

February 13, 2004

Setup on a gravel road near Mead, Colorado.

Barbara and I arrived well after dark. We found a gravel road that had a nice southern exposure and went after 2 Caldwell objects. The sky was awesome, dark, steady and could see both constellations, Columba and Puppis, where the two objects were. There was a lot of horizon light in the sky that far down, but I could see the objects with the 8" f/8 scope using the 19mm eyepiece.

NGC 1851 7:56 PM

Very low on the horizon. Less than 10 degrees above it. It was small, circular with a very bright nucleus and a bright, easy to see, halo. No member stars seen. Just the overall glow of this object was seen. But it was neat. I don't think I have looked this far south for anything before and this was easy to see. I would classify it a Class 2-3 object, based upon its shape.

NGC 2477 8:44 PM

Small, compact but covers about ½ the FOV. Bright field star to the North. 10-20 very faint stars seen when many more speckles of a much fainter magnitude of star seen all over the place.

much faint stars concentrated in this area

there are the 10-20 very faint stars I saw

Saturn and Jupiter were awesome. Barbara enjoyed these two objects.