

Newsletter of  
The Black River Astronomical Society

# Guidescope

Lorain County, Ohio

October 2018

Website: [blackriverastro.org](http://blackriverastro.org)

Newsletter submissions: [Editor](#)

- \* \* \* \* \*
- Wednesday, October 3, 7 p.m.: Regular meeting: Annual Meeting of the Members, Board Elections, and Videos, Carlisle Visitors Center
  - October 4-8: Hidden Hollow Star Party, Warren Rupp Observatory, Mansfield, OH--click here for info: <http://wro.org/hidden-hollow-star-party/>
  - Friday, October 5, 8-10 p.m.: Public Observing, Nielsen Observatory (cloud backup Saturday, October 6)
  - Thursday, October 11, 7 p.m.: Board meeting, Blue Sky Restaurant, Amherst, OH
  - Friday, October 12, 8-10 p.m.: Public observing, Nielsen Observatory (cloud backup date Saturday, October 13)
  - Sunday, October 28, 1-4 p.m.: Solar observing, Sandy Ridge Reservation
- \* \* \* \* \*

**Dues are due in October.** In a perfect world, all members renew their memberships at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, or go to the website in October to arrange to get their renewal to the treasurer before All Hallow's Eve.

## **Visit Our Website**

Explore if you will the informative BRAS [website](#) and all its interesting, timely [links](#), and join the interactive members-only [BRAS Forum](#) to better keep in touch.

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## **Guidescope Contributions Wanted**

If you have any wanted/for sale announcements, astronomical photos you've taken, interesting article links, equipment reviews, observing reports, essays, or anything that you think to which the local amateur astronomy community could relate, please send them to your [humble Guidescope editor](#) for inclusion in forthcoming issues.

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## **BOARD OPENINGS & ELECTIONS**

Every Year, under the BRAS by-laws, the October meeting is designated "The Annual Meeting of the Members" and is when elections are held. We elect 1/3 of the Board every year, and once the election is over, the new Board retires into another room and selects officers from among their members. This year, the term of four Directors is up, Greg Cox, Greg Zmina, Bill Ruth and Dave Lengyel. Greg, Greg and Bill are seeking reelection. Dave, due to time constraints, is not. Thus, there is one Board position open. However, there are actually two open positions. Last year, Lee Lumpkin did not seek reelection and no one ran to fill his position, so this year we have the opportunity to elect two new people to the Board. If anyone is interested in being a Board member but doesn't want to run against an incumbent, this is your chance.

It is not necessary to be a long-time member to run for Board. It is also not necessary to be an experienced observer or someone who knows the science of astronomy intimately. What is necessary is someone who cares about the club and can find the time to be involved. New ideas and a fresh perspective are needed for any organization to flourish.

A Director needs to be able to attend all or most General Meetings which are usually the first Wednesday of each month at Carlisle, and also attend Board meetings which are the second Thursday of the month. These are held at the Blue Sky Restaurant in Amherst and are dinner meetings where we socialize as well as do club business. Directors also help plan and run club activities such as our OTAA

convention, our participation in the Metro Parks Adventure Fest, and attend as many Public Observing sessions as possible. Thus what is needed is some time and the desire to help out.

We invite anyone interested in running to do one of two things: either contact the President, Steve Schauer at [BRASPres@gmail.com](mailto:BRASPres@gmail.com), or come to the October meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and declare your candidacy there. You will be added to the ballot. We need new people and fresh ideas, and hope you will consider standing for election.

~Steve Schauer

## BOARD SUMMARY 9/13/18

The September Board meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. with eight Directors and one guest (Greg Honis) attending. First came the reading of the minutes from the August meeting which were then approved and following that was the Treasurer's report. Committee reports came next with *Guidescope* editor, Bill Ruth, reporting that all was well with the newsletter. The Website committee also reported that the site was status quo. Under Instrumentation, John Reising purchased a new AC adapter for the Celestron CG-5 mount which we have been using with our Unitron refractor. Schauer reported that he had purchased a pair of Nikon 10X50 AE waterproof binoculars for the observatory. Some months ago, Bill Ruth had examined the four pairs of binoculars that we keep in the observatory, and reported that three of the four were very poor and should be discarded or given away. Schauer had an opportunity to purchase the Nikons from an astronomer in Sandusky for less than half of what they would cost new. These will be used by members at the observatory, while the one good pair currently there will be available for use by the public. Schauer reminded the Board that the OTAA dates for 2019 are as follows:

CVAS June 29, 2019

MVAS Aug. 24, 2019

CAA Sept. 21, 2019

BRAS Sept. 28, 2019 and

BRAS Sept 19, 2020

Programming is as follows:

October	Annual Meeting of the Members and Elections with a short video
November	Denny and Mickey Bright Daylight Comets and Lowell Observatory Remote Sites
December	Annual Christmas Party and pot luck dinner at the Amherst Beaver Creek Reservation
January	A video on an astronomical subject
February	Open
March	Open
April	Tim Kreja The Colonization of Mars
May-Nov.	Open

As always, any member interested in giving a talk, please contact any officer or Board member.

Old Business came next with the first item being a report by Bill Ruth on getting our monthly activities published in the Elyria newspaper. Starting in October, Bill will put monthly meetings, Public Observing and solar observing sessions in the “Things to Do” section of the paper. Thanks for the suggestion, Denny Bodzash!

Next came plans to get the orange tube C-14 back to the observatory and remounted. Celestron cleaned and adjusted the scope and returned it to us. It is currently in Tim Kreja’s garage. Tim, John Reising and Steve Schauer will meet on Saturday 9/24/18 at 1:00 to un-box the scope, reattach the fork arms and drive base, and remount the entire assembly back on the pier.

The third item of discussion was the upcoming election. Each year, 1/3 of the Board of Directors have their terms expire. This year Greg Cox, Greg Zmina, Dave Lengyel, and Bill Ruth have their terms end. Cox, Zmina and Ruth are willing to stand for reelection, while Dave Lengyel, due to time constraints, will not run again. This means that there are two open spots on the Board: Dave's slot and the position Lee Lumpkin left open when he did not run again last year. Any member interested in running for a Board position, please contact any Board member or the President (Steve Schauer) at [BRASPres@gmail.com](mailto:BRASPres@gmail.com).

Next was a brief discussion about buying red dot finder scopes for the Unitron refractor and for the new 16” reflector which we hope to have ready in the spring. Schauer will order a Telrad with a 4” extension base, and also a Rigel finder from one of the companies that supplies us with OTAA door prizes.

The final discussion was an opportunity from Mickey Hasbrook for the Board to examine two possible certificates she has created which will be awarded when someone is made a Fellow member of the club. The club chose a classic type of certificate and helped Micky by providing some suggested wording. She will take these suggestions and create a new certificate for the Board to approve via email.

There was only one item of New Business which was the selection of Public Observing dates for 2019. This was started at a previous meeting, but the majority of dates were selected this night. The President provided each Director with a list of moon phases for each month and a printout of astronomical events occurring in 2019. Working from these, the Board selected all the Public Observing dates for next year. Solar observing dates will be selected next month.

Dates for October were set, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

~Steve Schauer

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## **Buzz Aldrin Slams Neil Armstrong Biopic**

Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the Moon, has blasted the new Neil Armstrong biopic, *First Man*, after word came out that the film failed to show Armstrong, played by Ryan Gosling, planting the American flag on the surface of the Moon. For the former astronaut and fighter pilot, this was inexcusable.

Taking to Twitter, Aldrin, 88, posted a picture of himself saluting an enlarged picture of himself

on the surface of the Moon with the American flag, along with the hashtag “Proud to be an American.”

However, others see no fault with the film.

Gosling, the star of the film (and who happens to be Canadian), said at the Venice Film Festival that the decision was deliberate, explaining that the Apollo 11 landing “transcended countries and borders.”

Director Damien Chazelle defended his decision not to show the planting of the flag. When asked if this decision was based on politics, Chazelle replied that “to address the question of whether this was a political statement, the answer is no.”

Florida Senator Marco Rubio begs to disagree, stating on Twitter that “the American people paid for that mission, on rockets built by Americans, with American technology & carrying American astronauts. It wasn’t a UN mission.” Rubio also added that the decision to omit the planting of the American flag was “total lunacy.”

