

Friday, September 29, 2006

Gary Garzone, Vern Raben, and myself did a night at Crow Valley about 1 day before a 1st quarter moon. The moon set this night at about 10:40PM.

There were some high cloud bands drifting from NW as the moon set. But after that, the moon set, the sky was steady and there was no wind. Seeing was great early on, then after 2 AM, the seeing softened a bit of dew was present. The sky was steady all night though.

10:29 PM NGC 7139 19mm – With UHC filter and AV, can see a very dim, small, round glow. Its there, but very faint. w/o filter, see a couple of very faint stars in the area. w/O3 filter, can see the round glow easier. It's a uniformly lit glow.

10:52 PM NGC 1184 19mm – Brighter galaxy that is edge on. Its small, yet long and slender. Middle area is brighter and linear. A small, brighter nucleus seen. Not a point. Halo glow around this is very dim.

Sky is a bit soft right now. Stars not a crisp as they were a few minutes ago.

11:27 PM NGC 457 19mm – 30-40 brighter blue-white stars with 1 real bright one at the top and rest dimmer with 2-3 magnitudes. A red colored star on rhs of this nice OC. Fills FOV of 19mm nicely. Pretty compact. Basically round in shape. Lots of dimmer stars seen underneath these brighter stars.

11:59 PM NGC 896 19mm – Very dim glow. Fairly large though in 19mm EP. It's an arc of a glow with top and bottom a hare brighter than central part, which is almost unnoticeable. Seen w/AV and need to study field and with UHC filter. Brighter field star at top end on arc. Its very hard to see though.

Sky steady. Seeing OK but stars are still a bit soft.

12:35 AM NGC 7156 19mm – Very faint oval glow of uniformly lit light. This galaxy is the limit of what the sky is showing right now.

12:50 AM NGC 7832 19mm – Faint oval smudge of light with hare brighter nucleus area seen with AV.

12:55 AM NGC 125 19mm – Little brighter galaxy than last 2. Tilted oval with larger, brighter nucleus area with hint of halo extending at each end of the oval. Seen with direct vision. Best seen with AV.

12:59 AM	NGC 198	19mm – Very faint, round, uniformly lit smudge of light with hare brighter nucleus area. Can see with DV, but best seen with AV.
1:28 AM	NGC 514	19mm – Very dim, round uniformly lit smudge of light.
1:34 AM	NGC 821	19mm – Brighter, round glow with larger, brighter nucleus glow seen. Saw with DV. To 8 o'clock side and just near it is a very bright field star.
1:55 AM	NGC 1156	19mm – Round to oval shaped glow. Large, little brighter nucleus seen and dims slowly to edge. Very bright field star to 7 o'clock side of glow and right at the edge of the glow.
2:02 AM	NGC 1012	19mm – Thin oval seen w/DV. Brighter, tiny stellar core seen on a larger, little dimmer nucleus glow with hint of a very faint halo around this.
2:13 AM	NGC 1060	19mm – Small, oval shaped glow, with tiny, faint (seen w/AV) stellar core. Halo glow seen with DV.

Its 34 degrees right now.

2:29 AM	NGC 925	19mm – Very large, tilted oval. Dim, yet there is a texture to glow that resembles maybe dust lanes. Book says spiral arms seen. This mottling on glow could be hint of spiral structure. Fills almost all FOV of 19mm in diameter. Nice!!!
2:44 AM	NGC 890	19mm – Tilted oval. Seen with DV. Dim. Has larger little brighter core. Surrounded by dim halo.
3:02 AM	NGC 7640	19mm – Long, thin edge on. Maybe central bulge and tapered arms. Fairly dim and pretty uniformly lit.
3:18 AM	NGC 404	19mm – Small, round bright galaxy with larger, little brighter core area surrounded by a bit of dim halo. Just above a <u>very</u> bright star, Mirach in Andromedia.
3:26 AM	NGC 604	19mm – Very bright, vertical, oval glow to lower left of center of M33, yet can see its on the glow of the spiral arms. 604 is a whole lot brighter than most of the glow of arms of M33. Its just above a brighter field star that makes a triangle with 2 other stars, with the long side of triangle pointing away from 604. Its not as bright as the core of M33 though.

3:38 AM	NGC 1114	19mm – A very dim, long, flat oval shape. Can see with DV, but easier with AV. Uniformly lit and very dim
3:51 AM	NGC 1325	19mm – Dim, linear shaped, uniformly lit smudge of light with brighter field star on rhs of glow of galaxy.
3:51 AM	NGC 1332	19mm – Little over 1 FOV to right of NGC 1325 is this much brighter galaxy. Nice and bright, tilted oval seen. Larger, brighter core see with dimmer halo around it. Core brightens to a much brighter tiny core.
4:00 AM	NGC 1045	19mm – Small, dim oval with little brighter, tiny core seen with AV in center of dim, glowing halo.
4:03 AM	NGC 1035	19mm – Linear and flat (cigar shaped). Very dim. Seen with DV. Uniformly lit. With AV, can see there are 2 <u>very</u> faint points of light at each end of the linear glow, on the glow.
4:10 AM	NGC 991	19mm – Very dim, round, uniformly lit smudge of light. Dim field star sits at 1 o'clock at end of glow.

Its 32 degrees now. Sky steady. No wind. Seeing OK to good. South is a bit soft and seeing is just OK.

Tonight I also saw M74, M13, Alberio, the moon with some nice mountain shadows on a nice round crater, and Jupiter tonight. Throughout evening, saw lots of Orionid meteors, a couple shot thru the FOV, with the last one to do this leaving a smoke trail for a couple of seconds.