

NOMINATION FORM

Vol. 28 No. 4

July/August 1988

1987/88 COUNCIL

President - Mr. John Haines
 1st Vice-President - Mr. Lorence Mlodzinski
 2nd Vice-President - Mr. Chris Rutkowski
 Treasurer - Mr. Chris Brown
 Secretary - Mrs. Myra Rutkowski

Councillors
 Mr. Len Gamache
 Mr. Gord Mathews
 Mr. Andrew Lawless
 Mr. Paul Paradis
 Mr. Stan Runge
 Mr. Bud Fairley

Appointed Positions

Librarian Mr. Chris Rutkowski (475-4181)
 National Rep. Mr. Lorence Mlodzinski
 Observatory Director Mr. Lorence Mlodzinski (668-3974)
 Winnicentrics Editor Mrs. Myra Rutkowski (475-4181)

* Please send Winnicentrics articles to:
 #16-825 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg, R3M 0W6.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING,
 DO HEREBY NOMINATE FOR THE
 OFFICE OF IN THE WINNIPEG
 CENTRE OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

SIGN 1/
 SIGN 2/
 DATE

I,, HEREBY ACCEPT NOMINATION
 AS A CANDIDATE TO THE AFOREMENTIONED OFFICE.

SIGN
 DATE

PLEASE RETURN NOMINATION FORM TO:
 R.A.S.C. WINNIPEG CENTRE, NOMINATIONS
 P.O. BOX 215, ST. JAMES POST OFFICE
 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R3J 3R4

R.A.S.C. WINNIPEG CENTRE
EXECUTIVE & COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

JACK NEWTON VISITS WINNIPEG

Submitted by Stan Runge

Enclosed you will find a form for the nominations of members to the Executive and Council. To nominate a candidate, fill in the form and return it to the Centre mailing address no later than August 10, 1988. This date represents the WINNICENTRICS publication deadline, where a list of nominees must be included. The Election will be held at our October General Meeting.

The list represents the Council as it now stands. Positions in the Executive are elected annually and held for a maximum of only 2 years. Councillors are elected for 3 year terms.

EXECUTIVE

President	- John Haines	2 years *
1st Vice-President	- Lorence Mlodzinski	1 year
2nd Vice-President	- Chris Rutkowski	1 year
Treasurer	- Chris Brown	1 year
Secretary	- Myra Rutkowski	1 year

COUNCILLORS

Bud Fairley	3 years **
Len Gamache	3 years **
Andrew Lawless	2 years
Gord Mathews	1 year
Stan Runge	2 years
Paul Paradis	1 year

* indicates positions where the person cannot be re-elected.

** indicates positions where councillor has completed his 3 year term.

His story started all too familiar. A young boy of about 12 years received a special present for his birthday, a brand new telescope. At first he sets it up and begins to peer into neighbours' windows, but after a while they close their blinds, so he turns his 60 mm refractor towards the sky.

Jack Newton went on to describe his "independent discovery" of Jupiter at this young age. He then recreated that first look at the planet Saturn. The rings creating a three dimensional effect, giving the illusion of a planet floating in it's distant orbit around the Sun. That was the hook which captured this young boy and lead him to become one of Canada's best known amateurs.

Jack Newton is a former President of the Winnipeg Centre (and Toronto and Victoria). Anyone who was a member of our Centre in the early 70's will easily remember the many observing sessions and his early work with his 12.5" telescope, set up in a dome in Charleswood. Some will remember the February Total Lunar Eclipse when we observed from the comfort of his living room, courtesy of a camera connected to his telescope.

Jack was in Winnipeg from May 13-15 to participate in the festivities as the Manitoba Planetarium celebrated its' 20th Anniversary. Fittingly, Jack is one of the five astronomers featured in the new Planetarium Show called "Astronomers at the Leading Edge" (running from May 17 to September 5).