Adding their opinion to the whole fray, Neil Armstrong's sons, Rick and Mark, stated that the film “was quite the opposite . . . of being anti-American.” In addition, Armstrong's sons added that “of course, it (the film) celebrates an America achievement. It also celebrates an achievement 'for all mankind.’”

Of all the astronauts from NASA's glory years of the 1960s, none has remained in the public eye or has been as opinionated as Aldrin. Seizing on his new-found fame, Aldrin was quick to hit the speaking and book tour. To date, Aldrin has written 9 books. In the 1990s, he became the inspiration for the *Toy Story* character Buzz Lightyear.

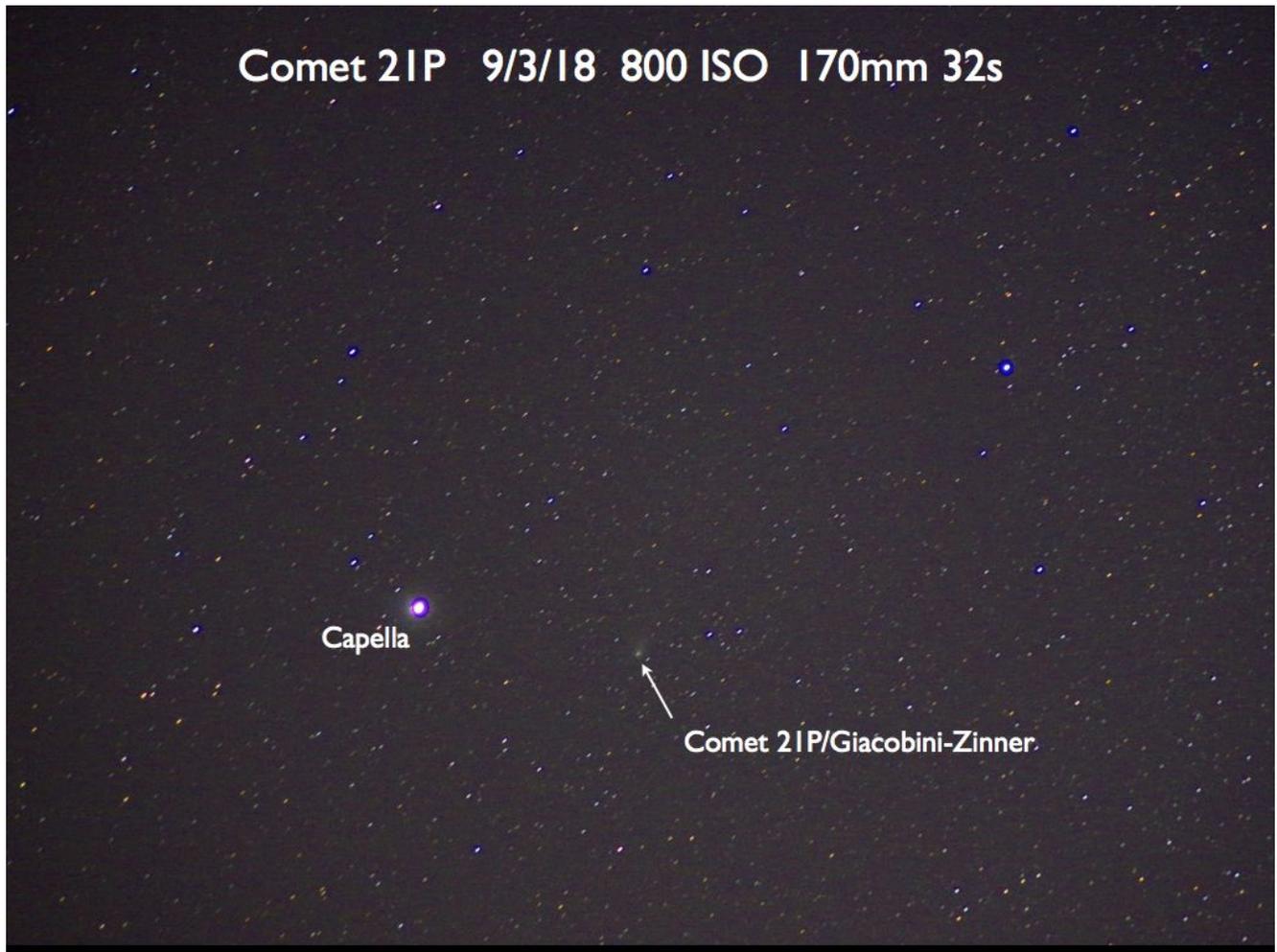
However, it was the ending of NASA's manned spaceflight program in the late 2000s and early 2010s that motivated the opinionated Aldrin, now in his 80s, back into the public eye as an advocate for manned spaceflight. Adapting to the digital world, Aldrin has taken to social media to express his views, posting pictures of himself in a Superman-esque pose with an open jacket revealing a shirt with a NASA logo saying “Get Your Ass to Mars” and later another of himself wearing a “Buzz Aldrin, Future Martian” shirt. Want some “Get Your Ass to Mars” merchandise? Aldrin sells it on his website.

