

# THE <sup>DAVID</sup> DUNLAP DOINGS

Vol. 23, No. 1     January 31, 1990



The Christmas Countdown festivities at DDO, December 1989.

- Photo: Karl Kamper

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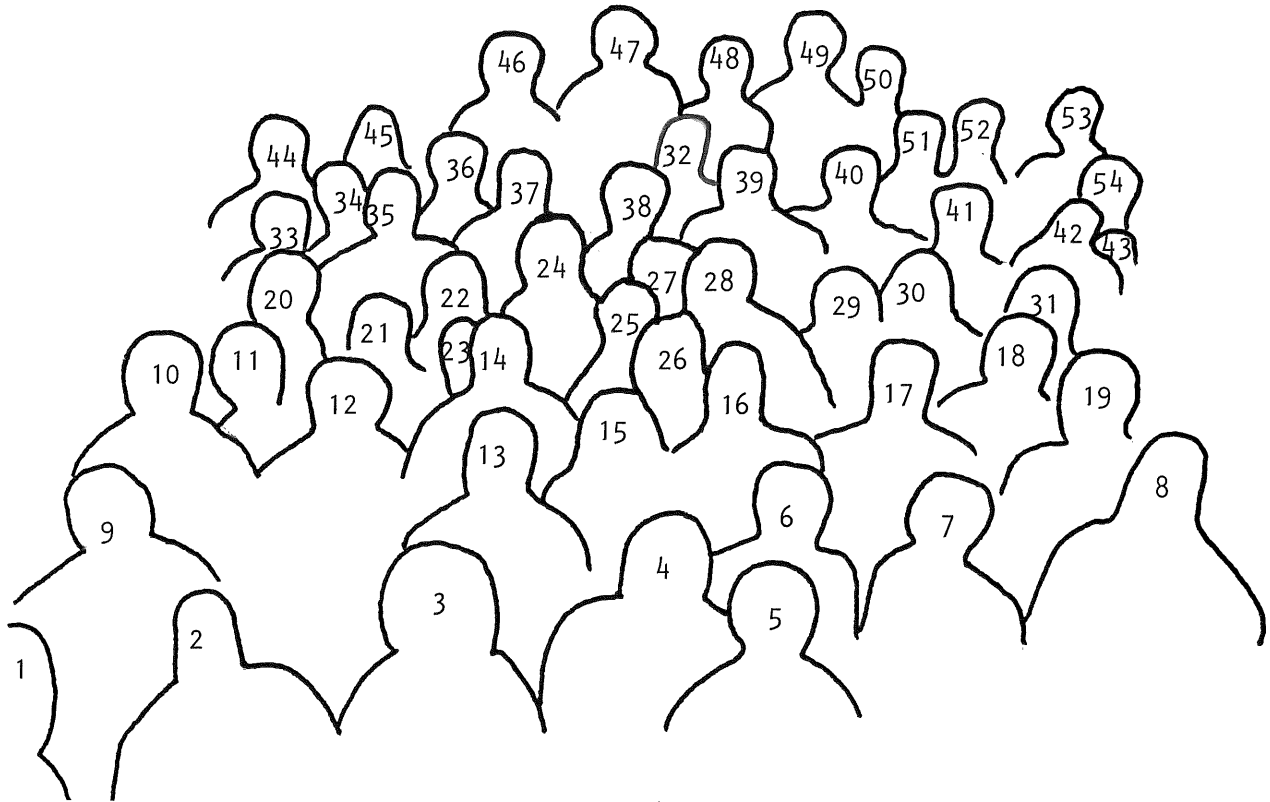
## FROM THE EDITOR

Although departmental readers are usually unaware of it, the DDD is mailed out to as many (if not more) people as there are in-house ones. In fact, our mailing list had grown to 115, with addresses as far afield as Europe and Australia, so with our November mailing we asked which of the outside readers wished to continue receiving the newsletter. I'm pleased to report that we had a 70% response, and often the return slip had a cheery message with it. Martine Simard Normandin reports "I love receiving DDD and keeping track of my old friends", while Peter Biermann, Richard Crowe, and Richard Gray took the opportunity to send good wishes to friends of yore. And what editor could resist Chris Corbally, old smoothie that he is, when he writes from Flagstaff "Thanks for DDD – it brings sunshine to even the Arizona desert." (Chris, incidentally, is now fully recovered from his serious car accident of last year.)

