

Saturday July 30, 2016

At Rocky Mountain National Park doing their 3 day Astronomy Festival. Solar observing with my 8" and white light filter, Friday and Saturday afternoons. Thursday and Friday nights were cloudy, but Saturday night cleared nicely after sunset.

Seeing and Transparency Good. After group thinned down, found my 2 planetary nebulae I wanted to see.

He 2-425	10:09 PM	10mm – 122x – A dim, out of focus looking, yellowish colored star. See central star pop in once in a while in center of tiny, dim halo glow around it. With O3, shows it brighter. See tiny out of focus, fat star and maybe central star.
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M 1-61	10:17 PM	10mm – 122x – W/o O3, a dim, pale white colored, tiny, out of focus looking star. With O3, see tiny, roundish glow with brighter central star. Responds well to the O3 filter.
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Nice evening to what looked like it might start out as another cloudy night. Approx. 105 people here. Showed them Saturn, Jupiter, Alberio, Polaris. Vega, Arcturus, M57 and M51, which was nice, easy to see halo glow around bigger member.