This stands in stark contrast to Armstrong, who retreated from the public eye following the historic flight and who made few public appearances, the last of which was an event celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Glenn's historic 1962 flight in February, 2012. Armstrong died in August, 2012 at the age of 82 following complications from bypass surgery.

For the record, Michael Collins, the forgotten member of the Apollo 11 flight, is also still alive, aged 87.

As for the film, it is set to hit theaters October 12.

~Denny Bodzash



I got up at 2 a.m. and found comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner very near Capella under strong moonlight. 800 ISO, 170mm 32s using a stationary tripod, the Pentax K3ii with Astrotracer. I think the comet is about 7th magnitude, based on the nearby dim stars. ~Dave Lengyel

# NO

Northern Sky

Fall Constellations

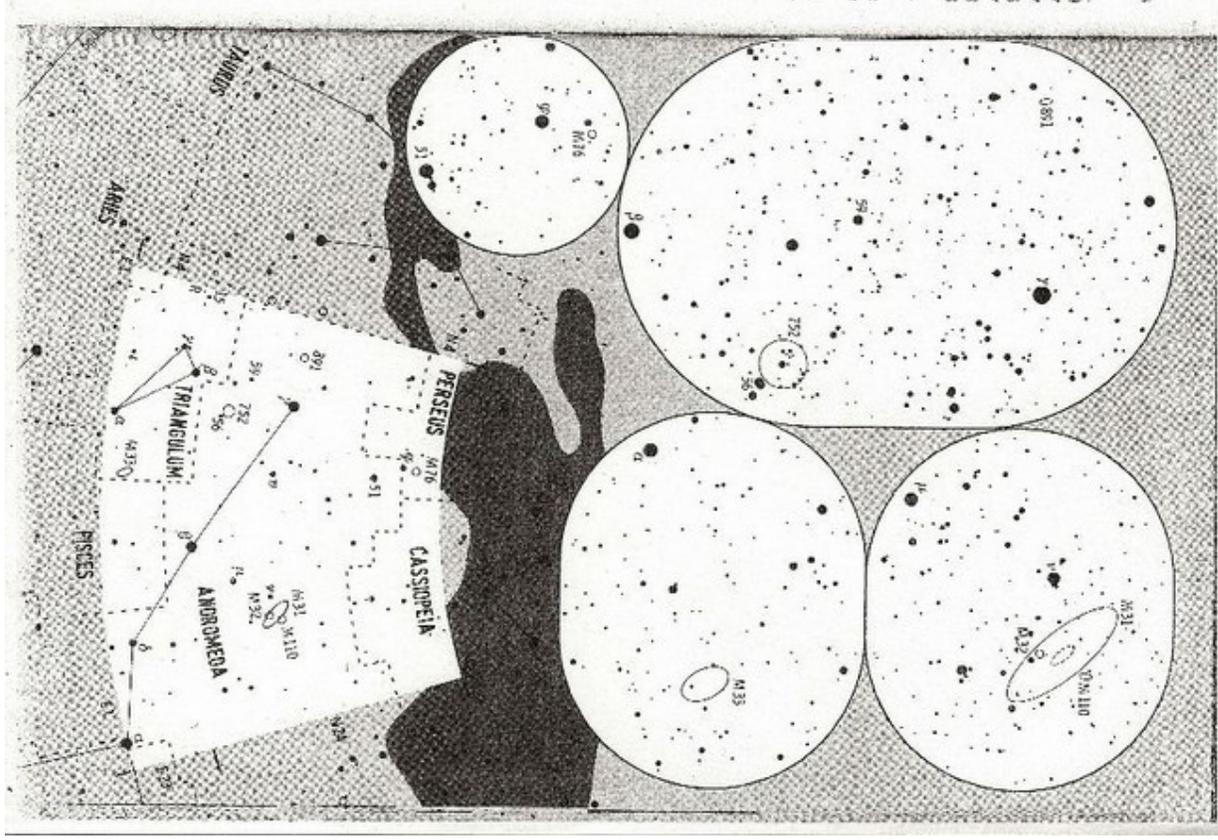
NEBULA	Position	V-Mag.	Size	Shape	Type	Via.	Dist.	R.A.	Dec.
205 M110	And	8	12/2'	10'	E	ES Gk	3 Mly	0°40'4	41°59
221 M32	And	8	11	3.5	E	E2 Gk	3 M	0 42.7	40.87
224 M31	And	4	13	150		Sb Gk	3 M	0 42.7	41.27
598 M33	Tri	6	14	50		Sd Gk	3 M	1 33.9	30.86
650 M76	Per	10	11	2.5	0	A PN	4000	1 42.4	51.57
752	And	6	14	50		O m OC	1500	1 57.8	37.68
891	And	104	13	10		Sb Gk	40 M	2 22.5	42.33

