

Stardust

OCTOBER, 1968

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18th
6:30 P.M.
BONAVENTURE MOTOR HOTEL
\$3.25 a plate

Guest Speaker- Prof. J.A. Jacobs
"Geomagnetism, Gondwanaland and
Genetics"
Presentations of President's Cup
and McBain Trophy

BANQUET PHONE-IN If you are planning to take in our interesting dinner meeting at the Bonaventure Motor Hotel please telephone either 434-2144 or 429-1887 before Monday, October 14th to guarantee yourself a seat.

Guest Speaker Prof. Jacobs Professor J.A. Jacobs is a Killam Memorial Professor of Science at the University of Alberta, coming to Alberta from the University of British Alberta where he was Head of the Department of Geophysics and Director of the Institute of Earth and Planetary Sciences. He was President of the Vancouver Centre of the R.A.S.C. for many years.

Messier Observer Brian Martin of Penhold Continuing his impressive survey of the Messier Catalogue Brian is very close to the 50 mark. His real skill comes in his descriptions and his almost photographic drawings.

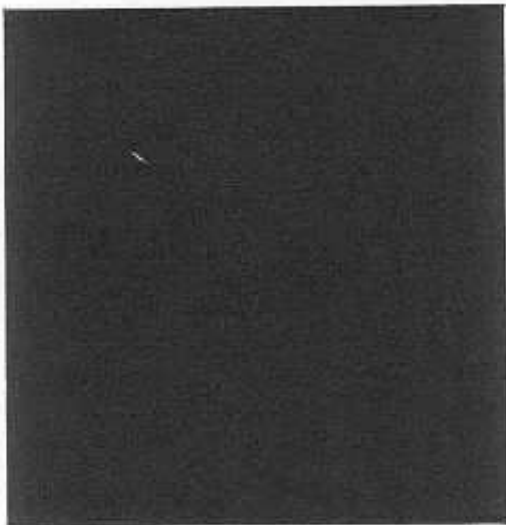


Horseshoe Nebula- "Excellent object appearing as long spike with a smaller, fainter spike jutting up perpendicular to it"



"Dumbbell Nebula was excellent and showed beautiful form. A very bright nebula and easy to find"

Observing Notes by David Roles The occultation of Jupiter during the morning of October 19th should prove to be an extremely interesting and challenging photographic project since the Galilean moons will accompany the giant planet in its disappearance and reappearance from behind the moon. Those with suitable telescopes or binoculars might try plotting the positions of the Galilean moons and sketching the planet's clouded atmosphere before and after the occultation. Good luck to those who will be timing the event.



Perseid Meteor

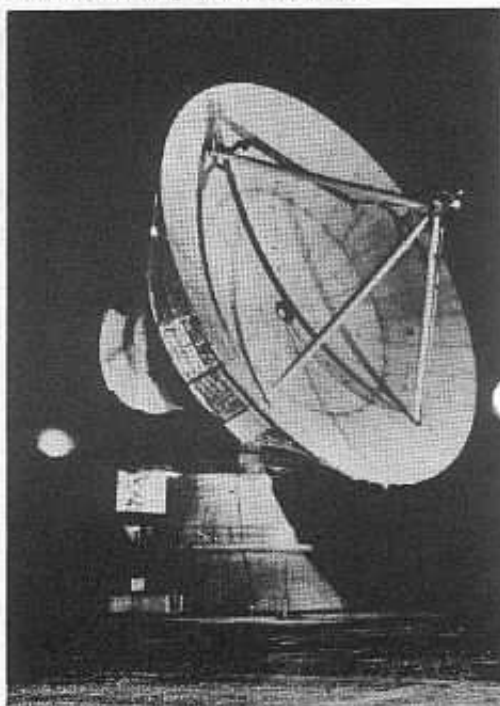
The Perseid meteor shower this year wasn't exactly a super spectacular display of celestial fireworks but despite this I did manage to see a few bright fireballs. Observer Paul Deans provided the accompanying photograph on the right; while my camera, which was pointing at the radiant of the shower for a lengthy duration, didn't record a single trail.

