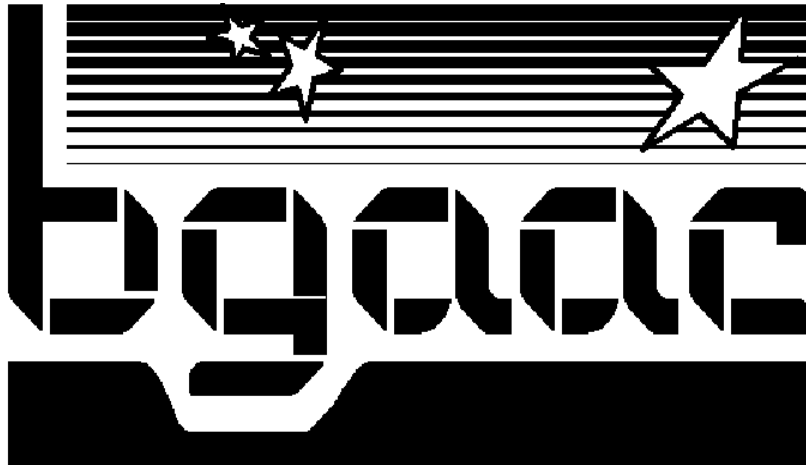


The Practical Observer

www.bgaac.org



*Bluegrass
Amateur
Astronomy
Club*

President.....Rick Schrantz
Vice President.....Dean Schwartzenburg
Treasurer.....Brad Canon
Newsletter.....Rick Schrantz

January 2012

Raven Run Schedule for 2012:

Mar 24, Apr 21, May 19, Jun 16, Jul 21, Aug 25, Sep 15, Oct 13

Observing will be in Prather Field (which adjoins Raven Run). Club members will be allowed to drive to Prather field and park there to set up usually 15 – 30 minutes before sunset. The public parks in the main lot and has to leave earlier than club members. 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 public gate times and the Prather field gate times vary each month, so check with Raven Run. The events are free.

New Newsletter Format

In an attempt to publish more newsletters and save the club some money.....we are switching to emailing newsletters in pdf file format. Some more images will be included as a bonus. Our treasurer, Brad Canon, has verified that every member has an email address listed with him. So, we should not be missing anybody.

January Indoor Meeting:

The January indoor meeting will be held on Friday January 27th at 7:30 PM. The business meeting including elections is from 7:30 to 8:00, and the presentation starts at 8:00. Tom Troland will be our speaker. His topic is 'General Relativity & Black Holes'. The meeting is located in the UK Chemistry and Physics building on Rose St. (room 179). Enter through the furthest door up the parking bay side. It will be unlocked.

March Indoor Meeting:

The next indoor meeting will be Friday, March 2. Same location and time as above. Stella Cottam, club member, will be discussing "Transits of Venus".

Membership Dues

Everyone's dues are now to paid in January of each year. If someone joins in the middle of a year, Brad will make an adjustment. So, now everyone knows his or her expiration date.....DECEMBER! 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.

This Month's Images

This month's image #1 (taken by Rick) is of an obscure object. It is LBN 777 in the constellation of Taurus. "LBN" stands for "Lynd's Bright Nebula" from a catalogue of the same name. Of course, "bright" just means it emits light. It is certainly a very dim and difficult object. This image was recorded with an ST-10 XME camera and an Epsilon 180 astrograph at f/2.8. It is an unfiltered image, and the total exposure duration was 2.5 hours. The field of view is about 1.8 degrees wide.

This month's image #2 was taken by Dean. It is an h-alpha image of the Horsehead Nebula. Dean used his new 12.5-inch AGO astrograph at f/3.8 for this 2.5 hour exposure, along with his new FLI 8300-chip camera. Dean took this image to adjust the optical alignment of his new scope even with a nearby moon in the sky.

LBN 777



Horsehead Nebula

