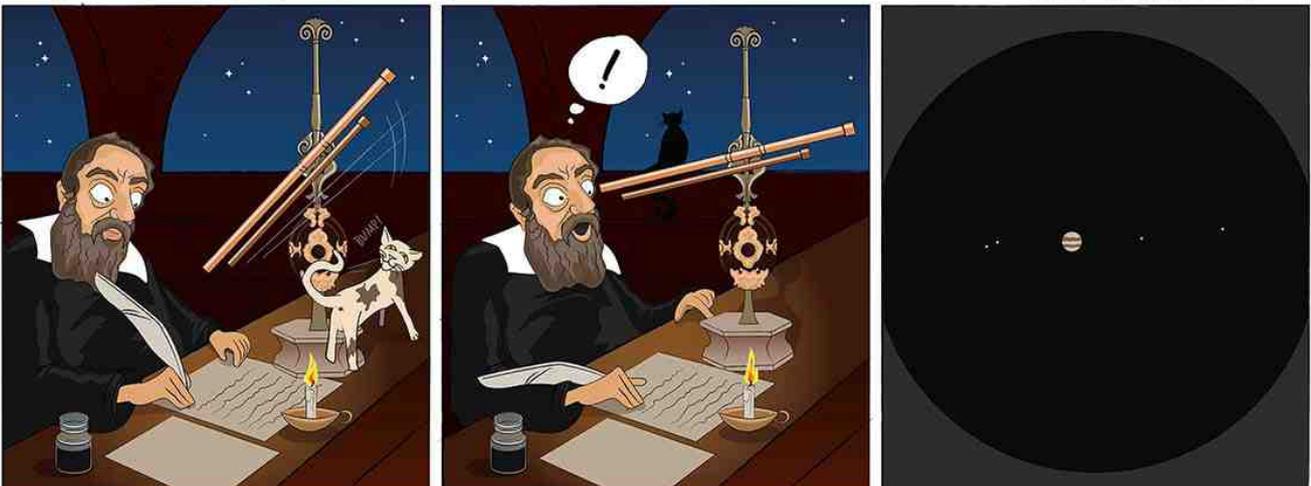
Around midnight we turned in hoping for better weather the next night. I lay down thinking I still really didn't know what was so special about Stellafane. Then it dawned on me - people - is that what makes Stellafane special? Did people from all over the U.S and Canada come to a sleepy little town in Vermont just for the sake of saying that I was at Stellafane? No, I didn't think so. There's more to Stellafane than meets the eye. In spite of no observing everybody was still enjoying themselves except me. Parties were still going on all over the campsite. Being a first timer and having never heard of Stellafane until 2 years ago this seemed to be just another star party but it wasn't. I'd been at Stellafane for 12 hours and I was still tired from the long drive. With that logic in mind I fell asleep thinking "Fred, this convention has been going on for almost 50 years. There IS something special about this place or people wouldn't keep coming back. You've got to give it a chance and figure out what it is.

Next month, more hot weather, prizes, more telescopes and OBSERVING.

- Fred Boyer

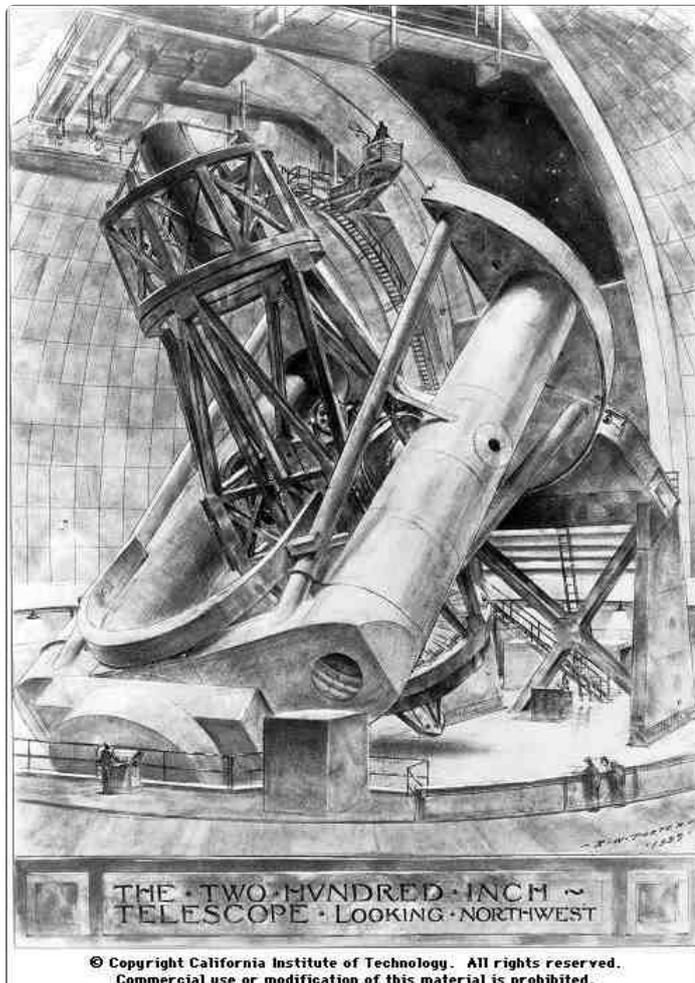
A KEY MOMENT IN ASTRONOMICAL HISTORY...

STARTOONS by ADAM MAUND 2019



## Space News: Dreaming of a Big Scope!

By Steve Dodson



Have you ever marvelled at the swarm of stars carpeting the expanse of the Great Globular Cluster (M13) In Hercules? Did you ever wonder what this stupendous star system would look like if you could put your eye to an eyepiece on the 200-Inch Hale Telescope on Mount Palomar?

In 1971, an English Astronomer (R.F Griffin) experienced that privilege while taking in the spectra of red giant stars in M13.

In a backyard telescope, the Hercules Cluster spans maybe  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a typical eyepiece field. In the 200-inch, the image scale is so large that seeing the whole star-packed central region alone requires the giant scope to be shifted across several fields of view!

Did you ever hear an amateur observer of the Hercules Cluster say that his telescope "resolved it to the core"? Actually, what that observer is seeing is a sprinkling of the Red Giants, not the ordinary cluster stars. Given the enormous light-gathering power of the Palomar Giant, Red Giants down to magnitude

15 actually revealed their identity through their reddish colour! On Mount Palomar, Dr. Griffin could identify some 200 of these Red Giants randomly arrayed against a background of myriad ordinary stars.

The background stars seen in the 200-inch were so densely packed that it was like trying to see the individual grains of sugar by staring into a sugar bowl!

## RASC Education, Public Outreach & Observing News

### 2022 Event Calendar

<u>STAR-PARTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Frozen Banana	Mew Lake, Algonquin Park	May 5-8	
Thawed Banana	Chapman's Field, South River*	May 26-30	
New Moon in June	Chapman's Field, South River*	June 23-26	
Gateway to the Universe	Chapman's Field, South River	July 28-31	
August Star Party	Chapman's Field, South River*	Aug 25-28	
Half the Night	Halfway Lake P.P**	Aug 25-28	
Last Chance	Restoule P.P*	Sept 22-25	
Stars Over Killarney	Killarney P.P**	Sept 30-Oct 2	

\*Contact Robert +Lil Chapman if wanting to attend [bobandlil14@gmail.com](mailto:bobandlil14@gmail.com)

\*\*Contact Linda Pulliah if wanting to attend [pulliah@fibreop.ca](mailto:pulliah@fibreop.ca) **705-671-8127**

### Updates

Currently the provincial parks are planning to provide public programs; we will be leading outreach events when in parks.

Due to restrictions in space, it is imperative folk contact the Chapman's or Linda Pulliah above as indicated for certain events.

We are being optimistic and excited to proceed with the 2022 star party season as listed, however, we will follow provincial guidelines if further restrictions are imposed. If uncertain, just contact those listed above.

Science North encourages RASC-Sudbury members to participate in their virtual and on-site in-person astronomy events. Visit [sciencenorth.ca/planetarium#starparties](https://sciencenorth.ca/planetarium#starparties) for info on date and times.



## Looking Up: October 2022

By Stargazer Steve/Steve Dodson

### Traces of a Past Comet

On October 11 the **Moon** just past full creeps up on the Planet **Uranus**. When the **Moon** rises in the **East after dark**, the 5.7 magnitude Planet will appear a fraction of a binocular field to the **lower left** of the **Moon**. By late evening the apparent gap between the two bodies will much smaller. Sometime after **midnight**, the **Moon** will **cover up (Occult)** the more distant Planet.

The **Occultation of Uranus** by the **Moon** is one of two special observing opportunities in October. Early in the morning of October 21 **Earth** will pass close to the **orbit of Comet Halley**, and debris left behind by the famous Comet will enter our atmosphere creating meteors that streak away from a spot ("radiant") near the **Constellation of Orion**. Between **Midnight** and **3:00 AM** early in the morning of October 21 (when the Moon rises) meteors should light up the Sky about every **3 - 5 minutes** on the average. Of course the Comet itself is way out beyond the orbit of **Neptune**, and won't be near us before **2061!**

Throughout the month, the Moon keeps busy approaching other sky objects:

On **October 5** the **Moon** passes by the lower left of **Saturn**, and on **October 8** it is **Jupiter's** turn to have the **Moon** close to its **lower right**.

On **Oct 12**, the **waning Moon** is only 3 degrees below the **Pleiades**.

On **October 14** the **Moon** and **Mars** rise side-by-side with only 3 degrees between them, and on **October 27**, the evening **Crescent Moon** and **Antares** are similarly close.

For more details, and reminders in the hours before Sky Events, check postings on [www.sudburyastronomyclub.com](http://www.sudburyastronomyclub.com)



To see more, visit the club website or follow Steve on Twitter at **@StargazerSteveD** for daily updates.

This Issue is dedicated to a great and dear friend to many of us. Linda Pulliah touched us in many ways. It was through her passion and excitement for all of the things that she did, including Astronomy. She loved educating the public about the wonders of the night sky, and she did it with such passion and awe. She was the organizer of our many starparties, and her presence will be dearly missed. Thank you Linda for giving us so many great memories. You will forever be in our hearts. Whenever we look at the night sky, you will be in our thoughts.



## *Linda Pulliah 1956-2022*

A Video that encapsulated the feeling she believed in when teaching others about Astronomy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCcrJ3NfIOpE>

## RASC Sudbury Centre Executive



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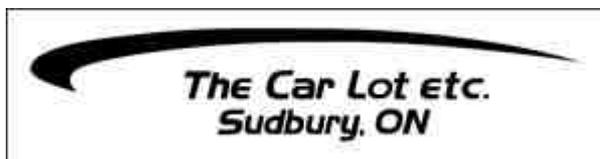


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