

Sunday October 19, 2014

Decided to use the Little Thompson Observatory's telescopes tonight. I couldn't connect to the 24". Had connection failure issues. So I used the 18" f/14.2 and the 6" f/6 telescopes tonight.

The 40mm eyepiece in 18" is 162x. The 22mm eyepiece in 6" is 41.5x.

7:00 PM. 68 degrees. Sky is clear. Wind is calm. Getting dark. Seeing and transparency Good.

NGC 6929	7:27 PM	162x – Under a dim field star is this lopsided, faint, tiny oval glow. Glow goes to 2 o'clock from this star a tiny bit. Glow uniformly lit.
NGC 6852	7:32 PM	162x – A brighter white star with <u>very</u> faint circular halo glow around it. With O3 see the halo a bit better and brighter. Star still prominent.
NGC 6843	7:35 PM	162x – 7 very dim stars form this asterism in a small, rough circular pattern.
NGC 6858	7:37 PM	162x – An asterism of 9 very dim stars in a diamond shape.
NGC 6773	7:39 PM	162x – 5 stars form a box of 3 magnitudes with brightest still dim.
PK 38-25.1	7:45 PM	162x – A stellar PN. A brighter white star. With O3, see a <u>tiny</u> bit of halo around it. It is small and hard to see. Looks like an out of focus star.
Pal 11	7:49 PM	162x – With AV and waiting, see 3-4 <u>very</u> faint stars once in a while. In between a nice asterism pattern where picture shows it should be and where these 3-4 stars pop in.
PK 52-2.2	7:52 PM	162x – Stellar. Responds well to O3. No halo seen.
PK 52-4.1	7:56 PM	162x – Small, stellar, white, dim star. With O3 see <u>tiny</u> bit of extremely faint halo around this star.
PK 51-3.1	8:00 PM	162x – A stellar, very dim, white star. Responds well to O3. No halo seen, still stellar.

PK 45-2.1	8:04 PM	162x – Another stellar PN. Very faint. With O3 stands out brightly in field as tiny, brighter star.
NGC 6738	8:06 PM	162x – 7 brighter, blue white stars form a zig-zag line. 1 bright. 5 bit dimmer and 7 th much dimmer.
LDN 684	8:10 PM	162x – Around 2 brighter field stars is a nice, Lynd Brightness 4 large halo glow. Seen in 6" also.
NGC 6775	8:11 PM	162x – 10-12 very faint stars forms a tall, thin rectangle.
B134	8:15 PM	162x – A small, fat oval void of stars in a star rich area.
B133	8:17 PM	162x – A long, narrow kidney bean shaped void of stars. On right hand side of void is a chain of 14 stars that is nice and bounds the void.
NGC 6873	8:21 PM	162x – 6 stars form a thin arrow pointing to left. 1 star much brighter than rest.
IC 5076	8:35 PM	162x – A bright, pale white or light yellow star. Has medium large, dim halo around it. With O3, don't see halo any better but dims bright central star and see it nicely. DSF shows larger halo around star. Lynd Brightness 3.
NGC 6883	8:43 PM	162x – 7 brighter stars for a '7'. There are 3 sets of chains of fainter stars around the '7'. 7 stars in 1. 3 stars in another. 8 in third.
NGC 6974	8:49 PM	162x – Under 5 very faint stars forming an arrow to 11 o'clock is a hint of a Lynd Brightness 6 glow. Very subtle. DSF doesn't show it any better.
IC 1310	8:53 PM	162x – Under a dim field star is this small, round glow. With AV and patience, can see 3-4 tiny stars on top of glow.
NGC 6991	8:58 PM	162x – 8 very dim stars forms an hour glass shaped asterism.

60 degrees. Seeing and Transparency good.

NGC 6996	9:05 PM	162x – Under 4 brighter field stars forming a parallelogram, is 15-20 very faint stars, compact, in a triangular shape.
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NGC 7039	9:07 PM	162x – 13 stars outline a bullet shaped OC. Stars <u>very</u> dim of 2 magnitudes.
NGC 7127	9:09 PM	162x – 4 stars form a line with brightest stars on top and dimmest on bottom. Then around middle 2 stars there is a round glow with 2-3 extremely faint pinpoints popping in once in a while on this glow.
Berk 84	9:13 PM	162x – 10 very dim stars with a bright field star to lower left forms a long tear drop that goes to 2 o'clock from bright field star.
Berk 88	9:16 PM	162x – 8 <u>very</u> faint stars outline a small tear drop.
Berk 89	9:19 PM	162x – 7 dim stars and 1 brighter one at top form a pentagon shaped circlet of stars.
Berk 91	9:22 PM	162x – 10-12 <u>very</u> faint stars are in a line that forms a ladle.
Biur 1	9:25 PM	162x – 9 very faint stars in 3 groups. 4 in a line to upper left, 3 to lower left in a curve. 2 in upper right in a line.
Ru 172	9:29 PM	162x – A line of 10 stars curve thru $\frac{3}{4}$ FOV long. All of same magnitude.
Ru 173	9:32 PM	162x – To left and in same FOV as Ru 172 is a line of 7 very faint stars of 2 magnitudes. $\frac{1}{4}$ FOV long.
Ru 174	9:35 PM	162x – 20+ <u>very</u> faint stars in a compact grouping. This OC stands out because all the stars in OC are approx. same magnitude.

58 degrees. Seeing OK. Transparency OK.

NGC 6846	9:39 PM	162x – A little, tight group of 12 <u>very</u> faint stars in 2 groups. 5 stars in lower right group a bit away but of same magnitude so I think it belongs to the larger group.
Berk 56	9:44 PM	162x – 6 dim and 1 brighter star forms a large D shape.
Berk 53	9:46 PM	162x – Above and near a bright field star is 7 <u>very</u> faint stars in a loose association of same magnitude.

Ru 175	9:50 PM	162x – 30+ stars of a dim magnitude forms lines and chains of stars that are loose, yet together in center of FOV. Very nice.
Berk 54	9:53 PM	162x – 8 dim stars form a triangle in 3 groups of same magnitude.
Berk 51	9:55 PM	162x – 8 stars in 2 groups of 4. ½ FOV long form a match shape. All of same magnitude.
Berk 49	9:59 PM	162x – 12 dim stars and 1 bright one in center form a large 'H' shape. Approx ¼ FOV tall.
Berk 50	10:02 PM	162x – 15-20 <u>very</u> faint and 3 brighter stars in center forms this compact, yet loose association of stars. By itself in star rich area.
Berk 5	10:05 PM	162x – 5 stars in arc and then below and to left is a brighter field star with one more star away on other side of it from arc that forms what looks like a parachute. 4 stars of arc and 1 away are of same magnitude.
PK 112-10.1	10:20 PM	162x – Stellar. Dim white colored star responds well to O3. Maybe see a tiny bit of halo around central star with O3.
Stock 12	10:27 PM	162x – 11-12 stars of same magnitude in loose OC, yet together.
Stock 11	10:30 PM	162x – 8 dim stars of same magnitude are loose with 5 stars that form a pentagon.
NGC 7788	10:33 PM	162x – A brighter field star is part of 8 dim and 3-4 more dimmer stars in a tight, compact group.
Frolov 1	10:36 PM	162x – 15 stars of 3 magnitudes. Brightest dim and faintest very faint form a toad stool. 9 stars arc to form top and then 2 legs (lines) of stars below this on each side forms base.
Harvard 21	10:40 PM	162x – 5 dim stars, close together, form this OC.
King 12	10:43 PM	162x – 3 dim and 12-15 much fainter forms a tight grouping in the shape of a Christmas tree.

King 13	10:46 PM	162x – 6 brighter and 6 much dimmer stars make up a fat, long linear group.
Stock 19	10:50 PM	162x – 12 dim stars of same magnitude make a chain of stars that snakes off to right. Loose.
PK 119-6.1	10:53 PM	162x – A dim white star with small halo glow around it. With O3, see the halo around central star nicely.
NGC 103	10:56 PM	162x – 20+ dim stars of 4 magnitudes make up this loose, box shaped, approx. ½ FOV long. On left hand side, lower left corner, 5 stars trail off even more.
NGC 189	10:59 PM	162x – 20+ dim stars of 3-4 magnitudes make up this loose, yet together group of stars.
Stock 24	11:03 PM	162x – 9 dim stars of 3 magnitudes make up this tight group of stars.
NGC 146	11:06 PM	162x – 20 dim and 20 much dimmer stars form a loose, long, wide cluster.
NGC 133	11:07 PM	162x – 10-15 stars of a dim and much dimmer magnitude form a long, thin arrow head.
Berk 4	11:11 PM	162x – 10 dim stars on right hand side for a nice flat ‘V’. 4 dim stars to upper left of V have 6-8 <u>much</u> fainter ones underneath and on left hand side, 5-6 faint stars form a line. With V upper left and lhs stars form a large, roughly closed circular shape.
Berk 62	11:15 PM	162x – 5 brighter stars form 2 parallel lines of stars. Top line has 4 fainter stars to left of top brighter 2 and 4 to right. Bottom bright 3 has 1 more fainter star to left. Bright stars and faint stars each set of same magnitude.
NGC 366	11:19 PM	162x – A tiny, tight grouping of 4 brighter dim stars and a few <u>really</u> faint ones underneath these.
NGC 358	11:22 PM	162x – A brighter pale white star in center of a loose association of 8 much dimmer stars.
Stock 3	11:25 PM	162x – 7 stars, 3 brighter and 4 <u>very</u> faint form this compact knot of stars.

56 degrees. Seeing OK. Transparency OK.

NGC 433	11:28 PM	162x – 15 <u>very</u> faint stars scattered around a brighter star centered on group. Loose yet together. Fainter stars of same magnitude.
NGC 743	11:31 PM	162x – 7 brighter and 10 fainter stars are together in a filled triangle with upper left star much brighter and pale white in color.
IC 166	11:32 PM	162x – 11-12 <u>very</u> faint stars form an arrow with base.
NGC 609	11:36 PM	162x – Under 5 dim stars that form a U is a glow of more unseen stars.
Stock 5	11:39 PM	41.5x – In 6” 8 stars form a circlet with top star bright and rest a bit dimmer.
NGC 886	11:42 PM	162x – 16 stars form a long, thin gibbous shape. 4 more arc off left hand side tip and 2 more above right hand side. Stars of 2 magnitudes.
Czernik 13	11:44 PM	162x – 9 dim stars, loose are together. To right of a bright field star.
Berk 65	11:47 PM	162x – 8 stars, 4 on each side form a long, slender rectangle.
Mrk 6	11:49 PM	162x – 9 stars, 6 brighter form a tall, thin, reversed ‘L’.
Cr 33	11:56 PM	41.5x – In 6”. 10-12 brighter stars in a loose, circular area. Has 2-3 magnitudes of stars.
IC 1871	11:58 PM	162x – The brighter stars in this area have a tiny bit of faint halo around them. Lynd Brightness 4.

Had a great night at LTO. Since galaxies were not visible because the sky had no contrast to it in the eyepiece, I focused on star clusters and asterisms. The new control system on the 18” is nice. Most of the night I was able to sit in a chair and observe for the telescope was pointed straight up.