We are fortunate this year in that the excellent shower, the Geminids, is blessed with a last-quarter moon. There should be an excellent chance for a good count, for the Meanook Observatory, and some interesting photographs.

My travels in the past several months have included quite a few centers of astronomical interest. Among these were the Vancouver planetarium, Stonehenge and the 82-foot radio telescope at Chilbolton in Hampshire, England. The latter was a highlight of my summer vacation to England.

Mr. McGuiney of the Radio and Space Field Station gave me an extensive personalized tour of the establishment and all its sophisticated electronic equipment. The tunnels, the miles of wiring, the complex computers, and the seventy-gallon lubrication system made an impressive sight. The dish of the telescope has an extremely accurate parabolic surface and the 420 ton mass of the moving structure is precisely guided by a computer system. The work to be done with the aerial will include the study of problems concerned with satellite communications. From what I saw of the Station and its staff I would venture to say that a great deal of useful research will be forthcoming.

Photo used by kind permission of the Radio and Space Field Station, Chilbolton, Hants.



Neg. No. 2750/4

BBC RADIO AND SPACE RESEARCH STATION

RADIO AND SPACE FIELD STATION, CHILBOLTON, HANTS.

Picture shows:- The 82 ft dish-type fully steerable aerial which will be used for research in radio propagation including the study of problems concerned with satellite communications.

BBC copyright

Feb. 6, 1957

Attention Telescope Makers Anyone having problems with their mirror grind-are reminded that Mr. Ralph Haeckel is at the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday evening to give you any help you may need.

News Flashes!

- The Soviet Union has successfully recovered the Zond 5 spacecraft after its epic voyage to and around the moon.
- The United States is planning a manned circumlunar flight in December.
- Radar mapping of the planet Venus has disclosed three light patches representing rugged features of the planet.
- The Canadian government announced that the proposed Queen Elizabeth Observatory and 150-inch telescope will no longer be completed due to lack of funds. Reaction to the cancellation met with instant condemnation by the scientific community around the world.

Active Aurorae Division in Observers' Group As a direct result of the visit last Spring to our Centre of Dr. E.R. Milton of the University of Lethbridge some of our younger members have begun to cooperate with Dr. Milton and the National Research Council of Canada in their scientific investigation of the northern lights over Alberta.

Chris Gainor, who took over the chairmanship of the aurorae division last June, has been very active himself and is recruiting new members for the study which aids immeasurably the professional astronomer. If you are interested in assisting him call 484-4980 or write him at 9317- 157 Street, Edmonton.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Nights of Aurorae</u>	<u>Clear without Aurorae</u>	<u>Cloudy without Aurorae</u>
July	2	14	15
August	2	16	13
September	3	4	23
Observers-	Chris Gainor Mark Hawkins		

Welcome Back Dr. Cumming! Dr. George Cumming, Past President of our Centre, is now back in the city after a year's sabbatical from the University. He spent his year away from the city in three scientific establishments in Europe. I am sure that after he once again settles down at the University he will have much to say of his interesting trip abroad.

The Strassenburgh Planetarium in Rochester, New York On the 14th of September Mr. Ian C. McLennan had the pleasure of opening America's newest major planetarium. After three years of intensive planning the edifice to science education opened to a first night audience which included many dignitaries including Bishop J. Fulton Sheen and Yousuf Karsh.

