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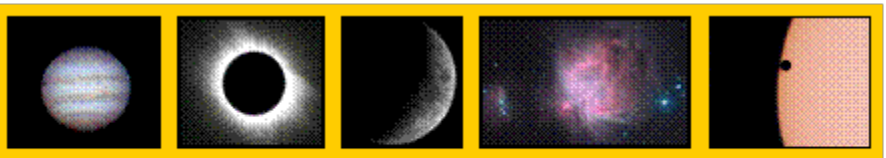

OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

August 2013 - Volume 8, Number 8 **David Garner, Editor**

We welcome your comments on the ***Bulletin***. Email them to the Editor at bulletin@rasc.ca.

A **PDF** version of the *Bulletin* is available here.
A **Web-based** version of the *Bulletin* is available here.

➢ Editor's Notebook by David Garner

August's Sky

The Perseid meteor shower peaks on 12 August. Venus is in the Western evening sky, and the full Moon is on the 21st. Don't forget to check out Gary Boyle's **Northern Skies** for complete details.

➢ News @ RASC.ca

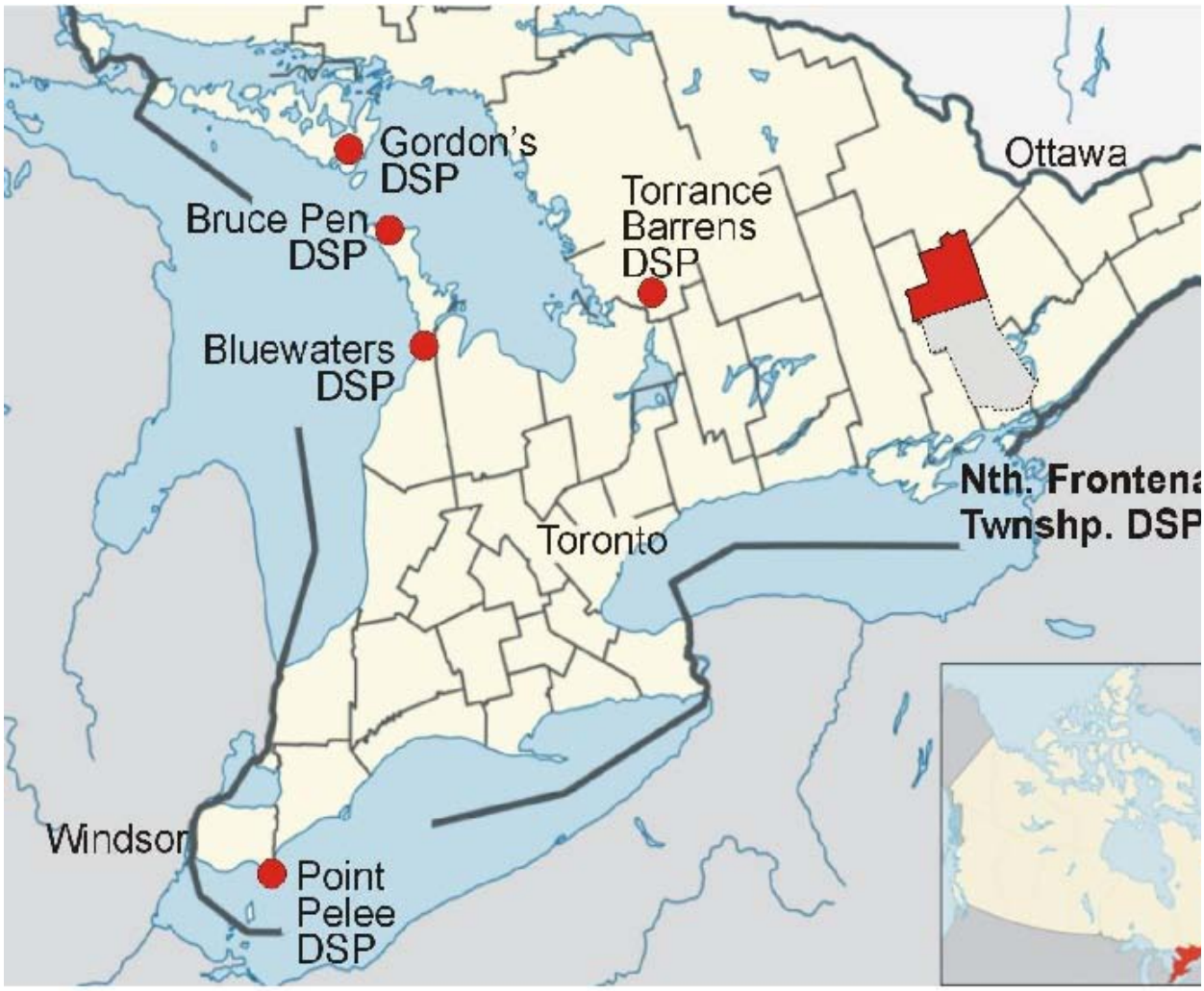
North Frontenac Dark Sky Preserve

by **Robert Dick**, Chair, LPA Committee

The “last” National Council of the RASC designated a new Dark Sky Preserve, the North Frontenac Township in Eastern Ontario.

The area is 165,000 hectares (1,165 km2). Located northwest of Kingston, Ontario with the darkest skies in the entire Southern Ontario region.

The Township has developed a draft lighting policy that conforms to the RASC DSP Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting. The Township has built a serviced observing pad with power, parking and toilets. This is a unique DSP because it includes the entire Township. We hope this will set an example for other townships that may wish to take advantage of their precious nocturnal resources for eco-tourism.



Asteroids with a Canadian Connection

by **Eric Briggs**, Toronto Centre

A few new asteroids have been named to the List of Asteroids with Canadian Connections:

http://www.rasc.ca/content/asteroid-144769
(144769) Zachariassen = 2004 HO20
Discovered 2004 Apr. 19 by T. Glinos and D. H. Levy at the Jarnac Observatory, Vail.
Rayan Zachariassen (b. 1963) is a Canadian computer scientist who helped build and manage Canada's first national educational Internet backbone (CA*net).

http://www.rasc.ca/content/asteroid-261930
(261930) Moorhead = 2006 KF138
Discovered 2006 May 25 by P. A. Wiegert at Mauna Kea.
James Marshall Moorhead (b. 1940) is an American-Canadian astronomer with expertise in the infrared spectroscopy of stars and nebulae, and the properties of variable stars.

