

FROM

HALIFAX CENTRE R.A.S.C.
1747 SUMMER ST.
HALIFAX, N.S.

TO

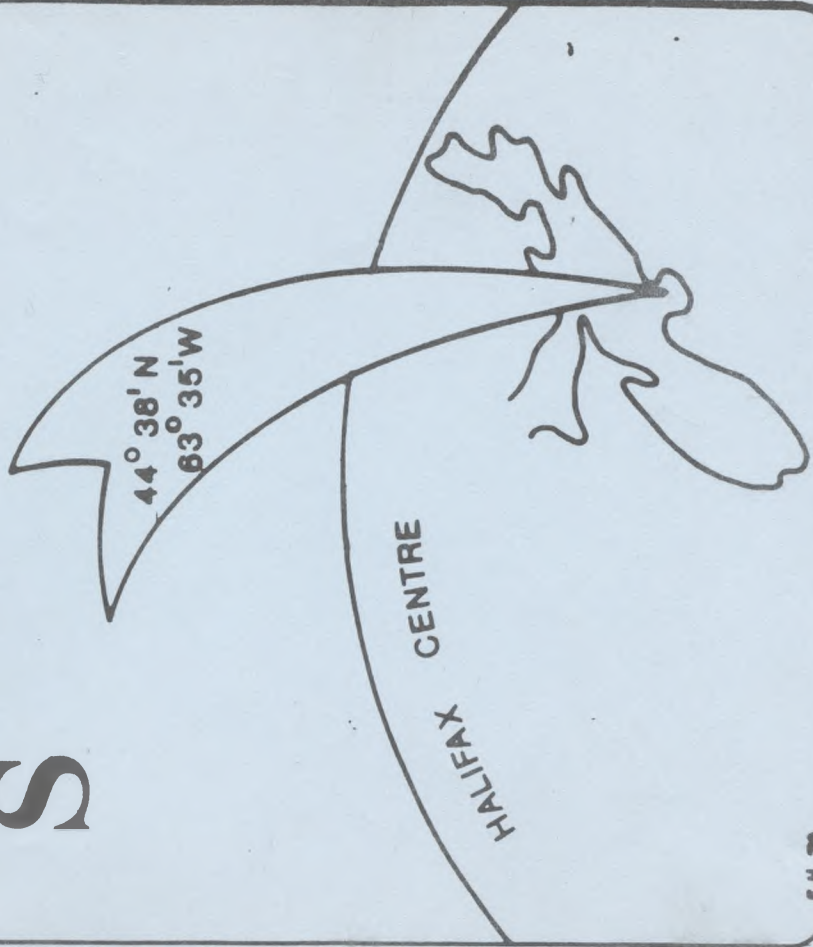
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY,
152 COLLEGE ST.,
TORONTO, ONTARIO.

June 71



JUN 71

NOVA NOTES



NOTICE of MEETING



Halifax Centre

R.A.S.C.

Date: June 22nd, 1973
Place: The Theatre
Nova Scotia Museum
1747 Summer St.
Halifax, N.S.
Time: 8:00 PM Sharp!
Topic: Tapes, Slides, and a Report;
The General Assembly in a Nut Shell.
Speaker: Peter Edwards
Halifax Centre's Delegate

- PLUS -
(time permitting)

Topic: Arp's Theory on QSO
Speaker: Dr. David L. DuPuy
Department of Physics
St. Mary's University
Halifax, N.S.

All members and guests are most welcome!

Nova Notes are printed, thanks to the
goodwill of the Nova Scotia Museum.

Editor's Page

Where was last month's Nova Notes? Why didn't I get mine? HOLD IT! Your Editor has looked into these and similar questions which were put to me, so here's the whole story...

It was decided that the second last Friday of the month previous to publication would be the deadline for accepting articles for N.N. For the last issue that was Good Friday. However, as I was in the grip of final exams, my complete attention was on the exams as I'm sure you can understand. I wrote my last exam on April 27 (Friday) AM. That afternoon I was busy at the typewriter preparing Nova Notes for the press. Monday morning (April 30) Nova Notes went to press, or so I thought! Normally this would have been plenty of time to have them printed, since it usually takes two weeks for printing they should have been delivered Monday AM May 14th. Such was not the case. On Thursday I went in search of our coveted bulletin only to find it was not even printed!! I was promised them for Thursday PM. The explanation given to me was that our kind of organization takes a low priority in the printing plant and as they have been so busy these last few weeks N.N. was put to the bottom of the pile not just once but several times. I returned to the Museum Friday AM, but no Nova Notes! Friday at 5:00PM, I went back again and found N.N. not correlated. By meeting time they were put together and addressed. At this point, I would like to draw your attention to the last sentence on the notice of meeting. This incident was unforeseeable by all concerned and the only recourse we have is the prevention of a recurrence.

Should the same or anything similar (ie. anything causing the delay of N.N. publication beyond the meeting date) happen in

the future, the meeting will be announced on CBH 860 Radio on the day of the meeting. Normally the meeting will be held on the 3rd (third) Friday of the month. But read the notice of meeting if it arrives, and it will, to be sure of the time and place.

Also, we do have a back up system for just such an occasion, but it was not available to us at the time.

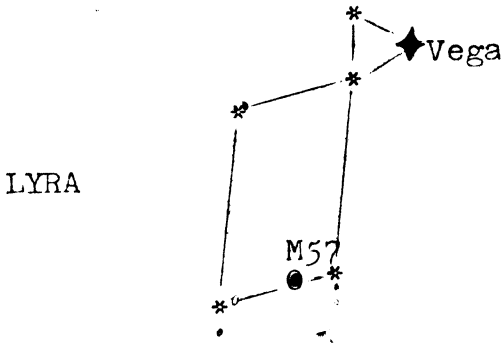
In last month's Sky and Telescope the "American Museum-Hayden Planetarium, 81st St. and Central Park West, New York, N.Y. 10024", advertised a "Copernicus Medal" for \$1.75 . I purchased one, and I certainly recomend it to you. For further details look it up in the May issue of S and T on page 278.

Peter Edwards
The Editor

** ** *

Featured Constellation for June

Around midmonth, Lyra crosses the meridian at 30 minutes UT. This striking "harp" is the home of +0.5 mag. Vega, a brilliant blue-white star. M57, the Ring Nebula, can be found half way between the bottom two stars, gamma and beta. Down to the SE, one can find the very tight globular cluster, M56.



⊙ M56

P.E.

Minutes of Meeting
May 18, 1973

Dr. Cunningham opened the meeting with apologies to members for the lateness of Nova Notes, which the Museum had been able to print only that afternoon. There was a short discussion on the possibility of improving our contingency plans for such occasions, so that at least a notice of meeting would go out to members. Members should keep in mind that, unless told otherwise, the Centre meets on the third Friday of the month at 8 pm at the Museum. (Note, however: next meeting - June 22). If in doubt, members should feel free to phone a member on the Executive.

Dr. Cunningham next asked the ten members present for an indication of interest in the Summer Telescope Workshop (see May Nova Notes). Three responded positively, and it was hoped that there would be others interested from the members unable to attend the meeting.

On behalf of the Centre, Dr. Cunningham wished Bon Voyage to Mr. Peter Edwards, who will be representing the Centre at the RASC General Assembly (May 25-27) at Carleton University. Mr. Edwards will report on the General Assembly at the June meeting of the Centre.

Dr. Cunningham then called on Dr. Roy Bishop from the Physics Department of Acadia University, who spoke on his observation of the lift-off of Apollo 17.

Dr. Bishop began his talk, however, with a general consideration of the problem of getting a rocket to the moon, as economically as possible. A description of the required flight-plan was given, as well as explanations provided for the location of the Launch Centre at Cape Kennedy, and the reason for the launching of the Apollo 17 moonship at night.

Next, Dr. Bishop described, with the aid of a plastic model, the Apollo-Saturn 5 moon "rocket" - actually more than eighty individual rockets. The largest of these, the F-1 engine, five of which go to make up the first stage, has a power output of 20 gigawatts; the total power output of the first stage is thus 100 giga-watts, twice that of all of Canada. Dr. Bishop reminded us that the inventor of kerosene, the fuel for the first stage of the Saturn 5, was a Nova Scotian: Abraham Gesner.

The site Dr. Bishop chose for his observation of the launch was situated on a two mile wide arm of water, across which there was ten more miles of land before the launch pad. Dr. Bishop showed some slides of the view from this position before the launch (as well as some other interesting slides), and the talk culminated with two showings of his ninety second film of the lift-off. It was decided to postpone the showing of the thirty minute official NASA film of Apollo 17, and the meeting adjourned for coffee at 9:45 pm.

John Cunningham
381 Campbell Street
Summerside, P. E. I.

