

Friday, February 4, 2005

Clear as the sun set, but as twilight progressed, some high, thin clouds drifted in from the west. 52 degrees. Light wind from the south.

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| NGC 1587 | 6:34 PM | Small, dim glow with hare brighter central region. Very faint field star at 4 o'clock and near galaxy glow. |
| NGC 1700 | 6:55 PM | Small round dim glow with much brighter nucleus on glow. Every once in a while, the central glow of nucleus goes star like. |
| NGC 1637 | 6:59 PM | Much larger, circular glow than above 2 galaxies by about 3-4 times. Uniformly lit. No nucleus glow seen. |

The sky appears to be steady, but the stars are soft. Cannot focus to pinpoint tonight.

7:30 PM, a nasty, brisk south wind started blowing and continued off and on the rest of the evening. The temperature rose to 40 degrees and is much too windy right now to look for anything.

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| NGC 2071 | 7:40 PM | Found M78. Nice soft glow. Quite large in FOV with 2 field stars on lhs of glow. Straight below this in same FOV is a field star with a nice halo glow around it. This field star is the same magnitude as the 3 on M78. The glow around the star was easy to see. |
| NGC 2170 | 7:48 PM | A dim glow surrounding a brighter field star. The star about it also has a much smaller halo around it. Stands out because other stars in the FOV didn't have this halo around them. |
| NGC 2236 | 8:00 PM | This one was hard to pinpoint. In a very star rich area, found (matches description in Night Sky) a dim glow with brighter field star in center and 5-6 much dimmer stars on glow. Didn't see fainter member stars as description indicated I might be able to. |
| NGC 1762 | 8:11 PM | <u>Very</u> small, dim round glow with very bright star like nucleus in center of the glow. |

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| NGC 1662 | 8:20 PM | 32mm. Overflows FOV. Linear in shape running from 10 o'clock to 4 o'clock across FOV. Sort of bowtie shaped. Left know of stars is much brighter than right with 20+ stars of approx same magnitude. 10 of those very close together. RHS of bowtie has 20-25 stars of approx 4 mags with brightest of these much dimmer than brightest on lhs. |
| NGC 2259 | 8:41 PM | Larger glow than others I have seen tonight. Several very faint member stars seen on the glow w/AV. On bottom edge of circular glow are 2 brighter, double field stars, the one on the right much brighter than left one. |
| NGC 2269 | 8:59 PM | Very fain boxy glow with several brighter field stars bordering this glow. No members stars seen on glow. |
| NGC 2396 | 9:36 PM | Approx 28 stars of same magnitude with more on rhs and less on lhs of an off-color (pale white) star. Approx 20 other stars in group of a lesser magnitude. At bottom of FOV is a much brighter field star. |

Stars are not as crisp as last night. Its 34 degrees now. The winter Milky Way was better earlier in the evening. Its just a glow now. The Trapezium can see 5 stars, maybe the 6th. Not as pinpoint tonight as they were last night even though the sky appears to be steady.