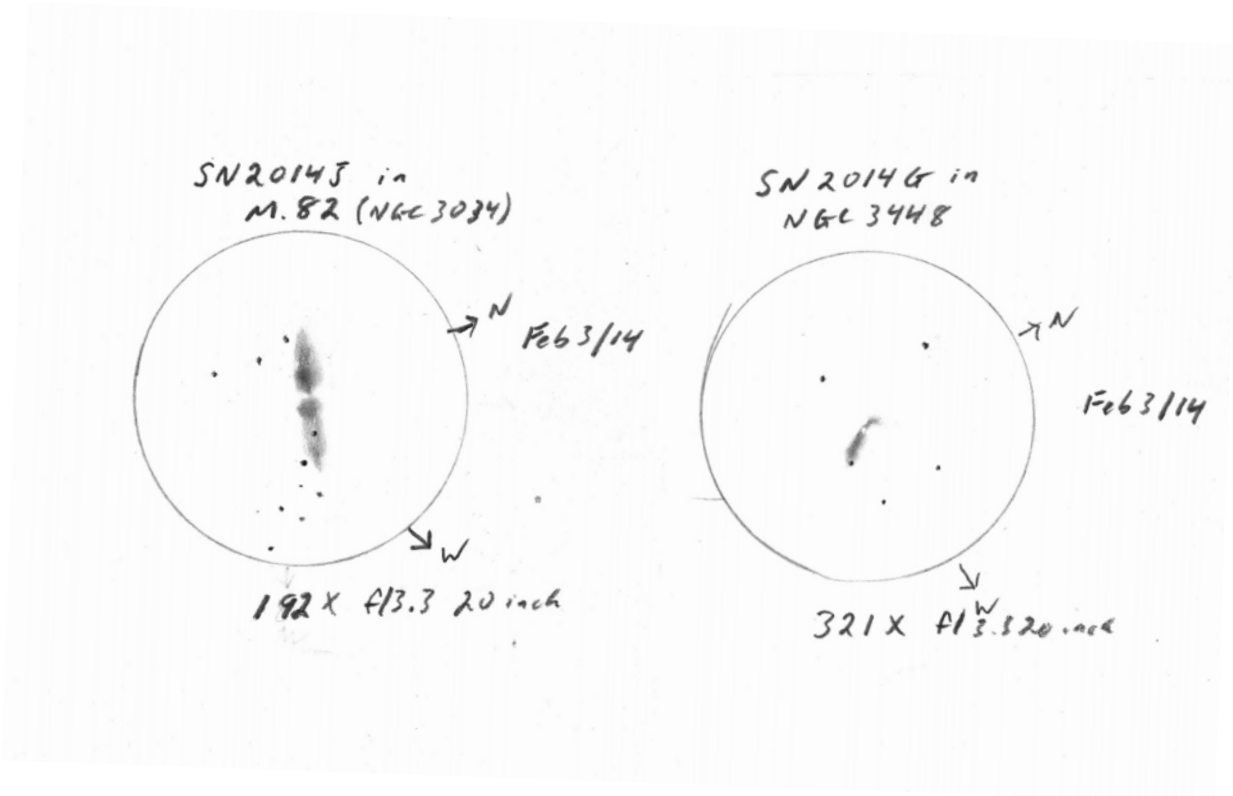


# SKYNEWS



Supernovae Galore!  
by  
Bill Weir

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## MARCH MEETING

Wednesday 12th, 7:30pm  
A104 Bob Wright Bldg,  
University of Victoria  
3800 Finnerty Rd

[www.victoria.rasc.ca](http://www.victoria.rasc.ca)

## On the Cover

Supernova Double Header  
by Bill Weir

In late January 2014 supernova erupted in two galaxies in Ursa Major. The first, SN 2014J was in the ever popular galaxy Messier 82 and it became one of the brightest in a while peaking at 10.6 magnitude. The second, SN 2014G was in the fainter yet interesting in its own right galaxy NGC 3448. At the time of this observation it was around 14.2 magnitude.