This prompts me to say again that DDD would be delighted to serve as a node for past students and staff to keep in touch. See this month's letter section. Won't more of you write in and tell us how things are going? If you like, send it by e-mail to fernie@centaur.astro.utoronto.ca or Fernie@Utorphys.bitnet.

Don Fernie

## FINDING CHART FOR COVER PHOTOGRAPH



- |                      |                        |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. John Dubinski     | 19. Maurice Clement    | 37. Tom Bolton        |
| 2. Dan Blanchard     | 20. Bob Hill           | 38. Peter Ip          |
| 3. Guddi Gambhir     | 21. Helen Hogg         | 39. Mike Jewison      |
| 4. Brenda Parkman    | 22. Francine Rouleau   | 40. Phil Kronberg     |
| 5. Shen Chew         | 23. Francis Dubinski   | 41. Yvonne Fernie     |
| 6. Marlene Cummins   | 24. Omar Lopez-Cruz    | 42. Adam Seaquist     |
| 7. Rosemary Diamond  | 25. M.J. Thomson       | 43. Gloria Seaquist   |
| 8. Mike Fieldus      | 26. Christine Clement  | 44. Ed Zukowski       |
| 9. Dave Earlam       | 27. Li-Ming            | 45. Sandra Scott      |
| 10. Archie Ridder    | 28. Jim Thomson        | 46. Margaret Fukanaga |
| 11. Laura Carriere   | 29. Sang-Hee Kim       | 47. Florence Unwin    |
| 12. Gang Li          | 30. Teresa Kroeker     | 48. Mary Binette      |
| 13. Don Fernie       | 31. Michael Bietenholz | 49. Joan Tryggve      |
| 14. Ernie Seaquist   | 32. Bob Garrison       | 50. Marc Krogulec     |
| 15. Kathy Mochnacki  | 33. Patricio Ortiz     | 51. Don MacRae        |
| 16. Stefan Mochnacki | 34. Barry Sloan        | 52. Andrew Udalski    |
| 17. John Percy       | 35. Dimitar Sasselov   | 53. Slavek Rucinski   |
| 18. Dieter Brueckner | 36. Dongping Tang      | 54. Charles Dyer      |

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

We welcome Stephen Eales as a new assistant professor in the department. Steve comes from Cambridge (PhD 1985) via the University of Hawaii and STScI, where he was a post-doc. He works on extragalactic astronomy at a variety of wavelengths. His initial appointment is at Erindale for two years, replacing John Percy, but since John's deanship is for five years it is expected Steve's appointment will continue through that period.

There was an AAS meeting in Boston a few weeks ago and our intrepid reporter, Louis Noreau, was there. He rushed to a terminal at the meeting itself to file a report that our "representation was large. Seen there were D. Sassellov, J. Percy, P.P. Kronberg, R. Hill, and L. Noreau." Inexplicably, Louis missed R. Garrison, who was busy presenting a paper (co-authored by B. Beattie) assessing the productivity of the U of T Southern Observatory.

Phil Kronberg was an invited presenter and panelist at a workshop in Washington on Low Frequency Astrophysics from Space. The meeting, sponsored by the Naval Research Lab and JPL, was called for the purpose of defining and reviewing the science that might justify a future space mission for imaging at frequencies between 1 and 30 MHz.

And for the first time in living memory Bob Garrison did NOT spend Christmas observing on Las Campanas. The generally unpopular time slot was taken by University of Montreal student Luc Turbide and his wife.

## PAPERS SUBMITTED

### PREPRINTS BY FACULTY AND STUDENTS RECEIVED IN THE ASTRONOMY LIBRARY

November 23, 1989 to January 22, 1990

Bietenholz, M.F.; Kronberg, P.P. The magnetic field of the Crab nebula, and the nature of its 'jet'. 90-0074. 10-Jan-1990.

Bolton, C.T.; Stefl, S. On the correlation between pulsation amplitude and shell activity in the Be star lambda Eridani. 89-1204. 20-Dec-89.