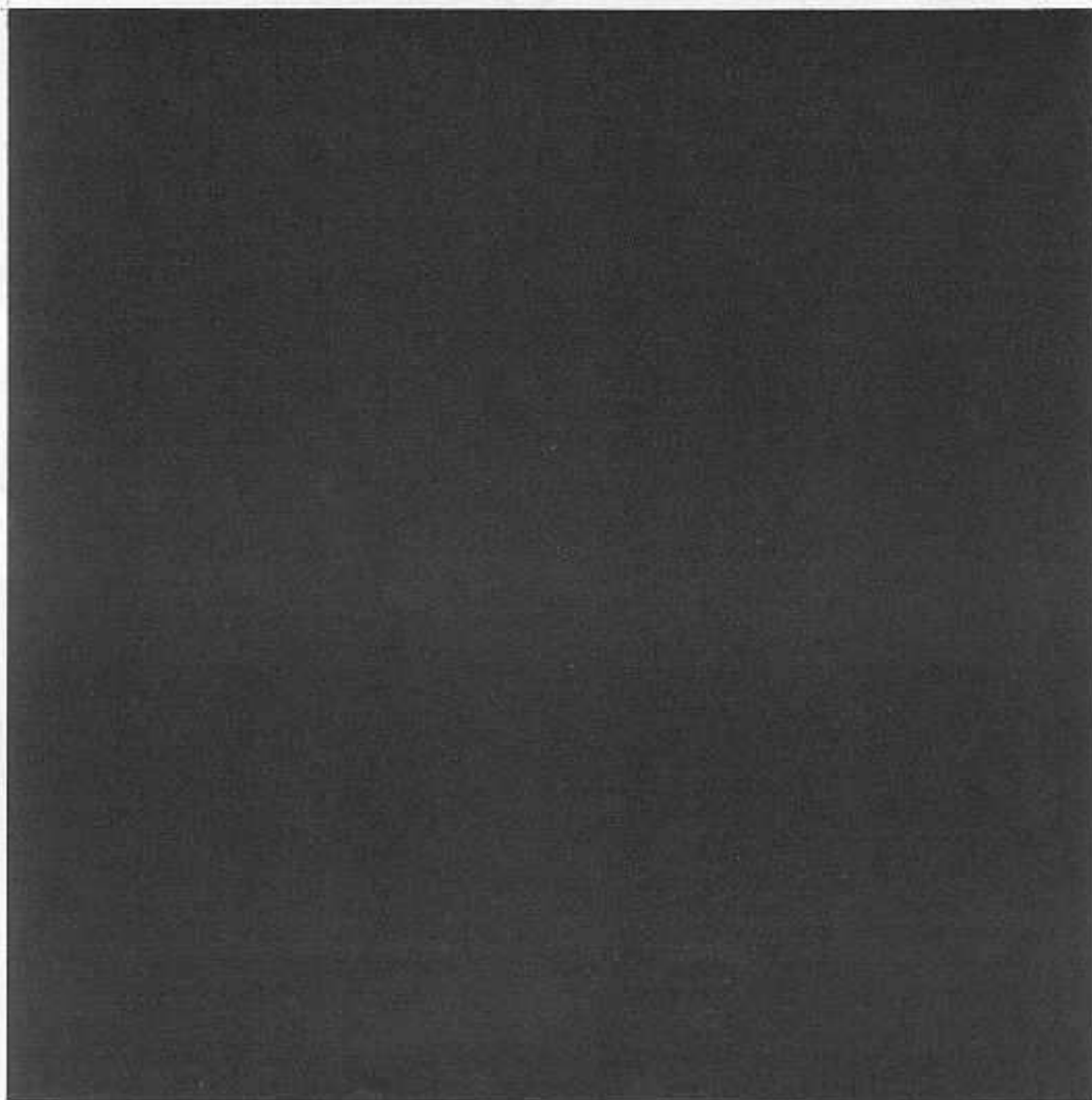
Needless-to-say Ian has come up with many new innovations which make use of a complex computer system. From all the reports in the local newspapers it was an overwhelming success although ^{he} was the first to admit that the casual public failed to pick ^{up} the usual opening-night "technical difficulties".

Ian passes on an invitation to all Edmonton Centre members, who might end up in the Rochester area, to come to see this new 'star theatre'.

Astronomical Bachelor No More! Bruce Bohannon, long-time member of the Calgary and Edmonton Centres, and now a graduate student in astronomy at the University of California at Los Angeles has happily added a partner to his telescopic wanderings. Congratulations Bruce and Ronine.