205 M110 Companion galaxy of the Andromeda Galaxy, slightly asymmetric.  
 221 M32 Companion of the Andromeda Galaxy, almost stellar in binoculars.  
 224 M31 Andromeda Galaxy, nearest large galaxy, physically comparable with our Milky Way, bright prominent core, three lanes west of the core, outer spiral arms and great size visible only under dark sky.  
 598 M33 Triangulum Galaxy, dark sky and low power essential, elongated glow in binoculars without a bright core; a telescope shows two or three spiral arms with emission nebulae and stellar associations.  
 650 M76 Little Dumbbell, irregular shape, consists of NGC650 and 651.  
 752 Difficult object with unaided eye, nicely resolved in binoculars.  
 891 Point edge-on galaxy, very elongated shape distinct in a telescope.

STAR Position V-Mag. B-V Tc. Abs. Name Dist. R.A. Dec.

STAR	Position	V-Mag.	B-V	Tc.	Abs.	Name	Dist.	R.A.	Dec.
21 a	And	2.1	0.0	1	0	Alpheratz, Sirrah	98 ly	0°08'4	29°09
31 b	And	3.3	1.3	1	1		102	0 39.3	30.86
35 v	And	4.5	-1.1	-2			650	0 49.8	41.05
37 u	And	3.9	0.1	1	1		140	0 56.8	38.50
43 b	And	2.1	1.6	-2		Mirach	200	1 09.7	35.62
50 v	And	4.1	0.5	1	3		44	1 36.8	41.41
51	And	3.6	1.3	0	0		180	1 38.0	48.63
φ	Per	4.0	-1.1	-3			800	1 43.7	50.69
2 α	Tri	3.4	0.5	1	2	Eriuthatheth	64	1 53.1	29.58
56	And	5.0	* 1.3	-2			320, 900	1 56.0	37.26
57 γ	And	2.1	* 1.2	-3		Alhanuk	370	2 03.9	42.33
4 β	Tri	3.0	0.1	1	0		125	2 09.5	34.99
59	And	5.6	* 0.0	1	1		300	2 10.9	39.04
6 α	Tri	4.9	* 0.8	0	0		300	2 12.4	30.30
9 γ	Tri	4.0	0.0	1	1		120	2 17.3	33.85
15	Tri	5.1	* 1.1	-2			1030	2 35.8	34.70
R	Tri	6.0-10	1.3	1	-2		1000	2 37.0	34.26

