

A Practical Guide to Observing the Night Sky with Binocular

Saint Stephen's Church Hall, 60 Regent St, Chester, NS B0J 1J0

April 19 to May 24. 3–5 p.m. Instructor: Tony Schellinck This is one of many courses offered to seniors (50 years and older) by the Seniors College Association of Nova Scotia (SCANS). Go to thescans.org to join SCANS and register for this course.

After completing this course the participant should have a greater appreciation of and knowledge about what there is to see in the sky and how to find and observe them. Topics covered include: how to find your way around the summer, fall, winter and spring night skies; how to observe the moon and planets; and what galaxies, globular clusters, open clusters, planetary nebula, diffuse nebula, double stars and interesting asterisms can be found. We will also cover how to view these objects using dark adapted eyes and averted vision, and practice observing using a variety of instruments from binoculars to telescopes. We will also explore topics of interest to participants. If the sky is clear you will put into practice what you learned in class during two or three field trips when participants can tour the night sky and observe deep sky objects with binoculars.

About Tony Schellinck Tony has always had an interest in astronomy; but it wasn't until age 55 that he became active as an amateur astronomer and a member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. For the last twelve years he has photographed the night sky. He also participates in public viewing sessions around Nova Scotia, has become a regular presenter at the Halifax Planetarium, and has given lectures at parks and libraries around the province. His most recent innovation is his flat screen planetarium show held at the Astor Theatre in Liverpool and the Osprey Arts Centre in Shelburne where he uses the large movie screens to train people how to observe the night sky using binoculars. Tony has taught four, six week courses, A Practical Guide to Observing the Night Sky using Binoculars for the Senior College Association of Nova Scotia (SCANS) and will be teaching the course in Chester this spring.



