Event Horizon

Volume 33, Number 6
April 2026

From The Editor

Welcome to April, everybody!

As I write this (April 3, 2026), Artemis II is on its way to the Moon! Safe travels, Artemis!

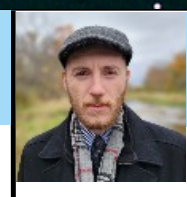
Once again, thank you to those who have contributed articles and images to the Event Horizon!

Happy Reading, and Clear Skies!

Bob Christmas,

Editor

editor 'AT' amateurastronomy.org



Chair's Report by Kevin Salwach

Hey all, happy spring! I will keep the Chair's Report nice and short this month – I will have a lot more for you in May. First off, we had a very successful event on March 28th at Bayfront Park with the Hamilton Naturalists' Club. Several club members came out with their scopes and showed some of the night sky sights to over 75 people in attendance – great views were had, and lots of interest generated in the club. Thanks to all our volunteers who made it out! We also had our first Binbrook opening the night before on the 27th – although it clouded out almost immediately after we set up our scopes (such is the astronomer's life), and didn't clear til well after midnight, it was still great to get back out to the park after a long winter's absence. Coming up this month we have our meeting on Friday, April 10th, featuring guest speaker *Ryan Zhu* from Retevis Canada presenting about affordable astrophotography. The same night we have our members' Silent Auction – see the attached flyer further down in the EH. Secretary John Gauvreau will be sending out a second email on Friday the 3rd as a reminder, in it you will find the full auction details, full lot list, and a link to view high resolution images of all the items in question. Bidding starts at

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Chair's Report (continued)

6:45PM sharp, so don't forget to come early, cash in hand, to get yourself some new great equipment! Keep an eye out in your emails for the reminder – remember, the auction is for members only. Finally, on April 25th we have our first public observing session of the year at Bayfront Park for International Astronomy Day. Club members will be out for solar observing at the entrance to Bayfront Park from 12-2:00PM, and then back again from 7:30-10:30 for evening observing. Come on out with your scopes, or with friends and family to get some views of the Moon, Venus and Jupiter! A cancellation email will be sent out, and a notification put up on our website by 9AM should the weather be very uncooperative. As I said, I will go more in-depth next month, but coming up in June is our Annual General Meeting, where club members will vote on a few resolutions, as well as vote on Council for the upcoming club year. The following positions will be open, so I am calling on anyone interested in helping the club function smoothly and grow to step up to the plate and give us a hand on Council:

- Treasurer
- Member's Services Team Director
- Membership Director
- Communications Director
- EH Editor

If you enjoy what the HAA does, and want to see it thrive and grow, please consider volunteering and reaching out to me at chair@amateurastronomy.org. More details on each position to come next month. For now, get out there, enjoy the warm weather and clear skies (hopefully with a new piece of equipment you picked up at auction), and I'll see you all out there this month!

2026 Event Dates

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	Bayfront Park, Hamilton
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

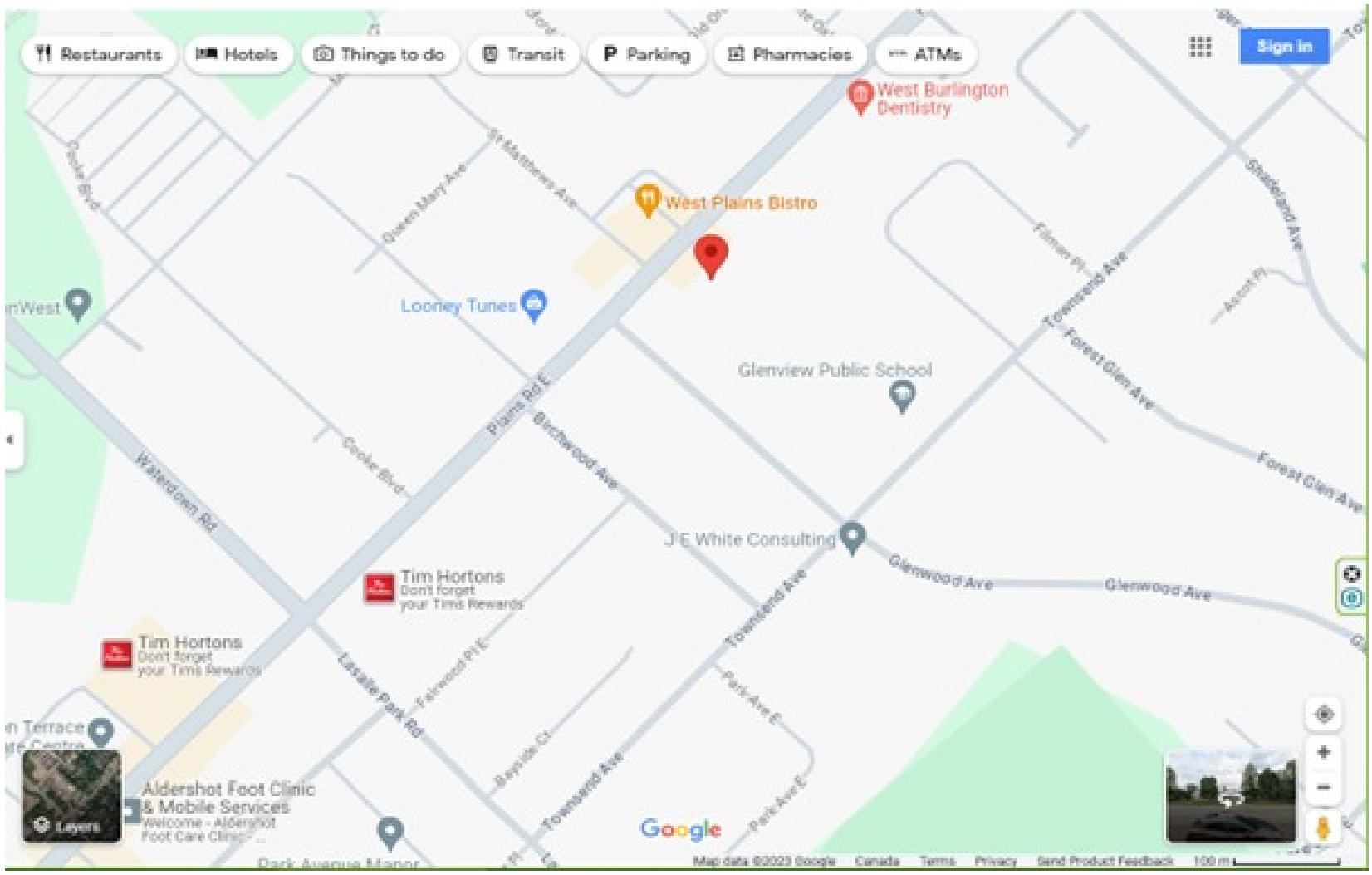
Masthead Photo: *The Orion Nebula (M42/M43) and the Running Man Nebula (NGC 1973,5,7),* by *Bob Christmas.*

Taken through his Seastar S50 smartscope from Burlington ON.

