

Stardust

A Monthly Newsletter of the
Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
Edmonton, Centre

NOVEMBER, 1967



"Gentlemen, the sky"



First or third helping?

Annual Banquet 1967 Version From the contented looks on their faces and the roundness of their frontal regions one can safely conclude that the Edmonton Centre's Annual Banquet was to its members an overwhelming success. Topped off with two excellent National Aeronautics and Space Administration films the members in attendance felt the year's major social event was an ideal way to start off the new astronomical season.

New Location for November Meeting The severe crowding experienced by the Centre last year has made it necessary to move to larger quarters this year. Starting with the November 9th meeting our new location will be at the University of Alberta, Physics Building Lecture Wing Room V107 at 8:15 p.m. The Physics Building is located at the extreme north end of the campus and a door, centrally located at its north end, will take you through the building to the lecture wing. Signs will help you on the way.

AGENDA: Mr. David Roles- "Astronomical Photography"

What is the best meeting day?

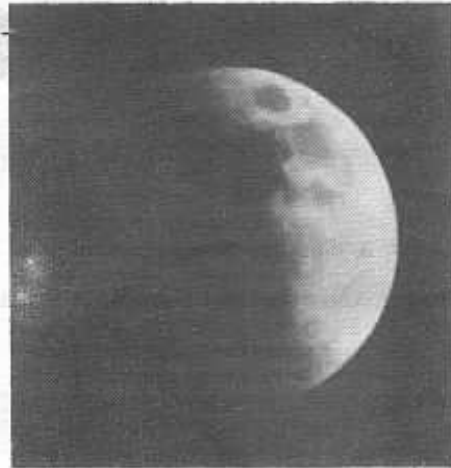
The Edmonton Centre Centennial Project

ECLIPSE OF MOON ECLIPSED!

Centre members were ready but, unfortunately, the weatherman was not prepared to cooperate. Early during the evening of Tuesday, October 17th the skies were clear except for a wispy haziness on the western horizon. However as the evening progressed it became obvious that it was going to be a race for time. We lost-but just.

Totality was to occur around 2:45 am but the clouds 'eclipsed' the moon by 2:20 am. Some of our members were able to capture the earliest parts of the eclipse on film some of which is shown here.

If there are any other members who successfully observed or photographed the eclipse please bring your experiences to the November meeting at the University of Alberta.



Photograph by David Roles
2 1/2" refractor Tri-X film
01:58 a.m. 1/4 sec at f/22

An interesting sequence by Walter Franier



Occultation of Saturn November 12th Skywatchers will be treated to an unusual spectacle on Sunday, November 12th around 8:20 p.m.. At that time the moon will be seen edging towards the planet Saturn until at 8:23 p.m. Saturn will disappear behind the moon's first quarter disc. Not until 9:41 p.m. will Saturn reappear— this time at the dark side of the moon. Through a telescope the sight of Saturn and its majestic rings emerging from behind the earth-lit portion of the moon will certainly be a memorable one. Last month Robert Allin and your editor viewed a similar happening under far from ideal conditions. Even with the conditions being what they were it was a most interesting spectacle.

New Edmonton Centre Council The Annual Banquet during October saw the election of the 1978-68 Council. We wish them every success for the new term of office.

Honorary President- Prof. E.S. Keeping
President- Mr. Robert Allin
Vice-President- Mr. Angus Smith
Secretary- Mr. Ralph Haeckel
Treasurer- Mr. Don Cornborough
Stardust Editor- Mr. Franklin Loehde
Member-at-Large- Mr. Dave Bruner
Observers' Group Representative- Mr. David Roles
Director of Educational Activities- Mr. Gareth Shearman
Social Convenor- Mrs. Margaret Smith

The Night Sky for November by David Roles, Observers' Representative

Many impressive clusters of stars and nebulae are visible in the November sky, and I strongly advise observers to make the most of their binoculars and telescopes before the main onslaught of winter.

Fine objects that are easily visible in binoculars this month include: the Great Spiral Nebula in Andromeda, the globular cluster in Hercules, the fine double cluster in Perseus, the ever-popular Pleiades, and later in the evening the swirling birthplace of stars—the nebula in Orion. The Orion nebula can easily be found by locating the middle "star" in the sword of Orion.

