

# SKYNEWS



The Globular Cluster Messier 15.  
by  
Charles Banville

IN THIS ISSUE

February Speaker  
President's Report  
Council Reports  
Memorial – Don Dundee

FEBRUARY MEETING

Weds. Feb. 13, 2013  
University of Victoria  
A104 Bob Wright Bldg.  
3800 Finnerty Rd.

## On the Cover

### **Globular Cluster M15**

Date: November 9, 2012

Constellation: Pegasus

Location: Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria, BC

Optics: TeleVue NP-127is, f/5.2

Mount: Paramount ME, guided using PhD

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark III

Exposure: 13 light frames of 300 seconds, ISO 800

## February Speaker

Our Guest speaker will be Dr. Justin Albert, Assistant Professor of Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Victoria.

<https://particle.phys.uvic.ca/~jalbert/>

The title of Dr. Albert's talk is: "Understanding Dark Energy - Using New Instrumentation for Precision Photometry Calibration: The ALTAIR Project"

<http://projectaltair.org/>

## President's Report

Just a look at the program booklet from a National General Assembly, either ours from 1998, or Edmonton Centre's from 2012, portends the amount of work ahead of us. As volunteer effort is concerned, there is something for everyone.

Arrangements must be made for the site of the event. Budgets must be prepared and money raised. Volunteers must be found. Sponsors must be sought. Welcomes must be obtained from local worthies (i.e. "Greetings from the City of Victoria"). The event must be advertised and promoted. The support of the astronomy department and the DAO must be enlisted. Speakers must be found, travel arrangements made, and expenses must be somehow secured. Programs, presentations and workshops must be arranged. Provision must be made for registration, accommodation, banquets, BBQ's and other meals. There must be a hospitality suite. There must be entertainment. There must be prizes. Arrangements have to be made for tours of local tourist sites and astronomical facilities. There are exhibitions and displays. There are programs to be designed and printed. There are schedules to be figured out. Transportation must be arranged.

I have just scratched the surface. See anything you can do? Contact Paul Schumacher, Mark Bohlman, joint chairs of the GA 2014 Committee, or me.

Don't forget the Messier Marathon, at the VCO, March 9 and 10. This is your chance work toward the coveted RASC Messier Pin. Show up and you'll have all the help you need. There may even be a prize or two, and, coffee will be served.

*Nelson Walker*

## **Membership Report**

Dear RASCals,

Here are my membership and liaison reports for February. One omission which should be addressed is the matter of associate memberships. Since these are not done through National, I have no way of knowing who, nor how many, our associate members are; I believe our Treasurers have that information. I know we haven't very many, but I'd like to have that info on a monthly basis if I could.

### **Reports for Feb 2013**

**New and Returning/Renewed:** 15 (*Thank you!*)

**Dropped/Expired:** None !!

**Total Membership:** 167

### **Liaisons**

**HIA:** nothing to report from Clyde. Remember to watch our behaviour on the Hill: driving, wildlife awareness, etc.

**CU:** No reply from Eric yet.

**Transport Canada:** N/A

**Plaskett:** Imaging night is Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Time to be announced.

Thanks, Sherry Buttner

## **Introduction to Astrophotography - W John McDonald**

Photographing the night sky can be a rewarding pastime. As a result of improvements in off-the shelf cameras, amateurs can produce images that sometimes rival those done by professional astronomers. The course will include instruction on camera types and settings for various astronomical subjects. It will focus on subjects accessible with a camera and tripod but will also include the opportunity to take images through a telescope. If you have a camera that has manual settings please bring it to class. If you plan to purchase one feel free to wait until the discussion of camera properties in the first class.

**Tue 7-9pm - Apr 9, 16 & 23. 3 Sessions for \$70** - To register, call or visit the Monterey Recreation Centre, 1442 Monterey Ave, Oak Bay - 250-370-7300 - quote event #109917

John McDonald

## **Council for 2012 / 2013**

Past President: Lauri Roche [pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca)

President: Nelson Walker [president@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:president@victoria.rasc.ca)

First Vice President: Charles Banville [vp@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:vp@victoria.rasc.ca)

Second Vice President: Sherry Buttnor [vp2@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:vp2@victoria.rasc.ca)

Treasurer: Bruce Lane [treasurer@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:treasurer@victoria.rasc.ca)

