



Event Horizon

Volume 33, Number 5
March 2026



From The Editor

Now that March is here, it shouldn't be long until we get milder temperatures and more comfortable conditions for astronomy activities.

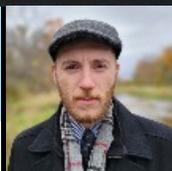
Once again, thank you to those who contributed to the Event Horizon!

Enjoy!

Bob Christmas,

Editor

editor 'AT' amateurastronomy.org



Chair's Report by Kevin Salwach

Spring is right around the corner, and as I write this on February 26th, it is two degrees outside and I'm looking out the window at a crystal-clear evening sky. I'll take it as a sign - hopefully the bad weather and abysmal skies are behind us (apart from that one extra snowstorm we always get late in the year!), and as we move out of winter the warmer temps and cloudless skies come earlier than expected. I know everyone is itching to get back out to Binbrook.

There's a lot on the plate for the HAA the next few months. This month we have our regular meeting on the 13th with guest speaker *Dr. Alison Sills* from McMaster University. Dr. Sills will be speaking to us on her area of expertise - stellar formation and the early lives of star clusters. Be sure to come, it's going to be a great presentation. On the 28th we have an evening birding and stargazing

(Continued on [page 2](#))

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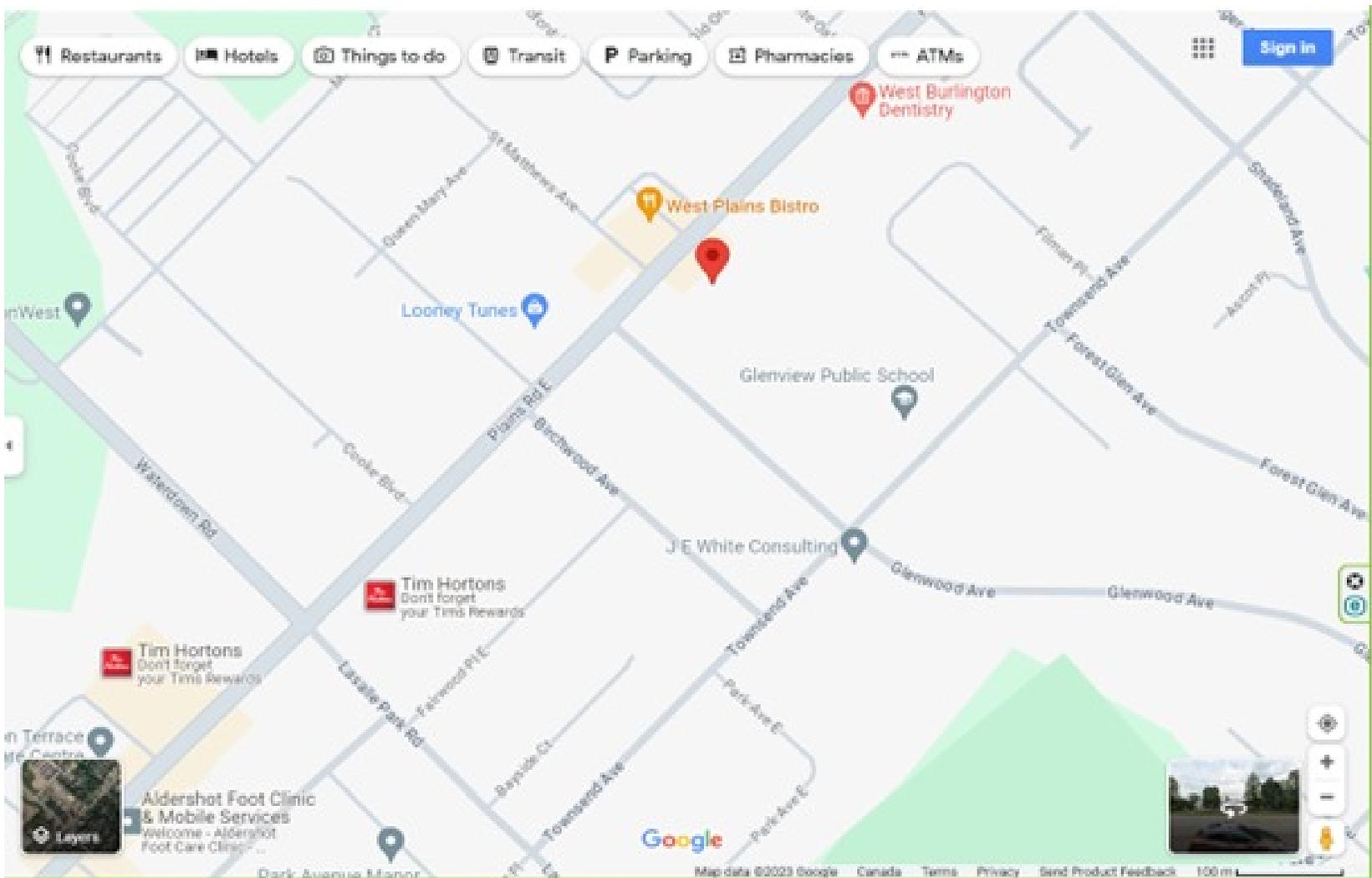
- The Sky This Month for March 2026
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- Eye Candy
- Upcoming McCallion Planetarium Shows
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Chair's Report (continued)