BINARY	Position	V-Mag.	B-V	Tc.	Sep.	PA	Via.	R	Th	VAR	STAR
56	And	5.7	5.9	1.1	1.6	201°	☉	1	267 d		
57 γ	And	2.2	4.9	1.4	0.0	9.6	☉	1	267 d		
59	And	5.1	6.8	0.0	0.1	16.7	☉	1	345, 368		
6 α	Tri	5.2	6.7	0.8	0.5	3.9	☉	1	Min. Max. -150		
15	Tri	5.4	6.7	1.6	0.2	142.2	☉	1	Extrema 5.1 12.6		



Thanks to John Reising for Constellation of the Month.

## Deep-Sky Objects for October

### Objects for Binoculars

RA	Dec	Number	Mag(s)	Size/Sep.	PA	Const.	Type of Object
23 <sup>h</sup> 56.7 <sup>m</sup>	+61° 44'	NGC 7788	9.4v	9'		Cas	Open Cl 20• with 7790
23 <sup>h</sup> 57.0 <sup>m</sup>	+57° 44'	NGC 7789	6.7v	15'		Cas	Open Cluster 300•
23 <sup>h</sup> 58.4 <sup>m</sup>	+61° 13'	NGC 7790	8.5v	17'		Cas	Open Cl 40• with 7788
01 <sup>h</sup> 51.5 <sup>m</sup>	-10° 20'	Zeta	3.7, 9.9	187.0"	41°	Cet	Double Star
01 <sup>h</sup> 53.5 <sup>m</sup>	+19° 18'	Gamma (AC)	4.8, 9.6	221.3"	84°	Ari	D.S. (AB: 4.8,4.8; 7.8")
02 <sup>h</sup> 32.7 <sup>m</sup>	+61° 27'	Mel 15	6.5v	22'		Cas	Open Cl 40• (w E.neb IC1805)

### Objects for Small Telescopes (2-6 inch)

RA	Dec	Number	Mag(s)	Size/Sep.	PA	Const.	Type of Object
01 <sup>h</sup> 15.6 <sup>m</sup>	+58° 49'	NGC 436	8.8v	5'		Cas	Open Cluster 30•
01 <sup>h</sup> 44.1 <sup>m</sup>	+61° 53'	NGC 654	6.5v	5'		Cas	Open Cluster 60•
01 <sup>h</sup> 46.0 <sup>m</sup>	+61° 15'	NGC 663	7.1v	16'		Cas	Open Cluster 80•
02 <sup>h</sup> 03.0 <sup>m</sup>	+33° 17'	Iota	5.3, 6.9	3.9"	71°	Tri	Double Star
02 <sup>h</sup> 42.7 <sup>m</sup>	-00° 01'	M77	8.9v	8.2'x7.3'		Cet	Galaxy
03 <sup>h</sup> 57.9 <sup>m</sup>	+40° 01'	Epsilon	2.9, 8.1	8.8"	10°	Per	Double Star

### Objects for Medium Telescopes (8-14 inch)

RA	Dec	Number	Mag(s)	Size/Sep.	PA	Const.	Type of Object
00 <sup>h</sup> 14.1 <sup>m</sup>	-23° 11'	NGC 45	10.8v	6.3'x4.6'		Cet	Galaxy
01 <sup>h</sup> 47.9 <sup>m</sup>	+27° 26'	NGC 672	10.9v	6.6'x2.6'		Tri	Galaxy
01 <sup>h</sup> 59.3 <sup>m</sup>	+19° 01'	NGC 772	10.3v	7.3'x4.6'		Ari	Galaxy
02 <sup>h</sup> 08.4 <sup>m</sup>	+1° 00'	NGC 821	10.7v	3.3'x2.3'		Ari	Galaxy
02 <sup>h</sup> 27.3 <sup>m</sup>	+33° 35'	NGC 925	10.1v	12.0'x7.4'		Tri	Galaxy
02 <sup>h</sup> 30.8 <sup>m</sup>	+37° 08'	NGC 949	11.8	3.3'x2.1'		Tri	Galaxy
02 <sup>h</sup> 34.2 <sup>m</sup>	+29° 19'	NGC 972	11.4v	3.4'x1.6'		Ari	Galaxy

