


Thursday, April 8, 2010

Arrived at Keota, CO in later afternoon and had the scope setup by 5:15 PM. It is clear and light breeze from the south.

At sunset, 7:22 PM, clouds low in NW but rest of sky is clear. Slight breeze from SE. 47 degrees. Mike Roos showed up just after sunset and stay till 11 PM.


Mercury and Venus nice. Mercury is a round disk and Venus in a very gibbous phase.

NGC 3205 8:40 PM 19mm – 3 galaxies all near each other, in same FOV, yet separate. 3205 is near a star. 3207 is the brightest of all 3 very dim, round glows. 3207 has a hare brighter core. 3205 has a hint of a core. 3202 is uniformly lit. w/AV, can see all glows easily, with 3202 the largest of 3. 3205 is second largest. All still very dim.



H41 8:47 PM 19mm – Extremely dim, very small linear glow. w/AV and U5345 waiting can see it is there. Uniformly lit.

NGC 3432 9:10 PM 19mm – Brighter, slender glow. Bright linear core with dim halo around it. Goes from 9:30 – 3:30 o'clock in FOV. Fairly large. 3 field stars on glow. Nice.



It's 40 degrees now. Good transparency. Light wind from SE persists. Stars steady.

NGC 2389 9:29 PM 19mm – Can see all 6 very faint, uniformly lit glows. Can see 2389 is nice and round. Below it and nestled in amongst some faint field stars is a tiny, oval glow 2385 and to right is a tiny glow of 2388. In same FOV and near these 3 and to right of them are 3 very faint oval glows of 2379 (largest of these 3), 2375 and dimmest of 6 is 2373. This is the second time I went for these and with the light baffle in place, these were much easier to see for the background sky was much darker and I took a picture to the field to help identify where the galaxies were hiding in the star field. 13mm eyepiece didn't show these as good as the 19mm.

NGC 2289 9:37 PM 19mm – Very faint, dim, oval, uniformly lit smudge of light.

NGC 2804 9:45 PM 19mm – Extremely dim, yet larger round halo glow with tiny, relatively brighter core seen in center of circular glow.

Sky is great now. Transparency awesome. 37 degrees.

NGC 2916 9:51 PM 19mm – A nice, dim, round, small, uniformly lit glow.

NGC 2905 9:51 PM 19mm – Nice, bright large tilted oval with large brighter
 NGC 2903 core. To left of core and on halo glow is this brightening
 seen w/AV. This is 2903. Nice.

NGC 2549 10:05 PM 19mm – An extremely faint smudge of light.

Sky is good now.

NGC 2654 10:09 PM 19mm – Nice. Small edge on. Central bulge seen. Core area
 here brighter than extended arms.

NGC 2768 10:13 PM 19mm – Nice. Bright tilted oval. Halo bright and large,
 much brighter core.

NGC 2787 10:10 PM 19mm – A nice, bright, round uniformly lit glow. Below
 glow and to left and near it is a very faint field star.

NGC 2985 10:20 PM 19mm – Nice large bright core with circular halo around it
 that dims slowly to edge.

NGC 3147 10:20 PM 19mm – A dimmer version of 2985 except halo is
 uniformly lit. Core is dimmer than 2985, yet large and
 relatively brighter than halo.

M81, M82 10:40 PM 19mm – Nice. Bright. Awesome.

NGC 2976 10:40 PM 19mm – a longer, linear oval. It is relatively bright and
 uniformly lit. A field star is just below it.

IC 2574 10:40 PM 19mm – Very large and extremely dim. Oval goes up and
 down in FOV and is about $\frac{3}{4}$ FOV long. Move scope left
 and right and watch this dim glow move in and out of FOV.

NGC 4125 10:48 PM 19mm – Nice tilted oval. Brighter central region and bit
 dimmer halo on each end going up and down in FOV.
 Fairly bright overall.

NGC 3079 10:56 PM 19mm – A long slender uniformly lit dim glow. Easy to
 see. Doesn't taper at each end but is boxy at ends.

Abell 569 11:35 PM 19mm – 3 faint galaxies in a row. Pretty dim and uniformly lit little fuzz balls. U3696 on upper right. To lower left and next to it is a larger, round glow of 2329. Then to right and at end of chain of 2 dim stars is this out of focus star of C234-59.

NGC 2340 11:30 PM 19mm – Very dim, oval glow. Uniformly lit. Larger than most galaxies I've seen tonight, yet still small.

Abell 779 11:52 PM 19mm – NGC 2832 is a larger, round glow with brighter central region. Then off to the right and near it in same FOV is a dim, round smudge of light of NGC 2839. Not seeing any other members of this group on my picture I have of this cluster.

25 degrees now. Sky is Great. Transparency is Great. Stars steady. No wind. Hands finally starting to get cold.

H37 12:03 AM 19mm – An extremely dim round to oval smudge of light just below the left of 2 brighter field stars.

NGC 2681 12:08 AM 19mm – Nice. Very bright core surrounded by an oval of very dim halo.

NGC 2841 12:10 AM 19mm – A long, slender tilted oval with larger, dim central core and uniformly lit halo around it. Goes from 12 – 6 o'clock in FOV and a very bright field star on upper edge, but on halo glow of galaxy.

NGC 3521 12:25 AM 19mm – Nice, large, tilted oval with large, very bright core and lots of dim halo around it. Goes from 8:30 – 2:30 o'clock in FOV.

NGC 3593 12:30 AM 19mm – Nice edge on with large central bulge with relatively dim central region and arms that taper off each side. It goes up and down in FOV.

NGC 3489 12:36 AM 19mm – Nice, bright, tilted oval with larger, bright core that dims quickly into dim halo surrounding it.

NGC 3628 M65 M66 NGC 3593	12:40 AM	19mm – Nice, linear, almost vertical in FOV. Uniformly lit glow. To right and on top is a very tilted oval glow of M65 and below it is a very similar looking M66. Way to the right of these 3 galaxies is 3593, an edge on with dim, relatively brighter central uniformly lit bulge and dim arms going up and down in FOV. Small in size.
M95	12:52 AM	19mm – Nice, bright, small oval with larger, dim core.
M96	12:52 AM	19mm – Nice, bright, small oval with larger, dim core.
M105	12:52 AM	19mm – Nice bright oval with large bright core.
NGC 3389	12:52 AM	19mm – In same FOV as M105 and NGC 3384 is this small, very dim, uniformly lit oval below 3384 and to the right of it.
NGC 3384	12:52 AM	19mm – In same FOV as M105 and NGC 3389 is this bright, large central area surrounded by dim oval halo. This is to the left of M105.
NGC 3412	12:55 AM	19mm – Small oval with brighter core and dim halo around it.
NGC 3377	12:59 AM	19mm – Small oval with brighter core and dim halo around it.

Looked at lots of favorites tonight. M51, M13, M57, M42, Saturn, which was awesome at 1 AM, M104 and other nice views through Mike Roos 16 inch telescope.