

Sunday, December 28, 2008

Arrived at Deer Trail, CO site about 3:30 PM. High thin clouds overhead at sunset. No wind. 43 degrees.

Looked at Venus. Nice 1/2 crescent. Jupiter in haze low in SW. Very thin sliver of a Moon seen. Then, about 1/3 way between Moon and Jupiter and above Moon was Mercury, showing a full disk.

NGC 7753 5:52 PM 19mm – Very dim, round, uniformly lit smudge of light. Very small in size yet easy to see in FOV w/AV. Maybe a hint of something in center of glow.

Sky is OK, Transparency is OK. 30 degrees now.

M74 6:20 PM 19mm - Larger, dim round glow with hare brighter core.

NGC 488 6:26 PM 19mm - Small round glow with much brighter core area that dims slowly into halo.

NGC 524 6:30 PM 19mm - Nice. Brighter circular halo glow with very bright core area seen. Core dims evenly into halo glow.

NGC 128 6:41 PM 19mm - Very small round dim halo glow with tiny star like nucleus seen in center.

NGC 779 6:46 PM 19mm - Small, round, dim halo glow with larger, brighter core seen in center.

M77 7:02 PM 19mm - Nice. Bright round halo glow with very bright extended core.

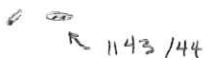
NGC 1087 7:09 PM 19mm - Very dim circular glow with hare brighter core seen on glow.

NGC 1055 7:09 PM 19mm - Very dim sliver of uniformly lit glow.

NGC 1134 7:22 PM 19mm - Very dim. Oval in shape but maybe circular glow with hint of maybe some brightening at core. Just above and to left of a faint field star.

Sky is Good. Transparency is Good. 23 degrees.

NGC 1143 7:34 PM 19mm - Very dim. Very small. Linear cigar shaped. To the right of very bright field star which makes it hard to see.
NGC 1144 See 2 tiny extremely dim points of line on glow with AV. They are equidistant from each other and the edge of the glow.



NGC 1253 7:40 PM 19mm - Faint, linear cigar shaped uniformly lit glow. Easy to see w/AV. Bright field star to upper left on glow. Goes from 10-4 o'clock in FOV. Nice.



NGC 1241 7:49 PM 19mm - Very faint circular uniformly lit glow. Hint of brighter core area seen.

NGC 1232 7:57 PM 19mm - Larger, tilted oval glow. w/AV, can see here brighter larger core in center of glow. But is very subtle. For most part, pretty uniformly lit. Very dim yet easy to see.

South sky soft. Stars fat. 25 degrees.

NGC 1347 8:04 PM 19mm - Very small, circular, very dim glow with star like nucleus glow seen in center.

NGC 1316 8:16 PM 19mm - Nice tilted oval. Fairly bright core and bit of halo around it. Goes from 10-4 o'clock in FOV. Then, below it and a bit away, yet in same FOV is NGC 1317 which is a tiny tilted oval, vertical in FOV. Much smaller and dimmer than NGC 1316. This also has a brighter core and dim halo around it. Can tell they are tilted ovals because of extended halo glow at each end.



NGC 1097 8:26 PM 19mm - Nice, large tilted oval that goes from 2-8 o'clock. Large, bright core and dim extended halo seen.


NGC 1049 8:41 PM 19mm - Very dim circular glow with small, brighter core seen. Core here brighter than circular glow.

NGC 1741 9:00 PM 19mm - Very dim, small, circular glow. Almost not there. Pretty uniformly lit.

NGC 1614 9:05 PM 19mm - A very dim, linear, vertical sliver of light with 2 very faint star like nucleuses on dim glow. Nucleuses seen with AV, once in a while.

NGC 1980	11:29 PM	19mm - A bright, blue-white stars lights up a noticeable glow around this star.
M78	11:30 PM	19mm - A nice fan shaped nebula glow with 2 field stars on this glow of the same magnitude.
NGC 2264	11:40 PM	32mm - Nice. Looks like a tree with bright field star on bottom which is wider and then as it tapers off to upper right, it comes to a point. 40-50 stars of approx 3 magnitudes makeup this OC.

Saw Saturn. It really looks weird with just a thin line around it because the rings are almost edge on. The disk of the planet now looks much larger than I am used to seeing.

NGC 1888	9:12 PM	19mm - Small, dim tilted oval from 1-7 o'clock. Pretty uniformly lit. Most of what can be seen might be the core with maybe a hint of tiny bit of halo glow around it.
NGC 2017	9:19 PM	19mm - 4 bright stars and 2 fainter ones light up a nebulous glow that is around the stars and in between them. Very obvious.
		
NGC 1964	9:24 PM	19mm - Dim, tilted oval with small, brighter core and extended halo arms. Goes from 10-4 o'clock in FOV.
M79	9:27 PM	19mm - Nice. Bright. Easy to see lots of member stars.
NGC 1808	9:34 PM	19mm - Nice. Tilted oval. Goes from 1-7 o'clock. Larger, brighter core in center and tapered halo arms.
NGC 1792	9:39 PM	19mm - Faint, uniformly lit oval glow. Goes from 1-7 o'clock in FOV. It's a long, slender sliver of light.
IC 356	10:34 PM	19mm - Very dim, elongated uniformly lit oval.
NGC 2537	10:42 PM	19mm - Small, round dim glow. Pretty uniformly lit. Easy to see.

Wind from SW now. 31 degrees. Sky OK and Transparency OK, but its cold.

NGC 2444	10:55 PM	19mm - Very faint slender sliver of light with 2-3 very faint stars seen on glow.
NGC 2832	11:09 PM	19mm - Small, dim, round glow with small, bit brighter core area seen on glow.
Mel 25	11:15 PM	7x35 Binoculars - Lots of blue-white stars fill FOV of 7x35 binoculars. Composed of 3-4 magnitudes. 50+ stars makeup this OC. Pretty scattered. No central concentration.
NGC 164	11:21 PM	32mm - 50 or so stars of approx 3 magnitudes makeup this loose, yet together OC. Fills FOV nicely. This is a noticeable concentration of stars in a star poor region.
NGC 2024	11:23 PM	19mm - Nice. Flame Nebula. Fills FOV nicely. See lots of dust lanes bisecting the nebulosity glow of this object.
Cr 70	11:26 PM	7x35 Binoculars - Lots of blue-white stars fills FOV. 3-4 magnitudes seen. One string of stars, of all the same magnitude, forms an 'S'.