

## Saturday April 6, 2013

Harold passed away this morning at about 5 AM.

At Commanche Springs Astronomy Campus (3RF) in Texas. John Figorski and Mike Roos are also here. Using the 20" f/4.5 with a 17mm eyepiece yielding 134x.

At 8:05 PM, 70 degrees at sunset. Cloudy but already clearing from west. Light breeze from NE.

61 degrees. Seeing OK. Transparency OK.

NGC 2559 9:30 PM 17mm – A small, very dim, round, uniformly lit glow in star rich field.

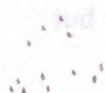
SN2013am 10:02 PM 17mm – A supernova in the upper arm of M65. See a tiny pinpoint of the super nova once in a while. Very faint.



NGC 2659 10:20 PM 17mm – 25-30 stars. Loose. Yet has shape with stars together in a roughly circular shape. 3-4 fainter magnitudes make up this OC. In 8x50 finder, see a tiny, roundish, very faint glow of OC right off the tip of an upside down, backwards seven.

NGC 2660 10:25 PM 17mm – A small compact glow with 5-8 brighter stars on top of glow. In glow can almost make out some faint member stars.

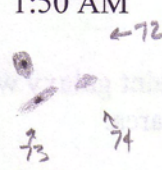

NGC 2671 10:29 PM 31mm (74x) – A loose OC is in the shape of a hat with brim. 30+ stars makeup this OC with 15 approximately of same magnitude and rest of a dimmer set of 2 magnitudes. Fills center of FOV nicely.



NGC 2792 10:37 PM 17mm – PN. A small, round, pale white bright glow. No central star seen. Easy to see though.

Seeing Good. Transparency Good.

NGC 3132	10:41 PM	17mm – A nice, larger oval shape. Donut ring seen. Central star bright. Center of PN dim with a larger donut around it.
NGC 2718	11:15 PM	17mm – A small, thin, linear glow. Has stellar core and another field star to left of core on glow.
NGC 3052	11:25 PM	17mm – A dim, larger, uniformly lit oval glow.
NGC 3081	11:30 PM	17mm – A small, circular, dim glow with larger, brighter core in center.
NGC 2983	11:35 PM	17mm – A small tilted oval. Dim. Has larger brighter core with even brighter area in center of this core.
NGC 2935	11:45 PM	17mm – A <u>small</u> , oval glow. Has 2 fainter cores on halo glow equidistant on each side of center of glow. Both cores look the same.
NGC 2815	11:50 PM	17mm – A larger, longer, <u>very</u> dim tilted oval with dim, brighter core seen in center of glow.
NGC 2907	11:56 PM	17mm – A <u>small</u> , dim, oval glow with bright core. Has a field star above core and same brightness as core and on glow.
NGC 2848	12:01 AM	17mm – A larger, round, <u>very</u> faint, uniformly lit glow.
NGC 2763	12:04 AM	17mm – A larger, longer, fat cigar. <u>Very</u> dim and uniformly lit.
MGC-03-26-021 NGC 3127 NGC 3128	12:39 AM	17mm – M-03 is a very small, linear, <u>extremely</u> faint uniformly lit glow. Then above and near and parallel is this tiny, ghostly oval glow of 3127 and 3128 together. Not much there for these two.
MGC-04-29-006	12:46 AM	17mm – A brighter, blue white field star sits on this fat oval, uniformly lit, faint glow of the galaxy. More glow above the field star than below. In other words, the field star is not centered on glow but below center.
PGC 37906	12:51 AM	17mm – A <u>very</u> thin, longer, <u>extremely</u> faint linear smudge of light going from 2-8 o'clock in FOV.

NGC 4462	12:56 AM	17mm – A small tilted oval with brighter core. Halo tapers off quickly from central area of glow on both sides. Halo very dim.
Centaurus A	1:00 AM	17mm – Nice.
Omega Centauri		17mm – Nice.
Abell 1060	1:12 AM	17mm – 3312 is brightest, oval glow with brighter core.
NGC 3312		3311 is a dimmer, circular glow. 3309, 3308, 3316, 3315
NGC 3311		and IC 2597 were tiny, uniformly lit, faint, oval smudges of
IC 2597		light. P31495 and P31488 were together, extremely faint,
NGC 3309		thin slivers of light. P31588 was extremely faint. 3336 was
NGC 3308		very round, uniformly lit and to right of a field star of same
NGC 3316		brightness. Whole cluster was about 3 FOVs wide.
NGC 3315		
PGC 31495		
PGC 31488		
PGC 31588		
NGC 3336		
NGC 4993	1:36 AM	17mm – A small, roundish glow with larger, brighter core.
NGC 5085	1:39 AM	17mm – A larger, roundish dim glow. Has hint of hare brighter core. Thought I saw CCW spiral arms off top and bottom of core.
NGC 2872	1:50 AM	17mm – A small, round, dim, uniformly lit glow. Very near
NGC 2873		is 2874, an oval glow. Dim with larger, brighter core. Then
NGC 2874		below and very near is 2873, a linear dim glow with larger
		brighter core. 2873 is much dimmer than 2874.
		
NGC 5903	2:26 AM	17mm – Two galaxies in FOV. Left galaxy is 5903, a dim,
NGC 5898		round glow. Small. Has larger, brighter core. Then to right
		and below and a bit away is 5898, a small, oval glow.
		Approx same magnitude as 5903. It too has a larger,
		brighter core.
		
