

Friday, June 19, 2009

Arrived at Keota, CO site in the late afternoon. Sky was clear and calm wind. Forecast indicates it will be cloudy after midnight.

Sunset was at 8:28 PM. Thin cirrus clouds seen low in SW. Light wind from SE.

Saturn 9:12 PM 6mm – See ring shadow on planet plus one band to the right of the ring. 3 moons seen.



Thin clouds overhead now. Seeing Fair. Transparency Poor.

NGC 4889 9:54 PM 19mm - 4889 is a very dim, oval glow with hare brighter core. 4874 is a uniformly lit oval glow in same FOV as 4889. A field star to the upper left of these two galaxies.



NGC 5012 10:01 PM 19mm - A tilted oval. Longer and more cigar shaped with hare brighter core. Easy to see in FOV. Pretty uniformly lit otherwise.

M51 was incredible. Easy to see dust lanes in spiral arms.

M13 with new 6mm eyepiece gave an awesome view. M57 also.

Epsilon Lyra was easy to split double double.

By 10:10 PM, sky was mostly clouded over. I packed it in and left for home.