

May 15, 2004

Pawnee Grasslands.

The sky is soft at sunset. There is a haze hanging around but clearing from time to time. Light wind from the south.

NGC 4448 10:40 PM Larger oval glow with hare brighter nucleus.

NGC 4494 10:48 PM Small oval glow with small, brighter nucleus.

Sky just hazed over again.

M84,M86 11:33 PM From M84, can see M86 which is bigger and brighter than M84. Both circular glows with a brighter nucleus.

NGC 4477 Then move the scope to 4477. It is the same size as M86
NGC 4473 and much bigger the 4473 but is a dim, circular shaped galaxy with a hare brighter nucleus. 4473 is approx half the size and much dimmer than 4477. Both 4477 and 4473 are in the same FOV.

NGC 4459 Then moved the scope onto 4459. This one is bigger and brighter than either 4477 or 4473 but dimmer than M86. Circular in shape. Easy to see with a hare brighter nucleus area.

NGC 4419 Then moved the scope to 4419. This is a bit smaller version of 4459. Still easy to see and maybe a bit dimmer than 4459. Both 4459 and 4419 in same FOV but at opposite sides of it. This was with the 19mm widefield lense. From M86 to 4419, was approx 2-3 FOVs to see all 6 galaxies. Quite cool.

M100 12:15 AM Then moved onto M100. Nice large oval galaxy with a hare brighter nucleus.

Clouds took over the sky again at this point.

NGC 4485 1:22 AM Very small, dim, circular shaped smudge of light. Much dimmer than 4490. Easily seen with AV.

NGC 4490 Large, oval uniformly lit galaxy, in same FOV as 4485. No nucleus glow seen in either galaxy. Both were uniformly lit.

NGC 6302 2:41 AM Bug Nebula - Seen in Tom Teter's 14". Small bright oval shaped glow. W/AV, can see it is elongated and thin. Looks like an oof star when you first see it.