These sketches represent how I observed these two galaxies with their supernova on the evening of Feb 3, 2014 using my f/3.3 20 inch Starmaster at the Pearson College observatory. These sketches were made within minutes of each other. It was quite amazing to barely have to move my scope to be able to observe two different supernovae.

## February Speaker

Nazim Acar: His talk: *Mathematics and Understanding our Universe*.

Nazim was born in a perfect astronomy center: a remote Anatolian village with no electricity. For the summers he slept on the roof and fell asleep watching the sky. He teaches Math and Theory of Knowledge at Pearson College and enjoys living on campus.



## Presidents Report by Nelson Walker

Hi all –

The hard-working organizers of the upcoming GA 2014 are concerned about our member response, or lack

thereof, to their cries for volunteers. They assure me that it will take almost all of the

active members of the Centre to put on this event. PLEASE get in touch with Paul or Mark and sign yourself up for something.

For a number of reasons, most of which I have forgotten, it was necessary to change the date of our Astronomy Day event, to be held this year at the Royal BC Museum, from May 10 to May 3. Please call Sherry to get on the list for this one.

The last bit of news concerns our annual RASCals Metchosin Star Party. As of 2010, the CVSF group has scheduled its annual gathering, now at Bright Angel Park, on the weekend closest to the August new moon, and have now done so in advance for the next several years (as I understand it). This leaves us in a bit of a quandary about what to do about our event. The August new moon date is best for those of us in the Pacific Northwest. The July new moon is less than ideal, as the nights are too short, and the sunset too late, but more importantly, the Metchosin wind in July, can be, and usually is, horrific. The September new moon is too cold for most (many?) observers. We have considered at least three other options: abandoning the event altogether, or scheduling ours at the same time as theirs, or scheduling ours also in August, but on a different weekend (this would be referred to as a “Moon Party”). Each of these five choices has proponents on Council. This year we have decided to try an August weekend other than that of the new moon (and CVSF Island SP): August 15 through 17. This is the weekend of the last quarter moon. Hardly ideal, but we have asked Metchosin if the field is available and will keep you posted. If you have any input on this, drop me an email.

## 2nd Vice President

by Sherry Buttner

### Membership reports

New/Returning: 7

Grace: n/a

Renewed: 15

Reinstated: 1

Dropped: n/a

Total: 169

### Liason Reports:

**HIA/NRC:** Clyde: we are using some of the parking billets down by the RASC shed to store Scotch Broom we have pulled in preparation for chipping. Some of the members coming to the site may find they have to park up by the 1.2 m dome.

**Transport Canada:** Grant Youngson: Nothing new to report.... Please continue to follow your protocols and if you or any of your members wish to discuss a specific event or location, feel free to contact me.

**UVic observing:** Our first session on UVic's 32" telescope went well, with about 10 members attending. The scope is a really neat instrument, and a lot of fun to use. Thanks again to Russ Robb or UVic for allowing us to use it! John McDonald will be your MIC/host for these sessions, which are tentatively set for the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. This will be dependent on John's schedule (and weather), so watch for email alerts on the Active Observers list.

## An evening of observing at Cattle Point

by Bruce Lane



After several months of being skunked by bad weather, the RASCals of Cattle Point finally had a good night to offer observing to the public from RASC's newest Urban Star Park.

Our Treasurer Bruce Lane coordinates this event. Here is his report from the Feb 7, 2014 event.

This Friday was the first time the weather has cooperated for monthly astronomy at Cattle Point! Joining me at Cattle Point were Dorothy and Miles Paul, Chris Purse, and Alex (new member). Owing to snow shock (from weather earlier in the day) and cold conditions (still several degrees warmer than being up at the VCO) there were very few people out and about to interact with. The sky was clear, but winds were gusting at about 20km per hour, to add a bit of windchill. There were only two members of the public to have a look through the telescope. I finally packed it in at 9:15pm.

Congratulations to the group, and special thanks to the volunteers who braved the freezing conditions to make this happen!



