

Friday, April 1, 2005

Went to Pawnee Grasslands. At 7:30 PM, the winds were calm and if any, were from the east, it is 39 degrees. The sky is clear and somewhat steady.

NGC 2432 7:46 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 150x. A line of approx 16 stars of same mag. With a knot of them in the middle forming a box.



Abel 539 7:41 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Real faint glow w/hare brighter nucleus. Its to the right of and next to a bright field star.

NGC 1924 7:52 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Small, round uniformly lit glow.

NGC 2414 7:59 PM Several very dim stars form a line or two with a much brighter yellowish star centered on one of the lines. All these stars are of the same magnitude. Approx 15-20 stars seen. 19mm.



Abel 20 8:13 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Small, dim glow to the right of a brighter field star.

Its 33 degrees now. Wind is calm. The sky is steady. The seeing is good.

NGC 2374 8:19 PM 12 bright blue white stars form an hour glass shape with a hint of 5-6 much fainter stars on the upper part of the hour glass. Top 2 stars are the brightest of all in this OC.



NGC 2610 8:24 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 140x. Small, round, uniformly lit glow with 3 stars on the outer edge of the glow. One is at 5 o'clock, others are at 7 and 10 o'clock and can see the last 2 only with AV.




NGC 2347 8:34 PM Very faint sliver of light but easy to see. Nice edge on galaxy.


- IC 2253 9:00 PM Faint edge on with brighter nucleus bulge. Arms extend a bit from each side with a bright field star on the lower arm at edge of halo glow.
- NGC 3107 9:12 PM Very small, dim glow to the left of a brighter orange star. In Bill's 20 inch at 250x, dim glow was easy to see. It appeared to be oval to round in shape. In my scope, maybe a hare brighter nucleus area with AV seen.
- NGC 3301 9:26 PM Little brighter than most galaxies I have seen lately. Nice edge-on with large nucleus bulge with a brighter nucleus core. Tiny halo arms extend from each side of nucleus. In Bill's 20 inch at 250x, nice oval shape with large nucleus glow and halo around it and tapers off nicely into the arms. Hint of a dust lane w/AV thru nucleus glow bisecting it in half.
- NGC 2820 9:33 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Large but very dim glow. Circular in shape and uniformly lit.
- NGC 3212 9:33 PM In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. 2 galaxies, one over the other. Both oval smudges of light. The lower one (3212) is two times as large as upper (3215) one. Hint of small, bright nucleus in both.
- NGC 3215
- NGC 3338 9:38 PM Large, oval to circular shaped galaxy that is uniformly lit, yet a dim smudge of light. Just below a bright orange field star. Easy to see though.

29 degrees. The sky is steady. Seeing is good but the sky appears to be brighter than usual.

- NGC 3596 9:44 PM Large, oval-round smudge of light. Easy to see though. W/AV, a hint of a brighter nucleus in center of round glow.

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NGC ~~3826~~ 9:55 PM One large bright oval shaped and the other is much dimmer, slender edge on long sliver of light. Has a hint of a dust lane down the center of it. The nucleus is a hare brighter along the center axis. Its approx 1/3 FOV long. M65
M66 
- M66 is a nice oval, tilted galaxy with a bright nucleus glow in the center of the oval.

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NGC 4038 10:00 PM In David Dunn's 18 inch scope. Oval glow with top and right edge and bottom also brighter than center void area.

NGC 5068	10:00 PM	In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Small, dim oval glow.
NGC 3666	10:03 PM	Small, oval glow with hare brighter nucleus seen.
NGC 4236	10:15 PM	In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x. Large long and fat but very dim glowing galaxy. Fills 1 1/2 FOV. Very uniformly lit yet a bit difficult to see.
NGC 3705	10:16 PM	Small, oval shaped with bright, large nucleus glow. Surrounded by a easily seen halo glow. Nucleus is larger than stellar and <u>very</u> bright compared to halo.
NGC 3611	10:24 PM	Small, round, very dim glow with tiny, relatively brighter stellar nucleus. Its to the right of a bright field star.
		
		Its 27 degrees now.
NGC 5077	10:39 PM	Small, dim, maybe round glow with relatively brighter nucleus in center of glow.
		Its 26 degrees now.
NGC 3955	10:39 PM	Small, edge on oval with hare brighter nucleus. Overall its dim.
NGC 5044	10:44 PM	Small, dim oval glow with very bright stellar nucleus in center of glow.
NGC 3956	10:46 PM	In Bill Possel's 20 inch scope, 250x . <u>Very</u> dim cigar shaped, uniformly lit glow.
NGC 3957	10:47 PM	Tiny, yet easy to see uniformly lit edge on galaxy.
NGC 4984	10:48 PM	Small, very dim circular glow with hare brighter nucleus seen.
NGC 4902	10:56 PM	Small, dim glow. Maybe circular in shape. Hare brighter nucleus. This is a hare brighter version of 4984.
M51	11:00 PM	Thru Gary's 30 inch, is just awesome. Spiral arms are easily traceable as they wind around the core. A nice view in Bill Possel's 20 incher also.

Its 25 degrees now.

NGC 5600 11:34 PM Small, dim oval glow with hint of a hare brighter nucleus.

The wind has shifted from the west. Its warmed up to 28 degrees. It's a light breeze. The sky is softening and there are high cirrus clouds in the sw up to 45 degrees.

NGC 5490 11:45 PM Two galaxies next to an orange star, with a 3rd very faint
IC 982 sliver of light (982) to the upper left at the edge of the
IC 983 FOV. The larger one (5490) has a bright stellar nucleus
with a hint of a circular halo around it. The other (983) is a
much smaller version of brighter one and a bit dimmer
overall.



NGC 5523 12:08 AM In Bill Possel's 20 inch at 250x. Very dim, uniformly lit
edge on with nice extension of arms seen.

NGC 5548 12:10 AM In Bill Possel's 20 inch at 250x. Round, very dim halo with
bright stellar nucleus right in the center of glow. Looks like
a star with a halo around it.

Its 29 degrees, the wind is picking up from the west. South is all clouded out. High cirrus
clouds overhead heading to the NE.

Packed it up about 12:20 AM.

During the night, Io transited Jupiter and you could see the shadow but not the moon this
time. When it got to the edge of the disc and about to emerge, the moon got very bright.
A shining point of light just inside the edge of Jupiter's disc was a nice sight. Very
unusual.

Also saw a nice Iridium Flare through Leo at about 8:00 PM. Saw several meteors and
two satellites pass through two globular cluster when I was looking at them. Very faint
but the movement was neat to see amongst all those stars.