

Miramichi Rural Star Troopers Astonish Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

By: Shane Wray
November 8, 2010

This summer the Miramichi Rural Star Troopers went on an adventure to a gathering of the incredible members of the (R.A.S.C.) Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. Not all of the troopers went, but the ones that did go came back with extraordinary findings.

When we arrived in Fredericton we were shivering with excitement to see the equipment the professionals were using and the great discoveries that were found in the vast unknown. Greatly excited, we were not even paying attention to when we were going to get there, we were just wondering what was going to happen and what we were going to learn.

One of the experts from the R.A.S.C. was David Levi, a world famous comet chaser who has discovered 41 comets, the most famous being the Levy-Shoemaker comet which crashed into Jupiter. His appearance was impressive to me, but to the other experts, they were excited to see us, the students of Miramichi Rural.

Finally, the Miramichi Rural teacher who started the Star Troopers, Adam Hayward, had a few words to say about the Star Troopers and what they've accomplished. I asked him how he felt about us accomplishing the goal of becoming such knowledgeable Star Troopers to present to such professional groups. He said, "It is a great honor that students from grade 6 to 8 were not only able to present, but teach some of the top astronomers and scientists from across Canada about what we have been doing at our school. It was evident that many in the audience were moved by the passion and enthusiasm displayed by the star troopers."

Here is what some members of the RASC had to say:

"One of the highlights of this meeting was a presentation by the astronomy group at the Miramichi Rural School...These children presented something so magical and exciting that their presentation earned them a standing ovation from the delegates."

- David Levy

"There was still a buzz about the kids all evening; it sure was a pleasure to have your group attending... It was very moving to see some of the hardened astronomers in our group with tears in their eyes, and it seemed to make the rest of the day a lot friendlier to all. We all got closer as a group, and there was a lot of hugs through the evening."

- Emma McPhee

"There were many tears of joy in the audience as the children touched each of our hearts, minds, and soul during their presentation. It was such an inspiration to see."
- Chris Weadeck