The weekend opened on May 13th with SKYWATCH, an observing night at Fort Whyte Centre from 8 to 11 PM. This meeting was also our regular General Meeting for May. Jack gave a talk called "A Color Portrait of the Universe", in which he showed some fabulous slides and discussed the equipment he uses to photograph through his telescope. He also showed us his newest product: the Newton Cold Camera (which started several members salivating).





Shooting Stars



Jack also discussed his bout with the dreaded disease known as "Aperture Fever". The discussion described his initial 12.5" telescope built with the kind assistance of Frank Shinn. Although that scope left Winnipeg with Jack, he soon stumbled upon someone else's 16" mirror blank. After coaxing the mirror away from the owner (who had it 40 years), within 40 days he was photographing with it. He currently has a 20" mirror mounted on a trailer to allow him to go to dark sites. Surprisingly, in Victoria he only has about 3 good photographic nights a month, and at his home the lights of Victoria cover about 30 degrees of his southern horizon. The next proposed project is to build a 48" scope with a CCD mounted at the focus, enabling him to electronically see to 25th magnitude.

After the talk, several members set up their telescopes for an observing night. Some thin clouds prevented any excellent seeing, but, for those who saw M-13 through Robert Ballantyne's 17.5" Dobsonian, it was well worth it.

The next event was the 20th Anniversary at the Planetarium on Sunday afternoon, May 15th, from 1 to 5 PM. Our Centre participated with a display set up for the general public. It began in the Planetarium's Star Dome with a retrospective talk, where several staff members, past and present, highlighted some of the most interesting and humorous experiences over the past 20 years. Here came several more stories about Frank Shinn (then a Planetarium Director) and his pursuit of the perfect horizon for a show.

At 3 PM, Jack gave another illustrated talk, this one called "An Amateur's Guide to the Universe" or "What Astronomy Does for Me". This presentation included many slides of Jack's treks to faraway lands chasing solar eclipses. The view of the Inca temples and the cold Siberian landscape were as beautiful as they were informative. He finished with his recent trip to Mauna Kea, Hawaii, as can be read in the April 88 issue of the National Newsletter. At the conclusion of his talk, he revealed his new cold camera again.



Winnipeg Centre finished off the 1987/88 year with its 2nd Annual Bar-B-Que and Great Messier Race. About 40 people showed up, including our illustrious honorary president, Ian Shelton. He wowed everyone with his astrophotography. After his presentation, Ian donated a 16 x 20 photo of Comet Halley, taken from his now-famous mountain top in Chile.

Lorence Mlodzinski gave tours of the observatory, showing new members (and those of us not-so-new members who forgot!) all the directions, instructions and tips for using the C-14.

Unfortunately, it got cloudy just past dusk, and the Great Messier Race had to be postponed. It will be held in early fall, with details to be announced at a later date.



Please note the nomination form for positions on Council and Executive. If you haven't liked the way things have been done previously, or have any ideas or suggestions for the Winnipeg Centre, now's your chance to do something about it! Being on council means one meeting a month (approximately), working with a good team of people, and having lots of fun!! So if you're interested or know of someone who is, please send in the nomination form by August 10/88.

Speaking of August 10...please send in articles for the September/October Winnicentrics. My "IN" basket has become rather "EMPTY"!

Coming Soon....

Our treasurer, Chris Brown, has a strange glint in his eye -- that can only mean that it's almost time to pay your 1988/89 membership fees. Chris will be looking for you and your \$\$ beginning in October.

Have a good Summer!
M. Fyfe

ASTRONOMY AND SPACE EXPLORATION

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(Have You Ever Been to Space, Billy?)

Yes, it's true; the fall is sneaking up on us, and that means classes begin at schools and universities in a scant smattering of weeks! Not to be left out in the cold (pardon the reminder), the RASC is sneaking some astronomy into the course calendar once again. The Non-Credit course: ASTRONOMY AND SPACE EXPLORATION will be offered in a seven-week program, beginning October 5th, at the University of Manitoba. Topics covered include the development of space flight (from Icarus to the Space Shuttle), basic astronomy, the origin and destiny of the universe, recent astronomical research (into Shelton's Supernova, for example) and the problems of politics (can Star Wars really work?).