Secretary / Recorder: Deb Crawford [secretary@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:secretary@victoria.rasc.ca)

Librarian: Michel Michaud [librarian@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:librarian@victoria.rasc.ca)

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Telescopes / School Programs: Sid Sidhu [telescopes@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:telescopes@victoria.rasc.ca)

National Representative: Mark Bohlman [nationalrep@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:nationalrep@victoria.rasc.ca)

Light Pollution Abatement: Mark Bohlman [lpa@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:lpa@victoria.rasc.ca)

New Member Liaison: Sherry Buttnor [NewMembers@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:NewMembers@victoria.rasc.ca)

Membership Coordinator: Sherry Buttnor [Membership@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:Membership@victoria.rasc.ca)

Observing Chairperson: Bill Weir [obschair@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:obschair@victoria.rasc.ca)

**Members at Large:** Bill Almond, Jim Hesser, Alex Schmid, David Lee, Li-Ann Skibo, Paul Schumacher, Matt Watson

**ASTRONOMY  
Café**



**Astronomy Cafe:** Held every Monday at Fairfield Community Centre - 1330 Fairfield Rd, Victoria, at 7:30pm to 10pm Call Malcolm at (778) 430-4136 for directions and information. New comers are especially encouraged.

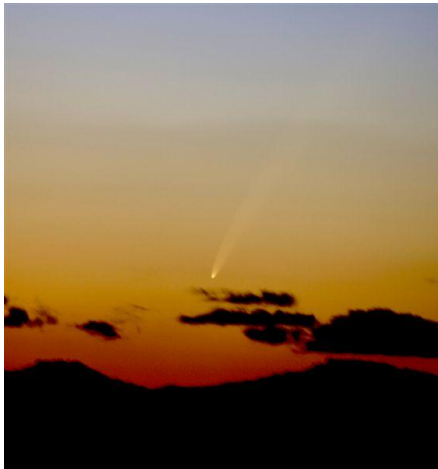


**New Observers Group:** Hosted by Sid Sidhu, 1642 Davies Road, Highlands. Call (250).391-0540 for information and directions.



**Email Lists** Observer / CU Volunteers / Members

Contact Matt Watson to subscribe. <mailto:admin@victoria.rasc.ca>



## Comet McNaught C2006 P1

By Guy Walton

Here is a photo of Comet McNaught taken from Mount Tolmie. The image was taken with a Nikon D80 and a Nikkor 70-300mm lens at full telephoto. Taken January 11, 2007.

Burrr!!!! Was it ever cold up there!

Next month's meeting is Wednesday, March 13th, 2013, at 7:30 PM.

## Memorial for Don Dundee



DUNDEE, Don - Passed away peacefully in his 87th year. Survived by his wife of 56 years, Eileen, son Dan (Susan) daughter Marianne (Dave), grandchildren Katrina, Andrew, Trevor and Mark. Brother Dr. Douglas Dundee (Dr. Yvonne). Predeceased by his brother Dr. John Dundee. Don grew up in Regina, Saskatchewan. He spent several years with the Navy Reserve. Graduated in Engineering from the University of Saskatchewan. Worked for Saskatchewan Power, moved to Victoria in 1967 and worked for BC Hydro.

He was a member of the Royal Astronomical Society Victoria Centre, and the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society. Don was a long time member of St. David by the Sea, Anglican Church. What he enjoyed most was Saturday mornings, working in the Rock and Alpine Garden in Beacon Hill Park.

A special thanks to the staff at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Renal Unit, for their professionalism and care. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Vancouver Island Kidney Patients Association Box 5145 Station B, Victoria, V8R 6W4. A private service will be held at a later date.



Don served the Victoria Centre in many capacities during the more than thirty years he was a member. Those who remember him will recall that he was a quiet, modest man who took pride in doing things well. Many will remember his keen support for the Hobby Show each year and many other activities that he was involved in.

These are the years he was a Councillor: 1970, 71, 72, 73, 74, 89, 90, 91, 1996-2006. First Vice-President: 1975, 76, 89, 90, 91. President: 1977, 78, 92, 93. National Representative: 1981.

These many instances, when he served in the best interest of the Centre, are testimony to his dedication for astronomy and the amateur and professional members he enjoyed associating with for so many years.

For more details please visit <http://victoria.rasc.ca/articles/2013/dondundee.htm>