event at Bayfront Park with the Hamilton Naturalists' Club - several members have already volunteered to bring their scopes, but as it's a public event, all our welcome to join! And then don't forget our April meeting - doors will open on April 10th at 6:45PM for our Member's Only Silent Auction, followed by guest speaker *Ryan Zhu* from Retevis Canada giving a presentation on affordable astrophotography. Check your emails for a notice from Secretary John Gauvreau, as he has sent out the Auction details to membership! And finally on April 25th we will be having an event for International Astronomy Day - solar viewing in the day, followed by regular observing in the evening. Time and location are still TBD, but the Public Observing Team is working out details in soon. And once that passes, you can look forward to regular sidewalk astronomy and Binbrook opening nights. It should be a great spring full of astronomy! Keep an eye out in your emails as well for a monthly update from me the first week of March, and I'll see you all on the 13th.

Meeting Location

Our upcoming meeting is scheduled for *March 13th, 2026*, at St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church. St. Matthew's is located at 126 Plains Road East, Burlington, Ontario. Doors open at 7:00 and the meeting begins at 7:30.



*St Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church (indicated with red locator)
Image generated using Google Maps*

Masthead Photo: *The Rosette Nebula (NGC 2237), by Chris Szaban.*

Taken through his NIKKOR 300F ED lens with an ASI294MC Pro camera on his Celestron SLT mount on a wedge. Exposures: 28 × 180 seconds; 84 minutes total integration time.

2026 Event Dates

Friday Mar. 13, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dr. Allison Sills	St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church, 126 Plains Rd, Burlington
Saturday Mar. 28, 2026	Evening Birding & Stargazing w/ Hamilton Naturalists' Club 6pm -9pm	Bayfront Park, Hamilton
Friday Apr. 10, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Ryan Zhu Silent Auction (Members Only) 6:45PM	St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church, 126 Plains Rd, Burlington
Saturday Apr. 25, 2026	International Astronomy Day	location and time TBD
Friday May 8, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jeff Parsons	St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church, 126 Plains Rd, Burlington
Friday Jun. 12 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dr. Phil McCausland Western University	St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church, 126 Plains Rd, Burlington

HAA Helps Hamilton

The H.A.A. is accepting and collecting donations from our members and guests for local food banks at our general meetings. The H.A.A. has always valued its relationships with food banks in the community, particularly [Hamilton Food Share](#).

If you can't make an in-person meeting, you can make a donation directly to your local food bank.



HAA Members only

Silent Auction

20 Lots are up for auction

Friday April 10, 2026

St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church Hall

6:45 pm to view items In-Person 7:05 pm auction begins
ONLY

Items up for auction include:

Denkmeier Deep Sky Binoviewers

Celestron C6-R 6" Refractor f/8

Tele Vue 22 mm Panoptic eyepiece with case

For more details watch your email and check out the HAA website.



HAA Dark Sky Star Party

Fifth Anniversary

September 11 - September 13, 2026
Andromeda Meadow
Warton, Ontario

Come and celebrate our fifth anniversary of star gazing on the Bruce Peninsula.

Cost: \$25 per person, \$50 Family
\$37.50 1 Parent/Guardian & 1 child under 18

Weekend Events

- Visual observing and astrophotography opportunities
- E.S. Fox Observatory visit
- Dinner onsite Saturday (optional extra cost)
- There are no lectures

More information will be available on the HAA website.

Ground camping and trailer sites onsite
Motels, Cottages rentals etc. nearby

ONSITE AMMENITIES

- Portable Washrooms
- Gas generator for charging astronomy equipment only
- Gathering tent

CONTACT INFORMATION

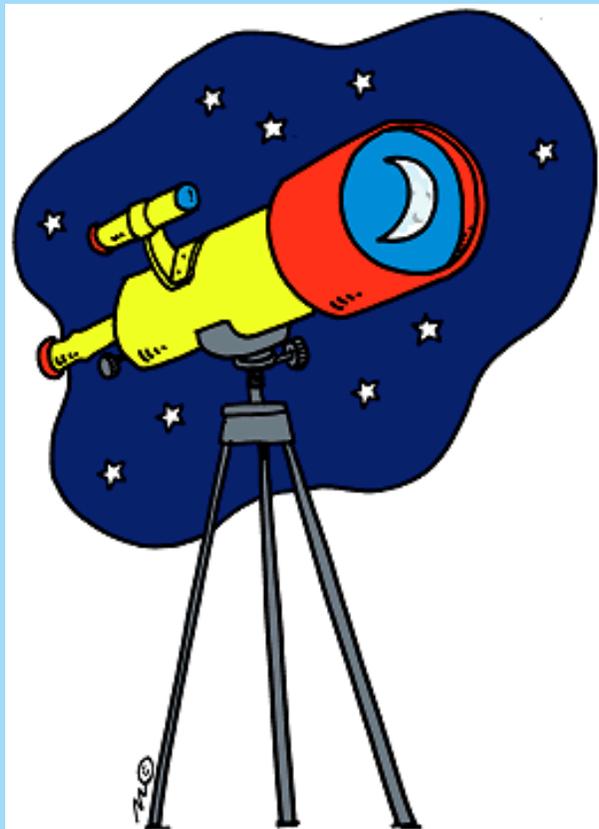
Sue at
starparty@amateurastronomy.org
Matt at
mattmannastro@outlook.com



This is a remote site with no:
water,
electricity,
flush toilets,
showers,
electical or water
hookup for trailers.

