The RASC-Kingston Centre 2023 Member Image Gallery

Member-submitted best imagery of the year

Venus and Orion at Lemoine Point after dusk
Date: April 9th, 2023

I was photographing Venus and Orion at Lemoine Point from the field looking West at about 10:00pm. The temperature was 12C and there were no clouds, no haze and no wind! The Moon had not yet risen. From the right, Venus was close to Pleiades and Taurus. Orion was central in the field of view, with Sirius and Canis Major towards the south. I switched to my 200mm Zoom lens to photograph the Orion Nebula which revealed some interesting detail in the cloud complex (Insert). What a wonderful sight to behold!

Technical: Canon EOS 60D with 10mm Rokinon lens: ISO 400, f/2.8, 30s
Canon Zoom lens: 200mm, ISO 6400, f/5.6, 2s

Bruce Elliott

This image is of the Perseid meteor shower which peaked on 13-Aug-2023. I set my camera to take a 10 second image every 12 seconds which produced around 1000 images of which 14 had meteor trails.

This composite image was processed in Photoshop. The images were taken with Nikon Z9 camera with Nikon Z 24-70mm lens at f/2.8, ISO 4000.

I selected this image for the RASCKC Annual Members Gallery as it reminds me of the magic of standing watching the night sky hoping to see that sudden trail of a meteor and then… there it is! What a thrill!

Brian McCracken

I have a new best image for 2023. I got it last night and I'm very happy with it.

I tried my High Dynamic Range technique on M42.

With this set I did 10 images each of 2Min, 1Min, 30Sec, 15Sec and 7Sec. Then I stacked them with DeepSkyStacker.

After that I did very minimal processing in Photoshop. I'm very happy with the way it picked up the Trapezium and still kept the faint nebulosity.

Captured with my Celestron 11in SCT and my Mallincam Universe camera.

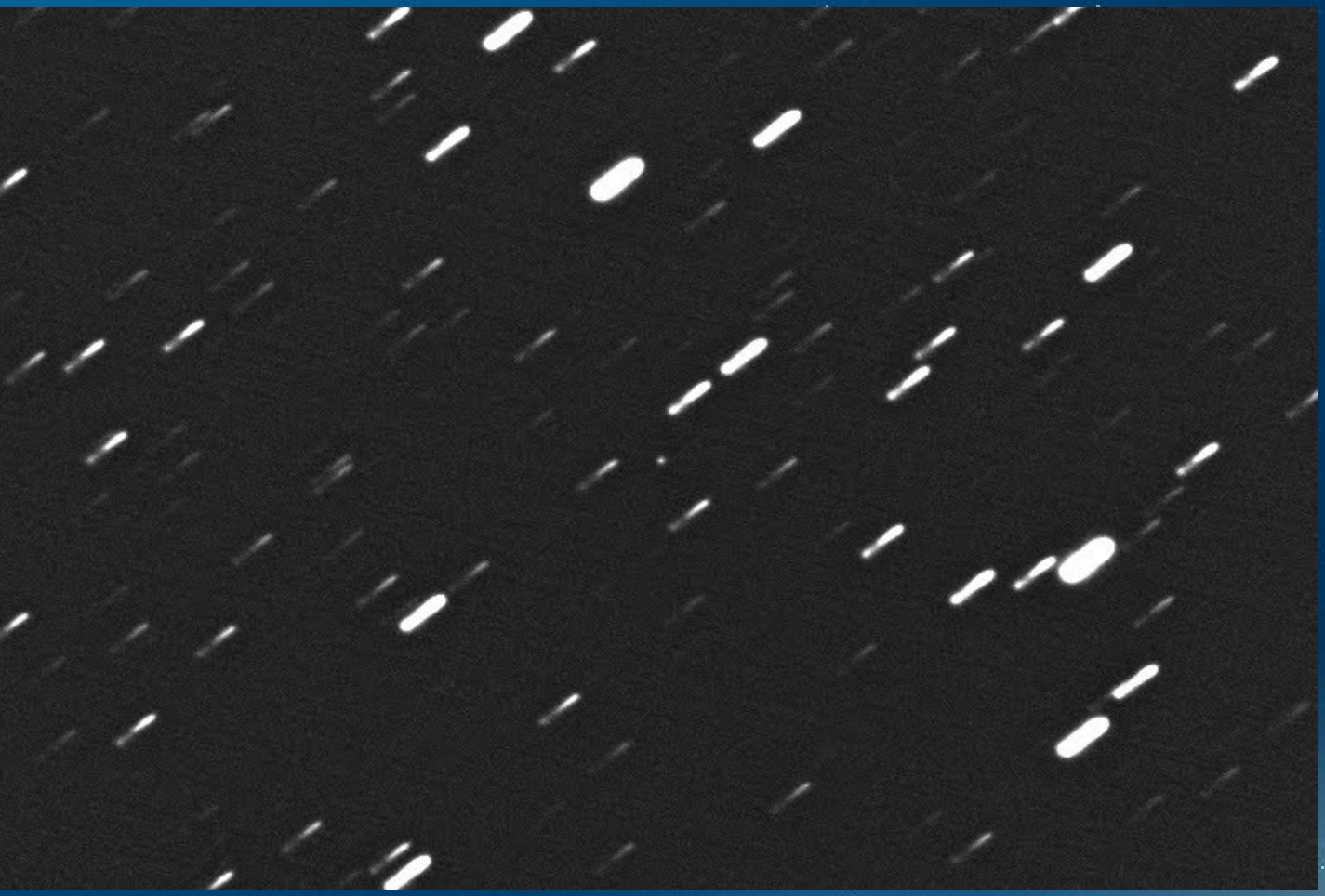
Stephen Craig

This image shows the dark nebula ``Barnard's E'' (B142 is the lower part and B143 the upper), as well as Altair and Gamma Aquilae. Reference: Barnard Chart 41. It was a lucky accident because Altair was my alignment star. B142-3 was not initially on my observing list. It is also much better than a previous attempt to photograph this nebula two years ago.