As well, at least one of the classes will be held at the observatory (weather co-operating).

Can all this be done in only seven classes, one night a week?

Wouldn't YOU like to know!

For more information (such as the cost of the course: about \$60, but what do we know, anyway), contact the Continuing Education Division, University of Manitoba, at 474-9928.

Learn about stars and stuff!

This time the visual presentation and the discussion of "blowing out the sky" proved to be too much temptation. With Chris Brown's pleading and Paul Paradis' financial backing, several members combined forces and purchased the cold camera.

The afternoon also had several 10 minute previews of the new Planetarium show, highlighting who else but Jack Newton.

The story of the young boy wasn't quite finished yet. It seems that this boy, exploding with excitement, described his first views of Saturn to his friends at school the next day. However, they didn't believe him, so he became determined to photograph what he saw as proof. Oh, how far he has come since that day....

Meade 2120 LX3 10" scope

4 Meade 4000 eyepieces:

- 56 mm superplossl
- 32 mm superwide
- 14 mm ultrawide
- 8.8 mm ultrawide

2.8 mm Meade Barlow eyepiece

Dec motor

48 mm minus-violet filter

48 mm premium deep sky filter

12 mm illuminated reticle

1 1/4 - 2" adapter

giant easy guider

2" silver mirror diagonal

mobile electric focuser

No-Du cap

large metal accessory case

telerad finder

The scope and accessories are 15 months old, and were originally bought for \$6,850.00.

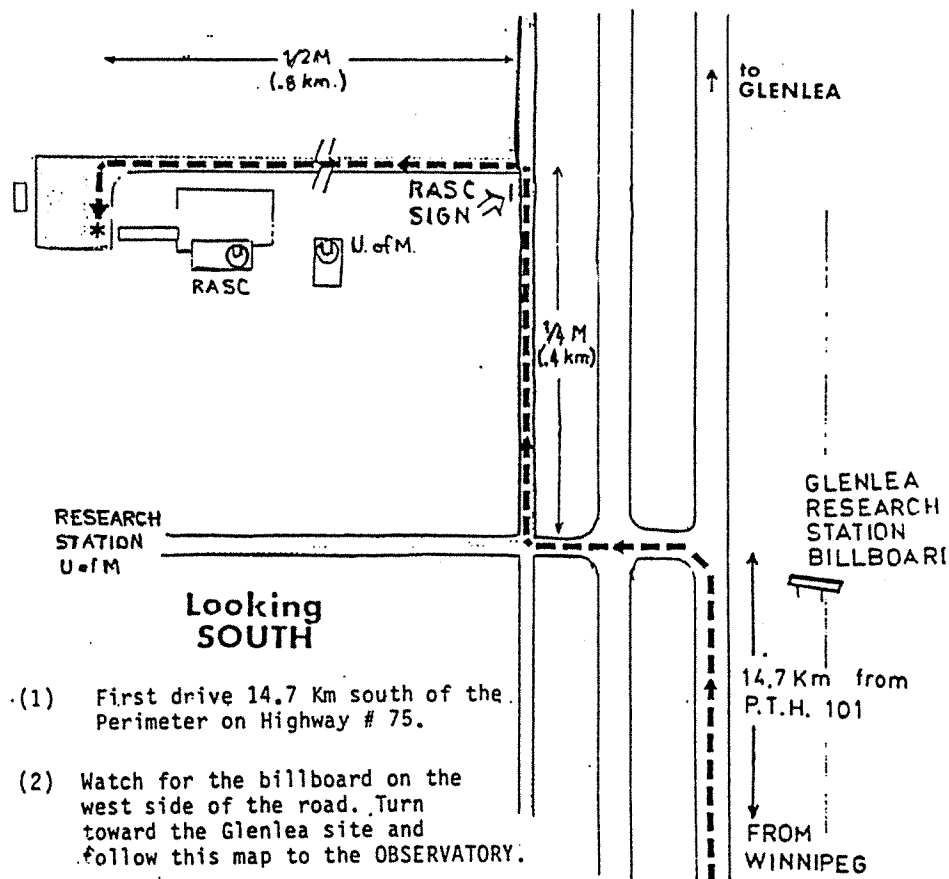
If you are interested, please contact Jim Loudon at 338-8701. Serious offers only please.

