

## Friday, February 29, 2008


Arrived at Deer Trail, CO site in the afternoon to a brisk wind from the southwest. Cloudy to north so that is why I didn't venture to Pawnee. The wind persisted throughout the evening. Even with that, I was able to view some object in the wind. There were 6 other DAS members that that night. After an hour of fighting the wind, we went into the warming hut. The sky clouded over with thin clouds from the southwest. By 11:00 PM, the wind was dying down and was gone by midnight till 2 AM, when it started back up from the west. At that time the sky was soft. From 12:00 to 2 AM, the seeing was good but the transparency was OK. 43 degrees at sunset. Was about 34 degrees at 2 AM.

Ru 7            7:05 PM            I relooked at this through my scope for Ben Jones to validate what could be seen at different powers with a 12.5 inch mirror. At 134x (19mm) looks great. I really like this view. Can see many stars and its glow of fainter members. At 80x (32mm) can still see its glow and individual stars. At 46x (55mm) can see it as a contrast to the background sky. I knew exactly where to look and could tell it was there but **not** easily seen. Just a circular glow, no individual stars seen.

Looked at Saturn and other objects through Jim Holder's scope. The wind was just too much so we took a long break.


Lighter wind from south. Sky good. Seeing good. Transparency OK.





NGC 2818       11:11 PM       19mm - Small, round dim uniformly lit glow. Responds well to O3 filter. Maybe see central star once in a while. This star may be a field star for it is not centered on the glow but a bin below center, but on the middle line of the glow. Best seen with AV. 9mm doesn't show it better and that star is not seen at all.



NGC 3132       11:26 PM       19mm - Nice, bright round glow. Middle central part very bright with maybe central star seen in this brighter area. Responds well to O3 but now uniformly lit. No central star seen here nor central brightening. Very low in southern sky, just above the horizon.

NGC 2992       11:35 PM       19mm - 2993 brighter of two and bigger. It's a faint linear oval with a brighter nucleus and near it and to upper right is (2992) a dim, circular glow, much smaller and uniformly lit. W/AV, maybe central part of this is a bit brighter. Both still pretty dim.



NGC 2418	11:49 PM	19mm - A very faint, elongated glow with 2 tiny circular glows on nebulosity. Left glow brighter than right glow, which is almost not there. The two nucleuses are very close to each other and on a line left to right. (In looking at a picture of this, these nucleuses were the two 14.3 mag field stars).
		
NGC 2535 NGC 2536	12:03 AM	19mm - <u>Very</u> faint. An elongated glow from 10 - 4 o'clock. Small, with 2 faint glows seen very close together. Almost not there its so faint.
NGC 2608	12:26 AM	19mm - Very faint, elongated fat oval. Uniformly lit. No nucleus seen.
NGC 2672 NGC 2673	12:32 AM	19mm - Nice. Easy to see. A fat oval halo glow that is almost vertical in FOV. Upper nucleus (2672) is much brighter and round than 2nd nucleus (2673), very near it. See 2nd nucleus w/AV.
		
NGC 2648	12:43 AM	19mm - Very small, dim oval glow with 2 tiny, starlike nucleus seen very near each other w/ AV. Both nucleus approx same brightness. Little bit of dim halo glow around these nucleuses. 9mm didn't show anything. (In looking at a picture of this, the right nucleus was a field star of same mag as nucleus).
		
PK 303+40.1	1:21 AM	19mm - Nailed star field. Drew it. Saw no nebulosity. O3 showed nothing.
UGC 3697 UGC 3714	1:30 AM	Saw this thru Dan Rake's 20 inch, f/5 scope, with 26mm lens. The Integral Galaxy (3697) is a dim sliver of light which you could see it tailed off a bit at each end in opposite directions. Could tell it was not straight. Near it and to its lower right (3714) in same FOV was a dim, round galaxy with tiny, brighter core. Halo easily seen.
		
PK 318+41.4	1:50 AM	19mm - Nothing. Nailed star field. O3 shows nothing. Drew star field.
NGC 5012	1:59 AM	19mm - Larger, elongated, fat oval. Easy to see in FOV, yet dim. Larger, hare brighter core area seen. Core is a bit long and not circular. This was a HII object I think I missed the first time around. Need to look at this when the sky is better.