REGISTRATION OPENS Friday April 17, 2026

HAA's Loaner Scope Program



The HAA Loaner Scope Program is back!

It allows members who don't own a telescope to get more up close with the night sky, and it allows members to explore different types of telescopes! Paid members are welcome to borrow a telescope for one month.

We have telescopes of varying expertise levels, as well as various accessories, including various eyepieces.

Please visit the HAA website for more information:

<https://amateurastronomy.org/telescope-loaner-program/>

If you are interested in borrowing a scope, please contact Jeff Parsons at

loanerscope@amateurastronomy.org.

Telescopes are loaned out on a first come basis.

“HAA Presents”

Members of the public of any age in the GTHA can now request an in-person or virtual presentation from the HAA directly on our website.

Simply navigate to www.amateurastronomy.org and select “Contact” from the top menu bar and then click on “HAA Presents” (see image below). You will be presented with a request form and once all required fields are entered, click on the “Submit” button and you will see a confirmation message that your request has been successfully submitted.



Home About Newsletters Gallery Club Events Resources **Contact** Q

HAA Presents

Once received, our Public Education Director, Jo Ann Salci, will respond to your request within 5 business days to discuss next steps. If you have any questions, feel free to send an email to: haapresents@amateurastronomy.org.



HAA Explorers 2.0 --- Exploring the Skies: Can You Find: CanSat? by Jo Ann Salci

Editor's Note: Fiza Mehfil is unable to contribute her usual HAA Explorers 2.0 column this month due to her commitments to the CanSat project.

While Fiza and her team, Aphelion V, are busy building their CanSat Satellite this month, try your hand at finding these components of the CanSat Design Challenge!

Can You Find: CanSat?

C	H	A	C	A	M	E	R	A	S	R	U	E	U
E	N	O	R	D	P	A	R	A	C	H	U	T	E
R	N	E	T	H	E	R	L	A	N	D	S	I	A
L	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	P	E	A	L	I
E	D	B	C	N	B	D	E	C	N	S	L	L	D
T	Y	U	I	H	M	E	A	A	I	I	T	E	L
H	D	I	O	C	A	I	G	T	M	G	I	T	E
B	P	L	N	A	H	L	S	I	A	N	T	A	I
R	R	D	I	N	C	R	L	S	N	D	U	S	H
I	I	D	U	A	N	O	O	E	I	N	D	B	S
D	M	U	D	D	U	G	D	C	N	O	E	P	L
G	A	A	R	A	A	L	N	I	K	G	N	R	E
E	R	O	A	H	L	S	C	Y	N	E	E	U	M
R	Y	R	A	D	N	O	C	E	S	G	T	Y	I

- ALTITUDE
- NETHERLANDS
- CHALLENGE
- CAMERAS
- PRIMARY
- ROCKET
- LETHBRIDGE
- TEAM
- ARDUINO
- SATELLITE
- CANADA
- SECONDARY
- DESIGN
- BUILD
- SHIELD
- PARACHUTE
- MISSION
- BEGINNER
- COMPUTER
- LAUNCH
- DATA
- CODING
- DRONE

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Answers on page 13



The Sky This Month for March 2026 by Kevin Salwach

First off the bat - since I took over as Observing Director at the end of 2024, I have been asking for photo submissions for my monthly Sky This Month presentations. In order to keep my presentation times down, as well as for our astrophotographers to get a chance to have their images shared where they can be appreciated at their best quality (i.e. not emailed, downloaded, put on a PowerPoint, screen recorded and then viewed off a projector) I will ask that moving forward, as many of you already do - you send all astrophotos to Bob at editor@amateurastronomy.org so they can be shared at high resolution and proper color in our Eye Candy section in the EH. That being said, if you have any astrophotos of particular interest - something very strange, something absolutely unique, an image with funny story to share with it, etc. then by all means send it over to me at observing@amateurastronomy.org and I will share the pic with your full comments here in my Sky This Month section. Same goes for sketches, interesting observing related stories, anything at all! Now lets get into it.

First - it would appear that that history rhymes, even if it doesn't repeat. The major event of this month is the same one it was last March. We'll get there in a bit.

