



Photo: Transit of Venus across the Sun. June 5th 2012. Photo taken by Rob Lenz

The Niagara Whirlpool

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Vice President's Report by Dr. Brian Pihack

The summer seemed to go by quickly as it always does. Rock point was a great success. The presentations were very well attended, as were the solar viewing and night sky events. If you have not joined us for one of these camping weekends, consider it for next year. In July the club participated in an event hosted by Balls Falls Conservation area to help promote the different societies. Stan and Phil manned the solar scope and I gave a presentation about our club. This will be planned for next year again, so if you would like to help out, please let Stan or myself know. This year's Civic weekend was the hottest that I can remember. Undaunted, Stan headed up a crew that had a solar scope set up for public viewing at "Canal Days". Normally, I would have been there, but Al and I were demonstrating in the Blacksmith's shop. Pat and Lynda {along with Ian Shelton} were in air conditioning, ...Al and I were in the forge, ...and there was this joke about heaven and hell ...if I remember correctly!

This will be my last report to you as Vice President, It would seem that the last two years has flown by. I trust that the new executive will have as much fun, so why not be part of the team.

Respectfully submitted

Brian G. Pihack

Vice President.



Venus and Jupiter photo by Phil Downey

From the Editor...

My apologies for the delay of this issue. I appreciate your patience while I continue to work through a learning curve with my new Mac. More changes to come. Please peruse our Events calendar for upcoming Centre functions.....Darlene

More inside!

Secretary's Report by Philip Downey

We have had 5 new members join over the summer. Please help me welcome Bill Coull, Michael Young, Dermot O'Kane, Darrow Robins, and Arlene Mileni to the club. Our current total is 64 people.

Much of my summer astronomy happened in Pennsylvania at Cherry Springs State Park. The park is in a very dark location and is set up for astronomers. There are only red lights in the bathrooms, a screen protects the field from car lights and there is plenty of electricity on the open, flat field. I was there in May, June and September. May was the clearest and driest of my visits, but there was nothing wrong with the others too, so I think I was pretty lucky this year. I take my 18" Obsession with me, and it performs very well under the dark skies. A friend from Pennsylvania bought a 25" Obsession this year and he's treated me to some great views through it.

Locally, I did astrophotography with Glen Pidsadnick at his backyard observatory. We have had a lot of fun imaging the night skies. I attempted to make a big mosaic of the area around M8 and M20. It's in progress and I am happy with how it has turned out. I will have to wait until next summer to continue growing it. Soon we will be imaging favourite targets from the fall and winter skies.



Photo taken just before the Venus transit
by Greg Taylor
"Boeing, going, gone"

Photo of Venus transit by
Mark Roberts



*Royal Astronomical
Society of Canada
– Niagara Centre*

We're on the web!
www.astronomyniagara.com

Niagara Centre Summer Event Photos





Photo of Venus transit by David Perry

EVENTS HORIZON

NOVEMBER 1st - Beginners Workshop at AN Myer 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Centre Members Only

NOVEMBER 8th - Executive meeting at 7:00pm at Chatters Eatery (banquet room next to restaurant) Members welcome.

NOVEMBER 10th - Members Night
CCCA Observatory

NOVEMBER 15th - Beginners Astronomy Workshop 6:45pm to 7:30pm. General Meeting starts 7:30pm. No charge.
Niagara Falls Library at Victoria and Morrison Streets.

NOVEMBER 17th - Public Observing
Heartland Forest

DECEMBER 6th - Beginners Workshop at AN Myer 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Centre Members Only

DECEMBER 13th - Executive meeting at 7:00pm at Chatters Eatery (banquet room next to restaurant) Members welcome.

DECEMBER 15th - Members Night
CCCA Observatory

DECEMBER 20th - Beginners Astronomy Workshop 6:45pm to 7:30pm. General meeting starts 7:30pm. No charge.
Niagara Falls Library at Victoria and Morrison Streets. Members Christmas party after General meeting. Location TBD

Please check the Event Horizon for updates or changes at www.astronomyniagara.com

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