

Friday October 30, 2015

Went to LTO to use the 24". Used my 13mm eyepiece which yields 195x all night.

Clear, Calm and cool at sunset. 55 degrees in dome. Jet contrails are short. 6:30 PM, sky is darkening nicely.

Seeing is Good and Transparency is Good.

NGC 6929 6:59 PM 195x – A small, dim oval with very bright, small, stellar core. Easy to see.

NGC 6839 7:02 PM 195x – 4 dim stars for a Y. Two on right are brightest, top left next brightest and lower left dimmest. Stars close and compact.

Seeing and Transparency are good. Stars are steady.

NGC 7165 7:08 PM 195x – A small, extremely faint, uniformly lit oval that pops into view once in a while. Almost not there. Low in south.

NGC 7230 7:13 PM 195x – A small, round, extremely faint, uniformly lit glow.

NGC 7183 7:15 PM 195x – A small fat oval. Very faint. Hint of a hare brighter linear core down center of glow.

NGC 7246 7:20 PM 195x – Below and to right and near a dim field star is this small, round, extremely faint, uniformly lit smudge of light. Easy to see being it's 15th magnitude.

NGC 523 7:25 PM 195x – A small, very faint edge on. Thin 3:1. Has a hint of a hare brighter core in very center. Nice.

NGC 7751 7:28 PM 195x – A small, very dim oval 2:1. Has a larger, hare brighter core.

NGC 7570 7:32 PM 195x – A small, very faint oval. Has large, involved core. Brighter near top of core area, then something extremely faint below this on glow.

Seeing and Transparency very good now.

NGC 7648 7:35 PM 195x – A small, thin oval 3:1. Very dim. Has bit brighter, larger core area.

NGC 7612 7:38 PM 195x – A dim, tilted oval, 5:2. Maybe almost edge on. Has larger, brighter core area and extremely faint arms off core at 2 – 8 o'clock.

I am using my hood and adverted vision to see all the galaxies tonight. The hood blocks out all stray light around the eyepiece's FOV making it easier to see these faint objects. The 13mm is a nice eyepiece and I am using it on everything so far.

I like it when you are staring at galaxy, then the sky suddenly clears in the FOV and for an instant, you see great detail in the galaxy and surrounding star field. I often wait for a second clearing that never happens again.

NGC 7631 7:41 PM 195x – A small, thin oval. 3:1. Very dim, uniformly lit glow.

NGC 7591 7:44 PM 195x – A very small, extremely faint oval glow. Has brighter, larger core in center.

NGC 7518 7:46 PM 195x – A small, very faint oval, 2:1, glow. Saw a hare brighter core once.

NGC 7704 7:49 PM 195x – Two very small, extremely faint oval smudges of light. 7704 on top and near is 7706, which is below and to left, a fainter smudge of light than 7704.

NGC 7732 7:55 PM 195x – Two extremely faint smudges of light. 7731 fainter than 7732. 7732 is a small oval to right of a field star. 7731 is an extremely faint, roundish smudge of light to left and bit below the same field star.

7131 7132

48 degrees. Seeing and transparency good.

NGC 7687 7:58 PM 195x – A very small, very faint oval. Has tiny, hare brighter stellar core.

IC 1504 8:00 PM 195x – An extremely faint, small, thin, 3:1, uniformly lit oval glow.

IC 1503 8:02 PM 195x – A small, very faint fat oval, 3:2, glow. Hint of a linear core seen once with tiny star core in very center.

NGC 7310 8:08 PM 195x – Low in south. A small, ghostly, round, uniformly lit glow. Move FOV left and right and my eye follows it nicely.

See Milky Way. Nice. Seeing and transparency Good. 48 degrees.

NGC 6895 8:16 PM



195x – 25 stars of 4-5 faint magnitudes outline a nice gumdrop shaped open cluster. With 15+ extremely faint stars sprinkled in center area of gumdrop. $\frac{3}{4}$ FOV long and $\frac{1}{2}$ FOV wide. Goes 10 – 4 o'clock on its axis.

NGC 7708 8:21 PM

195x – Two extremely faint stars, very close together.

NGC 1122 8:35 PM

195x – A small, very faint, round, uniformly lit glow. Has extremely faint field star on glow but to way left of center.

Tried to find galaxies around Little Dipper, but couldn't see them. Then looked out the slit to see high, thin clouds have appeared overhead and thru the west.

Tried for a UGC galaxy in Cygnus but not there with the clouds. Then saw M13.

It is too cloudy to continue. Watched a GEO satellite drift right to left in FOV. These are very cool.

This was a nice night at LTO. Moonrise was imminent, so it was about time to quit anyway. Saw some very faint galaxies and did more H2500 objects.

There was a point for a few minutes tonight where the seeing and transparency were very good and I was seeing 14th mag galaxies easily.

It is 8:53 PM and 47 degrees. I tried to wear my jacket but it made me too warm, so I observed in a sweat shirt all night. Maybe the last time this season to observe without a coat. ;-)