

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Arrived at the Denver Dark Sky Site east of Deer Trail, CO about 6:15 PM, had the scope setup by sunset. Sky almost clear with few puffy whites around horizon in west. Dark clouds hugging horizon to NW. Light wind from SE.

Jupiter was incredible. Saw many bands on the planet and the 9mm worked great.

M6	9:05 PM	32mm – Nice in 32mm. Lots of stars of approx 3-4 magnitudes. Pretty circular and concentrated. Nice. Class I.2.m. There is one much brighter star on the rhs of cluster than all the rest.
M7	9:05 PM	32mm - Very loose. Bright though. Overwhelms FOV of 32mm. Composed of 14 brighter blue-white stars and many more of a lesser magnitude. Class II.2.p. I don't think there are more than 50 stars here.
NGC 6416	9:22 PM	32mm - Fills center of FOV nicely. Fainter stars with 3-4 brighter ones with rest dimmer but of same magnitude. Stars form lines. Class II.1.p.
Tr 28	9:31 PM	32mm - 10-12 fainter stars seen on a glow of tiny points. 19mm - See approx 30 stars, 2 brighter and rest pretty dim. Seems to be a glow underneath these of yet possibly fainter stars. Class I.2.p.

Sky is good right now. Stars steady. Transparency good. Can see clouds along SW horizon.

NGC 6383	9:41 PM	19mm - A very bright field star in center of 10-12 much fainter stars. Very small and compact. Class I.1.p.
Cr 333	9:55 PM	19mm - 20-24 stars form a long, boxy shaped cluster. 12 are much brighter (relatively speaking) than rest and others very dim. Stands out in 19mm FOV. Class II.3.p.
Tr 27	10:00 PM	19mm - A knot of 2 brighter and 4 dimmer stars in a diamond are on lower left of a line of 5-6 stars just above it and 4-5 more stars in a line on rhs of it that I think are part of it also. Class II.2.p.

- Tr 26 10:12 PM 19mm - A very dim, small grouping of 15-20 stars of a brighter and very dim magnitude. 2 stars on top left and bottom left are a bit brighter but outside the body of what I would call the cluster. 4 of the brighter stars form a little arrow head. Class I.3.p.
- Cr 347 10:25 PM 19mm - Approx 12 stars form an "S" shape on its back that stands out in FOV. Several fainter stars in area of S also. Class II.3.p. Nice. I liked this one.
- NGC 6520 10:31 PM 19mm - A tight grouping of approx 20 stars, but easy to see stars forms a heart shape. 2 brighter stars on top of it and left of center of heart. I don't think these are part of it. A brighter field stars in same FOV and to the left of this cluster. Class I.1.p. Nice.

Sky is steady and seeing is great. Its damp though and can smell the moisture in the air.

- NGC 6530 10:39 PM 19mm - Approx 30 stars to lower right, but next to nebulosity of M8, the Lagoon Nebula. I've seen these stars before and didn't know it wasn't part of M8 complex. Very bright, blue-white stars of approx 3 magnitudes. Class I.1.p.
- DoDz 9 10:49 PM 32mm - Fills FOV and then some. Very open and stars are bright and blue-white and all of approx same magnitude. There are many fainter ones underneath these, but I think it's the brighter ones I am interested in. See the triangle of field stars where this cluster is located and cross-hairs of finder scope right on the location of where this should be. Class IV.1.p.
- Dolidize 27 10:53 PM 32mm - A brighter star in lower part with 10 stars of a bit dimmer magnitude and 7 more of a much dimmer magnitude form a circular shape, yet loose cluster in an area void of other stars. Class II.3.p.
- IC 4665 10:59 PM 32mm - Saw in finder scope. Nice. 12 bright blue-white stars in a loose association with 7 more of a dimmer magnitude and a few yet much fainter sitting underneath all of these. Class II.3.p.
- NGC 6572 11:08 PM 19mm - Nice. Very small, round green-blue glow with tiny central star seen on glow once in a while. O3 and UHC shows it about the same.

NGC 6210	11:14 PM	19mm - Small, round off-white colored glow. W/AV and waiting, see a fat central star in center of glow. O3 and UHC show it nicely also. See central star in O3.
IC 4593	11:22 PM	19mm - Very small. See central star with tiny bit of glow around it, like out of focus star. O3 and UHC shows it nicely also. Very subtle in FOV. Off-white color.
NGC 6649	11:29 PM	19mm - Small, compact, dim open cluster. On much brighter star at top and 10-15 dimmer stars of 2 magnitudes. Easily seen and maybe more stars here adding to a glow that are unseen. Class II.3.p.
NGC 6604	11:38 PM	19mm - A brighter star and 4 little dimmer stars makes a nice arc. 3-4 other stars on rhs of arc might also be part of it. Class III.3.p.
Tr 32	11:38 PM	19mm - Almost in same FOV as NGC 6604, but just outside of it is this very faint arrowhead shaped cluster of approx 10 stars. Class II.1.p.
M26	11:52 PM	19mm - Small, compact. Brighter star on upper left edge of cluster. Dim. Approx 3-4 magnitudes makeup this OC. Class II.2.p.
M11	11:52 PM	19mm - Nice. Lots of stars all approx the same magnitude with much brighter star on them just right of center. Almost looks like a globular cluster without central concentration. Round in shape. Class I.1.r.

Clouds moving in from SW. Smell dampness in air yet no dew. At 12:16 AM, clouded out. 60 degrees. Tried to find G1 in Andromedia. Saw reference stars but clouds overtook this part of the sky before I could find it.