Let's switch it up a little bit. As many of you know, March is *Messier Marathon* month. For those of you unfamiliar with the Messier Marathon, the Messier Catalogue is a list of 110 bright (for the most part) and easily observable (for the most part) Northern hemisphere deep sky objects compiled by 18th century French astronomer Charles Messier. The catalogue is composed of star clusters, nebulae, galaxies, a supernova remnant, a star cloud, an asterism, and a double star. The list was compiled in the late 1700s as Messier - a comet hunter, the most popular astronomical pastime of his day, continually came across objects in his telescope he would initially mistake for a comet. Coming back over several nights, much to his dismay the objects remained in the same spot in the night sky - meaning he'd stumbled across another pesky spiral galaxy or emission nebula. Because his main interest was comets, he made note of these objects and compiled them into what is now known as the Messier Catalogue (denoted as "M objects"), so he could check back and see whether the fuzzy object in his scope was something he'd already seen - and avoid himself the disappointment of finding out it wasn't a comet a few nights later. Ironically enough, 250 years later it's this list of "non-comets", and not the 13 comets he actually found, which is his claim to fame in the world of astronomy.

The end of March and early April present a small window every year where northern hemisphere observers can theoretically see all 110 Messier objects in a single night. It's a daunting task, requiring you to be up from the second the Sun goes down to almost the second it rises - and at our latitude in Hamilton there is an incredibly short viewing window to see the earliest setting and latest rising objects at the start and end of the list - but it can be done. There is usually a 2-3-week window at the end of March where the Earth's orbital position, rotation, and length of day mix together to create a perfect viewing window to see every object. This year, the best dates to try are the night of Saturday, March 21st, with a second option of Saturday, March 14th, so mark both down in your calendar. To spare you an entire article dedicated to the Messier Marathon, I have attached below a link to a great little guide on Celestron's blog page (link below), which also includes a downloadable list of objects in the order you need to view them. There are also hundreds of sites and blogs online where you can research everything you need to know about undertaking a Messier marathon, so there is no shortage of information. My only advice - dress warm, really warm. 3:00AM at the end of March can still get very, very, very cold! Good luck, and let me know if you managed to get it done this year, and how many objects you saw.

<https://www.celestron.com/blogs/knowledgebase/the-ultimate-guide-to-conquering-the-messier-marathon?srsltid=AfmBOopJKPLkVHkepJX2KqA2SiWrUSH20Jb2cJK9Z36DgRpepwSitzG4>

Now on to the sky. Looking west with the naked eye in the middle of the month, we see our winter constellations beginning to set earlier and earlier. Auriga is no longer near the zenith, Orion is facing down towards the horizon with club in hand, Canis Major is moving down into the swamp horizon sky, and Taurus with them too, beginning to set just after midnight. Gemini is still lingering high in the sky near zenith,

(Continued on [page 9](#))

The Sky This Month for March 2026 (continued)

but is now joined with Cancer, Lynx, and the head of Ursa Major all almost overhead. And looking down east, we see Leo halfway up the sky, with both Bootes and Virgo beginning to rise by 9PM, with Hercules, Lyra and the summer constellations starting to show after midnight. In the north, Cepheus has replaced the Big Dipper near the horizon, as Ursa Major moves up above the Pole, and over in the south, Hydra snakes across covering almost half of the horizon by 1AM. *(Continued on [page 10](#))*



The night sky looking west at 9PM on Friday, March 13th.



The night sky looking towards zenith at 9PM on Friday, March 13th. Images generated using Stellarium

The Sky This Month for March 2026 (continued)



The night sky looking east at 9PM on Friday, March 13th. Image generated using Stellarium

The Moon

We start off the month with the Moon at Full on March 3rd, with Last Quarter on the 11th, Full Moon on the 19th, and First Quarter on the 25th. The week of the 14th-21st is a good bet for some darker, moonless skies.

A few lunar events of note this month:

- (!!!) The big one for this month - a total lunar eclipse on the morning of Tuesday the 3rd. You will need a clear western horizon, as the Moon will be setting mid-eclipse as the Sun rises (see image at top of page 11). From Hamilton, the eclipse begins at 3:44AM, with partial starting at 4:50AM, totality beginning at 6:04AM, and maximum eclipse at 6:33AM, with moonset as the eclipse is ongoing at 6:54AM. Again, this means the Moon will be VERY close to your horizon, so try and find a nice vantage point or lake view before the morning in question, so you aren't scrambling for a view last minute!
- A degree and a half away from Antares in the early morning on the 10th
- A couple degrees away from Mercury and Mars immediately before sunset on the morning of the 17th (very close to the horizon)
- A few degrees away from Venus in the evening sky on the night of the 20th
- A degree away from Elnath, Auriga's second brightest star just after sunset on the 24th
- Near Jupiter, Castor and Pollux in Gemini on the 25th and 26th
- Less than a tenth of a degree away from M44 the Beehive around midnight on the 28th

(Continued on [page 11](#))

The Sky This Month for March 2026 (continued)



Total lunar eclipse at 6:15AM on Tuesday, March 3rd. Image generated using Stellarium

The Planets

On to our planets. **Mercury** starts off as an evening object very low to the western horizon immediately after sunset in the first few days of the month, joined nearby by Venus. It then swings around the Sun and becomes a morning object in the middle of the month, but again very, very low to the eastern horizon right before sunrise. You could potentially spot it, but it'll be a tricky month for the inner planet.