## 2014 GA Call for Papers Notice

*By Lauri Roche*

It's time again for the Call for Papers for the Annual General Meeting of the RASC. Since Victoria Centre is the host for the GA in June of this year, our organizing committee would like to see our local membership well-represented in our paper sessions. The papers can be about some observational research you may be involved with, the photographs of a trip you've taken, or perhaps related to an outreach activity. Have you done some historical research, worked on a new educational program or have a unique point of view on an astronomical topic? We are looking for presentations that represent a wide variety of topics generally related to astronomy and would love to have you involved.

Our paper presentations will be held on Saturday, June 28 and will be, as in the past few years, 15 to 20 minutes in length. They are one of the showcases of the Annual General Assembly and are eagerly anticipated by the delegates. I hope you will consider a proposal.



**INTERNATIONAL  
YEAR OF LIGHT  
2015**

On Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> we will be having an afternoon forum that has as its theme the RASC's intentions for programs and

initiatives for UNESCO International Year of Light, 2015.

“An International Year of Light will allow the universality of light and the variety of its applications to be appreciated via many and varied themes covering broad areas of interest, supported by cross-cutting themes addressing essential issues to be included in all activities.” The four main themes will be Light in Science, Technology, Nature and Culture with the cross-cutting themes of Sustainability and Development, Education, History and Young People.

You may wish to refer to the following website for more information and details at [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.eps.org/resource/resmgr/eventsEPS\\_IYL2015prospectus.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.eps.org/resource/resmgr/eventsEPS_IYL2015prospectus.pdf)

Please send your intentions to present for either the Saturday Paper Sessions or the Sunday IYL 2015 forum to the following webpage. Deadline is February 28, 2014

<https://www.rasc.ca/events/call-for-papers>

If you have an questions please contact Lauri Roche at [pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca)

**Call for Volunteers for the 2014 GA**

**Job Descriptions- Additional Volunteers Needed (50 positions)**

**February 10, 2014**

**CHAIRPERSON COMMITTEE- Reports to Paul and Mark ( 10 positions open)**

- IT Chair (1 needed)  
-Identifies A/V needs, equipment and sourcing for all GA events (mostly UVic Sourcing)  
-Manages IT needs and infrastructure during all GA events
- Music Night Coordinator ( 1 needed)Co-Coordinator Dr. Jim Hesser  
-solicits talent -coordinates venue requirements with Felicitas Pub  
- coordinates drink coupons to go in Goody bags  
-keeps liaison with talent, makes sure ready to go  
-deals with unexpected issues
- First Aid Personnel (3 needed)  
-deals with any emergency that may come up (one on-call each day)
- Signage/ Umbrella Guru (1)  
-Arranges for design, production and installation of directional signage during event on campus, at airport  
-Arranges for umbrellas during rain days
- UVic Telescope Liaison (1)  
-Works with Russ Robb to set up and manage evening viewing at UVic rooftop scope during GA
- Photographers/ Videographers (3)  
-Members to record events of all GA activities

**REGISTRATION COMMITTEE- Reports to John, Chris and Reg (2 positions open)**

- Lodging Coordinator (1 needed)  
-Liaison with UVic for all lodging issues prior to and during event- rooms lists, room assignment issues
- Collateral Coordinator (1 needed)  
-Responsible for Production and Distribution of Nametags, vouchers and distribution of registration packets/info books (working with Reg)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE Reports to Nelson (1 position open)**

- Assistant Controller (1 needed)  
-Back up to Nelson, assists with record keeping and money handling during GA

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE Reports to Deb (14 positions open)**

- Check –in Desk Personnel (6 needed)  
-Greets arrivals at Cadboro Commons desk location  
-Souvenir sales and distribution
- Catering/Meals Coordinator( 1 needed)  
-Liaison with UVic Catering to confirm meal counts, coffee breaks all scheduled meals run smoothly
- Meeting Room Coordinator (1 needed)  
-Liaison with UVic to see that all rooms are correctly booked and no issues arise during GA
- Tours Coordinators (2 needed)  
-Makes sure all tours go as scheduled- Whale Watching, Butchart, Maritime Museum, Shopping Tour, Historic Tour  
-Assists Deb with head counts and preplanning and vendor liaison  
-Coordinates with Transportation Committee for drivers where needed
- Welcome BBQ Helpers(4 needed)  
-Help with planning set-up and liaison for outside catered meal at DAO  
-Help with running BBQ during event