Exposures: 270 × 10 seconds in EQ mode; 45 minutes total integration time.

Meeting Location

Our upcoming meeting is scheduled for *April 10th, 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

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.

Hamilton Food Share
Hunger. It's just unacceptable.

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 ONLY 7:05 pm auction begins

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
Wiarton, 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

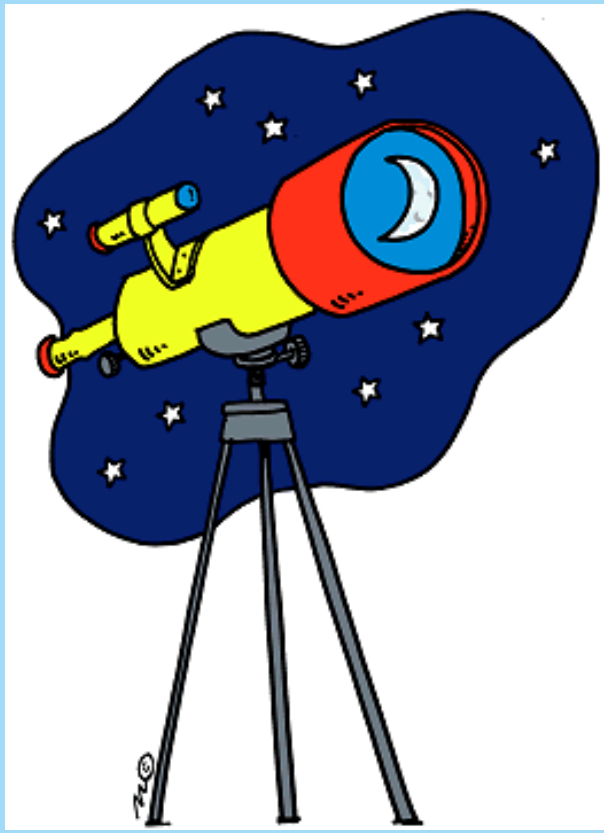
- Portable Washrooms
- Gas generator for charging astronomy equipment only
- Gathering tent

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

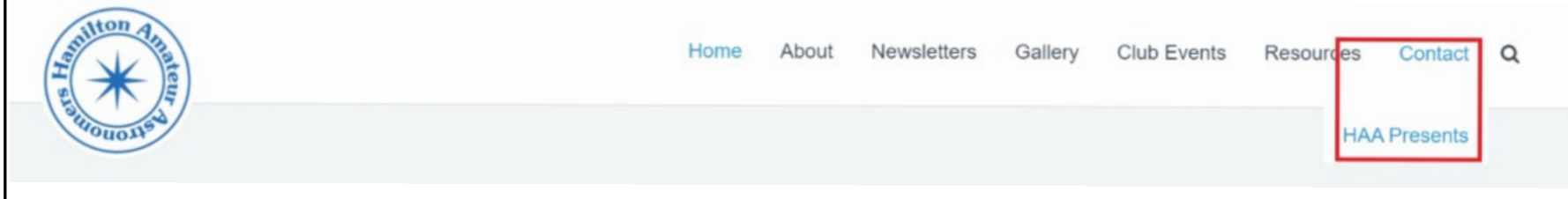
loanerscope@amateurastronomy.org.

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.



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.

Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair (BASEF) Winners!

The HAA has been a proud supporter of BASEF since 1994!

The HAA sponsors an award at BASEF every year, called the James A. Winger Award. James Winger was a founding member of the HAA and is the only person to have been named its Honorary Chair. Jim was a skilled astronomer, expert telescope maker and taught many people how to make their own telescope optics. Jim was always a great supporter of BASEF, personally donating prizes to foster the enthusiasm of young scientists.

Consideration for this Award is given to a student who does a project related to Astronomy, Physics, Light Pollution Abatement, or Space Travel. The Award consists of:

a. The James A. Winger Junior Award: $100 for 2 students in Grades 7-9
b. The James A. Winger Senior Award: $100 for 2 students in Grades 10-12

This year our BASEF judges were HAA members Dee Rowan, Jo Ann Salci and Janice Breitkopf. There were amazing Astronomy-related projects this year and it was a difficult decision!

This year's BASEF award winners:

Junior Awards:

Are We Alone in the Solar System? Potential for Life on Mars:
Kaitlyn explored soil and climate conditions on Mars and what living organisms could possibly survive on or under the surface. Congratulations!

The Physics of Bottle Rockets: How Water Volume Changes the Maximum Launch Height:
Eren tested these bottle rockets in January and encountered many challenges including frozen tubing. Eren hopes to continue his exploration during warmer summer months! Congratulations!

Senior Awards:

Designing a Low-Cost Telescope to Make Astronomy More Accessible to Everyone:
We were impressed with the eyepiece design that William created. His desire to share this low-cost option with others and to make astronomy accessible is such a great fit with our Club's mission! Congratulations!

FROST: Harnessing Machine Learning and Radiation-Chemistry for Habitability Assessment on Europa:
Fiza created a rover that would collect visual, spectroscopic, pH, and conductivity data and use machine-learning algorithms to analyze fracture patterns and oxidant concentrations. All of this would be added to a decision-algorithm to determine the best locations to drill on Europa in the search for signs of life. Congratulations!

Congratulations to everyone who worked very hard on their projects!