http://www.rasc.ca/content/asteroid-294600
(294600) Abedinabedin = 2008 AA3
Discovered 2008 Jan. 7 by Q.-Z. Ye and C.-S. Lin at Lulin.
Abedin Y. Abedin (b. 1982) is a good friend of the first discoverer. He is currently a doctoral student at Western University.

http://www.rasc.ca/content/asteroid-340891
(340891) Londoncommorch = 2007 CO54
Discovered 2007 Feb. 14 by Q.-Z. Ye and C.-S. Lin at Lulin.
The London Community Orchestra, founded in 1974, is a community orchestra in London, Ontario. The minor planet is named in recognition of the orchestra's 40th anniversary.

These are listed on the Web site, www.rasc.ca/canadian-asteroids.

Sky's Up by AstronomyOutreach

by **Eric Briggs**, Toronto Centre

Edited by comet discoverer and author David H. Levy, Sky's Up is the official publication of the AstronomyOutreach network, a non-profit educational organization.
Published quarterly in digital format, Sky's Up inspires students, educators, and parents to explore and discover the night sky through written content, beautiful imagery, video, and learning resources.
It contains articles about the culture of astronomy and its effect upon society, observing the universe, hands-on space science activities, and recognition and support of individuals and organizations for educational public outreach in astronomy. Beautiful star map and Moon calendar supplements by the world-renowned celestial cartographer Wil Tirion are included to help people connect with the treasures of the universe, something that we are all a part of.

Have a look, www.astronomyoutreach.net/skysup/.

Gerard P. Kuiper Prize by the American Astronomical Society, Division for Planetary Sciences

by **Eric Briggs**, Toronto Centre

The American Astronomical Society, Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) is pleased to announce its 2013 prize winners.

The prize is awarded to Gerard P. Kuiper Prize for outstanding contributions to the field of planetary science: Dr. Joseph Veverka.

The Gerard P. Kuiper Prize is awarded annually by the DPS for outstanding lifetime achievement in the field of planetary science. The first awardee of this prize was Dr. Eugene Shoemaker, in 1984.