October 6th Total Lunar Eclipse Unlike the last four eclipses the past two years this one started out with beautifully clear weather, like the others, but ended with an eclipse of clouds before the real one. Fortunately for those that managed to crawl out of bed at the ungodly hour of 02:55 a.m. they managed to view the initial stages of the moon slipping into the umbral part of the earth's shadow. Even at this stage the sky was covered with a thickening film of cirrus cloud which forewarned the approach of the usual cold front from the north. By the time the moon was to completely disappear into the umbra the clouds completely enveloped the partially eclipsed disc.

Below is what was observed of the eclipse through your editor's 500 mm. telephoto lens.

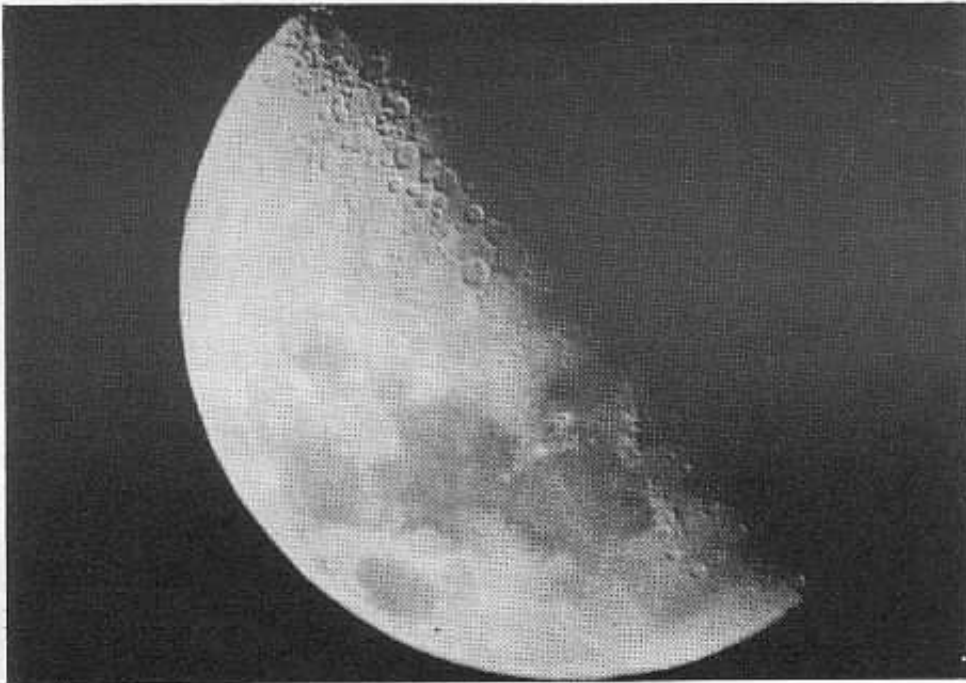


MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE

Please fill in the enclosed cheque, cut it out, and send it to the Treasurer, Edmonton Centre, R.A.S.C. % 8332 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton

Bank of _____	Date _____
Branch _____	Acct. No. _____
PAY UPON ORDER TO <u>The Edmonton Centre, R.A.S.C.</u> \$ _____	
THE SUM OF _____	DOLLARS
Membership Fees	100
Regular \$7.50	NAME _____
Student \$3.50	ADDRESS _____
Life \$100.00	TELEPHONE _____
STARDUST \$1.00	

STAR-SHOOTING DUO FROM LETHBRIDGE Charles and Mona Clark of 1728- 10 Ave. South in Lethbridge are astronomical wonders in themselves. This pair of ardent amateur astronomers have been extremely active over the years in their favourite hobby of astronomical photography as you can see from the excellent shot below. Their 3-inch refractor is mounted on a very sturdy equatorial of their own making! They have even been successful in capturing the planet Venus in daylight. Their ages?? A marvelous 82 years!!



The First Quarter Moon
by
Charles and Mona Clark

Editor- F.C. Loehde
8332 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta

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STAR MAPS
FOR
OCTOBER

