

Friday, September 2, 2005

Went to Pawnee Grasslands. At sunset, light wind from west. Couple of clouds drifting in south from west. Clouds low in west and northwest. But very clear overhead. Smoke or haze approx 30 degrees up in western sky. At 8 PM, strong wind from south started. Will die away and start up again many times throughout the evening. Partly Cloudy overhead.

At 8:38 PM, 69 degrees. Light wind from South. Sky is good with some start twinkling overhead, lots of twinkling around Antares.

NGC 6652 8:38 PM Small, dim circular globular w/hare brighter center. Mottling of stars seen. Low in south so harder to see details but easy to see this. Class 3.

NGC 6558 8:50 PM Small, round, dim, uniformly lit globular, Class 7.

NGC 6526 9:21 PM About 1/2 way between M8 and M20, which both are awesome. A faint glow in area. Approx 1/2 FOV in diameter with 2 brighter fields stars on lhs in this glow. Nebula filter shows its contrast better, very faint though. Matches stars on charts and off direct line between M8 and M20. Can see lots of faint stars in this area also.

 M20

 M8

NGC 6596 9:39 PM Forms a triangle with M17 (Swan), which is awesome and stands right out, and M8, a small, compact OC. Nicely fills FOV of 32 mm. 20-30 blue white stars all over FOV, yet like book says, forms a shamrock shape that you can easily see. The 20-30 stars are of about 2 magnitudes, with many much fainter one all over this area.

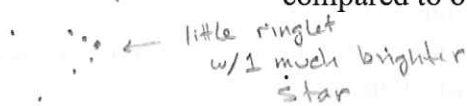
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Sky is steady now and transparency appears to be good.

M22 9:53 PM Nice, bright, round OC.

NGC 6507 10:03 PM 12-15 stars of approx same magnitude makes this peanut shaped cluster with the stars of the cluster around outside outline of peanut. More fainter stars with a glow seen in middle of peanut. View through 19mm. Saw arrow to the east pointing to this cluster, as book said. Arrowhead was large.

NGC 6604 10:17 PM Approx 8 stars or so make up this OC. Bright blue white stars form a very loose ring. All of same magnitude except 1, which is a bit brighter than rest. These are bright stars compared to others in the area.



NGC 6058 10:37 PM Small, round, very dim glow with a little brighter field star at center as seen with AV. Sits inside a triangle of stars. OIII filter shows a circular glow. Its much bigger than an out of focus star. OIII Filter shows central star with AV also.



NGC 6800 11:11 PM 4 much brighter and 14 much dimmer stars make up this ring shaped OC.




Its 58 degrees now. Wind stopped and stars are twinkling a bit overhead. Sky seems alright but cannot find one 12.5 mag galaxy. I have tried to find several and they are just not there tonight.

NGC 6793 11:23 PM 32mm gives best view of this. Stars, of approx same magnitude, make a wide, flat "U" shaped that is approx 2/3 FOV diameter in width. 22+ stars make up this U shaped cluster. This a was pretty cool OC.



NGC ~~6772~~ 6772 11:34 PM Very faint circular glow. Barely see it with AV and w/o OIII filter. With OIII, can better see a round, uniformly lit glow. No central star seen. First found it using OIII filter. Then looked at it without it and could see it. Studying it makes it easier to see with AV. If hadn't found it first with OIII, might have missed it for its just a round smudge of light.

NGC 6804 11:43 PM 19mm. Much brighter oval glow. Uniformly lit. With OIII, looks more circular. 1 tiny, faint field star offset from center and on southern bottom shines on glow. This one is easier to see without OIII filter. 10mm. Using SV, can see second field star mentioned in the text for this object, near the brighter star I had already seen. This second star is a little closer to the center, but its **much** dimmer and pops in and out of view.




Sky has softened up since earlier. No 12.1 galaxies seen.


NGC 7129 00:43 AM 8 stars of approx the same magnitude and 6 stars of a lesser magnitude. There is a glow under middle 4 stars and around stars.

NGC 7354 01:28 AM Oval, small, very dim, uniformly lit smudge of light. Best view with OIII filter. Very faint field star just below the glow.

NGC 7419 01:38 AM Bounded to the left and right by 2 easy to see field stars, there is a round glow seen. With AV, maybe count 8 or so very faint stars all over the glow.



NGC 7245 01:50 AM 5 bright, blue white stars form an arrowhead with 2 dimmer stars in the middle of it. Sky is soft tonight, but there is a hint of a glow behind this triangle.



NGC 7762 02:05 AM



Approx 30+ stars inhabit this shape. More stars in upper left area than lower right. Real bright field star just outside the FOV in 19mm and in FOV of 32 mm. Can see the combined glow of the 30+ stars just above the bright field star in same FOV of the 32 mm eyepiece.

About 2:24 PM, packed it in. Its 49 degrees now. Looked at other Messier favorites throughout the night, like M13.

Looked at Mars. Could see it's a gibbous shape, but it was so bright, even with filters, couldn't dim it down to see polar cap or other surface details.

At the beginning of the evening, Venus and Jupiter were low in the western sky, forming a nice pairing about 1 degree or so apart.