

Thursday June 2, 2016

Went to the DSS near Dear Trail, CO to sketch constellations and catch some late season southern planetary nebulae. I used my 8" f/6 telescope for the nebulae.

It was very cloudy all afternoon but by 7 PM, it started to break up and by 9 PM, was clear. Could see clouds low along southern horizon and over Denver, which reflected light across the prairie.

Met trucker Bill, who had a 6" and 15" telescopes. The 15" gave nice views.

Seeing and Transparency OK.

K 1-22 9:30 PM 10mm – 122x - A small, brighter, out of focus looking star. Has brighter central star in center. Seen with O3. Very low above southwestern horizon.

Abell 35 9:40 PM 15mm – 81 x - There is a small, ghostly arc approx. 1/3 FOV long. It is almost not there but my eye follows it as I move FOV around. Extremely faint. Has 3 brighter field stars in an arc above it in same FOV. Seen with O3.

Abell 36 10:02 PM 15mm – 81 x - 4 stars form an upside down Y and under lower part of Y is an extremely faint, boxy glow. See it about the same with O3. My eye follows it as I move FOV around. Almost 1/2 FOV long and narrow glow. Maybe 3:1 in size.



M13 was nice. M57 nice. Mars was brilliantly bright but no surface details seen. Saturn was nice and crisp. Jupiter had lots of details in bands.

I sketched eastern Hydra and Libra. Could see the fainter stars with AV. Lupus too low and will get it next month.

It was a nice night to get out and be under the stars. The stars were steady, but the seeing was OK.