Venus starts off the month close to the western horizon as well, visible for about a half hour after sunset the first few days of March. It begins to move higher as the month progresses - joining Saturn and Neptune a degree away on the evening of the 8th around 6:30PM (see image at top of page 12). By the end of the month, it has gained altitude and will be visible for about an hour after sunset in the west, continually rising higher and higher as we move closer to summer.

Mars again is too close to the Sun for any meaningful observing this month, though with a big amount of luck and skill you might catch it skirting the eastern horizon immediately before sunrise the last couple weeks of the month.

Jupiter is still high in Gemini at the start of the month, up as the Sun sets and setting around 3:30AM. At the end of the month it sets around 2AM, but it still above and well placed most of the night. Plenty of views all month long.

Saturn starts the month very low in the west as well, visible just after sunset close to the horizon in the twilight glow, with **Neptune** still a few degrees away. It moves too close to the Sun for viewing by the 15th, so this is your last chance to see its rings until May.

Uranus is visible in Taurus all month long, should you be so inclined to try your hand at observing the seventh planet.

(Continued on [page 12](#))

The Sky This Month for March 2026 (continued)



Since it's Messier Marathon month, that will be your deep sky focus for March. Even if you can't get them all in a single night, try and see if you can manage all 110 over the course of the month. I will return to a full deep sky section in April, with a nice long list of targets for our beginners and experts (April is galaxy month after all), but nonetheless here's a challenge object for March, on top of your Messier list:

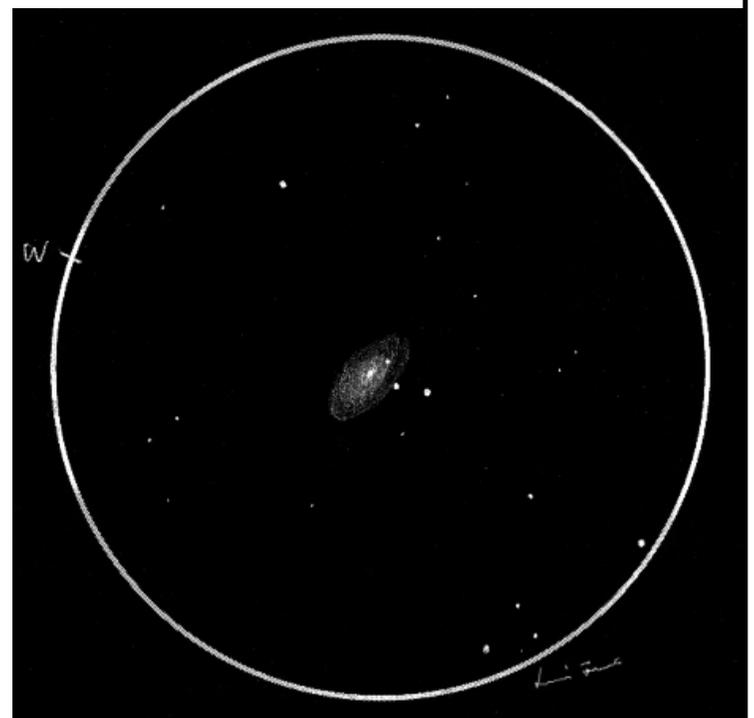
Challenge Object: NGC 3344 - The Sliced Onion Galaxy

This loose, face on spiral galaxy in Leo Minor is a great for star hopping (if anyone still does that) and observing "training". With no readily visible naked eye stars around, but an easy chain of 4th and 5th magnitude stars to follow right to it, the galaxy is a fun but sometimes difficult one to find if you're going the old-fashioned route and not using a go-to of any sort. Once you do find it halfway between 40 and 41 LMi, in a 6-8" scope you'll need to train your eyes to pick it out - at magnitude 9.9 it has very low surface brightness, being face on, but with dark skies and an 8" scope in good seeing you should be able to see its faint outer reaches, brighter nucleus, and hints of structure in its arms. If you have a 10" or bigger scope, then on a really good night, you should be able to see some of its spiral structure. Use this galaxy both as a test of how good you are at locating your target, and then as a test of how good you are at training your eye to pick out faint details right on the edge of visibility.

Clear skies and happy observing!

*Venus, Saturn and Neptune
at 6:30PM on Sunday March 8th.*

Image generated using Stellarium



*NGC3344 in a 12" scope, courtesy of
Ferenc Lovró at GraphiteGalaxy.com*

HAA Outreach Presentations with Vulnerable Sectors

The HAA executive has created a policy for any HAA member who wishes to do outreach presentations to vulnerable sectors, which includes children under 18 years of age and vulnerable adults. This does not include our general club outreach activities.

Presentations include in-person or virtual sessions where parents/guardians may not be present. **As it is not always possible to anticipate caregiver attendance at outreach activities for children under the age of 18, or vulnerable adults, it is therefore a requirement for HAA member-volunteers who work with these vulnerable populations to complete a Police Vulnerable Sector Check.**

These can be obtained only in your region of residency. Costs vary from one area to another. They will be kept on file by the HAA Education Director. No details regarding the findings of the check will be made in any way public or viewed beyond the HAA Education Director.

The HAA will reimburse any member who wishes to do outreach presentations to vulnerable individuals, provided a receipt is submitted.