Carlberg, R.G.; Couchman, H.M.P.; Thomas, P.A. Cosmological velocity bias. 90-0112. 16-Jan-1990.

Kaiser, N. Evolution of clusters in the hierarchical scenario. 90-0110. 16-Jan-1990.

Kamper, Karl W.; McAlister, Harold A.; Hartkopf, William I. Astrometric-spectroscopic binary star orbits. IV. Beta Coronae Borealis. 89-1205. 22-Dec-89.

Kronberg, Philipp P.; Perry, Judith J.; Zukowski, Edwin L. The 'jet' rotation measure distribution and the optical absorption system near the z=1.953 quasar, 3C191. 90-0064. 8-Jan-1990.

Wehlau, Amelia; Hogg, Helen Sawyer; Butterworth, Steve. Observations of variable stars in the globular cluster M80. 89-1126. 5-Dec-89.

Zhan, Yin. The mass function of galaxy clusters. 89-1173. 12-Dec-89.

T. 89-0966. 23

## CONDOLENCES

We are sad to report the death shortly before Christmas of Dr Carmen Costain of the DRAO in Penticton. Carmen had been a staff member at the Observatory from its earliest days and had played a leading role in the development of radio astronomy in Canada. He was president of CASCA in 1978-80.

Word has also reached us of the passing of Dr Robert Hardie last December 19. Bob, one-time director of the A.J. Dyer Observatory and professor emeritus at Vanderbilt University, hailed originally from Lachine, Quebec. Aside from his research work he was known to generations of graduate students for his article on how to do photoelectric reductions.

## POTPOURRI

*We offer congratulations to Phil Kronberg, who has received a Humboldt International Research Award. He is one of 100 awardees worldwide per year in the sciences, engineering, medicine, and the humanities. It is awarded to "eminent academics outside the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of their achievements in research", and includes an invitation to undertake prolonged periods of research in the FRG. Meanwhile, Phil's research (with others) has received write-ups in The Varsity and The newspaper.*

*Bob Garrison will be a faculty member at the Third Vatican Observatory Summer School in Observational Astronomy and Astrophysics next summer at Castel Gandolfo, conducted under the watchful eye of Father Chris Corbally, S.J. as Dean.*

*Don Fernie is an invited speaker on two-telescope photometry at the Boston meeting of the ASP next July.*

*Most photographs one sees of C.A. Chant were taken in his later years when the DDO was established. He appears prominently, however, in a group picture taken at Lick in 1907 and now published on page 79 of the June, 1989 Journal for the History of Astronomy. The picture accompanies an article by Donald Osterbrock on a famous spectroscopic expedition up Mount Whitney in 1909, and R.K. Young, then a Lick Fellow, is mentioned as participating in the design of the expedition's spectrograph. Mount Whitney is but a stone's throw from Owen's Valley; how little would Chant or Young have thought that one day U of T astronomers would be coming close to participating in quite a different sort of astronomical facility there.*

*Dimitar Sasselov organized and led a well-attended but short workshop on high-galactic-latitude seemingly young stars held at DA on the afternoon of January 16. Outside attendees included Sun Kwok, Earl Luck, and Rens Waters. All agreed that a more extensive meeting is overdue and that Dimitar is the man to look into it, on which enthusiastic note Dimitar organized and led a well-attended dinner.*

Ever wondered how decisions get made over at the Faculty of Arts and Science? Here we have it:

**WINTER '89**  
**HOROSCOPE PREDICTIONS**  
 by Robin Armstrong

**GASA Gossip**

Mike Fieldus

Beer. Lots of it. That is the topic of this issues column. Huge, frost covered mugs of foamy dark beer. The life blood of the graduate student, the only nutritionally redeeming aspect of his/her diet. Beer. The liquid over which most astronomical problems are solved. The liquid that causes most social and economic problems for a few of us. Today, I am going to discuss beer.

