

The Observer's Challenge Objects

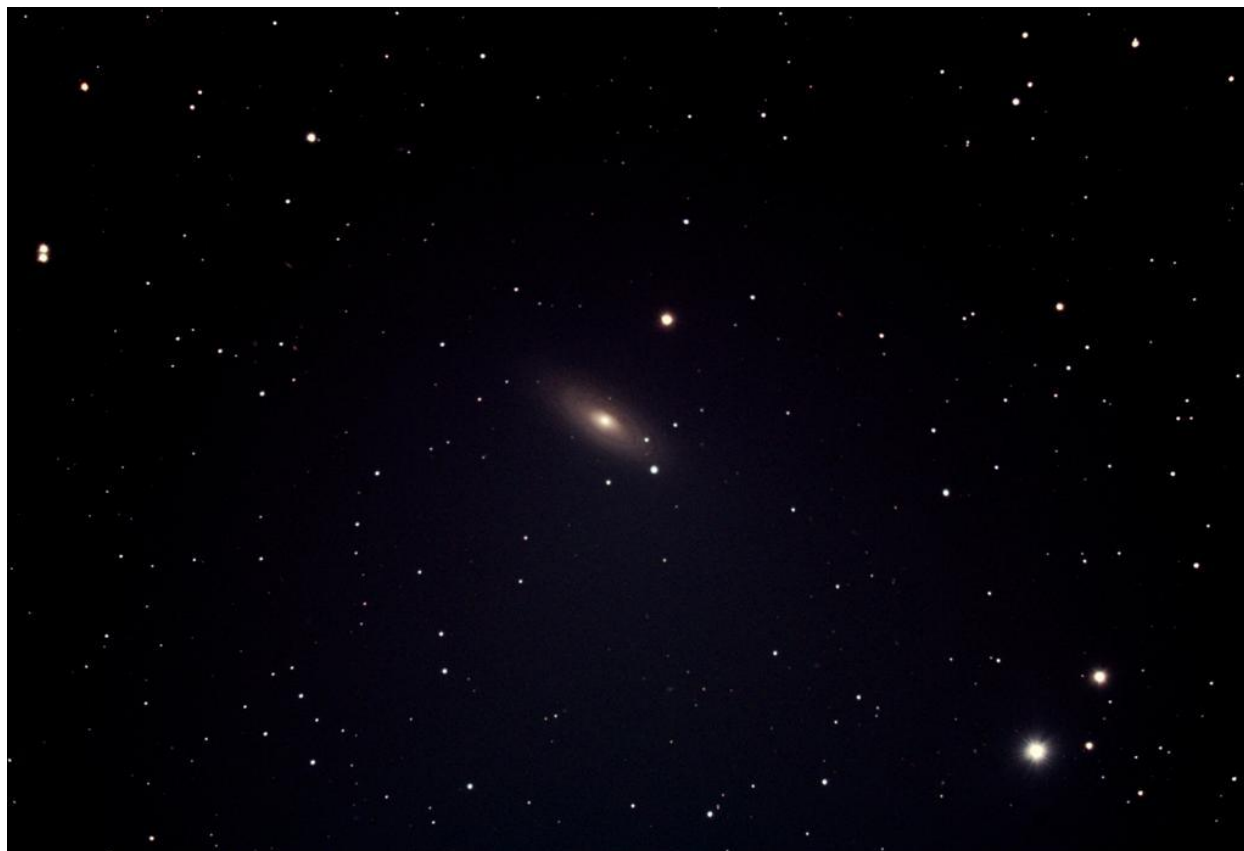
Submitted by Larry McHenry, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. <http://stellar-journeys.org>

March: NGC 2841 – flocculent spiral galaxy - Ursa Major; $\text{mag}_v=10.1$; Size = 8' x 3.5'
RA: 09^h 99^m 02.7^s; Dec: +50° 38' 35"

Spiral galaxy **NGC2841** is located in the spring constellation of Ursa Major - 'The Great Bear'. This 46 million light-years distant deep-sky object is an archetype of 'SA' class galaxy called "flocculent", which means it doesn't have well-defined spiral arms, but instead the arms appear tightly-wound, patchy and broken. This look is due to intense, active star formation occurring within the arms. NGC2841 (H1 205) was discovered on the night of March 9th, 1788 by William Herschel using his 20 ft reflector, at his home in Slough, near Windsor Castle.

Video-Capture/EAA:

02/13/2023, (wide-field) from Big Woodchuck Observatory backyard in Pittsburgh, PA, using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and broadband filter, 180-second guided exposure, live-stacked for 30 minutes.



04/26/2022, (zoomed) from Calhoun County Park in West Virginia, using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and broadband filter, 180-second guided exposure, live-stacked for 30 minutes.



Using EAA techniques: in the wide-field view, the circumpolar moderate bright oval galaxy stood out prominently from the surrounding star field, with a triangle of three small stars on the northwest edge, and a +8.5 mag field star about 10' to the west of the core.

Using a higher resolution zoomed-view, the 'flocculent' nature of the galaxy became apparent.

I was able to observe great detail in the fragmented mottled/patchy knots and dark lanes in the inclined galaxy's spiral arms.