Please contact Jo Ann Salci if you have any questions about this policy and/or if you wish to put your name forward to help with outreach activities to young people!

Word Search Answer key from page 7:

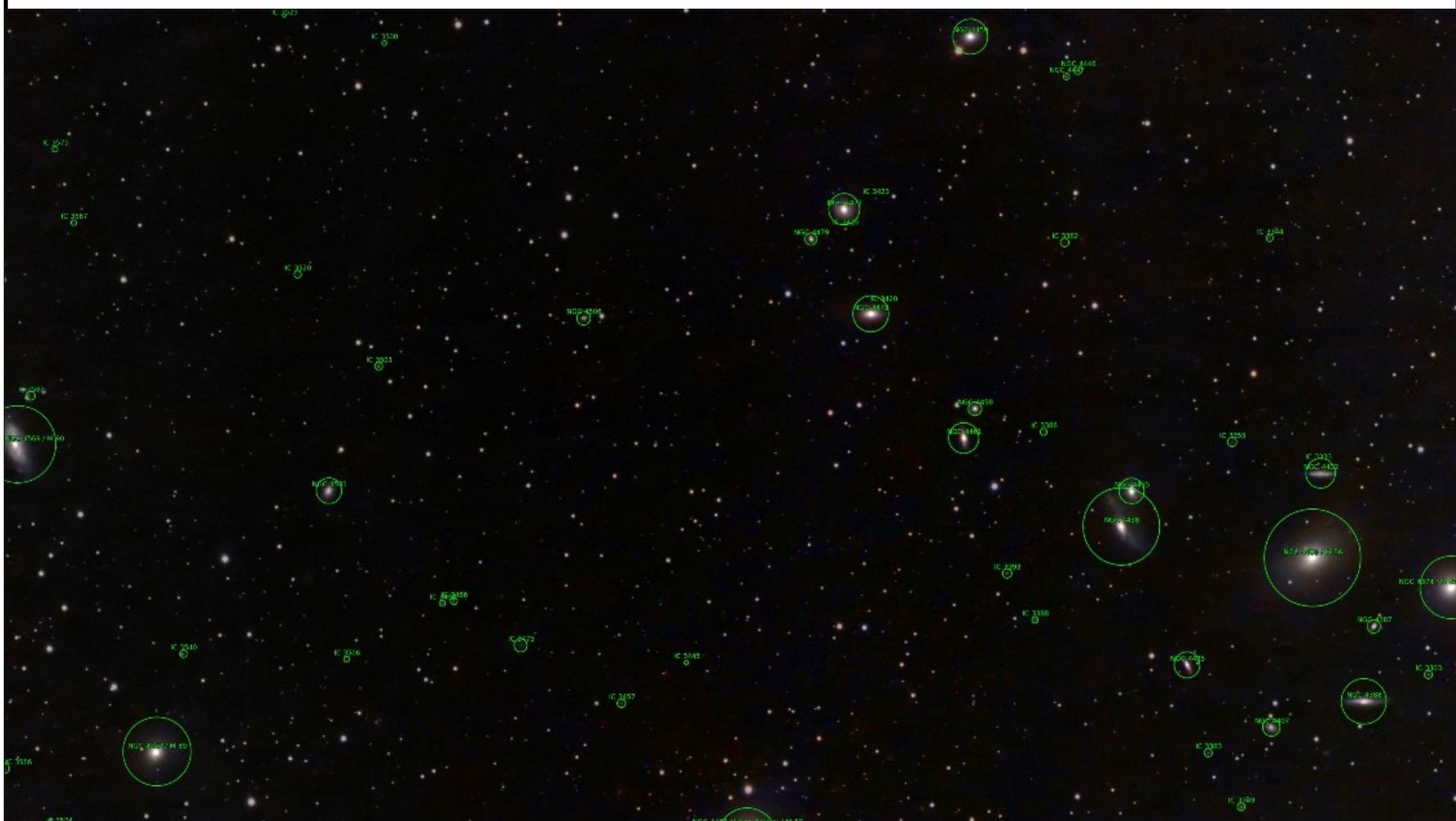


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Dwarf 3 Deep Field by Jeff Parsons

As we move through the latter part of winter, the night sky views are of (CLOUDS!) regions far from the galactic core with Virgo rising higher every night. This stacked image captured by my Dwarf 3 (D3) smart telescope using the telephoto lens covers a region in Virgo that includes most of Markarian's Chain. I aligned the FOV to capture as many galaxies as possible. I think I either nudged the tripod or the auto stacking function trimmed the framing just enough to move the supermassive M87 galaxy out of the field of view so that only a portion of its halo is visible at the bottom middle edge of the image. The poster boy for supermassive black holes, with a mass 200 times that of the Milky Way, and about 1 trillion stars, this ancient giant anchors the entire Virgo Cluster including Markarian's Chain. It pains me that I missed it in this image.