NGC 4595	2:30 AM	17mm – A very long, fat cigar shaped ghostly glow. Goes from 10-4 o'clock in FOV and 1/2 to 3/4 FOV long.
NGC 5757	2:43 AM	17mm – A small tilted oval. Dim. Has tiny brighter core.
NGC 5885	2:49 AM	17mm – A <u>very</u> faint, round, larger, uniformly lit glow. Just above and very near a dim field star.
NGC 5729	2:57 AM	17mm – A larger, thin, tilted oval. Uniformly lit. <u>Very</u> dim.

Sky steady. Light dew forming. 46 degrees. Seeing Good. Transparency Good.

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|----------|---------|--|
| NGC 4767 | 3:10 AM | 17mm – A small, <u>very</u> dim oval glow with hare brighter, tiny core.   |
| NGC 4507 | 3:12 AM | 17mm – A very small, <u>extremely</u> faint oval glow with star like brighter core. Above and to left of a very bright field star.         |
| IC 3370  | 3:16 AM | 17mm – Underneath this very bright field star is this extremely faint, longer, fat oval, uniformly lit glow.                               |
| NGC 5011 | 3:20 AM | 17mm – An <u>extremely</u> faint, thin linear glow with tiny, hare brighter core. Just above the southern horizon.                         |
| NGC 5102 | 3:23 AM | 17mm – A small, tilted oval with larger, bright core.  |
| NGC 5161 | 3:26 AM | 17mm – A larger, round, <u>very</u> faint uniformly lit glow.  |
| NGC 5193 | 3:30 AM | 17mm – A very small oval with larger brighter core and star like core in center of this core seen once in a while. <u>Very dim.</u>        |
| NGC 5408 | 3:36 AM | 17mm – A small, round, off white colored fat star. With OIII filter, it responded well and can see central star with AV in center of glow. |
| IC 4351  | 3:43 AM | 17mm – A nice, thin, long, <u>very</u> faint galaxy with bulge in middle and a brighter core in this area.                                 |

The Sky Commanders were not fixed on the 20" scopes, so I star hopped all night. It was nice to get back into hopping again. Saturn was nice, as well as the Super Nova. The clouds all day broke after sunset and the evening was fantastic.

I spent all evening with the telescope very low in southern sky. Vela and Centaurus mostly. It was hard on my back being so low but found it refreshing to sit on a ladder step and observe.

## Sunday April 7, 2013

Was going to use the 30 inch tonight, but the Argo Navis had alignment problems. Went back to using my 20 inch for the rest of the night.

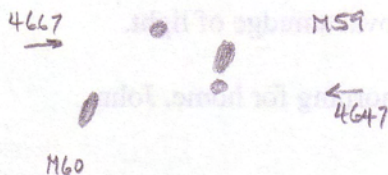
High, thin clouds at sunset. 76 degrees and calm.

Seeing OK. Transparency Fair. 61 degrees. Stars steady.

NGC 2815 10:37 PM 17mm – A longer, thinner, tilted oval with dim, larger core. Very dim halo, but can see it extends a bit above and below central area.

NGC 2935 10:49 PM 17mm – A small, brighter oval glow. Core has texture on it. Definitely not uniformly lit. Hint of a tiny bit of dimmer halo around this core.

M59 10:56 PM 17mm – Nice, large bright glow. M60 is to the left and is about the same. Just below M59 is 4647, a round, uniformly lit, small glow. Above and between 59 and 60 is 4667, a small, round, uniformly lit glow.



NGC 2983 10:57 PM 17mm – A small, oval, brighter glow. Again, core is not uniformly lit. There was some extended details in the knots of the linear core that were easy to see. Bit of dim halo extends a bit off each end.

NGC 3052 11:00 PM 17mm – A small oval, dim, uniformly lit glow.

NGC 3081 11:02 PM 17mm – A small, round, very dim glow with small, hare brighter core seen in center of glow.

NGC 2907 11:07 PM 17mm – A small oval with a larger, brighter core with stellar core in middle of this brighter core.

NGC 2848 11:14 PM 17mm – A fatter oval. Medium sized. Uniformly lit, very dim glow.

Seeing OK. Transparency Fair. 61 degrees. Light breeze from south.

NGC 2763 11:18 PM 17mm – A medium sized, fat, uniformly lit oval. Very dim.

- NGC 3660 11:35 PM 17mm – A larger, very faint, oval, uniformly lit glow.
- NGC 3751 11:38 PM 17mm – A very faint, small, tilted oval. Can see a hint of a hare brighter central region with extremely faint halo extending off core from 10-4 o'clock.
- NGC 4033 11:42 PM 17mm – A small, tilted oval. Very faint. Has larger, brighter core that is not uniformly lit. See extremely faint halo taper off 11-5 o'clock from this core.
- NGC 4050 11:44 PM 17mm – A larger, fat oval. Uniformly lit. Very faint.
- NGC 3981 11:46 PM 17mm – A longer, thin, uniformly lit, very faint sliver of light.
- NGC 3885 11:55 PM 17mm – A small, dim, oval glow with hare brighter core.
- NGC 4951 12:09 AM 17mm – A larger, very faint, lenticular shaped, uniformly lit glow.

Sky Fair. Transparency Fair. 61 degrees. Light breeze from SE.

- NGC 5015 12:12 PM 17mm – An extremely faint, small, oval smudge of light.

Sky is very soft so I am packing it in for this trip. Leaving in the morning for home. John drove and we will leave first thing.

Saw Saturn again along with first view of M13 for the season.