

## Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Arrived at Deer Trail, CO site about 5:30 PM. Very clear overhead but thin clouds hanging over northern and eastern horizons.

Stars are steady. Sky is Good, Transparency is good in south. I will start there tonight.

- |          |         |  |
|----------|---------|--|
| NGC 2613 | 8:49 PM | 19mm - Faint, long, slender sliver of light. Little bigger right in the middle of the glow.  |
| NGC 2784 | 8:55 PM | 19mm - Nice. Long, slender galaxy from 10 - 4 o'clock in FOV. Much brighter central core with dim bulge glow around core and faint arms that taper off this central glow on each side.   |
| NGC 2835 | 9:00 PM | 19mm - Round, very dim, uniformly lit glow. Fairly large in size yet dim.  |
| NGC 2997 | 9:07 PM | 19mm - Nice. Round, large circular face on galaxy. Very dim with bit brighter, larger core seen in center. Dim halo glow not uniformly lit but a bit mottled in appearance. Pretty dim overall. Mottling may be a hint of spiral arms. |
| NGC 3175 | 9:14 PM | 19mm - Long, slender cigar shaped, uniformly lit galaxy. Goes from 11 - 5 o'clock in FOV. Very dim.  |
| NGC 2775 | 9:23 PM | 19mm - Brighter, round shape with large bright core surrounded by dim, yet easy to see halo.   |
| NGC 2683 | 9:36 PM | 19mm - Nice. Bright, long slender. Bright. Maybe tapered cigar shaped. Pretty uniformly lit yet at each end hint of dim halo that is just at the tips. Eye wants to see a dust lane bisecting the center of the linear glow.           |

The seeing and transparency is pretty awesome right now.

- |          |          |  |
|----------|----------|--|
| NGC 3003 | 9:54 PM  | 19mm - Long. Slender, dim, uniformly lit glow.   |
| NGC 3245 | 10:03 PM | 19mm - Small, round, maybe slight oval with very bright, larger core area with bit dimmer halo around this central core. |

NGC 3190 10:12 PM  
NGC 3193  
NGC 3185  
NGC 3187



19mm - 4 galaxies in FOV. 3190 is a nice, tapered edge on with brighter central bulge area and dimmer tapered arms. 3193 is below 3190 in same FOV. Small, circular shape with brighter core and dim halo glow surrounding it. 3185 is above 3190 and is a dim, round glow and hare brighter central area, offset from center of glow a bit to the left. 3187 to the left of 3190. Very dim, tiny, round smudge of light.

NGC 2903 10:25 PM

19mm - Nice. Very large, tilted oval with easy to see bright halo glow with small, bit brighter core seen in center of halo glow.

Clouds started to form overhead and came and went for the next hour. After the sky cleared, the seeing was great but the transparency had dropped to good.

NGC 5238 11:20 PM

19mm - Small, very dim round glow with hare brighter core seen.

NGC 5204 11:26 PM

19mm - Small, dim round uniformly lit glow.

NGC 5474 11:32 PM

19mm - Large, round dim uniformly lit glow.

M101 11:39 PM

19mm - Incredible. Nice. Large dim yet easy to see spiral arms coming off in a clockwise direction.

NGC 5477 11:39 PM

19mm - To the right of M101 is this tiny, dim, circular glow with hare brighter star like core seen in center of glow.

NGC 5585 11:44 PM

19mm - Larger oval smudge of light. Uniformly lit. Pretty dim.

NGC 5678 11:47 PM

19mm - Small, dim, oval glow with hare brighter small central area. Situated between 2 field stars and closer to upper left star.

NGC 5676 11:52 PM

19mm - A small, very dim oval glow with 4 very faint stars forming a chevron near it with 2 of the stars on top of the glow at the bottom.

Centaurus A 12:08 AM

19mm - A dim, round glow with dust lane seen on glow. Very low in south where seeing is soft.

Omega Centauri 12:08 AM 19mm - Nice. Almost make out member stars. Large. Very low in south where seeing is soft.

NGC 2403 12:17 AM 19mm - Brighter, long oval. Uniformly lit. Pretty large. Easy to see. 3 field stars on rhs form a line with bottom field star on bottom part of halo glow of galaxy.



NGC 3077 12:30 AM 19mm - A small round glow with much brighter central region and a tiny bit of very dim halo glow around this larger center, brighter, uniformly lit central area.

M64 12:35 AM 19mm - Nice. Tilted oval with very bright small core and circular (arc) dust lane seen on bottom left of brighter central core. Halo extends quite a bit from center. Nice.

NGC 4725 12:41 AM 19mm - Nice. Larger tilted oval with small bright core in center of dim halo glow. Easy to see. Then above it is 4712 which is a linear shaped, very dim smudge of light.

NGC 4712



NGC 4565 12:49 AM 19mm - Nice long slender tapered arms go up and down in FOV from very bright central bulge. Dust lane seen on thin tapered edge on center. Nice.

NGC 4958 12:58 AM 19mm - Long tilted oval. Pretty uniformly lit. 3 field stars at bottom rhs of halo glow bound it. Goes from 11 - 5 o'clock in FOV.



Wind blew very hard from NW for about 10 minutes. Blew my eyepiece baffle off scope and was blowing charts from under the rock weights. Thought I was going to pack it in but then it abruptly stopped and I carried on.

M94 1:17 AM 19mm - Large, oval glow with very bright small core seen in center of oval halo glow. Very bright overall.

NGC 4618 1:22 AM 19mm - A dim, circular glow with larger, brighter core area seen on upper lhs of halo glow and not in the center of the glow. To upper left is 4625, a small, dim circular glow with tiny hare brighter star like core right in center of glow.

NGC 4625





NGC 4490 1:30 AM 19mm - A nice tilted oval, going from 8 - 2 o'clock in FOV with nice, larger brighter core. In same FOV and very near it is 4485. This is to the upper left of 4490 and is a much smaller, dimmer version of it. At a right angle to 4490 at top edge is has a very small yet noticeable brighter core.



NGC 4111 1:47 AM 19mm - Nice, bright, very small tapered edge on. Goes from 11:30 - 5:30 o'clock in FOV. Has an extremely bright core and slight central bulge and tapers quickly into easy to see halo arms.

NGC 4143 1:52 AM 19mm - Small, circular glow with tiny, very bright nucleus seen in center of glow. Easy to see.

NGC 4051 1:56 AM 19mm - Nice. Larger tilted oval. Maybe see a hint of a barred spiral structure with arms going clockwise from tiny center bar. Brighter star like core seen with in center of halo glow.

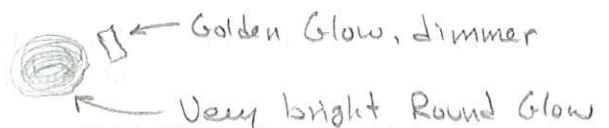
NGC 4449 1:49 AM 19mm - This is a funny shaped galaxy. Appears to be a tilted oval with top part flat. Uniformly lit. Larger in size. Goes from 9:30 - 3:30 in FOV.

Saw lots of old favorites tonight. M51, M13, M57, Alberio. Watched the Moon occult Venus at 6:21 Am this morning.

Saw space station fly overhead starting at 5:07 AM. With Jim Holder's scope, as it approached the zenith, it was a very bright rectangular shape.



Then as it approached the NE horizon, it had a circular round bright glow on the lhs and a din, small, golden rectangular glow on the rhs.



Pretty Awesome night. Completed the Local Galaxy and Neighbors observing club tonight. The light wind for the early part of the evening came from all directions, not just one predominate direction. The seeing early on was awesome and then was good the rest of the night.