

The Observer's Challenge Objects

Submitted by Larry McHenry, Pittsburgh, PA.

July: NGC 6572 – Planetary Nebula – **Ophiuchus**; Mag. V=8.1; Size 16'' x 13''
RA: 18h 12m Dec. +06° 51'

NGC6572:

Discovered in 1825 by the 19th century German double-star observer – Friedrich Struve at the Dorpat Observatory in Estonia. NGC6572 is located in the summer constellation of Ophiuchus, 'the Serpent Bearer'. It is a fairly young planetary nebula estimated to be only a few thousand years old, and is around 4900 lights-years distant.

Visually in the telescope, NGC6572 is an easy to find, bright green disk. A UHC filter enhances the view but is not really needed.

Visual Eyepiece Sketch:



06/05/1988 from backyard in Louisville, KY, using an 8" f4.5 Dob Reflector and 8mm eyepiece (114x).

Video-Capture:



07/21/2012: from Big Woodchuck Observatory backyard in Pittsburgh, PA, with an 8" SCT @ f6.3 on a Fork-Wedge Mount, using an analog video-camera & IR filter @ 10 seconds, unguided single exposure.