

Wednesday January 2, 2019

Went to LTO to use the 24". Water, dripping of the melting frost from the inside of the dome, had soaked the power switch on the telescope's control box. I tried to blow it out, but with all the water that I saw, it would not power on.

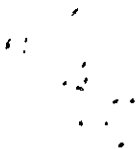
I went over to the other dome and used the 18" f/14.2 at 171x and 6" f/9 at 42x. Sky clear and wind calm. Seeing and Transparency Good. It is 32° now.

M77 7:24 PM 18" – Looks great.

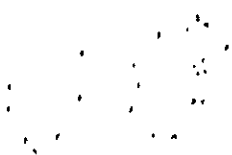
NGC 1498 7:25 PM 18" – An extremely faint star, maybe even fainter one near it. Seems to maybe be a couple more stars. Hard to tell.

Seeing and transparency is Good. Stars are pinpoints in the eyepiece.

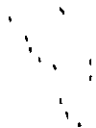
NGC 1896 7:30 PM 18" – 10 stars form a medium sized compact double arrow. 6" shows same view much smaller. All approx. same magnitude.



NGC 1996 7:35 PM 18" – 12 very faint stars forms a long oval approx. ½ FOV long. 3 brighter stars above and to right and 5-6 stars to left approx. the same magnitude.



NGC 1802 7:41 PM 6" – 1 brighter and 10 bit dimmer stars forms a loose association that fills the center of FOV nicely.



NGC 2234 7:48 PM 18" – Either it is 11 dim stars of 2 magnitudes that forms a long, thin U shape or just below the open end of the U are 7 stars that forms a small, zig-zag pattern.

NGC 2529 7:54 PM 18" – 5 stars, 4 same magnitude and 5th bit dimmer for a long arc.



NGC 2167 7:56 PM 18" – A single bright star.

28°. Seeing and Transparency still Good.

NGC 1908 8:05 PM 18" – 2 stars with right one faint and one to left is very faint that are close to each other.

NGC 2180 8:08 PM 18" – A brighter star and 8 dimmer stars. These 8 form a candy cane shape with bright star at center of hook.

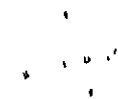


NGC 2063 8:11 PM 18" – A brighter faint star in center of 12 very faint stars that forms a large, thin arrow pointing at 8 o'clock. 4 to left and 8 to right of brighter star.

NGC 2260 8:18 PM 18" – 1 brighter and 8 dimmer stars forms a funky large, circlet shape. More loose and open to upper left.



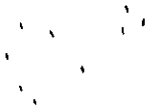
NGC 2270 8:23 PM 18" – 4 brighter and 3 fainter stars forms a small bow and arrow.



NGC 2306 8:26 PM 18" – A small ringlet of 5 very faint stars and 1 extremely faint star.

M42 8:30 PM 18" – Nice. 5 stars seen in trapezium.

NGC 2394 8:36 PM 18" – 9 stars of approx. same magnitude forms a hook and triangle. Small in size.

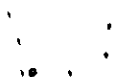


NGC 3155 8:45 PM 18" – A very small, extremely faint almost not there glow with here brighter, tiny stellar core seen on ghostly glow.

NGC 2726 8:51 PM 18" – A very small, uniformly lit, extremely faint oval glow. Can watch it move in FOV when I pan the telescope.

Berk 14 9:11 PM 18" – 5 faint stars forms a long, thin wedge.

NGC 272 9:16 PM 18" – 1 brighter and 6 fainter stars forms an arc.



NGC 956	9:21 PM	18" – 5 brighter and 22 fainter stars. Somewhat oval in shape and compact. Brighter stars bound upper and left side of open cluster.
NGC 657	9:25 PM	18" – A small, tight circular grouping of 10 stars of 3 faint to very faint magnitudes.
NGC 1708	9:28 PM	6" – 30+ stars in a tight, circular group. Has 3 bunches of faint stars.



26°. Seeing and Transparency still Good. Sky was a bit bright for some reason, so the galaxies were very hard to see.

I had a great night!

Tried to find other open clusters and used the Sky Safari app to help me identify the stars of the cluster. It will take a bit to get used to this because it was hard to match the star patterns in the FOV with what my phone was displaying. I couldn't tell which stars belonged to the cluster.

Time to head home.