The Christmas break was very profitable for Brian and myself. We invested in a home brewery kit, and are just reaping the sweet tasting rewards for our efforts this week. For a mere pittance (which is good, because that is what we earn) and a moderate effort, we were able to brew, on two separate occasions, 24 litres of remarkably good beer. The Glendennings' apartment has become a regular brewery, with fermenting casks all over the place and the temperature reduced to a tolerable 65° F. One of the unanticipated side effects of this brewing effort is that neither of Laura or Lisa, Brian's daughters, will ever drink beer as long as they live, after being exposed to the horrendous smell we made while brewing our stout. (Our next project is to brew a lager, which will require about a month of cool (45° temperatures—anyone mind if we use the basement of the 74" dome?)

Speaking of beer, we had the Christmas Countdown just before Christmas (good time for it). This year the event was a roaring success, and everything was very entertaining, except for the skits about me, which could only be described as childish and silly. The lunch was excellent. Through great effort on the part of the lunch organizers (Joan, Florence, Brenda, Guddi, I hope I haven't missed someone), the traditional Christmas pizza was passed over in favour of lasagne, quiche and salad. But lets face it, with all the staff, faculty and students present, two cases of beer just doesn't cut it.

I suppose it is time to end off now. I was going to write a lot more, but Omar just came into the room to answer a phone call. Omar is the sort of person who truly understands how remote the person on the other end of the phone line is, and that if that person is going to understand you at all, you had better speak very loudly (the Louis Noreau effect). In the rare event that Omar receives a long distance call from Mexico, most of us just leave the building. Needless to say I can no longer concentrate, so I am going to retire to the GSU and contemplate some more beer.

The Communique of the Association of Administrative Assistants draws on its membership's experiences to offer the following definitions:

Expedite - To confound confusion with commotion.

Note and initial - Let's spread the responsibility for this.

Being processed - So wrapped up in red tape as to be hopeless.

To negotiate - To seek a meeting of minds without the knocking together of heads.

A conference - A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labour and the loneliness of thought.

## LETTERS

Dear Dr Fernie:

I have been receiving the DDD ever since I left the Department of Astronomy with an MSc in 1972. I take this opportunity to volunteer for a brief article about my life and career in astronomy, which might be of interest to other former students and to members of the faculty. Perhaps you would suggest this to other readers as well; I would personally be glad to hear from other fellow students from back then. I can provide a text in  $\text{\TeX}$  if you give me your bitnet address.

Yours sincerely,

Emmanuel Davoust

Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées

14 Ave Édouard-Belin

31400 Toulouse, France

*Nothing received as yet, Emmanuel, but a most welcome idea. Please see page 2 of this issue.*

*- ed.*

## FROM THE DOINGS OF TWENTY YEARS AGO:

Dr Roeder will be reporting today at Countdown on the progress of infrared photometry with the 74-inch. He and Bob Hawkins had a few fairly good (though very cold) nights to get the bugs out of the equipment, and at the time of writing they are getting within shooting distance of their aim to observe the Quasars.

## FROM THE DOINGS OF TEN YEARS AGO:

Larry Morrill has resigned as Engineering Technician at the Observatory.... Larry writes "Of all the things I miss most about the Observatory, it is not being able to play darts. I hope in my absence there is not too much cheating going on at darts!"

YUKON HO!  
THE ADVENTURES OF MIKE AND DIM IN THE GREAT WHITE NORTH  
Chapter Three: We Made It!!  
Mike Fieldus

As was pointed out last issue, without a doubt the best way to see the Prairies is at 140 km/s while reading a newspaper (you don't have to worry that much about steering the car). The same most certainly cannot be said about the Yukon and northern British Columbia. Dawson Creek, not to be confused with Dawson City, is mile zero of the Alaska Highway, and the point where today's story begins. After the initial excitement of actually being on the Alaska Highway wore off (let's face it, anything is exciting after the prairies), we very quickly realized that nothing had changed. The land was still pretty much flat, and the only hint of the "great wilderness" alluded to on our maps was a few more trees than usual and a dark line on the horizon that might, or might not, be mountains.

Well, as time went by, the dark line did reveal itself to be mountains, and in a short while we were very excited again as we travelled first alongside and then through the northern Rockies. The Great Wilderness indeed was here, and we had arrived in it. Funnily enough, the northern end of the Rocky Mountains is not nearly as high and, well, rocky, as the more traditionally recognized regions around Banff and Jasper, but they are no less spectacular. Still, with all the beauty that British Columbia has to offer, it appeared that the north eastern corner just got a little missed, and the road was in much need of repair and services few and far between.

