

Saturday, July 22, 2006

Arrived at John Martin State Park about 5 PM and setup under light haze, but windy skies. Winds calmed down a lot at sunset with a light breeze that moved the scope a bit coming from the north. It was 79 degrees then. But shortly after 11:00 PM, the wind increased and lit the light, which is a lake wind speed monitor and the lights indicated 30 MPH winds with 40+ MPH wind gusts.

Seeing is OK (6), transparency is OK (6). Wind persists.

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| NGC 6026 | 10:11 PM | 19mm – <u>Very</u> faint oval glow. Easiest seen w/o O3. Almost disappears with)3. Very faint star seen w/ AV on glow. UHC gives about the same view as w/no filter. |
| NGC 6072 | 10:16 PM | 19mm – Nice, small round glow can be seen with AV. Easily seen w/o filters. O3 makes it better but not as good as UHC which is not as good as with no filters at all. No central star seen. |
| NGC 6153 | 10:27 PM | 19mm - Nice, small round glow, yet bright. Forms the top of a diamond shape with 3 other stars. O3 doesn't do much for this as well as the UHC. Best view w/o any filter. Uniformly lit. No central star seen. |
| NGC 6302 | 10:36 PM | 19mm – Linear shaped planetary. Very bright central region and dims quickly on each side of this brighter region. O3 show nice view. No central star seen. I tried the 9mm EP but its too near horizon and didn't do much for improving the view. |
| NGC 6337 | 10:46 PM | 19mm – Nice dim oval glow. 2 field stars seen on glow but none are at the center of the glow. O3 gives a better view of oval glow, but can only see the 3 faint field stars on the glow w/o filter. |
| NGC 6563 | 10:52 PM | 19mm – Brighter. Nice small oval. Easy to see w/o O3 but O3 really makes it easy to see. No central star seen. With O3 shows it pretty uniformly lit. |

Seeing 6, transparency 5. Brisk wind from north.

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| Beta Lyra | 11:10 PM | Doing magnitude estimate for universe sampler club. Its not as bright as the 3.3 comparison star but much brighter than the 4.1 star, so I estimate its magnitude as 3.5. |
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11:30 PM Can't find anything. Tried for several PNs in Sag but the sky has turned soft. Milky Way is just a glow. The wind has really kicked up and is lighting the light for the lake wind monitor station, which means its 30 MPH. The wind blew hard for the rest of the night.