HAA Explorers 2.0 --- All About Telescopes! by Fiza Mehfil

Welcome back, HAA explorers! Have you ever looked up at glittering specks of stars in the night sky, wondering what they would look like up close? How do scientists see stars, planets, and even galaxies that are so far away? The secret: a powerful tool called a telescope.

What is a telescope?

A telescope is a scientific tool that helps us see objects that are very far away by collecting and focusing light. When light comes from stars, planets, or galaxies, it spreads out and becomes faint by the time it reaches us. A telescope has a large opening that gathers more of this light than your eyes are capable of gathering. It focuses all of that light into a single point, forming a clear image!

Most telescopes use lenses or mirrors to bend or reflect the light so that it comes together in the right way. This makes distant objects appear brighter and more detailed. Because telescopes collect more light and focus it more precisely, they allow scientists to study objects in space that would otherwise be too dim or too far away to see.

Types of Telescopes

1) Reflecting Telescopes

Reflecting telescopes use mirrors to bounce light and focus it into an image. These mirrors can be very large, which helps scientists see very far into space. The Hubble Space Telescope is a reflecting telescope and it has taken amazing pictures of galaxies, stars, and nebulae. Reflecting telescopes are especially cool because they can be very big and are great for seeing faint, distant objects.

2) Refracting Telescopes

Refracting telescopes use lenses to bend light, which is how glasses work, too! Light passes through the lens and is focused into an image.

One of the first people to use a refracting telescope was Galileo Galilei, who used a simple telescope to study the sky. These telescopes are cool because they use a simple design and produce sharp images.

3) Radio Telescopes

Not all telescopes look at visible light. Radio telescopes detect radio waves, which are a kind of light that we can't see with our eyes. A famous one is the Arecibo Observatory, which looked like a giant dish! These telescopes are cool because they work even during the day or in cloudy weather and help scientists study invisible parts of space.

4) Space Telescopes

Some telescopes are sent into space, far above Earth's atmosphere. This gives them a clear, unobstructed view of the universe. One of the most advanced is the James Webb Space Telescope, which can see very distant galaxies and even look back in time! These telescopes are cool because there's no blurry air from Earth's atmosphere and they can see types of light that don't reach the ground.

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HAA Explorers 2.0 --- All About Telescopes! (continued)

Why do we need different telescopes?

The universe is full of different kinds of light: visible light, radio waves, infrared, and more. Each type of telescope is designed to detect a different kind, just like having different tools in a toolbox!

Fun Facts:

- Some telescopes can see objects so far away that their light took billions of years to reach us!
- The biggest telescopes on Earth are as large as buildings
- Radio telescopes don't "see" space, they listen to it!

In conclusion, telescopes help us explore the universe and learn amazing things about space. From mirrors and lenses to giant dishes and space observatories, each type of telescope shows us a new piece of the cosmic puzzle. Who knows? Maybe one day, you'll use a telescope to discover something no one has ever seen before!

HAA Outreach Presentations with Vulnerable Sectors

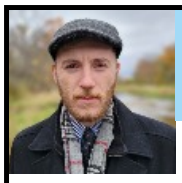
The HAA executive has created a policy for any HAA member who wishes to do outreach presentations to vulnerable sectors, which includes children under 18 years of age and vulnerable adults. This does not include our general club outreach activities.

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!



The Sky This Month for April 2026 by Kevin Salwach

Spring! Warm weather! Clear skies! Of course, we know April's reputation…

But the last couple weeks have finally given us some warmer weather and a smattering of clear nights, and with (I pray) the last bit of snow falling the last weekend of March, we can look forward to some nice spring skies coming up, and be able to actually see them. I know a lot of you have been acquiring new gear over the winter, and are eager to get out and use it. So, I kindly ask no one buy anything else until the summer at least, lest we get those six weeks of clouds which come with a new telescope…

For my Sky This Month presentation at the meeting on the 10th, I am going to change things up slightly. I normally follow the same pattern in my article as I do my video presentations, but in order to cut down some time and allow for more socializing, I am going to cut out some parts and add some others in order to keep my videos down to 15 minutes, while still packing in all of the notable upcoming celestial events, important dates, and relevant information for the month in between regular meetings. As I mentioned last month, for those who send in photos to the Observing Director, I will direct you to send them over to the Editor at editor@amateurastronomy.org, so Bob can share them in the Eye Candy section of the EH. Unless of course you have something one of a kind, absolutely bizarre, totally unexpected or strange you've seen, photographed or captured in your night sky travels, and want to share the story, in which case send it over to observing@amateurastronomy.org, and I'll share it here in my article. Another reminder as well, that our Loaner Scope Program has many different scopes available for club members to borrow, so if you are in need of a telescope for a couple months, take advantage of it and email Jeff at loanerscope@amateurastronomy.org and he'll set you up with some of the club's equipment. Finally, on the last observing related note, we are just waiting for final approval from Astrospheric, and once we get that in the new couple weeks, club members will be able to download the Astro Lite mobile version for free as an added club benefit. The desktop version is now live on our site, and you can find it at the "Astrospheric" tab on top of the home page. Keep an eye out in your emails for the link to the mobile version soon.

On to the sky.

Starting off looking up over in the west, in the middle of this month we see the last of the winter constellations hitting the horizon by midnight, with Orion and the Winter Triangle setting by 10PM, and Auriga and Gemini not far behind them.

In the southwest, Hydra slithers across a broad swath of the sky, with Corvus and Crater above it, and to the northwest, Perseus and Cassiopeia swing low towards the northern horizon as they make their way around the Pole.

Up at zenith, Leo Minor is almost directly overhead, with Ursa Major and Leo on either side riding very high in the sky, well placed for you to view their many galactic sights of interest. Bootes, Cancer and Coma Berenices are also very high as well, and chock full of objects, this month provides great opportunity to see a diverse range of DSOs placed very well in the clearer, steadier skies high up off the horizon.

Finally over to the east, both Virgo and Hercules are fully above the horizon, and the first peaks of the summer constellations are coming up around the midnight – Ophiuchus, Lyra and Cygnus all begin to rise earlier and earlier as the month progresses.

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The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)

The night sky looking west at 10PM on Wednesday, April 15th.

