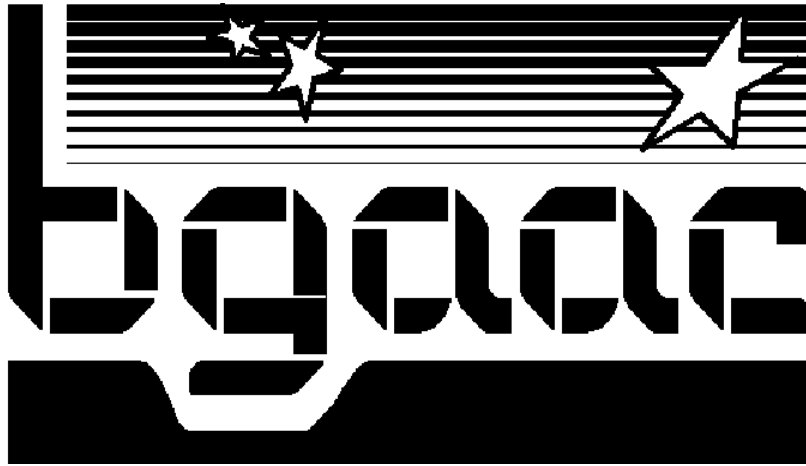


The Practical Observer

www.bgaac.org



*Bluegrass
Amateur
Astronomy
Club*

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

December 2011

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. For me, images look the original size at 110% zoom scale in the pdf file.

Christmas Party:

The annual Christmas party will be held on Friday December 16th at 7:00 PM. The location is the UK Mines and Minerals Resources Building on Rose St. Park in the Rose St. Parking Structure or you may get a ticket. Bring a dish. Meat will be provided. We are combining with the KY Paleo Society again this year to achieve sufficient party mass!

January Indoor Meeting:

The January indoor meeting will be held on Friday January 20th 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, but the topic has not been decided yet. Will advise.

This Month's Images

Photo by Rick Schrantz

This month's image is a composite of several Jupiters recorded over the last month. Jupiter is now a prominent object in the night sky. Jupiter was very large this year at nearly 50 arcseconds when at opposition during late October. And, it is once again high in the northern hemisphere sky with the south equatorial belt returned. All images were recorded with a new DMK 21AU618 camera, which uses the new Sony ICX618ALA chip. This chip is much more sensitive than its predecessor ICX098BL chip, and it is the same size and pixel dimension. For each image, separate red, green, and blue videos were recorded with at least 1000 frames each (1/30th second exposure and 30 frames per second recorded) and then sorted, processed, and combined into the final color image. Each image required about 1 gigabyte of data.

Jupiter



Membership Dues

Everyone's dues are now to be 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.

Bonus Jupiter Images:



