

THE W. A. S. P. NEWSLETTER

The Warren Astronomical Society paper

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<http://www.warrenastro.org>

2010 WAS Officers

- President: Gary M. Ross president@warrenastro.org
- 1st VP: Jon Blum firstvp@warrenastro.org
- 2nd VP: Bob Berta secondvp@warrenastro.org
- Secretary: Therese Oldani secretary@warrenastro.org
- Treasurer: Jonathan Kade treasurer@warrenastro.org
- Publications: Stephen Uitti publications@warrenastro.org
- Pub. Outreach: Diane Hall outreach@warrenastro.org
- Entire board: board@warrenastro.org

See the Officers and Subgroups section of our web site for more contact information.

<http://www.warrenastro.org/was/officers.aspx>

Treasurer's Report

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members Shawn MacDonnell and Jason Daniels, who joined in March.

Thanks to all the members who have renewed their memberships this month, and especially to those who completed the survey. We're beginning to add up the numbers, and noticing some interesting results.

You may have noticed we sent out membership renewal letters in March to all members. If you have not received one, please let me know - we don't have your correct mailing address.

EVENTS

We had a great showing at the Astronomy Expo March 6, selling \$34 of merchandise and giving out a number of flyers. We used the club's new digital picture frame for the first time, with very pleasing results.

Doug Bauer of the Ford Club and I (with lots of help from Diane) organized a group viewing of the Hubble 3D IMAX movie that was very well attended - 54 members of the various clubs turned out. We ended up making about \$6 on it.

We're still working on insurance (we still have to submit our inventory) but hopefully before too long we'll have that taken care of.

We're working on filing for 501(c)(3) status and regaining our Michigan charity designation. If and when that happens, your dues, purchases, and raffle entries will not be tax-deductible, but any other donations will be.

INCOME REPORT

\$892.06 came in and went out for the IMAX event. Not counting that money, we had income of \$528.64 in March and paid out \$285.71, for a total increase of \$242.93.

Our balances are:

Cash	\$278.50
Bank	\$4060.33
Total	\$4338.83

Jonathan Kade

WAS on Facebook

The Warren club has a presence on Facebook. Recent wall posts refer to space debris, getting a look at Vesta, a new eyepiece mini-review, cub scout outreach, rotating HST Pluto image, and an upcoming ISS/Shuttle pass overhead. On Facebook? Join the fun! Check it out by clicking here: <http://www.facebook.com/warrenastro>.



Seven Ponds Astronomy Club: Open Invitation

The Seven Ponds Astronomy Club extends its invitation to the Warren Astronomical Society members to our monthly meetings. Our club website is: <http://bhmich.com/sevenpondsac/> and has all the information about our upcoming meetings, maps to Seven Ponds Nature Center, etc. Please let me know if you might be attending the meetings so that I can make appropriate plans to handle the expected crowd. If you have any questions, please contact me.

John Lines



2010 Stargate Observatory Open House

Dates: Apr 24, May 22, June 19, July 17, Aug 21, Sept 11, Oct 16, Nov 13, Dec 11

Oakland Astronomy Club newsletter

<http://oaklandastronomy.ulmb.com/oacnews.html>

Clear skies,

Bill MacIntosh

The WASP

The Warren Astronomical Society Paper (WASP) is the official monthly publication of the Society. New issues of the WASP are available online at the <http://www.warrenastro.org/> website.

Requests by other astronomy clubs to receive the WASP, and all other correspondence should be addressed to the Publications Director, Stephen Uitti, at publications@warrenastro.org.

Articles for inclusion in the WASP are strongly encouraged and should be submitted to the editor by the 24th day of each month. Any format of submission is accepted, however, plain text files are the easiest form to use. Most popular graphics formats are acceptable. The preferred method of submission is electronically via email with attachment to the editor. Alternative submissions include printed form delivered in person, or via US mail. Disclaimer: The articles presented herein represent the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily the opinions of the WAS or the editor.

The WASP reserves the right to deny publication of any submission.

-Stephen Uitti

Observatory Rules

1. Normal closing time will depend on events, weather, and other variables.
2. The observatory may be closed one hour after opening time if no members arrive within the first hour.
3. Contact the 2nd VP for other arrangements, such as late arrival time. Call 586-992-0498.
4. An alternative person will be appointed to open the observatory if the 2nd VP cannot attend a scheduled date or opening time.
5. Members may arrive before or stay after the scheduled open house time.
6. Dates are subject to change or cancellation depending on weather or staffing availability.
7. An email will be posted no later than 2 hours before starting time in case of date change or cancellation.
8. It is best to email the 2nd VP up to 2 hours before the posted opening with any questions you may have. Later emails will not be receivable.
9. Generally, only strong rain or snow will prevent the open house... the plan is to be there even if it is clouded over. Often, the weather is cloudy, but it clears up as the evening progresses.

-Bob Berta, 2nd VP



The SWAP SHOP

This column is for those interested in buying, trading or selling. Ads run for six months. The month and year the ad will be removed is shown. Submit ads to Stephen Uitti, 313 389-5609

publications@warrenastro.org.

FOR SALE: Celestron Optima 2000, an 8" Schmidt-Cass go-to scope. It's in good shape, works well, and has fine optics. It comes with a hard case. Asking \$900. Contact Bob Zinke, 586-264-0884, email: r1d3z@yahoo.com [6-2010]

FOR SALE: Blaine McCullough's 13" Telescope! Mary Lou McCollough wishes to find Blaine's telescope a good home. Hand built by Blaine and Steve Greene, beautifully crafted truss dob has excellent optics. Finder scope and telrad included. \$1000 or BO. Contact Bill Beers for details at BEEZOLL@AOL.COM or 586-321-8207 [7-2010]

FOR SALE: Turn your 2x Barlow into a 2.5, 3, 4, or 5x device with my Barlow amplifier. Use it with your lowest power eyepiece and keep that eye relief and apparent field, no matter how much you magnify your image. The Barlow amplifier is a simple extension tube available for \$4. Call 586-776-9720 or email cometman@mybluelight.com and I'll bring your amplifier choice to the next meeting. If you buy the set of four amplifiers, I'll take \$4 off the total price. For mail delivery to your home address, add \$1.50 for shipping. [4-2010]

FOR SALE: A Meade Moto-focus for SCT's. Attaches to your current focuser knob, uses hand control to operate functions. Designed for a "classic" Meade scope, but may work with newer models. Asking \$ 10, includes mounting bracket and screws. Interested: Saxon1066@comcast.net or Fred Judd: (586) 489-0245 after 4 pm [10-2010]

WAS Club logo wear at WAS meetings



(Photos and modeling by Jon Blum)

Diane Worth (248-980-7832, or dianesky-night@yahoo.com) sells club logo clothing (hats, shirts, sweatshirts, jackets). Stephen Uitti brings a catalog of available items to meetings.

Astronomical Phenomena - April 2010

Day	Event
4	Moon furthest South (-25.3)
6	LAST QUARTER
8	Mercury greatest elong E(19)
9	Moon at apogee
14	NEW MOON
16	Venus 4.0S of Moon
18	Mercury stationary
18	Moon furthest North (25.2)
21	FIRST QUARTER
22	Mars 4.4N of Moon
23	Regulus 4.1N of Moon
24	Moon at perigee
27	Spica 2.9N of Moon
28	FULL MOON
28	Mercury inferior conjunction
30	Antares 1.7S of Moon

Transit of Venus by Jon Blum



Would You Like to Do A WAS Meeting Talk?

At our two monthly meetings of the Warren Astronomical Society, we have talks given mostly by members about astronomy topics. I am the person scheduling those talks for 2010 and 2011, and I would like to encourage more people to give the talks.

You can speak for any amount of time from 10 minutes to 1 hour. You can use PowerPoint slides, or not use any slides at all. If you use PowerPoint, you don't need your own laptop, but you can just bring your PowerPoint presentation on a flash drive or CD, and let me know in advance, and I will arrange for you to use another member's laptop to show your PowerPoint slides at the meeting. You can choose any topic, as long as it is about astronomy or any closely related subject.

All of the talks for 2010 are already scheduled, but I am now scheduling talks for 2011. Please email Jon Blum at firstvp@warrenastro.org or talk to me at any meeting, if you might be interested in giving a talk at one of our meetings.

-Jon Blum, 1st VP

WAS 2010 Upcoming Presentations

3 May	Jeff Dickerman	Optec Inc
20 May	Jonathan Kade	Last Venus Transit
7 June	Jim Van Prooyen	Amateur Radio Astronomy You Can Do
17 June	Dave Bailey	White Dwarfs
5 July	Gary Gathen	Librations of Moons
15 July	Bob Berta	NASA - Lost in Space?

2010 WAS Meetings

Cranbrook Meetings: 1st Mondays

Apr 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug 2, Sept 13 (not Labor Day), Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6.

Macomb Meetings: 3rd Thursdays

Apr 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug 19, Sept 16 (Same week as Cranbrook), October 21, Nov 18, Banquet Dec 16

LARGER PRIZE AT RAFFLES IN MAY!!!

A gift certificate from Lumicon will be raffled at the Warren Astronomical Society meetings in May to help celebrate Astronomy Day.

The certificates are in the sizes of \$25 and \$50 and will be raffled on May 3rd and May 20th club meetings, (one per meeting).

Thanks to Lumicon for their generous donations!

Larry Phipps - Would You Be My Neighbor Presentation – March 18th

CORRECTION!

During the presentation of “Would You Be My Neighbor; A Neighborly Visit To My Neighborhood, The Milky Way” at Macomb County Community College, South Campus on March 18, 2010, the featured presenter, Larry Phipps, mistakenly identified the galaxy Centaurus A as being the nearest DSO with a black hole within 1,600 light years of the Milky Way galaxy. Several members in attendance questioned this assertion. In fact, the correct DSO with a black hole at that distance is a star identified as V 4641. Thanks to Jonathan Kade for this correction. The image in Larry’s slide show has been corrected. If you wish to see the corrected slide, please contact Larry and he will display the corrected slide at his home during a backyard bar-b-que. Bring a dish to pass.

-Larry Phipps

Nearly Full Moon by Jonathan Kade



Cranbrook Board Meeting

The Board meeting for March 1, 2010 was called to order at 6:40pm.

Attendance: Gary Ross, Jonathan Kade, Diane Hall, Stephen Uitti, Therese Oldani, Bob Berta.

Guests: Marty Kunz, Ken Bertin, Lee, Brian Klaus, Bob Watts, Dave Bailey

Officers' reports:

President: A working meeting was held for board members on February 20th at Bob Berta's house.

The work was productive. Work still to be done on the bylaws.

Gary directed the discussion on the Macomb meeting and starting time due to the need to be out of the space by 9:45pm. Areas to curb are "In the News", and "Officers reports" in order to accommodate the presenter's program.

First VP: The board has been utilizing e-mail and discussing the Macomb meeting concerns.

Second VP: Open House at Stargate on March 27th,

Bob reported on outreach to Auburn Hills elementary for 60 kids,

Bob also reported that he and Lee Cromwell served scouts at Rotary February 27.

Marty reported work to be done on the Observatory:

Roof-Cut the points on an angle and seal them .

Floor to be scheduled as the whether clears.

Secretary: no report

Treasurer: Four new members in February.

Insurance check written and sent.

Bank ledger balanced.

Incorporated again. Gary Ross and Jonathan are on the bank account/ signature card.

Membership work being done

Fliers given to Larry, to follow up.

Bought the digital picture frame and will be ready to go for Saturday Expo.

The 501(c)(3) certification is the next after we get the membership renewal flyer out.

Outreach: Seven Ponds and Warren scheduled at Metro Beach

3/6 Expo with Ford Club

3/13 Messier contest

4/24 Astronomy Day, Kensington, Wolcott Mill, Metro Beach, Island, Cranbrook, by Seven Ponds, Warren, Ford clubs.

Science Center: still waiting on a response. (Gary will look into this).

A sign up was sent around to club during meeting.

Publications: The March publication of WASP to be out soon.

Old Business: By-Laws: more work to be done.

Jonathan reported on the \$150 cost to cover 250 people for membership renewal letters.

The Roster is on line to help with activity information.

Therese will post dates of upcoming raffle for shirts at April 24th events,

and gift certificates of \$25 and \$50 at upcoming general meetings in May.

Therese made a motion to purchase pencils for outreach with WARRENASTRO.ORG printed on them, \$50.

Motion passed.

Bob asked if we are keeping track on how new members come to our club. Answer: Yes.

New Business:

Bob requested a scope for younger folks to play with and handle. This would be a great hands on learning tool. We will be looking at some of the storage scopes to see what is might be available.

Snacks: Therese will handle May 1, Gary offered to help out on Thursdays at Macomb. Via email, members will help out with volunteering to bring snacks.

Meeting adjourned: 7:28pm -Therese Oldani

Note: All minutes are published a month behind.

Cranbrook - General Meeting 7:38 pm

President: Questions went out to general club members to consider starting the Macomb meeting at 7:00pm due to time constraints. A show of hands was taken. Gary will take another show of hands at Macomb.

First VP: A review of upcoming presentations and modifications were read through December presentations.

Second VP: Open house March 27,
Astronomy day April 24
5 scout scoutings at Wolcott in January.
Outreach to Second Graders at Auburn Schools last week of February

Treasurer: Calendars- Some members still need to pick up purchased calendars.

Richard P - please pick up envelope.

John C- please pick up envelope.

Insured and now Incorporated.

Bought a digital picture frame and will be running at the EXPO on Saturday.

The club is re-incorporated and will be re-insured shortly.

Outreach: March 6th, Saturday Holy Cross church in Livonia FAC Expo/swap

March 13: Seven Ponds Messier Marathon.

Astronomy Day: April 24 Cranbrook 1 - 4pm

Stargate 4pm - into the night

Metro Beach 6pm - 10pm

Seven Ponds / Ford Astronomy Club / Warren Astronomical Society

Special Interest:

Double Stars- Riyad reported February 19 observation and next at open house 3/27

Bill Beers reported on Winter Star Party in Florida. Great views of the lower horizon and of of Omega Centauri.

Cadillac Star Party- 9th annual from June 8th - 13th.

Discussion Group-On February 18 the meeting viewed Michiu Kaku on Space science.

Jonathan Kade reported the WEB update for search for Warren Astronomical Society.

In the news: Ken would like to propose a topic of the month.

Dr. Phil did an update on the Pioneer and its location near the heliosphere and the inconsistencies of Einstein's equations.

Jonathan reported great observations of VISTA.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Ken Bertin with his presentation on "Astronomer Christiaan Huygens1629-1695".

38 were in attendance. *-Therese Oldani*

Macomb Minutes 18 March

Two guests present-- William Kennedy, Jason from Romeo.

President: The time and location for the Macomb meeting is still a topic of debate. Poll conducted re: start time for meetings, heavily slanted in favor of an earlier start. The issue will be taken up by the board at their next meeting.

2nd V.P.: Next Open House to be on 3/27. April 24th will be Astronomy Day, with activities at Stargate that evening. The April Open House will involve the participation of the Park Service.

Treasurer: Membership renewal letters have been distributed and will arrive in the mail. See official Treasurer's Report for current balance. We are moving forward with the quest to obtain 501(c) (3) status.

Outreach: Upcoming events include the Hubble 3D group viewing at the Henry Ford IMAX on 3/19, the "five ring circus" of Astronomy Day (Cranbrook from 1-4, Wolcott Mill from 4-8, Metro Beach from 6-10, Stargate from 8 until the aliens come), and 4-H Discovery Day in Clarkston on May 1st. Star parties of note include the spring Cadillac West Party from 6/8 through 6/13 and the Texas Star Party which is on the 2nd weekend in May.

Continued next page

Publications: This month's WASP is available on our website.

Solar: Bob Berta has two new solar images, including one taken on 3/17. One of these will be used in a permanent collection in the UK. Trivia-- February had sunspots every day, a nice change from last year.

Discussion Group: next meeting to be on Thursday 3/25. Bring your own food.

Double stars: will meet next at the Open House on 3/27, with a possibility of rescheduling for 3/26 depending on the cloud coverage. Call Riyadh Matti for details.

Observation Reports:

A question was asked regarding live-feed video camera for use with club telescopes. We do have several club-owned cameras, including a Meade, a LPI, and a ST9. The ST9 is good for deep-sky use and not live images. Bob Berta does personally own a live-image set-up, but the W.A.S. does not.

President Ross performed a brief interpretive reading of selections of the works of Dr. Foersch, our banquet speaker from 2009. Highlights included the benzene dreams of Friedrich Kekule.

In the News included Gliese 710 and the aftereffects of the recent Chilean earthquake.

Then Larry Phipps took the stage with his presentation on the Milky Way, *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*

Thirty-seven people attended. *-Therese Oldani*



Astronomy Events Calendar

April 17-18 - The Northeast Astronomical Forum (NEAF) in New York.

April 24 - International Astronomy Day

April 24 - 1 pm to 4 pm, solar observing during the day at Cranbrook

April 24 - 7 pm night observing at Stargate.

April 24 - Astronomy Day: 7 pm Sidewalk Astronomy at Metro Beach Metropark with the WAS, FAAC, OAC, and 7 Ponds clubs.

May 1st (Saturday), 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Oakland County 4H daytime event at the County Park in Davisburg. Expecting 600 people. We would like volunteers to bring telescopes with solar filters to allow participants to look at the Sun.

May 9-16 - Michiana Star Party in Indiana.

May 9-16 - Texas Star Party.

<http://www.texasstarparty.org/>

June 8-13 - The Cadillac West spring star party at Bill's

July 10 - WAS Picnic! (Provisional)

August 5-8 - Stellafane in Vermont.

September 17-18 - Astronomy at the Beach.

October 2-10 - Okie-Tex star party in Oklahoma.

October 7-10 - Hidden Hollow star party at Warren Rupp Observatory in Ohio.

October 7-10 - Great Lakes Star Gaze.

November 2-7 - The Cadillac West fall star party at Bill's

December 16 – WAS Annual Banquet & Presentation - Mark John Christensen



PRESENTS

The 9th Annual
CADILLAC WEST - SPRING
STAR PARTY
June 8-13, 2010



Hosted By: Bill Beers (Warren Astronomical Society)

Located 14 miles west of Cadillac, Mich. at Bill Beers cabin (Register for map)

DARK SKIES

☆ Raffle Prize Drawing ☆

Saturday Barbecue

Registration donation fee:
\$15 per person \$20 per family
Contact Bill Beers to register before June 4