The night sky looking towards zenith at 10PM on Wednesday, April 15th. Images generated using Stellarium

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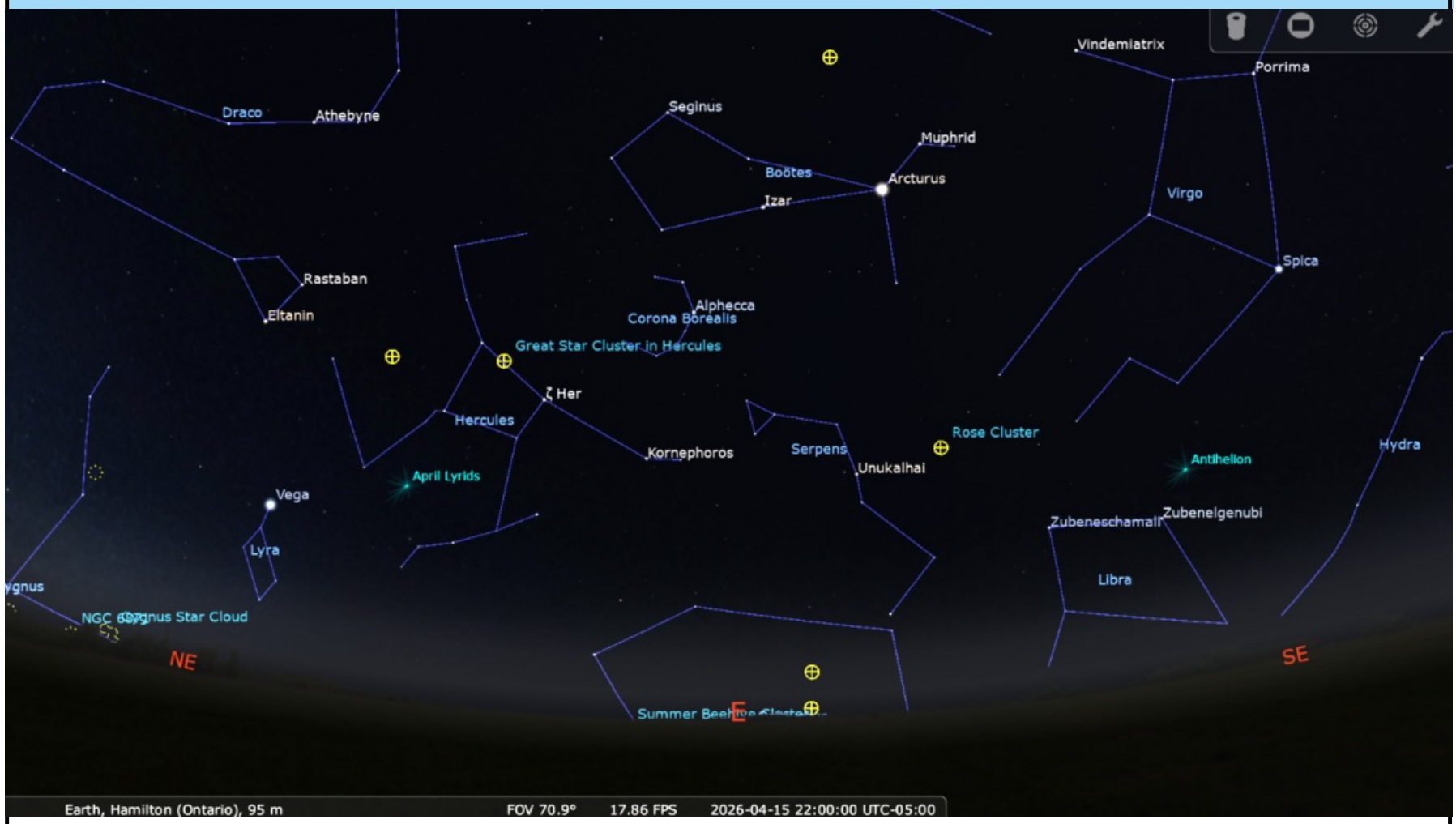
The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)



The night sky looking east at 10PM on Wednesday, April 15th. Image generated using Stellarium

The Moon

We start off this month with Full Moon on the 2nd, Last Quarter on the 10th, New Moon on the 17th, and First Quarter on the 24th. The 11th to the 18th is your best week for darker, moonless skies in April.

Some Lunar events of note this month:

- A couple degrees away from Spica on the night of the 2nd
- Joining Venus in the evening sky on the 19th just after sunset
- A couple degrees away from Jupiter in Gemini in the evening on the 22nd
- April 25th (!!!) – another occultation of Regulus, this time a grazing occultation. Point your scope or binoculars to the Moon and beginning at 7:44PM, Regulus will skirt the terminator region of the Moon, briefly disappearing before reappearing at 8:02PM. This is also International Astronomy Day, and the Club will be hosting a public observing night at Bayfront Park
- A few degrees away from Spica again on the 29th

Comets and Meteor Showers

There are a few solar system events of note this month as well. First is ***Comet C/2026 A1 MAPS*** – set for a close approach of the Sun on the 4th. If this sungrazer manages to survive its closest approach, it has the potential to briefly become a naked eye object. Unfortunately for us in Hamilton, it skirts very close to the western horizon immediately after sunset, but if you have a true horizon to view over, and if it does indeed brighten as it approaches the Sun and swings away from it should it survive – you may fleetingly be able to see it (quite literally) right after sunset from the 5th to the 8th. At the end of the month, ***Comet C/2025 R3 PANSTARRS*** may also become a naked eye object – it makes its closest approach to the Sun on

