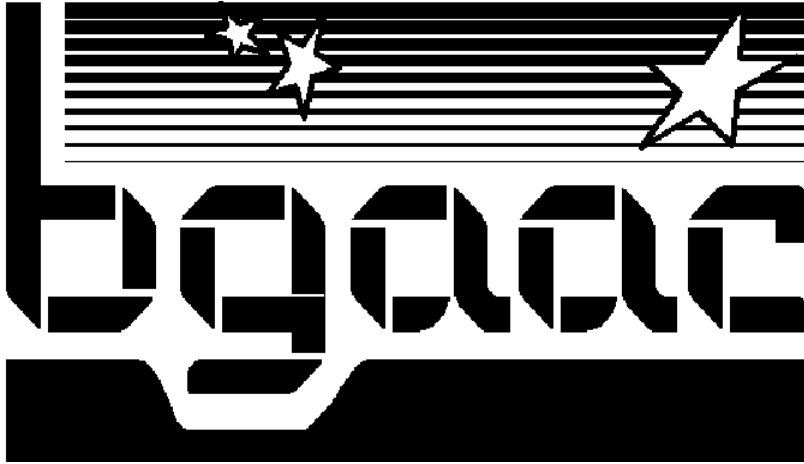


The Practical Observer

www.bgaac.org



*Bluegrass
Amateur
Astronomy
Club*

President.....Rick Schrantz
Vice President.....George Weems
Treasurer.....Brad Canon
Newsletter.....Rick Schrantz

Aug-Nov 2008

Raven Run Schedule for 2009:

Mar 21, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 20, July 18, Aug 29, Sep 19, Oct 10

Check the Herald-Leader that day to see sunset time. Observing will be in Praether Field (which adjoins Raven Run). Club members will be allowed to drive to Praether field and park there to set up. The public parks in the main lot. Please call Raven Run and register. Check with Raven Run at about 6:00 PM to verify the event has not been called off due to clouds. The events are free.

Christmas Party: Dec 19th

There will be a Christmas party on Friday December 19th at 7:00 PM at the UK Mines and Minerals Resources building on Rose St. Meat and beverage will be provided. Please bring a dish. We will be combined again with the KY Paleo Society for sufficient party mass! There will also be a silent auction.

Indoor Meetings:

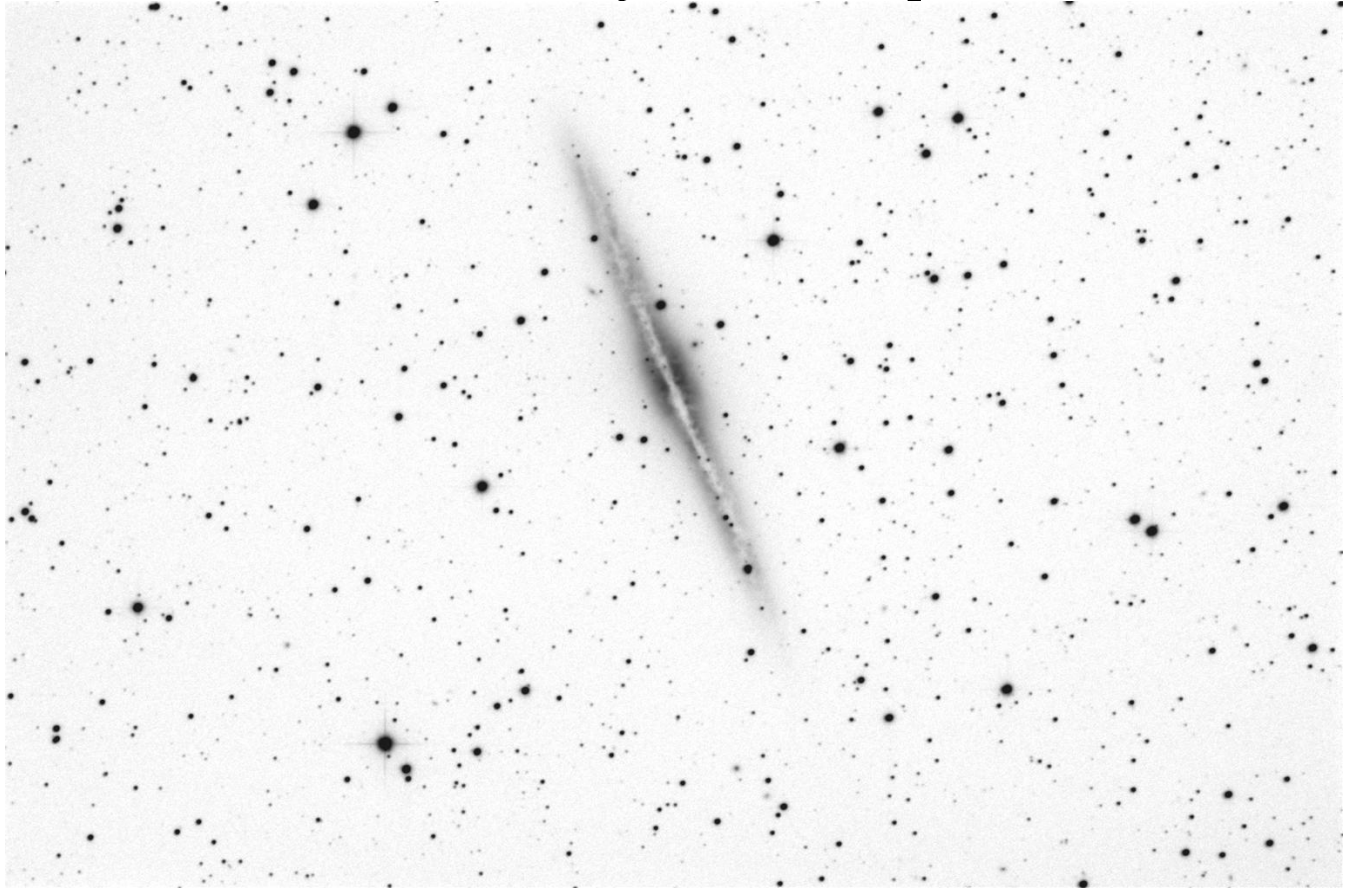
- On **Friday, Jan 23rd**, there will be a meeting at the UK Chem/Physics building (room 178). Tom Troland, astronomy professor at UK, will be the speaker. He has not given us a topic yet, but is always entertaining.
 - On **Friday, Feb 20th**, there will be a meeting at the UK Chem/Physics building (room 178). Jennifer Birriel will be the speaker. She is associate professor of astronomy and physics at Morehead. Jennifer's topic is "natural brightness of the night sky".
 - We are also trying to arrange a March indoor meeting or club observing session with Tim Knauer, the UK observatory director.
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This Month's Image

Photo by Rick Schrantz/Tim Knauer

This month's image is of galaxy NGC 891 imaged using the new UK 20-inch f/6.8 corrected Dall-Kirkham telescope (manufactured by PlaneWave instruments on a Mathis MI-750 fork mount). It is located on top of the Rose Street parking structure. The exposure is 20 minutes (10 x 2 min subs) unfiltered using their new SBIG STL-6303 camera. Of course, the sky was very bright and direct light was shining into the dome. But, the image is pretty good considering the location. It looks like some good imaging can be done with this setup!

NGC 891 from UK Scope



Membership Dues

Look at the mailing label on your envelope. It has your membership expiration date (like a magazine). If you have expired, please pay your dues! Yearly dues may be sent to our treasurer **BRAD CANON**. His address and phone is:

1016 Della Dr.
Lexington, KY 40504
Phone : 278-6155

Dues are: **Single - \$10, College students - \$7, Families - \$15.** *Sky & Telescope* subscription through the club costs less. Call Brad for information.