

RASC Calgary to host Spock Days Stargazing in Vulcan for 2nd Year

by Neel Roberts



Known as the official “Star Trek Capital of Canada”, Vulcan, a small agriculture municipality, sees its population more than double during its annual Spock Days weekend. In summer 2009, the RASC Calgary explored the idea of offering public monthly stargazing meetings at the Trek Center by entering a float in the Spock Days Parade. The gambit worked as it got positive attention and in late 2010, RASC Calgary and Vulcan Tourism entered into an agreement to host free monthly astronomy meetings which are well matched to the town’s Star Trek theme. Since then, hundreds have made the pilgrimage to the second-Friday-of-the-month meetings. Vulcan Tourism spends lots of time during the month marketing the RASC monthly event on various radio stations, media publications and institutions like schools. RASC Calgary awarded the Vulcan Tourism and Trek Station the 2015 corporate award for this special partnership in educational outreach.

On June 12, well-known astrophotographers and sky evangelist Alan Dyer will speak at the Friday night event at 7:30 p.m. while regular instructor Roland Dechesne will join Karl Ivarson Jr. in showing off the heavens. As well, Ken From of Didsbury’s All Star Telescopes will be in attendance with a few telescopes as patrons frequently ask about getting their first scope and accessories for sky viewing. All are welcome and there’s no charge. For further information contact the Trek Center at (403) 485-2994 or check out the RASC special webpage for Vulcan.

Six years later, a devoted parade team crews the float in the annual parade, held this year on the morning of Saturday June 13. Regulars Ann & Emily Morse faithfully show every year to throw out freezes and other treats

to the several thousand spectators on the streets of the small town. For several years, Mike Schmidt and other members of his family have arrived from Calgary fully dressed in Star Trek attire. If you’re ready to brave it on the float, join us Saturday, June 13th, 2015 at 08:30 at the Vulcan arena as there’s a free breakfast before the ride starts at 10:00 am !

Emily Morse of Vulcan ties down RASC Calgary sign before parade starts,



Vulcan hosts Neel Roberts-I, Karl Iverson Jr.-m and Roland Dechesne-r before the parade starts.

