

## Thursday July 31, 2008

The sky is clear and the wind calm at sunset.

NGC 5921    9:52 PM    19mm. Small, dim oval galaxy with hare brighter and bigger nucleus.

Seeing fair. Transparency fair. Clouds coming and going.

M107        10:10 PM    19mm. Small, dimmer, round, uniformly lit globular with lots of member stars seen.

M7          10:12 PM    32mm. Large open cluster. Fills FOV nicely. 15-30 blue-white stars of approx same magnitude. Very nice. Can see this also in 8x50 finder.

Clouds have overtaken the sky now. CSK says it will clear about midnight, so all we can do is wait.

M72        11:38 PM    19mm. Small, round, larger uniformly lit core with dimmer stars in halo. Member stars easily seen though. Pretty dim.

M30        11:47 PM    19mm. Large, very dim halo with small, very bright core area. Many stars seen in core area and its lopsided (not symmetric) towards bottom where 3 lines of stars radiate out of central core and down into this area.

M55        11:50 PM    19mm. Large, circular shaped concentration of stars. Tons of member stars seen. Most of it is uniformly lit. No central core concentration.

M2         11:56 PM    19mm. Medium sized round glow with brighter central area that dims evenly to edge. Lots of member stars seen.

NGC 7606   12:00 AM    19mm. Large, slender, dim sliver of light with hare brighter, larger core.

Sky is OK now. Clouds gone. Seeing is a bit soft.

M15        12:03 AM    19mm. Nice, bright, round Globular. Tiny bright core that has a bit dimmer halo of stars around it. Tons of member stars seen.





NGC 7479   12:08 AM    19mm. Tilted oval, very dim yet easy to see. Looks like a hare brighter, linear core seen on halo glow.

NGC 6503	12:18 AM	19mm. Cigar shaped, longer, uniformly lit dim glow.
39 degrees. Sky is getting better.		
NGC 5907	12:21 AM	19mm. Nice. Long, slender, thin edge on with small, central bulge. Dust lane seen bisecting center of slender glow. Dim yet easy to see.
M102	12:28 AM	19mm. Bright saucer shaped with tips on each end of very bright core, which is most of what can see, with tiny bit of dim halo around it.
M101	12:32 AM	19mm. Nicely fills FOV. Very dim overall. Has a hare brighter, small round core and hint of spiral structure seen.
NGC 5689 NGC 5676	12:45 AM	19mm. Small, dim tilted oval. Pretty uniformly lit. Dimmer than NGC 5676 which is more cigar shaped and uniformly lit.
NGC 6939	12:56 AM	19mm. Small, dim, compact open cluster. Its like a tall, domed hat with flat line of stars across bottom and 20-30 fainter and about same magnitude stars make up rest of cluster.
B169-71	1:06 AM	32mm. Approx. 2 FOVs in length and curves left and down as I pan the eyepiece across the area. There are a few stars on this obvious void of star in a star rich field.
B173-4	1:06 AM	32mm. This void is oval and approx. 1/2 FOV wide and 7/8 FOV long. Approx. 10 stars sprinkled on this void in a star rich field.
NGC 7789	1:11 AM	32mm. Fills center of FOV nicely. Basically triangular in shape. Approx. 3 magnitudes of stars. 50+ stars seen in a star rich area. Seen it also in 8x50 finder FOV.
NGC 654	1:15 AM	32mm. Small, wedge shaped. 15-20 brighter blue-white stars seen. Compact. Very bright field star to upper left of cluster.
NGC 663	1:15 AM	32mm. Near NGC 654. Fairly compact. 2 magnitudes of 20-30 or so stars sits on top of a few very dim ones. Seen also in 8x50 finder FOV.
Mel 15	1:27 AM	32mm. Loose open cluster with 8 brighter stars with a few fainter ones underneath these.

NGC 869 NGC 884	1:29 AM	32mm. Both in same FOV. NGC 869 more compact and smaller with 2 very bright field stars on rest of them. NGC 884 much looser and open and bigger. Nice. In a star rich part of the sky.
M52	1:32 AM	32mm. Compact but boxy shaped open cluster. 30+ dimmer blue-white stars approx. same magnitude with 1 very bright field star to lower left of open cluster and on it.
NGC 278	1:45 AM	19mm. Small, dim round uniformly lit glow, yet easy to see.
NGC 752	1:51 AM	32mm. Very large. 2 FOVs in diameter. Very loose yet all the brighter blue-white stars of approx same magnitude all belong to this open cluster. Lots of stars seen.
NGC 740	1:55 AM	19mm. Small dim uniformly lit oval.
NGC 6826	2:31 AM	19mm. Oval, almost round, blue-green glow. Central star easily seen in center of glow. O3 and UHC shows it nicely. 9mm isn't looking good tonight. w/AV can tell its there. Direct vision halo dims out and central star easily seen.
NGC 6833	2:40 AM	19mm. Stellar. Looks like an out of focus star. Responds to O3 and UHC.
NGC 6884	2:48 AM	19mm. Tiny bluish out of focus star. Bright with hint of halo around it. O3 shows it well and so does UHC. 9mm shows it as a better disk. Still tiny.

Seeing a bit soft now. Transparency OK. Sky steady. 34 degrees.

NGC 6881	3:00 AM	19mm. Bright, out of focus star. Blue-green in color. Responds well to O3 and UHC filters.
BD+30 3639 PK 64+5.1	3:04 AM	19mm. Stellar. Dim, off white, maybe dull orange in color. Responds well to UHC. Almost disappears with O3. Tried the H-Beta filter like description said and it responds to this filter nicely also.
NGC 6894	3:15 AM	19mm. Without filter and w/AV see a faint ring shape. A bit bigger than M57 but <u>very</u> dim. O3 shows ring w/AV as does the UHC. This was a cool one.

NGC 7027 	3:21 AM	19mm. Nice. Thin flat oval. Blue-green in color. Pretty bright. Central star easily seen in center of glow. O3 and UHC shows it real well also.
IC 5117	3:31 AM	19mm. Best seen w/O3. Uniformly lit oval sits between 2 field stars with bottom field star brighter than upper. Barely see it w/o filters and UHC sort of shows it.
NGC 7026 	3:37 AM	19mm. Nice. A tiny dim uniformly lit glow to right of a brighter field star which makes it look like a double star. Responds well to O3 and UHC filters. No central star seen.
Sh 1-89 PK 89-0.1	3:42 AM	19mm. Very faint round glow seen with O3 filter only.
NGC 7048 	3:49 AM	19mm. Nice oval. Bounded by 3 field stars to bottom side. Uniformly lit. Only see it with O3 filter. Orientated with field star just outside bottom. The glow is a bit brighter at this bottom end than upper end.
NGC 7008 	4:03 AM	19mm. Larger fat oval. Without filters, see thicker denser ring and central area (tiny) thinner in nebulosity. See central star without filter. Bright double field stars just below it. Another <u>very</u> faint field star on upper edge of glow. Responds well to O3 and UHC filters, but no central star seen with filters.
Hu 1-2 PK 86-8.1	4:15 AM	19mm. Stellar. Responds well to O3 and UHC filters.
Sh 2-216	4:21 AM	19mm. Returned to same star field as last night. Still see a bit of contrast that hints at something being there.
JnEr1 PK 164+31.1	4:27 AM	19mm. Returned to same star field as last night and still cannot detect anything here.

Tonight was a good night after the clouds left at midnight. Finished the Planetary Nebula Observing Club. Saw lots of meteors and satellites. Space station flew over twice. 200x though was not very good tonight so I didn't switch to that eyepiece much.