



LORAIN, OHIO

# GUIDESCOPE

<http://junior.apk.net/~arstar50/BlackRiver.index.html>

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the guidescope webpage can be found at www.eriecoast.com/~homegrown

**February 2005**

**Happy Ground Hog Day !**

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**B.R.A.S. Officers**

**President: Mike Harkey**

**Vice President: Dave Lengyel**

**Treasurer: John Reising**

**Secretary: Dave Gulyas**

**Meeting Dates**

° Regular Monthly Meeting at Carlisle Visitor's Center Feb 02, 2005

7:00 PM

° Monthly Board Meeting at the Blue Sky Restaurant Feb 10, 2005

7:00 PM

**Observing Dates**

° Friday February 04, 2005 7:00-9:00 PM Mid Winter Delights

° Friday February 18, 2005 7:00-9:00 PM Red White and Blue

Astronomy

° Solar viewing will resume on Sunday, May 29, 2005

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**Location Sites**

**NIELSEN OBSERVATORY** is located at the Lorain Metro Parks  
Equestrian Center on Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township

**CARLISLE VISITOR'S CENTER** is located at 12882 Diagonal Road in Carlisle Township

**BEAVER CREEK RESERVATION** is located on N Lake St / Oak Point just south of Rt 2 next to the Amherst Police Station.

**BLUE SKY RESTAURANT** is located on Rt 58 just north of Rt 2 on the east side of the street in Amherst

**LORENZO'S RESTAURANT** is located in Oberlin in the SW quadrant of RT58 and College St behind the storefronts. There is a large parking lot, and access can be gained from both RT58 and College St

**BIRMINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH** is located in Birmingham, Ohio. Take the Ohio Turnpike and exit at 135 (Baumhart Rd). [Alternately, take RT2 to Baumhart Rd ] Go south on Baumhart to RT113, then head west to Birmingham. Turn left (south) at the first street over the bridge as you enter Birmingham. Continue on South St as it curves to the right, and the meeting hall will be on the left.

**BOY SCOUT CAMP** is located on Bates Rd about 500 yds west of the intersection of Bates and Gore Orphanage Rd. The gate is on the right (north) side of the road as you head west.

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## **Sale & Trade**

Apogee 15 mm 70 deg wide field eyepiece in near new condition. Price: \$40.00 John Reising Tel: 440-327-3301

Astro Physics 5" F/12 super planetary scope with the original equipment and a wooden tripod as well. Partial list of scope and equipment: Optical tube, AP EQ mount, AP dual axis's drive corrector, AP field pier, wooden tripod and more. I won't sell it as pieces, complete only. I want to start with the price at a very reasonable \$3,800.00 for all, this price doesn't include any packing, shipping or insurance costs.

Mike Williams Tel: 440-235-9193 or 440-235-6867

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## **Whats Happenin**

**The Date for the 2005 OTAA wingding has been set for September 10. Dates for other local club OTAA events can be found on the Guidescope webpage.**

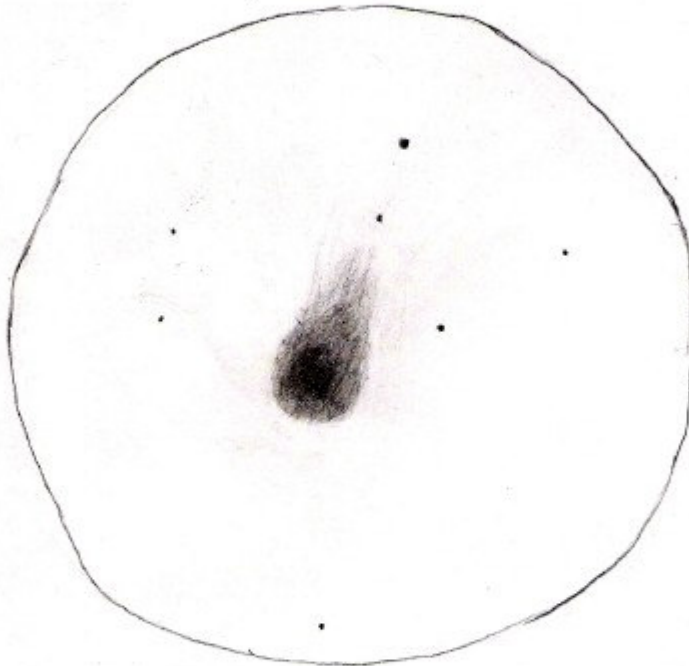
Here's a nice photo of comet Machholz by club members Ken and Barb Hubal