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE- Reports to Charles (21 positions open)**

- Transportation Assistant (1 needed)  
-Back-up to Charles to help with planning, bookings, driver coordination, outside transport providers if needed
- Drivers (20 needed)  
-to drive guests to and from airport, ferries, DAO, tours

**A/V SERVICES COMMITTEE- Reports to TBD Chairperson (2 positions open)**

- A/V Coordinators (2 needed)  
-back-up to TBD Chairperson  
-assists with A/V needs list, special music tracks, additional A/V requests, UVic Liaison





**Giant group of Sunspots on the Sun**  
by Joe Carr

Date/time: Feb 4, 2014 12:59PM PST

Location: My home, Victoria, BC, Canada

Sunspot AR1967 through an Identi-view Class 'A' solar filter (white light).

Equipment: Canon EOS 6D dSLR, Canon EF 70-300mm f/4-5.6L telephoto lens operating at 300mm, f/5.6, 1/4000 sec, Identi-view Class 'A' solar filter, mounted on a Manfrotto 055 tripod, no tracking.

**ASTRONOMY CAFE**



Fairfield Community Centre  
1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria,  
7:30pm - 9:00pm for directions  
and information.

Call Malcolm @ 778 430 4136  
New comers are especially  
encouraged.

New Observers Group  
Hosted by Sid Sidhu  
1642 Davies Road, Highlands  
Call 250.391-0540 for  
information and directions.

Email Lists

Observer / CU Volunteers /  
Members

Contact Joe Carr to subscribe  
[web@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:web@victoria.rasc.ca)

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday March 12th 7:30pm - A104 Bob Wright Bldg, University of Victoria, 3800 Finnerty Rd.

RASC Victoria Council for 2013 / 2014

<b>Past President</b> Laurie Roche <a href="mailto:pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca">pastpres@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Librarian</b> Michel Michaud <a href="mailto:librarian@victoria.rasc.ca">librarian@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Membership Coordinator</b> Sherry Buttner <a href="mailto:Membership@victoria.rasc.ca">Membership@victoria.rasc.ca</a>
<b>President</b> Nelson Walker <a href="mailto:president@victoria.rasc.ca">president@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Skynews Editor</b> Diane Bell <a href="mailto:editor@victoria.rasc.ca">editor@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Systems Admin</b> Mat Watson <a href="mailto:admin@victoria.rasc.ca">admin@victoria.rasc.ca</a>
<b>First Vice President</b> Charles Banville <a href="mailto:vp@victoria.rasc.ca">vp@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Telescopes / School Programs</b> Sid Sidhu <a href="mailto:telescopes@victoria.rasc.ca">telescopes@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Webmaster</b> Joe Carr <a href="mailto:web@victoria.rasc.ca">web@victoria.rasc.ca</a>
<b>Second Vice President</b> Sherry Buttner <a href="mailto:vp2@victoria.rasc.ca">vp2@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>National Representative</b> Mark Bolman <a href="mailto:nationalrep@victoria.rasc.ca">nationalrep@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Members at Large</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> Bruce Lane <a href="mailto:treasurer@victoria.rasc.ca">treasurer@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>Light Pollution Abatement</b> Mark Bohlman <a href="mailto:lpa@victoria.rasc.ca">lpa@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	Bill Almond (Victoria Centre Historian) Jim Hesser (NRC Liaison), Alex Schmid (University of Victoria Liaison), David Lee (Observing), Paul Schumacher (2014 GA), Matt Watson (Observatory Tech Committee)
<b>Secretary / Recorder</b> Deb Crawford <a href="mailto:secretary@victoria.rasc.ca">secretary@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	<b>New Member Liaison</b> Sherry Buttner <a href="mailto:NewMembers@victoria.rasc.ca">NewMembers@victoria.rasc.ca</a>	