This was what we expected of the great wilderness, however, and we were prepared with extra gas and all the necessary camping facilities.

Our first night in the great wilderness was spent at a very small provincial camp ground in the Summit Lake Pass, the highest point on the Alaska Highway at something over 1200 metres. This, as it turned out, was just about the most scenic stop on our entire trip (which was never short of spectacular scenery). We camped on the shores of a small lake surrounded by a ring of mountain peaks which slowly changed in colour from a grey/ brown to a deep scarlet and finally purple as the sun set. Just after sunset, the campsite was visited by a mother moose and calf that came out of the forest to lick salt from the road. We sat in the twilight finishing off our supper and watching these two huge animals not more than 25 metres from us for almost an hour before they finally left and we went to bed.

The next day was the big one we had been anticipating. By late afternoon, we would have crossed the B.C. border into the land of legends and wilderness, the Yukon. A leisurely breakfast on the side of another mountain lake a few miles down the highway, followed by several hours of dodging deer, mountain sheep and elk on the highway, and a stop at a natural hot springs (unlike the one at Banff, which has had a swimming pool built around it), took us to the worst section of driving we would go through. The last several hundred kilometers of B.C. consisted of constant road repair work, and an ever deteriorating dirt highway that took an awesome toll on the poor steamer, including the loss of a headlight. We feared what we would find on the roads even further north, since this was still B.C., and relatively close to civilization. Well, were we ever surprised when we finally entered the Yukon, as the road suddenly became a well maintained paved highway again. A little investigation showed that there are only 4 highways in the Yukon, the Alaska, the Klondike, the Dempster (to Inuvik) and the Top of the World Highway (we would



eventually drive the entire length of all of them), and with tourism being so important to the local economies, a great deal of effort was expended in keeping the roads in good condition.

So we had arrived. The Yukon at last. I will leave a more detailed description of what we did there to the next issue, and leave with a general observation on the north. The Yukon is a funny place, from the point of view of western civilization, as its entire history (stressing the point of view of western civilization) has been shaped by only two events, the Klondike gold rush, and the building of the Alaska Highway. This fact is revealed almost everywhere you travel, especially in the towns you find along the way. It is also peculiar in that the population density is extremely low, leading to many little things that seem odd to someone who has grown up in southern Ontario. First, there are no side roads along the highway. Everything is concentrated on the highways, and if you want access to the wilderness, you just stop the car and there you are. Next, a town or village marked on the map consisted of a gas station, and usually nothing more. Our map told us the total population of the Yukon was 25000, and a sign outside of Whitehorse told us that 22000 of them lived there. This indeed was a huge, empty wilderness. But, of course, empty is a relative term revealing a man-centered bias, as we would find out...

## A TALE OF TWO DOGS

Stefan Mochnacki

Sad to say, old Jasper has passed away. He came to us in 1977 out of the Pasadena dog pound, to scare away the Hillside Strangler while I was away observing. "I want a BIG dog", my wife Kathy told the pound, but there weren't any big dogs to be had, and you just can't leave the pound without a dog... So we acquired Jasper, an American dog of many breeds.

Jasper experienced his first snow running over Palomar Mountain, and he joined in the chorus of the coyotes on Mount Wilson. He barked at everything, and more than once we would have to run after scared letter carriers and plead for our mail. He delighted in the hills and valleys of Victoria, especially at the DAO, and in 1981 he accompanied me as I drove a truck across Canada to Toronto. He spent his last eight years here, frequently exploring the grounds of the DDO. The mere mention of "Observatory!" was enough to perk up his ears in excitement.

Now we have Ozzie\*. By contrast, he's a black Labrador of purebred lineage. A placid dog sharing Jasper's gentle disposition toward people, a watchdog he is not. He sleeps like a baby even as the "Globe & Mail" bounces loudly off our parked station wagon at four in the morning. But he's the terror of the field mice scurrying just under the snow at the DDO...

So if you are wondering who is that dog ambling after me, let me introduce Ozzie. It's great to have a dog again.

\* Presumably named after the new IBM operating system. -.ed