

The Observer's Challenge Objects

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January: NGC 936 – Galaxy – Cetus; $\text{mag}_v=10.2$; Size = $4.7' \times 4.1'$
RA: 02h 27m 37s; Dec: $-01^\circ 09' 22''$

Barred lenticular galaxy **NGC936** is located in the late fall constellation of Cetus - 'The Sea Monster'. The galaxy is about 60 million light-years light years distant.

NGC936 was discovered on the night of January 6th, 1785 by William Herschel using his 20 ft reflector at his home in Slough, near Windsor Castle.

Video-Capture/EAA:

On 10/11/2023, from ORAS Observatory in western PA.

Using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and broadband filter, 3 minute guided exposure, EAA live-stacked for 30 minutes.



Using EAA techniques, the bright 10th mag oval shaped galaxy NGC936 is located in a rich field that also contains several other small galaxies – NGC941 about $12'$ to the east (bottom of image) and fainter spiral PGC9394 to the SE. A ring shaped spiral arm can be faintly seen within the face-on halo of NGC936, containing brighter sections where the bar attaches to the galaxy's core. The galaxy has been whimsically nicknamed the "Darth Vader Galaxy" due to its resemblance to a Star Wars Tie Fighter.