*The heart of the Virgo Galaxy Cluster, including Markarian's Chain (annotated using Astrometry.net)
(See non-annotated version on page 16.)*

Image Credit: Jeff Parsons

With a FOV of $2.9^\circ \times 1.7^\circ$, the D3 telephoto lens spans about 3.8 million light years on the diagonal at an average distance of 50 to 65 million light years to the prominent galaxies in the image. The annotated image from nova.astrometry.net identified over 15,000 stars and 44 galaxies with many more galaxies too undefined to be differentiated from stars. I've read reports online discussing evidence of Galaxy PGC 40480 appearing in images of the same sky region, confirmed by the Sloan Survey. Incredibly, PGC 40480 is about 6 billion light years from Earth with a significant redshift causing it to recede from us at 37% light speed! After analyzing my image, Gemini AI reported finding PGC 40480, a tiny reddish smudge between 'The Eyes' (NGC 4435/NGC4438) and NGC4461 (see image at top of page 15). It sits 1/3rd the distance from NGC4461 on an imaginary line drawn to NGC4438 (FYI note in 'The Eyes' the distorted shape of the galactic halo of NGC4438 as the much smaller neighbour NGC 4435 devours it). I searched and searched but couldn't find PGC 40480 and yet apparently it's there.

(Continued on [page 15](#))

Dwarf 3 Deep Field (continued)



Close-up of part of Markarian's Chain, including "The Eyes" and the area of PGC 40480
Image Credit: Jeff Parsons

This all made me realize what a vast block of 3-dimensional space had been captured by such a tiny telescope and yet still be so insignificant a part of the known Universe. So after a back and forth with Gemini, a chart was created that compares the Dwarf 3 FOV to cosmic structures in the known Universe and then scales them all down to an Earth sized scale for a human perspective.

COSMIC SCALING: DWARF 3 DEEP FIELD			
Region	Max Diameter (Millions of LY)	# of Dwarf 3 Images (2.9° x 1.7°)	Scale Analogy (Universe = Earth)
Dwarf 3 Image	3.8	1	A Large Building
Markarian's Chain	1.5	0.4	A City Block
Local Group (Home)	10	8,368 [Full Sky]*	A Large Park
Virgo Cluster	15	8,368 [Full Sky]*	A Large Airport
Virgo Supercluster	110	28.9	A Town
Laniakea Supercluster	520	136.8	A Large City
Observable Universe	93,000	8,368 [Full Sky]*	The Earth
* Earth resides inside these structures			
Laniakea contains the Virgo Supercluster and the Virgo Cluster. The Virgo Cluster contains the Local group, Markarian's Cha			



The heart of the Virgo Galaxy Cluster, including Markarian's Chain (non-annotated version)
by Jeff Parsons
Imaged with his Dwarf 3 smartscope.



right:

Jupiter, its moon Europa,
and Europa's Shadow
on February 9, 2026

by Chris Szaban

right:

**Faint Aurora from January 19, 2026
Solar Event**

by Kerry-Ann Lecky Hepburn

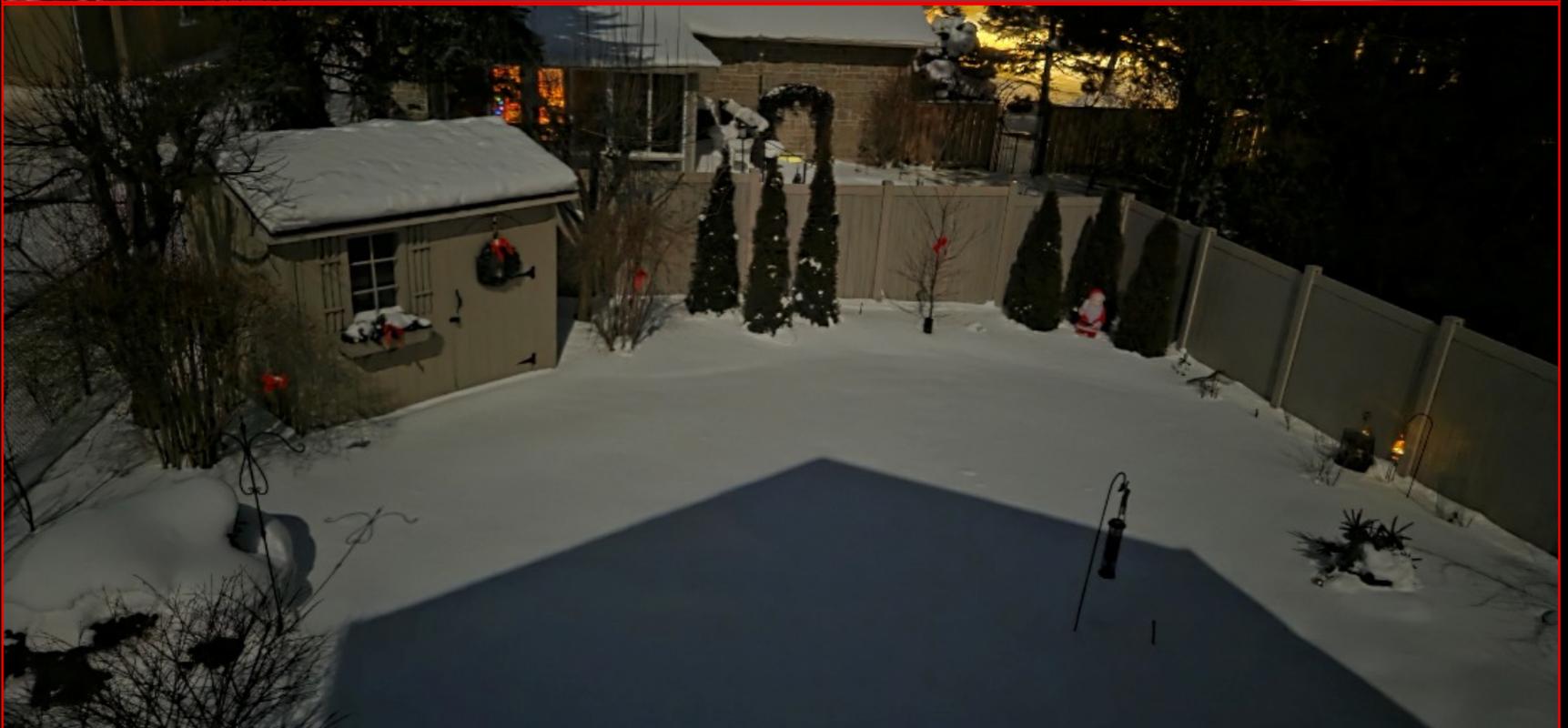
below:

**The Headphone Nebula (Planetary
Nebula Jones-Emberson 1)**

by Chris Szaban

Taken with his Celestron NexStar 6SE &
ASI2600MC Pro camera.





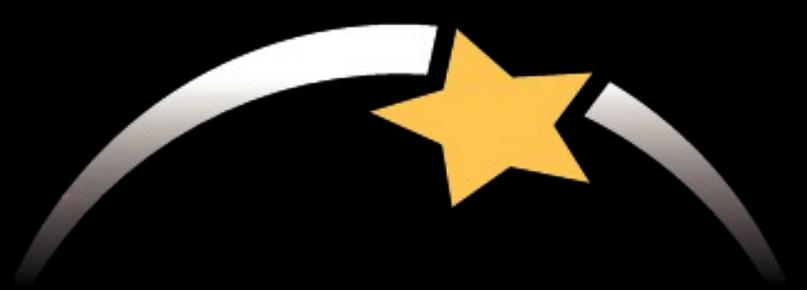
above:

Progression of the Moon's Shadow, as captured in 2 images one hour apart, by Jo Ann Salci

right:

The Snow Moon of February 1, 2026
by Kerry-Ann Lecky Hepburn





William J. McCallion Planetarium

McMASTER UNIVERSITY, HAMILTON, ONTARIO

- **Public transit available directly to McMaster campus**
- **Tickets \$10 per person; private group shows \$226**
- **Upcoming shows:**
 - **Mar 4,16 to 20: Introductory Astronomy for Kids — Solar System**
 - **Mar 11: The Unknown Universe**
 - **Mar 16: Strange New Worlds: Planets Beyond Our Solar System — for Kids**
 - **Mar 16,18, 20: Introductory Astronomy for Kids — Constellations**
 - **Mar 17-19, 21: Introductory Astronomy for Kids — Galaxies**
 - **Mar 17: Moon Madness — for Kids**
 - **Mar 18: Asteroids, Comets, and the Edge of the Solar System**
 - **Mar 19-31: Lost at Sea — for Kids**
 - **Mar 20: Asteroids, Comets, and the Edge of the Solar System — for Kids**
 - **Mar 25: The Celestial Bear: The Six Nations' Night Sky**
- **For show times and further details, visit**
<https://planetarium.physics.mcmaster.ca>

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 13, 2026 - 7:30 pm – H.A.A. Meeting at St. Matthew’s Anglican Church. Our main speaker will be *Dr. Alison Sills* of McMaster University, who will talk about stellar formation. Past meetings can be viewed on our [YouTube](#) channel.

March 28, 2026 - 6 pm to 9 pm – H.A.A./Hamilton Naturalists’ Club Evening Birding and Nighttime Sky-gazing at Bayfront Park, Hamilton.

April 10, 2026 - 7:30 pm – H.A.A. Meeting at St. Matthew’s Anglican Church.

2025-2026 Council

Chair	Kevin Salwach
Secretary	John Gauvreau
Treasurer	Marcus Freeman
Second Chair	Chris Szaban
Membership Director	Ed Smith
Communications Team Director	vacant
Members Service Director	vacant
Education Team Director	Jo Ann Salci
Observing Team Director	Kevin Salwach

Check out the H.A.A. [Website](#)
www.amateurastronomy.org



Contact Us

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Meeting Inquiries:
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Public Events:
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Observing Inquiries:
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Education:
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Newsletter:
editor@amateurastronomy.org

Digital Platforms Director:
webmaster@amateurastronomy.org

All active HAA members have the privilege of access to an exclusive HAA members only dark sky location.

Be on the lookout for e-mails with dark sky observing details. Space is limited.

The Harvey Garden HAA Portable Library



Contact Information

E-mail: library@amateurastronomy.org