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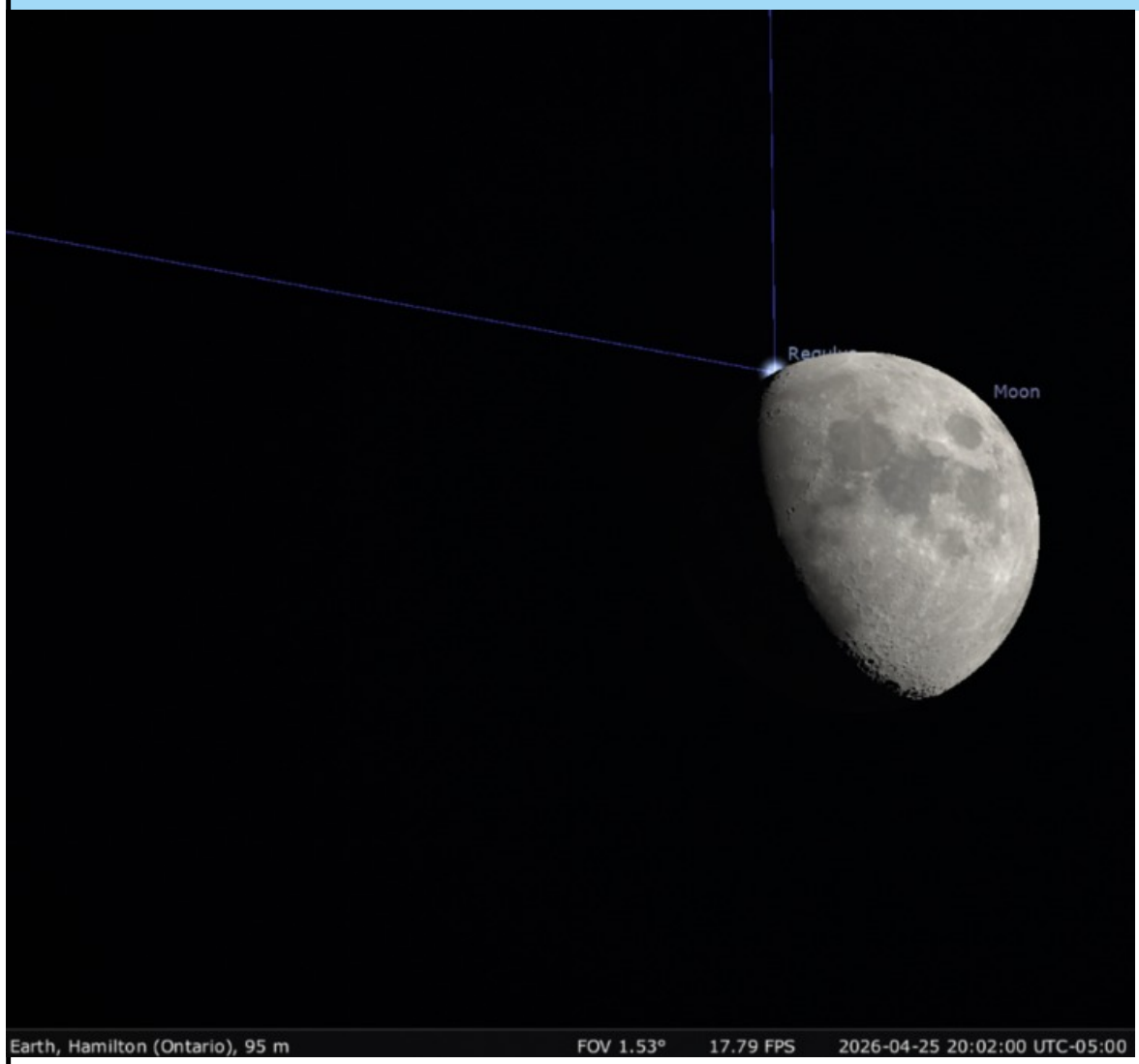
The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)



The Moon and Regulus at 8:02PM on Saturday, April 25th.

the 26th – it remains to be seen whether it will become a naked eye object, but by all accounts, it will certainly be a nice telescopic object at the very least. Unfortunately it will also be in almost the exact same spot in the sky in Cetus as MAPS, though its trajectory across the Sun means we have a more favorable view of it in the morning sky as it approaches before the 26th – take a look for it very, very low in the east just before sunrise, and then very, very low in the west just after sunset on either side of the close approach. We also have the ***Lyrid meteor shower*** peaking around midnight on the 22nd. This shower potentially brings upwards of 20 meteors per hour, so keep an eye out in the early morning hours from the 21st-23rd.

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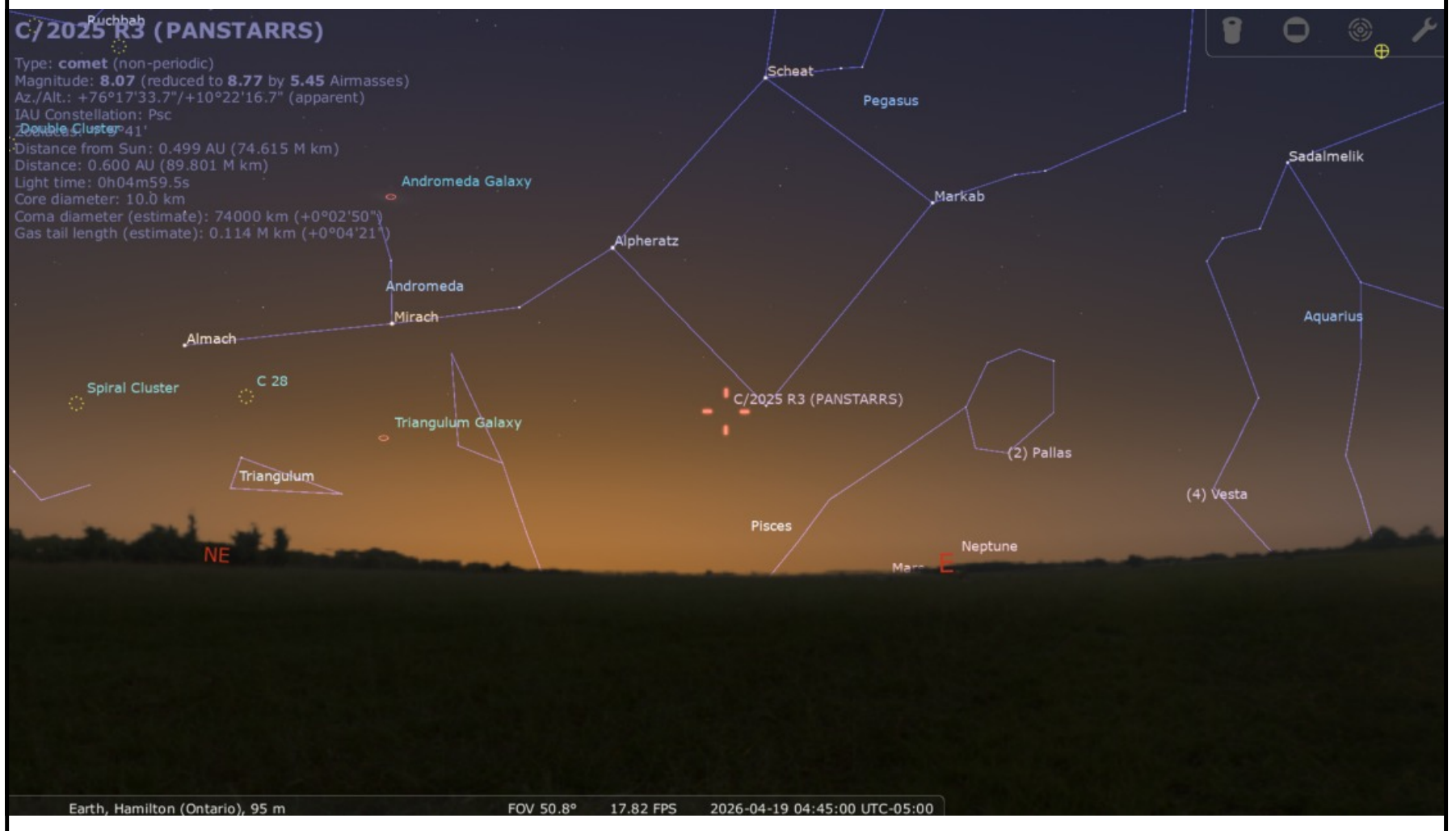