"KNOW ASTRONOMY"-- A PROJECT TO
PROMOTE INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY

Interest here in S'side(abbreviation for Summerside) is fairly low when it comes to astronomy, though it can be expected of a small town.

However, interest here was demonstrated when Athena Regional High School offered a very basic course in the science of astronomy. Though small, the turnout was promising.

Mr. Harvey Smith is also trying hard to promote interest, he and I are trying to obtain access to the little used ten inch on top of Athena(if we get in, it will be do to his efforts). Though it was originally planned out for his church group, it may later be possible to invite the public to an "open house", which would also gather together amateur astronomers through out Prince Edward Island to see and meet each other.

Mr. Smith majored in physics at University of Victoria in Toronto and took courses in astronomy at that same university.

I myself have wrote to Mr. James MacNeill of Athena in hopes of interesting students to take Lyrid meteor counts per hour and if the results are promising later I will do the same with the Eta Aquarids.

My friend David Randall shows an interest which is more than just passing, indeed, he has purchased just April the 11th a Tasco telescope, similar to mine.

I myself recieve monthly the Sky and Telescope magazine and pictured below **is** my two inch Tasco alt-azimuth. The tripod, telescope and eyepieces, sell at Tasco for a total of about \$70, a complete unit named the Cosmic 6T, but I bought it from a store for \$43, plus the expence of \$12 to replace my table-top tripod for a large, over 5 foot, tripod.

It is hoped in the near future a small astronomy club can be formed here, as well as a high-school level course(at Athena) in astronomy, as well as the formation of a monthly circular, for distribution to my and other school libraries, as well as the public library.

John Cunningham
381 Campbell St.
Summerside, P.E.I.

SKY-LAB

MANNED ORBITAL WORKSHOP AND LABRATORY

Leaving Launch Complex 39, three astronauts will be launched to dock with a previously orbited "Skylab", an S-IVB Apollo third stage, and various other components, forming the "Sky-lab Cluster".

The Orbital Workshop, or OWS, is the main component of the Skylab spacestation. It houses the crew and is an experimental area and laboratory. Half of Skylab's power comes from the solar wings attached to the forty-eight foot long twenty-two foot wide canister. For Skylab One 1500 pounds of food will be carried and 6000 pounds of water will be used. It contains a shower (to allow the astronauts one shower a week), and the first extra-terrestrial toilet.

The Airlock Module and Multiple Docking Adapter (AM and MDA, respectively). The command ship, a modified Apollo Command Module, will dock with the forward of two ports attached to the MDA, the other being reserved for, if needed emergency purposes. To enter Skylab they pass through the 17 foot long and 10 foot wide airlock module, large enough to hold two astronauts, carrying portable life support systems, in pressure suits, comfortable moving space.

Of interest is the ATM, the Apollo Telescope Mount, 11.3 feet wide and almost 7 long, which contains the majority of the Skylab telescopes.

Sky-lab will be launched unmanned, the ATM horizontal with the OWS, and by a Saturn 5. It will stand at over 330 feet (one book: 334 feet, another 357 feet) tall on the pad. Total weight is 3110 pounds. The crews will be launched by a Saturn I-B, an early Saturn test model abandoned for the S5 in the Apollo moon flights.

Various experiments will touch into the fields of technology, science, ecology, and industry. Perhaps it can be used as a rest station and base when the first major station is built--or when the first Mars ship is built.

REFERENCES

Sky and Telescope, January 1973 issue, page 24

Nasa Facts "Skylab" (write to NASA)

Time Magazine, April 23 issue (73), page 64

HAVE YOU READ ? ?

THE SCIENCES-

This is a journal published by The New York Academy of Science and is aimed at high school students and other queer people like me. It should be in all high school libraries. In the May 1973 issue there is a fascinating article on comets. Of the long period comets, about half rotate in opposition to the rest of the planets.. Some of these come to within a hairbreadths of the sun's surface only to recede way out beyond the solar system half way to our nearest star! The short period comets all rotate in the same direction as the planets. They seem in many cases to be in captive resonance with the sun and Jupiter. There is a new theory (to me) that many comets are formed from massive ejections from volcanoes. Remember Nix Olympica? With the bright comet expected next December, Lets set up a Comet Committee to observe this and perhaps make some usefultobservations. ?structure of head ?spectra of tail and ?time related variations.

NATURE April 27 1973

On page 557 is a short note on the relation of QSO's and galaxies. The object known as Ton 256 seems to be an intermediate between a quasar and a galaxie !!!!!

Murray Cunningham