The image was made by averaging four 59" exposures taken on October 10, 2023 at Bob's Lake with a Canon 60Da at ISO 1600, and a 135mm F1.8
Sigma Art Lens stopped down to F2. The camera was mounted on a Skywatcher HEQ5 mount with tracking but no guiding.

Software used included Canon's Digital Photo Professional,
RegiStar, and Images Plus.

Leslie Roberts



It's a small portion of a stack of 60x1 minute exposures taken with a 12" Meade LX200GPS telescope on an iOptron CEM120 mount.

A Starizona SCT IV focal reducer/corrector was used, resulting in a focal length of 1890mm. The camera was a ZWO ASI1600mm pro, cooled to -20°C, and using a ZWO luminance filter. Darks, flats, and dark flats were also taken and applied.

The telescope followed the stars, with the synthetic tracking ability of Tycho software used to follow asteroid (10076) Rogerhill, the small dot in the middle of the image.

The 6 km sized asteroid was in Auriga, at magnitude 18.5 when the images were gathered in November.

Roger Hill

NGC1333 93 x 4min exposures (372min total) with the 0.25m f/4 Schmidt-Newtonian (named Hankscope for the friend I bought it from) on a Losmandy Titan Gemini mount. Camera was a ZWO ASI2600MC Pro cooled one-shot-colour camera at -25C. Images were guided with a ZWO ASI178MM camera on a 60mm f/5 guide scope. Control software was N.I.N.A. North is to the right in this image.

Just inside the southern edge of Perseus, NGC1333 is a reflection nebula, open cluster and very active star-forming region. Most of the stars in the cluster are still hidden in the clouds of dust and gas from which they are forming. It is part of the Perseus molecular cloud and has been very well studied by astronomers with SIMBAD reporting 1430 papers refering to the object.

I chose this object for my image of 2023 as it was a complete surprise when I imaged it. I was expecting a small reflection nebula but the first image also showed the frame-filling dark nebulae, HII regions, and pale grey dust clouds.

Richard Wagner

There was a wonderful outburst of auroras on March 23, 2023 which gave a lively display of reds and greens dancing high in the northern sky.

This shot facing west was taken at 11:45 p.m. 15 second exposure, ISO 1600 at f4.0

Rose-Marie Burke

Malcolm Park

(100620) Kimhay Asteroid in Pisces
Magnitude 18.8

I chose this image because I am grateful to Kim for all her work for the Centre.
Single 600s exposure.
TEC140 APO Moravian 16803 CCD with luminance filter.

M101 and supernova 23IXF

I chose this because it is the only image that I took all year.

22 minutes ISO1600, Canon 7D, AstroPhysics 127f8.

Mark Kaye

M42 taken with the newly acquired ZWO SeeStar S50. December 14, 2023 01:03 UTC.
Using the internal Light Pollution Filter
1st image taken with the SeeStar

Image details:
Time taken: 2023-12-14T01:03:37
RA: 84.10833
DEC: -5.374167
Focal length: 250
Sensor Temp: 8.125
Gain: 80
Exposure: 10.0
Filter: LP
Image width: 1080
Image height: 1920
FITS Scrubber

Kim Hay

This is the Hercules cluster or Messier 13 from
August 5 2023.

The image was taken with my 9.25 Celestron SCT and uncooled ZWO 294 colour camera using a Celestron .63 reducer.

The exposure of each frame was 8 seconds for a total of 49 frames (392 seconds).

This was the first time I was really able to get a more detailed image with colour that seemed more natural to me.

Mark DesLauriers

M27

It was taken with a Mallincam DS10cTEC camera, 13 stacked frames of 5 seconds each.

The camera was new to me and M27 is a favourite, relatively bright and I have imaged a number of times in previous. I still consider myself a beginner with this camera, but like it's sensitivity.

The software used is MCSky and is provided by and updated several times a year by Mallincam, free of charge and provides a good range of settings for imaging.

Michael Bird

Kevin Kell

Saturn on the evening of 2023 October 03.

This is one of the best Saturn images of the season, especially given that it was only 30 degrees of altitude. Saturn is 18.5 arcseconds across (the planet not the rings)

Skywatcher AZ-EQ6GT mount, Vixen VC200L 200mm F9 cassegrain scope with x2 antares barlow (effective FL=3600mm).

This was 6167 frames of 40ms each and then the best 5% was used in Autostakkert! v3 and wavelets with Registax

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Kingston Centre
2023 Member Image Gallery

All submissions are copyrighted by their creators.

Submission deadline for the 2024 Gallery is 2024 December 31st for inclusion into the Centre archives.

Edited by Kevin Kell