Dr. Joseph Veverka has made outstanding contributions to the field of planetary science during a career that now spans five decades. He has to his credit a lifetime of outstanding contributions, that, in sum,

represent a monumental increase in our understanding of planets and, in particular, small bodies -- the moons, asteroids, and cometary nuclei in our planetary system. As a planetary scientist, he has defined the field of quantitative study of small bodies in the solar system for a generation (a generation populated by his students and many associates). Dr. Veverka is Professor Emeritus at Cornell University and the former James A. Weeks Professor of Physical Sciences and Professor of Astronomy.

He was the Deputy Team leader of the Galileo Imaging Science Team, and the Principal Science Investigator in the NEAR mission exploration of the asteroids Mathilde and Eros. He was also a member of the Voyager and Cassini imaging teams and led the exploration of comet nuclei on the Deep Impact and Stardust-NExT missions to Comet 9P/Tempel 1 and the EPOXI mission to Comet 103P/Hartley 2.

Dr. Veverka was born in Pelhrimov, Czechoslovakia in what is now the Czech Republic. In 1948 his family fled the communist regime going first to France and then to Canada in 1951. He grew up in Cochrane, Ontario.

Dr. Veverka received his B.S. in Physics from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He received his Ph.D. in 1970 from Harvard University, where he was a student of Fred Whipple.

The 2013 DPS prizes will be presented at the 45th annual DPS meeting in Denver, Colorado, 2013 October 6-11.

RASC Astrosketchers' Contest – 2013 Summer Solstice to Autumn Equinox Edition

by **Randall Rosenfeld**, RASC Archivist

The season of the summer Milky Way is upon us, the Perseids will arc across the sky in several weeks, as the planets in their courses "wander" the ecliptic. If you've ever wanted to try your hand at sketching the celestial scenery, now is the time to do it without battling the cold. The 2013 Summer Solstice to Autumn Equinox Edition of the RASC Astrosketchers' Contest is on, and is open to experienced and novice sketchers alike. Details can be found at : www.rasc.ca/2013-summer-solstice-autumn-equinox-contest..

History of astronomical timekeeping in Canada now on rasc.ca

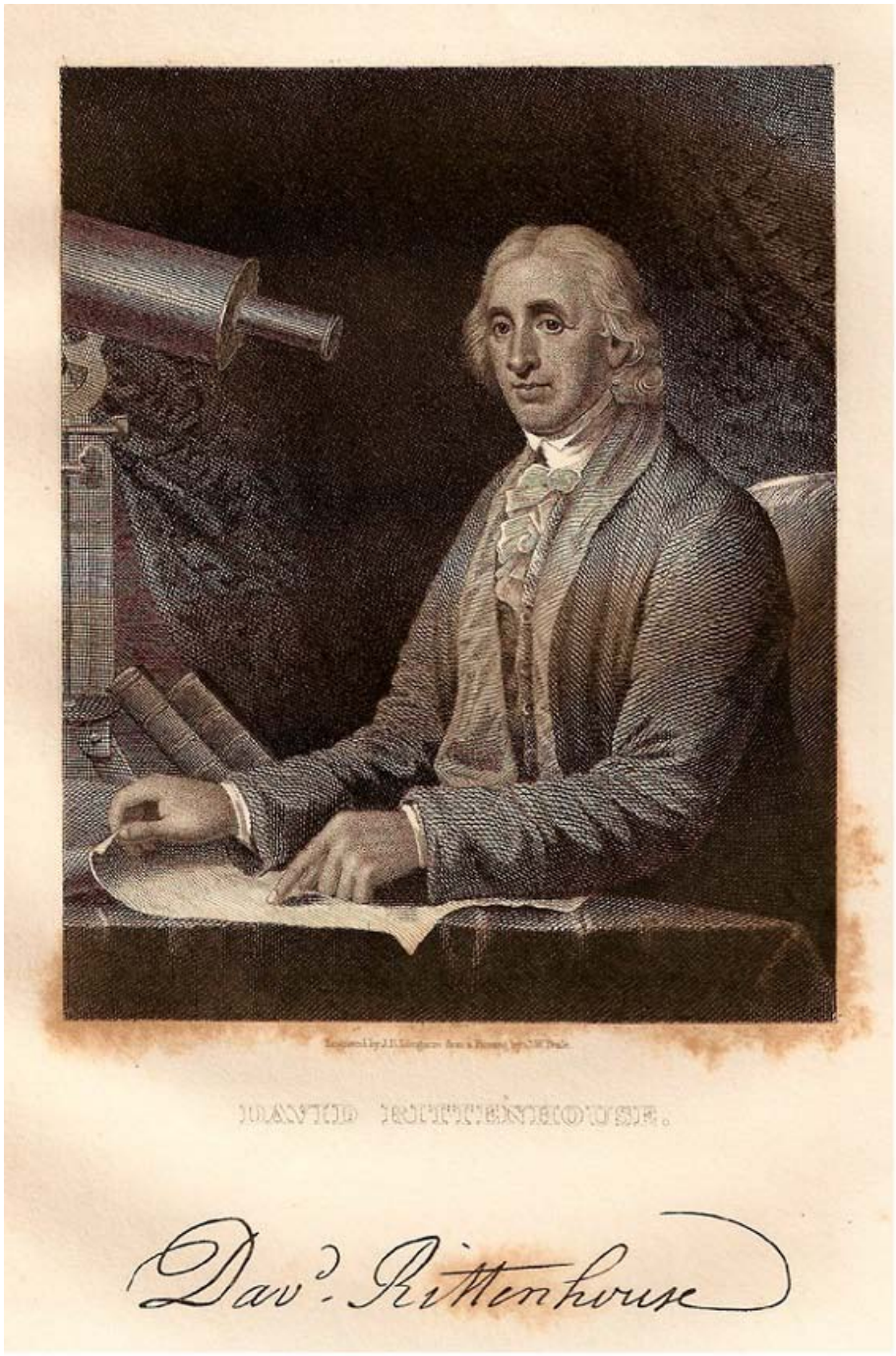
by **Randall Rosenfeld**, RASC Archivist

For the first time Malcolm M. Thomson's important The Beginning of the Long Dash: A History of Timekeeping in Canada (1978) is now available for free distribution at http://www.rasc.ca/beginning-long-dash. Thomson's monograph is the standard account of astronomical timekeeping in Canada. The version on rasc.ca is important for another reason - it is fuller than the commercial edition published by the University of Toronto Press in 1978. Thomson (1908-2002) was RASC National President (1966-1968) during Canada's Centenary, and Chief of the Positional Astronomy and Time Service (1957-1966), and Chief of the Astronomy Division (1966-1970) at the Dominion Observatory, and when the DO closed became head of the NRC's Time and Frequency Section of the Physics Division (for more information, see http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2002BAAS...34.1385H.). If you want to know about the beginning of the long dash, or the part played by various RASC members in the commodification of astronomically derived time for civil uses, this is the place to start.

eRittenhouse

by **Randall Rosenfeld**, RASC Archivist

eRittenhouse, the Journal of the historic scientific instrument enterprise in the Americas, is the online successor to Rittenhouse, a major print journal devoted to the history of scientific instruments in America (it is named after David Rittenhouse 1732-1796, a superb maker of astronomical instruments - http://www.anb.org/articles/13/13-01396.htm).



All the content of eRittenhouse, described as a "place to discover all manner of scientific apparatus, their creators, users and functions from before the innovative American David Rittenhouse to modern technological devices," is now available free to anyone with access to the Internet at http://www.erittenhouse.org/ . The editor is Dr. Randall Brooks, formerly Vice-President, Collection and Research Branch and Chief Curator at the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corp. in Ottawa, and the world expert on early astronomical micrometers. Dr. Brooks will be familiar to many RASC members; he is a long-time member of the Society, served on the former National Council, and was one

of the people responsible for producing our original Simon Newcomb Award (http://www.rasc.ca/awards/newcomb). If you are fascinated by the apparatus of science, how it was made, how it was used, the people behind it, and its social context, then you'll want to delve into eRittenhouse.

The Sky this Month

What's New in the Sky

Members are encouraged to check out the **Northern Skies** section of the RASC Web site. Thanks to **Gary Boyle** for keeping us all in the know.

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