ATTENTION TM'S

A request goes out to telescopemakers across the RASC for information and assistance. I am considering construction of a 2 mirror unobstructed reflector, specifically the design of Ahton Kutter's 2 mirror schiefspiegler (SKY & Telescope October '61, Telescope Making magazine issues #1 and #4). Sky & Telescope's Gleanings Bulletin detailed the theory behind Kutter's design. Can anyone assist me in obtaining a copy of this now out-of-print bulletin? I would also be interested in corresponding with fellow amateurs who have had experience with either 2 or 3 mirror schiefspiegler 'scopes.

Bill Krosney
 42 Sunhaven Place S.E.
 Calgary, Alberta
 T2X 2X6

RASC Winnipeg Center OBSERVATORY SITE



HANDY PULL-OUT INSTRUCTIONS

OBSERVATORY USAGE

Arriving

1. Before entering the building, take a few seconds to look around the observatory site. Check the exterior of the dome and building for any sign of damage.
2. When opening the door be sure to turn the latch on the inside door knob as the key opens the door, but does not unlock it. If the door closes you could find yourself locked out.
3. Sign in.
4. Turn on the heat. The Chromalux heater on the south wall is used to heat the building during use. To turn on this heater, switch the left knob (Automatic) to the on position, then adjust the the right knob (Warmer) to approximately half its full setting. The baseboard heater on the north wall is set to keep the building above freezing when not in use. Do not adjust this heater.
5. After entering the building, take a few seconds to look around. Check and make sure everything is in its place. Go up to the dome and have a look, even if you are not using the C-14.

Opening the dome

1. Plug in the main shutter control switch. Open the main shutter. Open the hand shutter. The hand shutter must be fully closed before opening or closing the main shutter. If main shutter will not open smoothly, unplug the control switch then open the shutter with the long hand crank, which is stored in the hallway. The long hand crank hooks into an eye bolt near the top of the dome. Do not use excessive force to turn the eye bolt as the shutter may be damaged.
2. Plug in the dome azimuth control switch. Rotate dome. During cold weather the dome may not move smoothly. If you experience this, rotate the dome one full turn in the direction that it moves the smoothest then try moving the dome in the opposite direction. Should the dome still not rotate freely then close the dome. Report the problem to the observatory director, or the president immediately. The dome will remain closed until the problem has been corrected.
3. Remove telescope dust covers. Plug in, and turn on the drive. Plug in control paddle. Center declination arm. Remove the plastic Desiccant (drying agent) attachment from the diagonal. Store the attachment in the small clear plastic container, which should be near the tool box.

Closing the dome

1. Center declination arm. Unplug control paddle. Unplug, and turn off the drive. Replace dust covers. Store all equipment. Return the telescope to the horizontal position. Put the two inch diagonal back on the telescope if it has been removed. Put the Desiccant attachment back on the diagonal. Cover telescope.
2. Park dome with main shutter motor cable over azimuth motor.
3. Close hand shutter. Close main shutter.
4. Close dome trap door. Turn off dome power switch. Turn off hall lights. Close hall door.

Leaving building

1. Clean up, make sure everything is put away.
2. Turn off heater (south wall only). Turn off fan.
3. Sign out.
4. Remove all your personal equipment.
5. Turn off clubhouse lights.
6. Turn latch on inside door handle to lock door. Close door and make sure it's closed and locked. Lock padlock. Close outside door, and make sure its closed.

There is a key to the University trailer in the cupboard. This key will let you into the University trailer. There is a phone in the office beside the library. This telephone is not in the Winnipeg area. Calls to Winnipeg are long distance. This telephone may only be used in cases of an emergency.