Comet PANSTARRS at 4:45AM on April 19th. Images generated using Stellarium

The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)

The Planets

Moving on to the planets now. ***Mercury*** is visible low on the eastern horizon for the first two weeks of the month as an early morning object. After greatest elongation on the 7th, it begins moving closer and closer to the Sun before disappearing in its glow from the 20th onwards. On the morning of the 18th – it is joined by Mars, Saturn and Neptune in a very close conjunction of four planets immediately before sunrise only a few degrees above the eastern horizon (lots of low objects this month!). If you find yourself with a true horizon, very steady skies and a lack of clouds that morning, head out around 5:15AM with a scope to see if you can pick out the planets dancing around a few minutes before the Sun comes up.

Venus on the other hand puts on a full show for us this month. All month long you can see the brightest planet in the west after sunset – and as the month progresses, it lingers higher and higher for longer and longer in the twilight glow. Of note is an extremely close conjunction with Uranus on the 23rd – around 8PM they will be less than a degree away from each other, and high enough in the sky you should have no problem picking out the fainter outer planet next to the brighter inner planet, very near the Pleiades.

Mars, like Mercury, is a fleeting early morning object in the east – all month long it remains very low to the horizon for a very short while before sunrise – difficult to spot and observe, but there nonetheless if you want to try your hand at it. ***Jupiter*** remains an evening object all month up in Gemini – plenty of opportunity to see the biggest planets and its Galilean moons all the way into May, though by the end of April it begins to set around midnight. As mentioned, ***Saturn*** is visible as well, very briefly and very difficultly in the east for just a few minutes before sunrise this month. You will have to wait until May before it moves far enough away from the Sun to become a reliable early morning object. ***Uranus*** of course is visible in the western sky for a couple hours after sunset, while ***Neptune*** joins its planetary neighbours in the east as another horizon-skirter.

(Continued on page 15)

Mercury, Mars, Saturn and Neptune along the eastern horizon at 5:10AM on April 18th. Image generated using Stellarium

The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)

Deep Sky Objects

And now to finish off with our deep sky – April of course is galaxy month. As most of you know, this month is prime time to view the massive Virgo supercluster of galaxies, affording you hundreds, if not thousands of galactic DSOs to hunt down. Stretching all the way from Leo, across Virgo and into Coma Berenices – where it meshes in our sky with the Coma Berenices cluster (itself containing hundreds of galaxies), the swath of night sky running in a boomerang shape from the heart of Leo towards the handle of the Big Dipper contains such a vast multitude of galaxies for you telescopic observers it can be overwhelming. Quite literally hundreds are visible in even a small scope, and of those dozens are easily found and seen by even the freshest beginner with a smaller 80mm scope – many even in just a pair of binoculars. Below I will list 8 beginner galaxies, 2 non-galactic deep sky objects, and then do the same for our more experienced members to give you all a good list of objects to track down this month.

Beginner Spring Galaxies

M84 and M86 - two elliptical galaxies at mags 8.9 and 9.1 in Virgo, joined by several 10th and 11th magnitude galaxies very close by to form the famous Markarian's Chain
M87 – The Virgo Galaxy, a magnitude 8.6 massive elliptical and the biggest and brightest in Virgo
M89 – mag 9.8 elliptical
M58 – a nice, almost face-on mag. 9.6 barred galaxy
M60 – mag 8.8 elliptical
M90 – mag 9.5 oblique barred spiral
M65/M66/NGC3628 – mags 9.3, 8.9, 9.4 – the famous "Leo Trio" of three bright spiral galaxies just below Leo's tail
M63 – The Sunflower Galaxy in Canes Venatici, mag 8.6 – a bright, big, beautiful spiral great for beginner scopes

Beginner Non-Galactic Spring Objects

M3 – a big and bright mag 6.3 globular cluster in Bootes, easy to spot even in binoculars, and one of the best in the sky
M5 – an even brighter but often overlooked mag 5.7 globular nearby in Serpens, great for any scope

Advanced Spring Galaxies

NGC 4302/4298 – a pair of mag 11.6 and 11.3 interacting galaxies in Coma Berenices, you'll need some darker skies and big aperture to pick out this pair
NGC 4216 – The Silver Streak Galaxy – edge on mag 10.0 joined by its faint, close companions NGC 4206 (mag 12.1) and NGC 4222 (mag 13.8) – a challenge to see all 3
NGC 4535 - a face on mag 9.7 galaxy, but with very low surface brightness
NGC 4526 - an edge on mag 10.1 galaxy less than a degree away from NGC 4535
NGC 4151 - a mag 11.5 face on barred spiral in Canes Venatici called "The Eye of Sauron" – in a large scope you can see how it got its name
NGC 4038/4039 - the famous interacting Antennae galaxies in Corvus, mag 11.1