Observers with telescopes 2½" and larger should be able to find the Ring Nebula in Lyra and the Dumbbell Nebula in the obscure constellation Vulpecula.

As of October 28th, Nova Delphini still remains visible to the naked eye. It will be interesting to see how much longer this nova persists.

I was rather excited about a report I received on October 28th concerning a possible being discovered near the star Capella. Scanning the area with my 10x50 binoculars and with my 8 inch scope set at 45X, I was unable to find 'head or tail' of any comet. Other observers I contacted had no better luck than I did in their first investigations. If this turns out to be a false alarm, I hope that our comet seekers will not be discouraged. The discovery of comets often requires hundreds of hours of careful observing and with even this much observing, results can never be guaranteed. At any rate, I still urge potential comet seekers to dust off their binoculars and grope around the skies. Let's see if an Albertan can discover the next comet that wanders into the sky.

Anyone with a fair-sized telescope who is interested in seeing two galaxies in the same field of view, should try looking for Messier 81 and Messier 82 in Ursa Major. Both objects are easily visible in my 8 inch scope. The latter object is edge-on and is of particular interest because it has an exploding core.

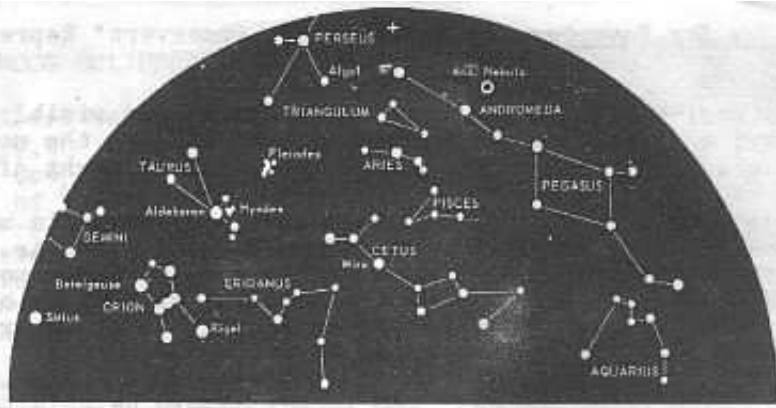
At our November meeting I hope to discuss a worthwhile observing program with you.

Sky Watchers' Calendar for November

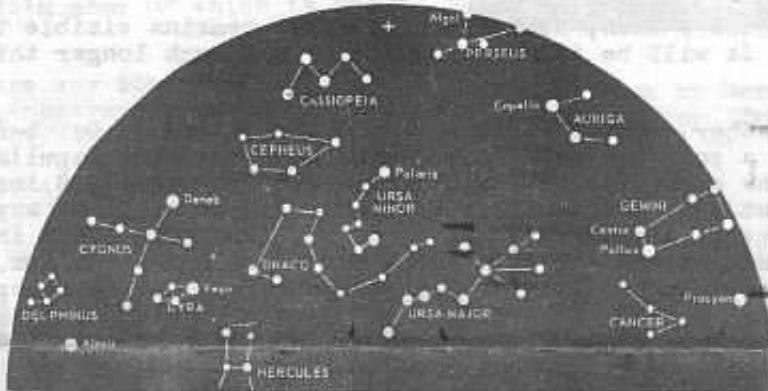
Sun 5th	Taurid Meteor Shower
Wed 8th	Occultation 35 Cap. 4:32 pm
Thu 9th	Venus Greatest W. Elong.
Fri 10th	Occultation 272B Aqr 10:56 p.m.
Sun 12th	Occultation of Saturn 8:23 p.m.
Mon 13th	Occultation 80 Psc. 7:10 p.m.
Fri 17th	Leonid Meteor Shower Morning

Planets: Mercury in the morning sky after 12th
Venus prominent in SE morning sky
Jupiter rises after midnight
Saturn well up at sunset
Mars in SW at sunset

USE YOUR OBSERVERS' HANDBOOK OFTEN



E S W
Observer facing South



W N
Observer facing North

EDMONTON ALBERTA
11:30 AM
NOV 3
1967
CANADA

RESERVE
FAM. GARDEN
URIM NOVEMBER
CANADA