November 2 to November 8, 2020

RASC Weekly: Women in Aerospace and Much More!

Friday, November 6, 2020 - 19:30 to 21:30 EST
RASC Ottawa: Monthly Virtual Meeting

RASC Ottawa Centre upcoming Virtual Meeting on Friday, November 6th @ 7:30 PM EST!

We are looking for observation images. Please send these images to (meetingchair@ottawa.rasc.ca) and Chris Teron (chris@teron.ca) before Monday, November 2nd for inclusion in the slides.

The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Ottawa Skies - Dave Chisholm
2. Greetings from RASC National Office - Dr. Phil Groff (Executive Director, RASC)
3. Robotic Telescope - Jenna Hinds (Outreach Coordinator, RASC)
4. M&M Challenge (over the 5-minute break)
5. CHIME Radio Telescope - Dr. Patrick Boyle
6. Observations - Observing Challenges

If you are NOT presenting a talk or observation you will need to register for this webinar in advance! After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. If you are presenting a talk or observation Chris Teron will send you your own private "Panelist" link, so you do not need to register.

Register for RASC Ottawa - Monthly Virtual Meeting

Saturday, November 7th, 2020 - 18:00 EST
University of Toronto Aerospace Team: Women of Aerospace

Do you want to learn from Aerospace experts?

Attend the Women of Aerospace Speaker Series, hosted by the University of Toronto Aerospace Team, to hear the experiences and lessons of the women leading this fast-growing industry. Coming up on November 7th, 2020, at 6pm EST, we are joined by guest speaker Sarah Oliveira of Collins Aerospace. Join us via Zoom to hear her story! Sign up to receive zoom links and information regarding upcoming talks, including Oliveira's.

Sign up to receive zoom links

Saturday, November 7, 2020 - 19:30 to 20:30 EST
RASC Toronto: Unravelling the Mysterious Fast Radio Burst with CHIME

Since the first report of an extragalactic Fast Radio Burst (FRB) detection in 2007, the origins of these bright, short duration bursts of radio waves has been a highly contentious topic. Dr. Cherry Ng will discuss how the recently-commissioned Canadian CHIME radio telescope is helping to solve the mystery of FRB.

Dr. Cherry Ng is a post-doctoral researcher at the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics. During her PhD study, she discovered 60 rapidly-spinning neutron stars with the Parkes Radio Telescope in Australia. Her hunting effort continues, now with the Canadian CHIME telescope. She and her team are using CHIME to detect and study "Fast Radio Bursts," a new astrophysical mystery that involves short bursts of radio waves that have come from far outside our Milky Way galaxy.

Who can attend: Everyone
Fee: Free
Registration: Not required

Organized by: RASC, Toronto Centre - David Dunlap Observatory Outreach Committee

Watch the Mysterious Fast Radio Burst with CHIME

Astro-image of the Week
Blair Macdonald

We are featuring winners of RASC's AstroImaging Certificate. Winners will be featured in the banner of RASC Weekly. More information on the RASC AstroImaging Certificate is available here.

I'm not one of those that carefully plans an imaging run. I tend keep an ever growing list of targets I want to shoot and then image whatever is above the trees when I get to my favorite dark sky site. My M42 shot falls into this category, when I set up at the Halifax Centre's St. Croix Observatory Orion was clearing the trees and well placed for the evening. I managed to capture a few hours of long exposure data and knowing that the nebula had a reasonably large dynamic range I grabbed a few minutes of core data as well. This was one of my early DSLR images using an unmodified camera so most of the effort when into processing the data. Lots of noise reduction and a masked HDR combination between the deeper data and the core image produced a shot that is reasonably well exposed from the Trapezium all the way to the faint outer wisps.

To see the large image, check out the RASC AstroImaging Zenfolio page.

This Week for Explore the Universe Online

We're all done!
The Explore the Universe Online course has come to an end, which means this section needs to grow and expand! We'll be updating you on cool observing opportunities each week when they exist, and starting in March we will have more online courses to offer.

Wednesday, November 4th
It's the peak of the Taurids meteor shower! It's a relatively small one, with only 5-10 meteors an hour. If you have dark skies (and clear skies) try giving it a look! Meteors will appear to come from Taurus, which rises around 11pm or so local time in the East, but can be seen anywhere across the sky.

Thank you everyone for joining us for this fantastic series. It was fantastic getting to know the night sky with you! Click here to rewatch our last episode, or head to rasc.ca/etuonline to review the entire course. Keep an eye out in this newsletter in the future for more observing courses!

Member Highlights

Do you know a member who you think deserves a spot in our newsletter? Let us know! Email communications@rasc.ca with your submissions.