Comet Machholz - Jan 9, 2005 - 7pm - Hinckley, OH - 60mm Refractor/Cannon DSLR  
Below is a sketch of Comet Machholz provided by club member Ken Hubal.

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**OBSERVER: KEN HUBAL  
COMET MACHHOLZ, C2004/Q2  
9:54 PM EST 12-11-2004  
60mm f5.83 Refractor f.l.=350mm  
LOCATION; HINCKLEY, OH  
TOP-O-LEDGES (CLEVE. METROPARKS)**



**NOTES:**

**19mm WA Eyepiece 70 deg. AFOV Yielding a TFOV of 3.7 deg  
magnification = 18.4x**

**Sky: Clear**

**Transparency: 8**

**Seeing: 7.5**

**Located in ERIDANUS**

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## **Dates from the Cleveland Museum**

**How the Milky Way Galaxy Changed with Time Dr Robert Zinn**

**Thursday, Mar 24, 2005**

**The Evolution of Galaxies Dr Jacqueline van Gorkom**

**Thursday, April 14, 2005**

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## **Articles**

**Stardust Up Close**

**by Patrick L. Barry and Dr. Tony Phillips**

**Like discarded lumber and broken bricks around a construction site, comets scattered at the edge of our solar system are left-over bits from the "construction" of our solar system.**

**Studying comets, then, can help scientists understand how our solar system formed, and how it gave rise to a life-bearing planet like Earth. But comets have long been frustratingly out of reach -- until recently. In January 2004 NASA's Stardust probe made a fly-by of the comet Wild 2 (pronounced "vilt"). This fly-by captured some of the best images and data on comets yet ... and the most surprising.**

**Scientists had thought that comets were basically "rubble piles" of ice and dust -- leftover "construction materials" held together by the comet's feeble gravity. But that's not what Stardust found. Photos of Wild 2 reveal a bizarre landscape of odd-shaped craters, tall cliffs, and overhangs. The comet looks like an alien world in miniature, not construction debris. To support these shapes against the pull of gravity, the comet must have a different consistency than scientists thought:**

**"Now we think the comet's surface might have a texture like freeze-dried ice cream, so-called 'astronaut ice cream': It's solid and can assume odd, gravity-defying shapes, but it's basically soft and crumbles easily," says Donald Brownlee of the University of Washington, principal investigator for Stardust.**

**Scientists are currently assembling a 3-D computer model of this surface from the photos that Stardust took. Those photos show the sunlit side of the comet from many angles, so its 3-dimensional shape can be inferred by analyzing the images. The result will be a "virtual comet" that scientists can examine from any angle. They can even perform a virtual fly-by. Using this 3-D model to study the comet's shape in detail, the scientists will learn a lot about the material from which the comet is made: how strong or dense or brittle it is, for example.**

**Soon, the Stardust team will get their hands on some of that material. In January 2006, a capsule from Stardust will parachute down to Earth carrying samples of comet dust captured during the flyby. Once scientists get these tiny grains under their microscopes, they'll get their first glimpse at the primordial makings of the solar system.**

**It's heading our way: ancient, hard-won, possibly surprising and definitely precious dust from the construction zone.**

**Find out more about the Stardust mission at [stardust.jpl.nasa.gov](http://stardust.jpl.nasa.gov). Kids can read about comets, play the "Tails of Wonder" game about comets, and hear a rhyming story about aerogel at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/stardust/>.**

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