Advanced Non-Galactic Spring Objects

NGC4147 - a faint but compact mag 10.7 globular cluster in Coma Berenices
NGC4361 - a tight, compact mag 10.9 planetary nebula in Corvus

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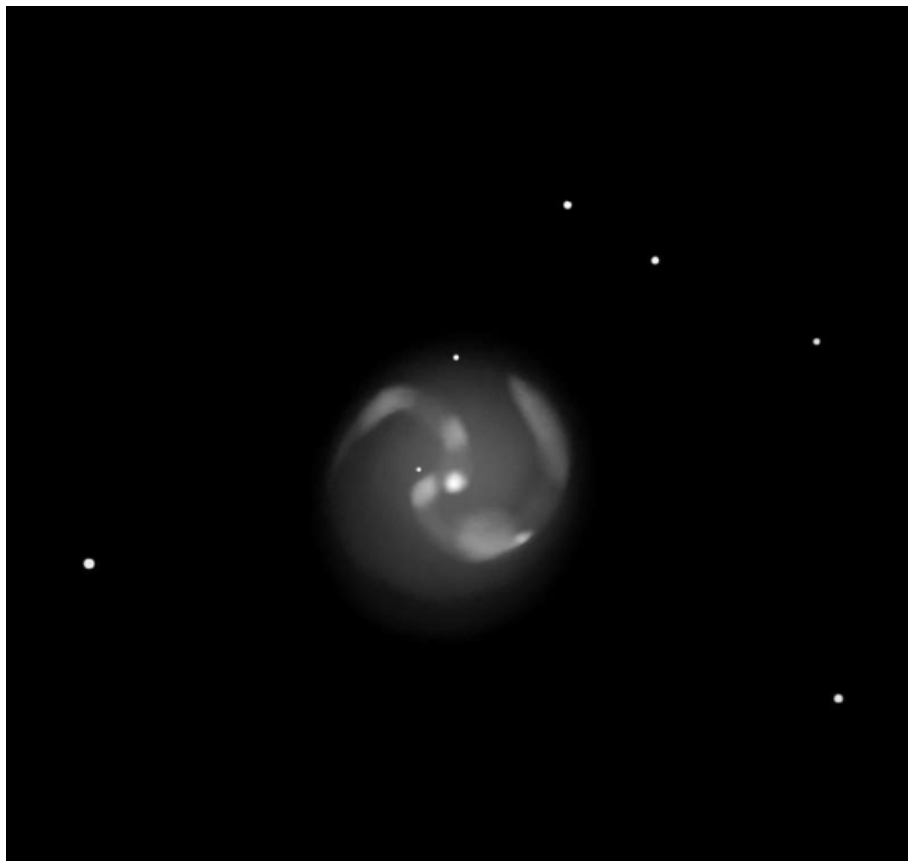
The Sky This Month for April 2026 (continued)

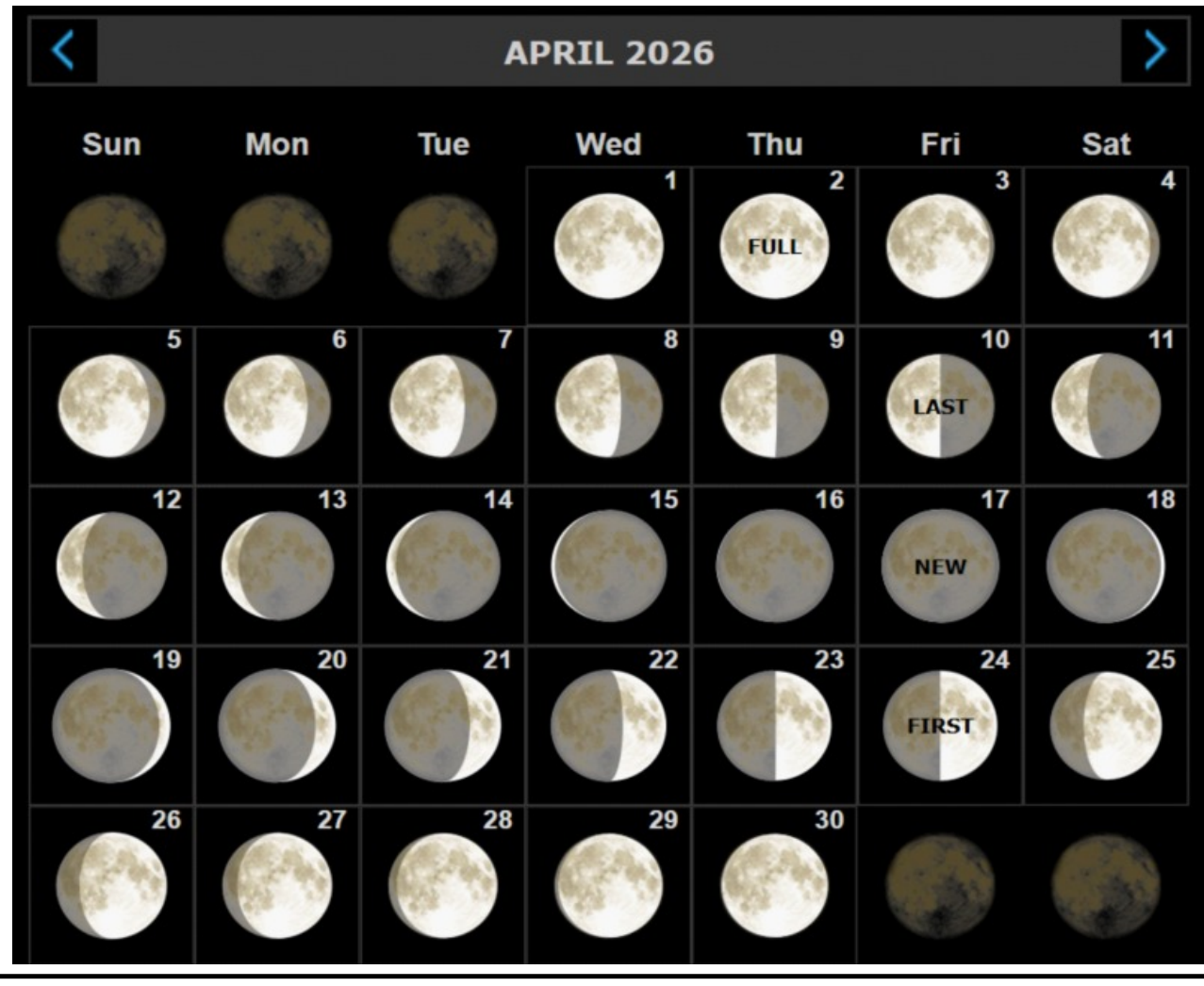
Challenge Object: NGC 3180 "The Little Pinwheel Galaxy"

This magnitude 12.6 face-on galaxy in Ursa Major is a challenging object to find, but yields a nice reward for those with some aperture. Its low surface brightness and small size make it difficult to spot, but if you crank up the magnification under some very dark skies in a large scope, you'll see just how it got its name.

Clear skies, and happy observing!



NGC 3180 in a 12" scope at 230x courtesy of user IVM on Cloudy Nights

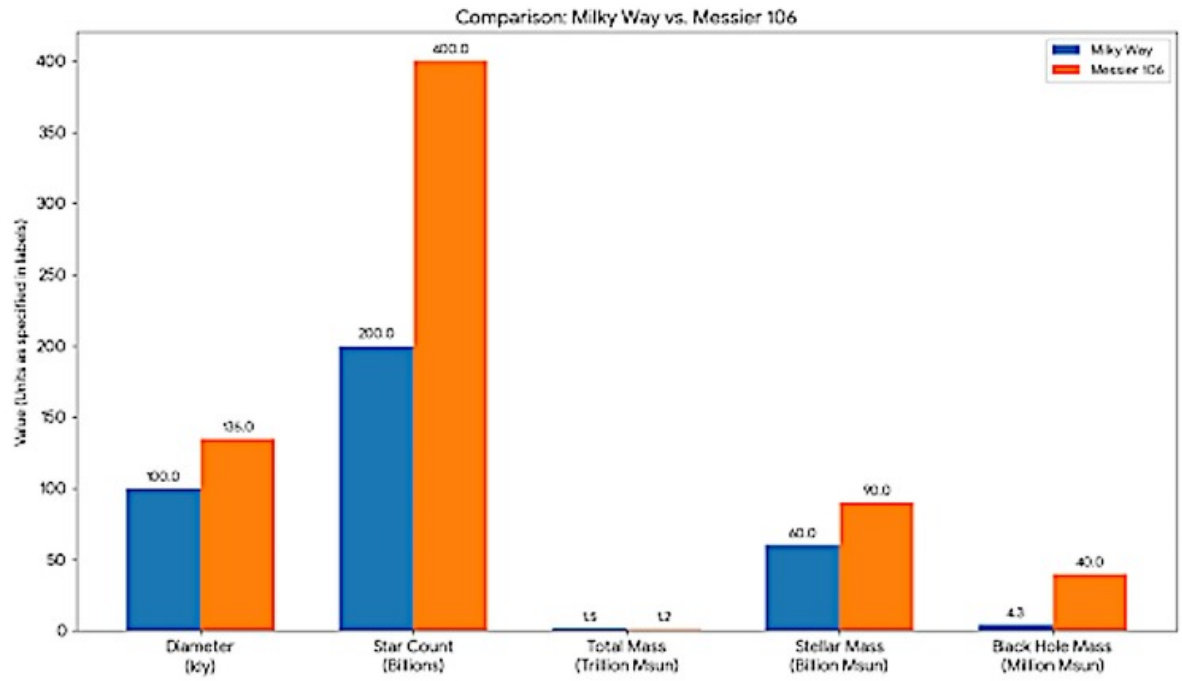


Moon Phases for April 2026

M106 and Friends by Jeff Parsons

M106, a galaxy 'only' 23,000,000 LY away, crushes our Milky Way in every measurement except one, surprisingly the total mass. The Milky Way has an more extensive dark matter halo. (see Gemini-generated comparison chart below).

Because M106 has a supermassive black hole 10 times that of the Milky Way, it generates unusual water vapour megamasers extending vertically away from the galactic core. The actively feeding the supermassive black hole energizes huge clouds of water vapour which in turn emit megamasers, like lasers but in microwave radiation. Forming perfectly circular 'flashlights' around the black hole, ever-clever astronomers measure the megamaser 'steam' cloud spin rates to accurately calculate the galaxy's distance and black hole mass.



Galaxy M106 and area. Taken with a Dwarf 3 on March 23, 2026. 4 hours of integration time. Credit: Jeff Parsons

Total Lunar Eclipse March 3, 2026 Members' Gallery

Wide-field time-lapse progression of the eclipse through a Nikon D5200 and Rokinon 14mm lens, from Milton ON, by Chris Szaban

Near-Totality through cirrocumulus clouds from Burlington ON, by Bob Christmas

Total Lunar Eclipse March 3, 2026 Members' Gallery (continued)

left:

Near-Totality through cirrocumulus clouds from Grimsby ON

by **Kerry-Ann Lecky Hepburn**

below:

Eclipse Totality

by **Chris Szaban**

Taken in Milton ON, through his NIKKOR 200F ED lens with an ASI294MC Pro camera, on a Celestron SLT mount.

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:**

  - **Apr 1: Introductory Astronomy for Kids — Constellations**
  - **Apr 8: The Expanse: A Journey into Real Space Colonization**
  - **Apr 15: A History of Collisions in the Solar System**
  - **Apr 18: Introductory Astronomy for Kids — Solar System**
  - **Apr 22: Onekwá:tara – the Seven Dancers of the Pleiades**
  - **Apr 29: Lost at Sea**

- **For show times and further details, visit https://planetarium.physics.mcmaster.ca**

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10, 2026 - 7:30 pm — H.A.A. Meeting at St. Matthew's Anglican Church. Our main speaker will be *Ryan Zhu* from Retevis Canada, who will talk about affordable astrophotography. Past meetings can be viewed on our YouTube channel.

April 25, 2026 - 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm (solar observing); 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm (night-sky) — International Astronomy Day Public Event at Bayfront Park, Hamilton.

May 8, 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

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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