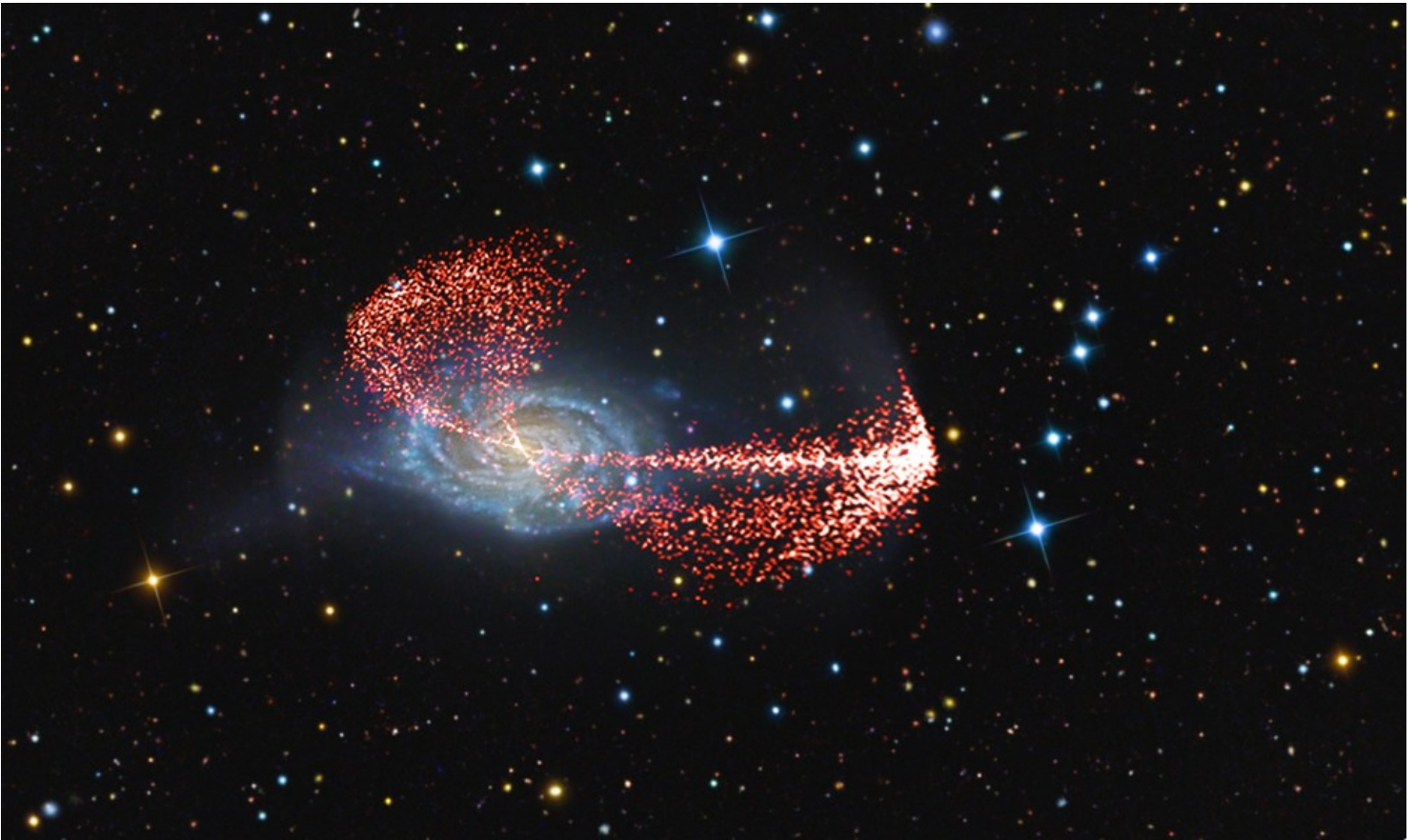
----- A/C POWER AVAILABLE -----

Accommodations Available:

- Plenty of Space for Tents/Campers
- Caberfae Crossing (231-862-3330) 1 mile east
- Caberfae Peaks (231-862-3300) 1 mile east
- Coyote Crossing Resort (231-862-3212) 3 miles east
- Roadway Inn (231-775-2458) 12 miles east

For more info contact:

Bill Beers	Phone #586-321-8207 or E-mail "BEEZOLL@AOL.COM"
John Lines	Phone #248-969-2790 or E-mail "JELINES@YAHOO.COM"
Doug Bock	E-mail "DBOCK1@CHARTERMI.NET"



Full article at http://www.cosmotography.com/images/small_ngc4651.html

NGC 4651, The Umbrella Galaxy

This view of the Umbrella Galaxy (NGC4651) highlights the results of a 2 year collaboration between private and professional astronomers, led by Dr. David Martinez-Delgado ([Max Planck Institute for Astronomy](#), [Astrophysical Institute of the Canary Islands](#)) This project was dedicated to exploiting the scientific potential of modest aperture telescopes. The team's findings have just been published. The image has an overlay of the satellite's path as it was gravitationally disrupted.

The **standard cosmological model** predicts galaxies grew and evolved hierarchically through a process of mergers that followed the Big Bang. Since evidence of this consolidation should be observable in galaxies located near the Milky Way, the team's investigation sought to uncover previously unsuspected stellar streams.

NGC 4651 is the brightest example so far in the team's ultra-deep [pilot survey](#) of selected isolated spiral galaxies in the Local Volume.

This new view of the galaxy exhibits a jet-like spear that's strikingly coherent and narrow. The structure was previously reported by Boris Vorontsov Velyaminov in 1959 but never interpreted as a stellar tidal stream. Moreover, this deep image additionally shows a spectacular crescent shaped shell surrounding the east side of the star system that corresponds to the apocenter of the dwarf galaxy. Interestingly, a possible second arc on the western side of the galaxy can also be seen in this image. This feature is less obvious because it's partially hidden by the galaxy's disk and suggests we are observing a moderately inclined structure projected into the halo of NGC4651.

-Jay GaBany