



Saint John Astronomy Club

The Saint John Astronomy Club meets on the first Saturday of each month, usually at the NBTel building on Germain Street. Meetings normally begin at 7 pm.

Several times a year the members travel about 15 minutes outside of the city for observing sessions such as identifying the constellations, meteor showers or viewing the planets through telescopes. The club owns a telescope that is rented to members for a modest monthly fee of \$6.

Members of the Saint John Astronomy Club also host public observing sessions, give presentations in schools and to public or private groups, and serve as a general source of astronomical information.

Interested? Contact one of our members.

Roger Thompson: 506-456-3609
rthompsn@nb.sympatico.ca
Peter Jensen: 696-6071
pejensen@nbnet.nb.ca
Adrien Bordage: 634-8246
bordagea@nbnet.nb.ca
Curt Nason: 648-9063
nasonc@nbnet.nb.ca



The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada RASC Moncton Centre

The RASC is a group of astronomy professionals, amateurs and enthusiasts. From its beginnings in the mid-19th century, the Society obtained its Royal Charter from King Edward VII in 1903. It currently has over 4700 members throughout Canada and the world, including over 50 members in the Moncton Centre (established 2000). Several members of the Saint John Astronomy Club also hold membership in the RASC.

Astronomy Magazines

- *Sky News* (bimonthly) - Canadian
- *Astronomy* (monthly)
- *Sky & Telescope* (monthly)

Most magazine stands carry one or more of these publications. The first two are intended for beginners and amateurs, the third for more advanced amateurs. They include articles on telescopes and other equipment, recent discoveries by astronomers, how to observe stars and planets, and what interesting objects are visible. Each issue includes a useful map of the night sky for that time of year.



New Brunswick Astronomy - Astronomie Nouveau Brunswick Inc. (NBANB)

NBANB was formed in 1995 to unite various astronomy clubs throughout New Brunswick. The clubs of NBANB with contact persons are:

- **Saint John Astronomy Club**
Roger Thompson 506-456-3609
- **Hampton Astronomy Club**
Dave Leeman 506-832-3000
jdleeman@nbnet.nb.ca
- **Astro Club Borealis (Edmundston)**
Rachel Cyr 506-263-4242
rachelt@nbnet.nb.ca
- **Club d'astronomie de la Péninsule acadienne (Shippagan)**
Jacques Robichaud 506-336-8085
jacquesr@nbnet.nb.ca
- **Astronomie Chaleur Astronomy (Bathurst)** Michel Hébert
mirodeux@nb.sympatico.ca

Other astronomy clubs in New Brunswick:

- **Brydone Jack Astronomy Club (Fredericton)** Don Kelly 506-357-8397
donkelly@nbnet.nb.ca
- **Beauséjour Astronomy Club Astronomie Beauséjour (Dieppe)**
Daniel Leblanc 506-852-4567
leblrous@nbnet.nb.ca

Saint John Astronomy Club Events

Meetings: the first Saturday of each month. The time and place may vary, so if you plan to attend for the first time we recommend you contact a member beforehand.

Observing sessions: Many sessions are arranged on short notice due to the weather. However, we usually plan to observe the meteor showers in August and November. Visit our website for posted information.

If you want to be added to the list for e-mail notification of observing sessions, contact Curt Nason at nasonc@nbnet.nb.ca.

The Planets this Year

Mercury: Look for this elusive planet below Venus in the west in early December.

Venus: This brilliant planet shines through the twilight in autumn, becoming a dazzling evening star in winter.

Earth: This is usually visible in the daytime from Saint John, except on very foggy days.

Mars: The red planet enters the evening sky in summer, looking spectacular in Aug. and Sept. & hanging around the rest of the year.

Jupiter: The largest planet reigns in the west until July, then becomes prominent in the east on autumn mornings. Look for its 4 big moons in a pair of binoculars!

Saturn: The bright ringed planet leaves the evening sky in early June and moves into the morning sky in August. By October it will be visible again in the evening.

Astronomy Tips

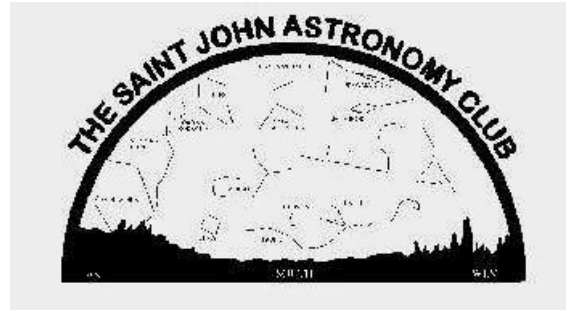
- Get started in astronomy by using a star map to learn the constellations. The most important equipment is your eyes.
- The best “beginners telescope” is a pair of binoculars. Even advanced observers use them frequently.
- You will see more stars if you avoid lighted areas. In the dark, the pupils of your eyes expand, letting you see fainter objects. This is called “night vision.”
- To read star maps without ruining your night vision, cover your flashlight with transparent red paper or some other red material that lets some light through.
- It gets cold when observing, even in the summer. Dress as if the temperature is 10° cooler, and bring extra clothing.
- When observing, bring warm drinks and a snack.

Astronomy Websites

- <http://nbanb.tripod.com> (NBANB)
www/
 - skyandtelescope.com
 - astronomy.com
 - skynewsmagazine.com
 - rasc.ca/moncton
 - rasc.ca
 - heavens-above.com (info on when the ISS is visible from your area)

New Brunswick Star Parties

- Astro Atlantik (August 22-24)
Armstrong Brook Campground,
Mount Carleton, NB



Bringing Astronomy to Southern NB

Saint John Astronomy Club (SJAC)
Originally founded in 1985

Our Goal: To promote astronomy at an amateur level to enthusiasts of all ages.

The club consists of local men and women of ages ranging from teenage to senior citizen. We share an interest in astronomy, and we seek to share our knowledge as we learn ourselves.

Knowledge of the heavens or owning a telescope is not a requirement to become a member. Interest and enthusiasm are far more important.

See our website <http://sjacnb.tripod.com>

