Friday, August 1, 2008

Calm and clear at sunset. At 8:41 PM it was 52 degrees.

| Cr 316 Tr 24 | 9:27 PM | 19mm. 12 brighter stars and 15 bit dimmer stars and a few more even dimmer, form an irregular loose open cluster. To the right of Cr 316 and connected is a dimmer set of stars in a tighter grouping with 4 little brighter ones in a line. This is Tr 24. Still in evening twilight and very low on horizon but can see the glow of these stars. | |
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| M80 | 9:40 PM | 19mm. Smaller Globular Cluster. Bright, small core and relatively larger extended halo of stars. | |
| Tr 24 Cr 316 | 9:42 PM | 19mm. To upper right and connected to Cr 316 are 15 brighter stars in a loose association. These 15 are much dimmer than the brighter stars of Cr 316. There is a glow of dimmer stars underneath these. Cr 316 is long and boxy. Tr 24 is above it and is longer than high. | |
| NGC 5746 | 9:56 PM | 19mm. Nice. Long, slender edge on. Central area bit brighter and thicker. Very faint arms extend beyond this brighter central area by quite a bit. | |
| NGC 5566 NGC 5569 | 10:01 PM | 19mm. Very small round shaped galaxy. Most of what is seen is a brighter core area with tiny bit of halo around it. NGC 5569 is much dimmer and above it at 2 o'clock and it's a dim, oval smudge of light. | |
| NGC 5363 NGC 5373 | 10:06 PM | 19mm. Small, round with bright core that is easily seen. Hint of halo around it. Above it and to right in same FOV is NGC 5373 which is a larger, uniformly lit, almost circular smudge of light. | |
| M28 | 10:20 PM | 19mm. Small, compact with relatively brighter core area that dims quickly into halo. Member stars easily seen. | |
| M25 | 10:25 PM | 19mm. Fills FOV nicely with this loose association of bright blue-white stars of approx. 3 magnitudes. | |
| M17 | 10:29 PM | 19mm. Nice. Nebulosity glow that responds well to O3 filter. Tail feathers form an arc behind it that is only seen with O3 filter. | |

| M18 | 10:34 PM | 19mm. Tight compact cluster of 18 brighter blue-white stars. Its tall, thin and boxy in shape with a few dimmer stars underneath these brighter ones. | | | |
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| NGC 6603 | 10:41 PM | 19mm. Inside M24 is this tight, circular grouping of many faint stars that are easily seen. | | | |
| B93 B92 | 10:44 PM | 19mm. B93 is a larger, boxy oval dark void in a very star rich area. 1 bright field star on middle rhs of void and a couple pretty faint field stars seen on void. B92 almost 1 FOV to right and is longer and thinner than B93. No stars seen on this void. 32mm shows the voids but not as good as the 19mm does. | | | |
| M16 | 10:50 PM | 32mm. Lots of blue-white stars of 3 magnitudes make a box around a long thing nebulosity. Many of the stars for a wide "U" with nebulosity down the middle of the "U". Nebulosity responds well to O3 and UHC filters. In O3, nebulosity is long and thin and curved. | | | |
| B78 B59, 65-7 | 10:56 PM | Can see it with my naked eye. In 20x80 binoculars, its approx 3 FOVs wide. Its thinner on lower rhs (B59, 65-7) and opens up to a larger, boxy area (B78), hence the name "Pipe Nebula". Definite void of stars is obvious in a very star rich area. | | | |
| B72 | 11:05 PM | 32mm. Very subtle. Star hopped to correct star field. Can see a curvy void of stars in a star rich area. | | | |
| Sky is great. Stars steady. Lots of meteors. 40 degrees. | | | | | |
| B64 | 11:11 PM | 19mm. Above M9 is a long, flat void that's easy to see. Few field stars on this void but its obvious. Fills FOV left to right of 19mm and then a bit more. | | | |
| B63 | 11:20 PM | 20x80 Binoculars. Long, slender void in a star rich area. Approx 3/4 FOV long and goes from 10 - 4 o'clock. Very bright field star to upper left end and outside the void area. | | | |
| B62 | 11:25 PM | 19mm. Small area void of stars. I star hopped to this and is not very obvious, but is there. | | | |
| B61 | 11:26 PM | 19mm. This one is subtle. Void area is small in FOV. | | | |