### Objects for Larger Telescopes (16-inch & larger) Challenge Objects

RA	Dec	Number	Mag(s)	Size/Sep.	PA	Const.	Type of Object
00 <sup>h</sup> 39.0 <sup>m</sup>	+48° 20'	NGC 185	9.2v	14.5'x12.5'		Cas	Galaxy
01 <sup>h</sup> 09.4 <sup>m</sup>	+35° 43'	NGC 404	10.3v	6.1'x6.1'		And	Galaxy
01 <sup>h</sup> 31.3 <sup>m</sup>	-06° 52'	NGC 584	10.5v	3.2'x1.7'		Cet	Galaxy
01 <sup>h</sup> 33.9 <sup>m</sup>	+30° 39'	M33	5.7v	67.0'x41.5'		Tri	Galaxy
02 <sup>h</sup> 09.4 <sup>m</sup>	-10° 08'	NGC 835	12.1v	1.9'x1.6'		Cet	Galaxy with 833, 838, 839
02 <sup>h</sup> 18.0 <sup>m</sup>	+14° 33'	NGC 877	11.9v	2.1'x1.7'		Ari	Galaxy with 870, 871, 876
02 <sup>h</sup> 39.2 <sup>m</sup>	+10° 51'	NGC 1024	12.1v	4.4'x1.6'		Ari	Galaxy with 1028, 1029

Print and use the [Deep-Sky Interest Group - Observation Form](#) to record your observations.

Select from a topic in the navigation bar on the left, or from the links below.

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Thanks to Len Jezior for deep sky object charts.

## 2018 BRAS OTAA Convention

Every year several area astronomy clubs hold a pot luck dinner and a star party to which they invite the other area clubs. Many years ago a loose organization of clubs located roughly near the Ohio Turnpike was formed called the Ohio Turnpike Amateur Astronomers. The goal was to improve communicating and networking opportunities among the clubs for the benefit of all. This year, we held our convention on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. The day dawned cloudy and a fine rain fell most of the morning and afternoon. Since it was obvious that we would not be observing, and since we also were conflicting with the CAA convention, we really did not expect much of a crowd. We were surprised and pleased when over 52 people attended, with people from MVAS and CVAS making the long drive to Birmingham and some Richland and CAA members also able to attend. We had tables set up for people to sell telescopes and accessories, a good pot luck dinner, and enough door prizes so that everyone received one. After the door prizes, we had three talks, with Mickey Hasbrook speaking on Lowell Observatory, John Reising talking about Mars, and Dan Walker repeating his guideposts in the sky presentation. Thanks to all who provided food, drink, etc. Thanks also to Greg Zmina and Jeff Walsh who worked on and off all year to secure the door prizes. A good time was had by all!



Tim Kreja with friends from MVAS and CVAS



Mickey and Willow Hasbrook with Susan Petsche in the background



Dinner is about over



Greg and Debbie Zmina with Mike Garrett



Lots of Door Prizes



Big Binocs from Oberwerk



Books galore



And...a telescope!



And last but not least the food...starting from the dessert end!

~Steve Schauer

### **FOR SALE: Celestron CGEM Mount**

- 🎬 Lightly Used, in great working order
- 🎬 2 weights, 11 & 17 lbs.
- 🎬 Holds a 40 lb payload
- 🎬 ADM orange aluminum replacement/upgrade knob kit
- 🎬 ADM replacement counterweight shaft—original shaft also included
- 🎬 Complete with manual, tripod, and DC power cable

Asking \$850.00, \$1499.00 new



## FOR SALE: Manfrotto 502AH Head

- 🎬 New, used twice
- 🎬 15.4 lb weight capacity
- 🎬 Counter balance supports 8.8 lbs.
- 🎬 Spring loaded counter balance
- 🎬 Complete with handle and quick-release plate

Asking \$140.00



Contact Rick Weiss at 937-901-4716 or [rick.weiss@woh.rr.com](mailto:rick.weiss@woh.rr.com)