| | B55-6 B57 B60, 246 NGC 6287 | 11:33 PM | 19mm. A long flowing complex of void with very few stars on this area. Stands out. NGC 6287 is a dim, uniformly lit globular on rhs of this complex which snakes to upper left for 2-3 FOVs. Hard to tell individual pieces but area definitely void of stars in a star rich area. |
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| | M26 | 11:39 PM | 19mm. Small, compact cluster of 15+ blue-white stars of approx 3-4 magnitudes. |
| | M11 | 11:42 PM | 19mm. Nice. Fills center of FOV with lots of blue-white stars of approx same magnitude. Roughly circular in shape. 1 very bright field star in amongst them. |
| | B111, 119a B110 | 11:47 PM | 20x80 Binoculars shows this complex bounded by a star rich Milky Way. There are several field stars in this void but they are few. 32mm. Pan around this area and can see pockets of complete voids because these field stars on overall void get a bit denser and bound these pockets which are easy to see. |
| | NGC 6621 NGC 6622 | 12:17 AM | 19mm. Very faint linear cigar shaped uniformly lit glow. w/AV hints at a hare brighter nucleus area. |
| | NGC 6412 | 12:23 AM | 19mm. Very dim, uniformly lit fat oval smudge of light. Very bright field star to lower right and near it at 4 o'clock. |
| | NGC 7236 | 12:33 AM | 19mm. <u>Very</u> dim oval smudge of light inside a triangle of field stars. |
| | NGC 7469 | 12:37 AM | 19mm. Tiny, round glow with brighter star like core. |
| | NGC 7682 NGC 7679 | 12:42 AM | 19mm. Extremely dim oval smudge of light. Saw it by moving FOV which attracted my eye to it. |
| | NGC 7714 | 12:52 AM out of | 19mm. Very small round uniformly lit glow just below a very bright blue-white field star. Needed to put field star FOV to see this galaxy. |
| | C/2008 J1 | 1:25 AM | 19mm. Comet Boattini. Nice. |
| | Mel 20 | 1:35 AM | 7x35 Binoculars. Lots of blue-white stars of approx 3 magnitudes around the area of Mirfak (Alpha Perseus). Fills center of FOV of binocs. |
| \bigcirc | NGC 972 | 1:46 AM | 19mm. Small, oval glow with larger, hare brighter core seen. |

| NGC 891 | 2:14 AM | 19mm. Dim. Nice edge on that tapers to nothing. Dust lane seen bisecting center of galaxy. | |
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| M34 | 2:16 AM | 19mm. Nice. 30+ blue-white stars of approx 3 magnitudes make up this loose, yet boxy shaped open cluster. | |
| NGC 1245 | 2:20 AM | 19mm. Nice. Dim yet easy to see. Lots of dim stars in a tight, roughly circular grouping. Most of approx same faint magnitude with a few brighter ones on top of these fainter ones. | |
| 35 degrees now. Sky great. | | | |
| M74 | 2:37 AM | 19mm. Small, dim round glow with hare brighter core area. | |
| M29 | 2:51 AM | 19mm. Nice. Compact. Boxy shaped. 8 bright blue-white stars sits on a few more fainter ones in a star rich field. | |
| M39 | 3:02 AM | 32mm. Nice. 25 or so bright blue-white stars that form a wedge that fills entire FOV. Many bit fainter stars amongst | |

It was a great party. Saw lots of neat objects and saw a lot of old friends. Sky was incredible for the 3 nights, in spite of the bit of cloudiness on Thursday. I really enjoyed this event.